



# CLAVERING NEWSLETTER

CLAVERING PARISH COUNCIL

Issue 225      14<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Email address:      [clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Editor: Stephanie Gill

**This January edition, accompanied by a listing of all the Village Organisations, Sports and Interest Groups, has been sent by email to all those on the CPC mailing list plus it has been delivered in hardcopy to all the houses not on the list!**

**Why would we have a couple of Parish Councillors and their long suffering families wear out their shoe-leather/have their hands snapped in unfriendly letter boxes? Well, we know that there are many new residents in Clavering, plus some old residents who have changed their email address, who have been missing out on the monthly information the Council provide for free!!**

**The Council would love to update its newsletter database with email addresses to ensure every villager can be kept updated.**

**To be added, please do send your email address and the first line of your home address to [cllr.smgill@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.smgill@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk) putting 'I wish to receive the Clavering PC Newsletter' in the email heading.**

**Please note that under GDPR, your information is kept on a secure database and is used only to send out the monthly CPC Newsletter and its attachments or if there is an emergency situation in the village requiring notification to residents.**

## **Parish Council Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

In the agreed absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman welcomed those attending and detailed the meetings each had attended.

Seven members of the public, District Councillor Oliver & County Councillor Gooding were present in part. A parishioner spoke on behalf of other parishioners on the proposed maintenance at Lower Hill Green and asked that the Council ensure the area is cut to protect the flora and the fauna, as both have been diligently tended before; they also brought the Council's attention to parking on the Registered Village Green alongside The Druce. A parishioner asked if a link to the Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Website could be placed on the Parish Council website. Two parishioners spoke on a planning application to be considered in the meeting, expressing concerns on various elements of documents submitted including foul and surface water drainage, travel statements and continuing impact on the countryside. A parishioner emphasised the need to develop the Neighbourhood Plan as swiftly as possible, recognising that the project is volunteer led.

A parishioner spoke on foul water discharges at Deers Green and Watery Stones and broken road signs on Cock Lane; they confirmed they had not reported such to Thames Water or Essex Highways respectively and were asked if they could do so, especially in the case the foul water in order that such could be responded to urgently by those responsible. They also spoke about accidents on the Pelham Road, which had been attended by the Emergency Services, and speeding in the 30mph zone.

**Clerk's Report** – A written summary was received detailing tasks attended to.

**Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG)** – A verbal report of the work in the past month was received and attendees were reminded of the Community Engagement Event on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January, 6.30pm for 7pm, in the Village Hall.

**Defibrillators** –Both defibrillators 'rescue ready' 23<sup>rd</sup> December

**Finance** –Bank statements received and payments agreed. Q3 accounts received for comment. PKF Littlejohn (External Auditors) had not yet reverted to the clerk after her response to their three queries

**2026/27 Budget and Precept Demand** – The 2026/27 Budget was agreed and the Precept determined. See article below

**Jubilee Field Representative** – The next Committee meeting would be 19<sup>th</sup> January. There is a need to replace some equipment due to decay of timbers as highlighted in recent H&S surveys – the Quiz Night scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> January is the main fundraiser for such works.

**Clavering Speedwatch & December Carols on the Green** – See articles below

**Enforcement matter** – Received in private and confidential per advice of UDC

### **Planning for CPC Comment:**

**UTT/25/2404/FUL: Land At Hill Green Wicken Road** Erection of 28no. proposed new dwellings including 11no. affordable dwellings, 6 self and custom build plots, and associated infrastructure. **Further comments made and reiteration of previous comments in light of numerous new documents submitted.**

**UTT/25/3334/FUL:** Barn Adjacent To Starlings Starlings Green Full Planning Application for the demolition of an existing barn, and erection of 1 no. self-build dwelling and garage, with associated access (alternative to UTT/25/2263/FUL) **Observations Made**

**UTT/25/3355/FUL: Butts Green (Barn) Valance Road** S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/25/0683/FUL (S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/23/0146/FUL (Conversion of barn to 1 no. dwelling including the rebuilding of adjoining attached outbuildings and the erection of a detached cart lodge) to include rooflight and door positions built differently to approved plans **No Comment**

**UTT/25/3432/FUL Ruttels Valance Road** Section 73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/23/2996/FUL (S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/23/1224/HHF (Demolition of 20th Century additions and garages. Construction of a 1.5 storey side extension and detached garage. Conservation and external alterations to the historic range) - amendments to the approved drawings) - amendments to the approved drawing **No Comment**

