



CLAVERING NEWSLETTER

CLAVERING PARISH COUNCIL

Issue 228
20th April 2026

Email address: clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk

Editor: Stephanie Gill

Parish Council Meeting 13th April 2026

Six members of the public were present, District Councillor Oliver in part. (ECC Cllr Gooding did not attend as is pre-election period). The Chairman welcomed those attending, detailing meetings he had attended and commenting on the positivity seen at the Community Event for Village Organisations held the day before.

A parishioner advised they had been able to mend the two spilt water pipes at the allotments, (despite insulation attempts) and that non-allotment holders were walking through the area with dogs. A parishioner asked about the SpeedWatch Training and was advised that it was hoped that training details would be agreed in April.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) – The appointment of