**UTT/25/3440/LB Ruttels Valance Road** Application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/23/3022/LB (Demolition of 20th Century additions and garages. Construction of a 1.5 storey side extension and detached garage. Conservation and internal and external alterations to the historic range) - amendments to the approved drawings) - amendments to the approved drawings **No Comment**

### **Advised after agenda published:**

**UTT/25/3271/DISBGP: Curles Farm Pelham Road** Biodiversity Net Gain Plan attached to UTT/25/0295/FUL

**UTT/26/0008/TPO: Chalkpit Lane The Druce** Proposed works to trees 25, 27 and 31 as per submitted survey

**UTT/26/0079/TCA: 32 Pelham Road** Proposed works to 13 no. trees of various species as per submitted description of works

### **UDC Planning Decisions:**

**UTT/25/2840/FUL: Custersons Ford End Road** Extension and conversion of garage to single dwelling (C3) **Refused**

**UTT/25/2537/HHF: Green Gables Wicken Road** Internal remodel of existing bungalow with new pitched roof designs replacing existing flat roofs, new windows and fenestration to exterior walls. New front porch and relocation of front entrance. Part conversion of existing garage into utility and boiler room. Garden room to rear garden and a small bbq shelter to the front of the garden room **Approved with conditions**

**UTT/25/3078/DISGP: Land west of Clatterbury Lane** Biodiversity Net Gain Plan attached to UTT/22/2917/OP. **Discharged in full**

### **Inspectorate Appeals**

**Appeal determined: Appeal Ref: APP/C1570/W/25/3373325**, White Lodge Stud, Butts Green “S73 application to remove condition 7 (hardstanding) of UTT/18/2429/FUL (Change of use from recreational equestrian to commercial stud business. Erection of a new stable building and new open sided arena on the location of the former tennis court. The existing outdoor arena will be reduced in size and the layout of paddocks will be altered to suit.)” Ref UTT/24/2994/FUL. **Appeal Allowed subject to conditions**

**Appeal in Process: Enforcement Appeal: APP/C1570/C/25/337545**, White Lodge Stud Butts Green Valance Road. Alleged breach: Without planning permission, the change of use of the site to a commercial stud, the erection of a stable, arena horse walker, horse lunger and a horse bath.

**Next Parish Council Monthly Meeting**  
**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 7.30pm at Clavering Village Hall**  
Information including Draft/Approved Council Minutes, Financial Statements, Policies and previous Newsletters will be found on the Parish Council website:

<https://www.claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

**YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

**Chairman: Fabian Bullen Vice Chairman: Stephanie Gill**

**Ron Couchman Kym Elliston Frances Smither**

**Parish Clerk/RFO: Mrs L. Young**

**email: [clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk) Telephone: 07340 505410**

**Parish Council Address: PO Box 13580 HARLOW CM20 9WU**

If you are telephoning the Council please leave a message if your call is not picked up immediately. Emails will be responded to in accordance with the receipt acknowledgement.

**Essex Mobile Library**

**Clements Close CB11 4GU (opposite the village shop) 10.30am – 11am**  
**31<sup>st</sup> January, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 4<sup>th</sup> April & 25<sup>th</sup> April**

Also scheduled to stop at Long Ley Langley Upper Green CB11 4RX  
3.10pm – 3.40pm 29<sup>th</sup> January, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Village Green Waste Service at Clavering Place Farm, Stickling Green**

Further information on the 2026 dates will be communicated when confirmed.

**Clavering Neighbourhood Plan - Our Village ... Our Plan ... Our Voice**

The Steering Group which is developing the Clavering Neighbourhood Plan gave an update on its work to date on the evening of 14th January in the Village Hall. The presentation was attended by approx. 50 villagers, with an in-depth analysis of what work has been undertaken, what the status is now, and what needs to be achieved moving forwards. There was also a question and answer session. Thank you to all who attended and also those who contributed comments for the 'Village Aspirations Board', which will help in determining future community projects of value for the village when the Community Infrastructure Levy is introduced for the Uttlesford District.

The presentation will be placed on the Neighbourhood Plan's dedicated website on [www.claveringnp.co.uk](http://www.claveringnp.co.uk), where other information may also be sourced.

**Clavering Parish Council Grass Cutting Tender.**

The Parish Council has determined the terms of its tender for the 3-weekly cutting & strimming works carried out on various grass areas owned by the Parish Council or under its management. The tenders are being sent out, but if any contractors would like to be considered for this work, please contact the Clerk soonest on [clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk) for details.

**Clavering Speedwatch** – The Clavering Parish Clerk will be in contact with all volunteers in the coming month in order to arrange the required training. Additional volunteers are welcome, please contact the Clerk on [clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk) for more information

**Hill Green Carols on the Village Green Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

In the face of the forecast excessive high winds and rain for the evening, the Village Hall Committee kindly allowed the event to be re-located to the Hall, which was fortunately available. Over 50 people gathered to sing in the season - the hall having been frantically decorated with lights and a Christmas tree!

A huge thank you to the Stewart-Richardson family for supplying nibbles, with special mention to their children who kindly acted as 'waiters' throughout the event

The collection taken up for Clavering Care raised £148.17 Thank you for your generosity!

**Notes of the verbal report given by District Cllr Oliver at the CPC Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> January**

Cllr Oliver spoke again on Uttlesford District Council promoting the 5 Unitary Authorities option under Local Government Reorganisation and his concern that Uttlesford's area would be forced to take more housing. He advised that he had called in a planning application for 9 dwellings on Clatterbury Lane.

## Notes of the verbal report given by ECC Cllr Gooding at the CPC Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> January

Cllr Gooding spoke on the planned Local Government Reorganisation, stating that he favoured the 3 Unitary Authorities option as he identified that 5 would spread the total funds available for Social Services too thinly across what will be known as Greater Essex. As is known, the decision of 'how many' rests with the Government and more will be made known in February. The Mayoral elections have been postponed and it is expected that there will be County Council elections this May, though he observed the tenure of those voted in will only be for one year and the elections costs would be extensive. On current local issues, Essex is considered to be leading the country in road repairs, though he was unable to establish if these statistics were based on the additional funding in place resulting in less complaints being made!

He reiterated the observation that, under LGR, Parish and Town Councils could be expected to take on more services, and would need to ensure that they have a 'grass roots' voice in the unitary framework, which unparished areas like Harlow would not possess.

## Clavering Parish Council Finance Budget & Precept 2026-2027

Once more, this was a difficult year for budget determination as councillors are mindful of continuing economic constraints in households and yet the Council must 'balance the books' while ensuring the provision of services for parishioners.

In addition to the usual budget requirements, it was determined to budget again this year to provide an annual grant for a grass cutting to the Jubilee Field, following support agreements made some years ago.

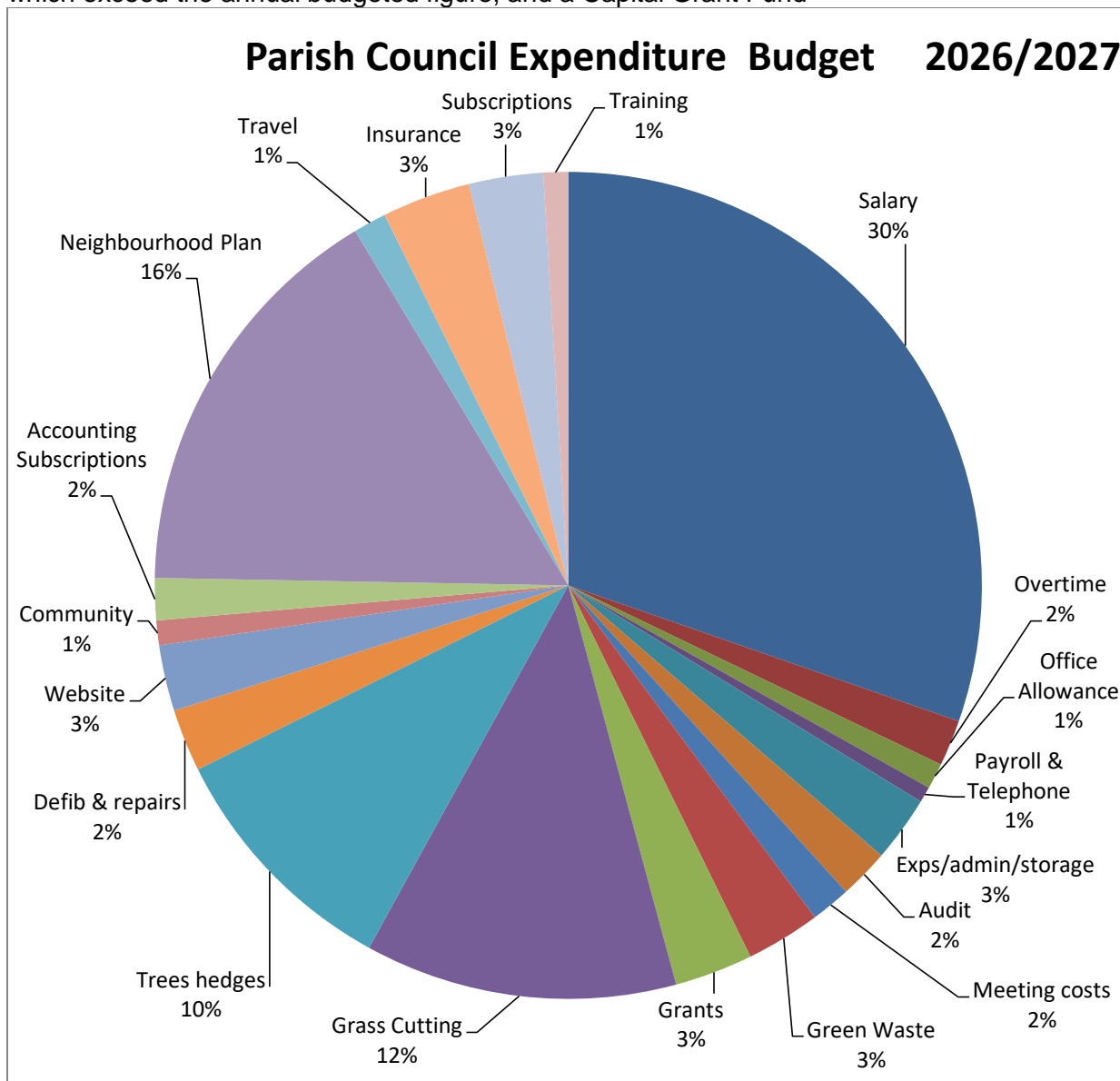
As agreed in December, further support funding was also required for the Neighbourhood Plan work.

The agreed Expenditure Budget for 2026-27 is £31,059 (2025-26: £28,291)

The agreed Precept for 2026-27 is £30,339 (2024-2025: £27,621).

The Band D actual will be £42.35 pa (2024-25: £38.75pa)

As before, CPC continues to hold funds in Earmarked Reserves – these are for the Allotments, Election Costs, Neighbourhood Plan, Legal/Professional Costs, Street Furniture Repair & unexpected Tree Works which exceed the annual budgeted figure, and a Capital Grant Fund



**Tea and Chat** – At Wicken Church & Community Centre Thursdays 15<sup>th</sup> January & 19<sup>th</sup> February 2pm-4pm All welcome to come along and have a cup of tea, slice of cake, and a friendly chat with friends old and new. No charge but donations are welcomed.

## **Clavering Landscape History Group – Winter 'Zoom' Lectures 7.30pm**

Theme: 'Occupations Then and Now'

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January: *Holy Smoke! The Fire Brigade* Revd Gary Fleming

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February: *Local Newspaper Journalism* Jacqueline Cooper

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February: *Antiques Trade* Debbie Lowe

All welcome. Please email [mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com](mailto:mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com) for joining code.

## **Clavering Church**

**Open Door Youth Drop-In** – Starts Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 7-8.30pm Clavering Christian Centre. Activities and Refreshments for those aged 11-16. Please note that those attending must register so please contact Revd Gary Fleming for more info on 07941 402273 or scan the QR code found on the back page of the December Benefice Bugle.

**Coffee and Crafting**– Wednesdays 4<sup>th</sup> February & 4<sup>th</sup> March 10am to 12noon at the Christian Centre Bring your latest project, knitting, crochet, needlepoint, crossword, your baby or just come for a chat!

**Soup and Sweet**– Wednesdays 4<sup>th</sup> February & 4<sup>th</sup> March 12noon – 2pm at the Christian Centre

**Jubilee Field Annual Quiz** - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 7.30 for 8pm Clavering Village Hall. Tickets £12.50ph includes the Jubilee Field's famous Luxury Ploughman's Supper. Contact Donna on 07502 338920 to see if there are any late ticket returns!

**Clavering Village Hall Fete Committee.** The fete is planned for Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026 but volunteers are needed to keep our village fete alive. Please contact Donna on 07502 338920 or Jack on 07515 759234 for more information.

**Clearing Out Old Clothes?** Don't forget that there is a Clothing Bank in the Village Hall Car Park near the entrance to the Jubilee Field. The Village Hall and the Jubilee Field Charities share equally the proceeds of funds raised via this Clothing Bank. Thank you in advance!

## **Essex County Council DaRT 299 Bus Transport**

Please note contact email has reverted to [contact@central-connect.co.uk](mailto:contact@central-connect.co.uk)

The phone number remains 0115 777 3187.

Bookings must be made by 18.00hrs the day before you travel – and Monday bookings must be made no later than 18.00hrs on the Saturday and may be made up to 14 days in advance. The contracted buses carry the Flagfinders livery.

N.B. Bookings are only confirmed when advised to be so by Vectare as this is not a taxi service and is reliant upon at least three others making the same journey and there being a bus available.

**///what3words** Do you know about this app?

The Emergency Services are asking especially those who live in rural areas to consider downloading this free app. As the app has given each 3 metre square of the world a unique combination of three words, using this when contacting the emergency services can pinpoint where help is needed and save precious time in finding those in need.

## **Environment Agency**

Many parishioners in Clavering take advantage of the free government service to sign up to get flood warnings, especially as the monitoring station for this is located near the Bridges.

More information can be found on [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings)

or you may register by calling 0345 988 1188

**Highways Maintenance Problems – Villagers are reminded that it is always quicker to activate an investigation if you report these online, as precious time could be lost if you contact the Parish Council.**

Using this website [www.essexhighways.org/tell-us](http://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us) an audit trail is started as you will be given a reference number. It is then easier for our local Essex County Councillor, Cllr Gooding, to chase outstanding matters when requested to do so either by parishioners or the parish council. Also the website advises a phone number to call if the problem is severe and considered extremely dangerous to road users or pedestrians.

**You can report potholes, broken railings & signs, pavement/kerb/drainage defects, blocked culverts, overgrown trees or hedges, blocked/damaged public footpaths, and etc.**

### **Foul water discharges onto roads or into watercourses?**

**Report online using [thameswater.co.uk](http://thameswater.co.uk).** Go to the website and click on 'View and report a problem'. You will be guided through all stages of making the report. You receive a case number and can opt-in to receive updates of their investigation and required work.

**No access to the internet? Phone the Customer Service Team on 0800 316 9800**

**Again you are reminded that it is always quicker to activate an investigation if villagers make the report immediately, as precious time could be otherwise lost.**

### **Hare Coursing in and around Clavering:**

The Essex Police Rural Engagement Team reiterate: "If you see hare coursing taking place, ring 999 immediately and provide as much information as you can – for example, a What3Words location, a description of the people involved, vehicle registration numbers, vehicle descriptions and the location and direction of travel....."

".....It is very important that you don't confront hare coursers or put yourself at risk"

### **Before a power cut or gas emergency .....**

- **Know your free emergency numbers:** In a power cut dial 105 or, for a gas emergency, dial 0800 111999.
- **Prepare your home:** Keep a torch handy and get your appliances serviced by a Gas Safe registered engineer to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- **Register as a vulnerable customer:** Vulnerable households can get extra support by signing up to the Priority Services Register. You can find out more about the Priority Services Register in London, the South and East of England by signing up at [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk).

**Keep your eyes open:** If you have a power cut or a gas emergency, check on your neighbours

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## **DEFIBRILLATORS AT THE VILLAGE HALL and VILLAGE SHOP**

If you have to make a 999 call, the call handler may decide that the defibrillator is required. You will be asked if you are able to go to the village hall or the village shop to get the defibrillator, but this would usually only happen if someone else is able to stay with the person in need, as phone contact with the emergency service must be maintained at all times.

There is also a defibrillator on outside of the Bowls/Tennis Pavilion and you may be directed there. The call handler will give you the code to open the yellow metal box beside the hall or shop entrance doors. The hall's defibrillator is the small carry case – like a child's play-doctor kit – that is kept in the metal box. Take the 'Ready Kit' (black pouch with green cross) and the carry case.

The shop's defibrillator is in a shoulder bag with the 'Ready Kit' in a small black bag attached to its strap. **ONLY THE SHOP'S DEFIBRILLATOR CAN BE USED WITH PADS FOR CHILDREN UNDER 8 YEARS OF AGE – THESE MUST BE TAKEN FROM THE CABINET ALSO AND ARE CLEARLY MARKED.**

When you are back with the patient, open the defibrillator: you will then hear an automated voice giving instructions. **IF NEEDED, REMOVE THE ADULT PADS AND ATTACH CHILD PADS.**

The call handler will also talk you through all that you must do and when the paramedics arrive they will take over from you.

**REMEMBER**

**No special training is required & the Emergency Services will guide you through everything**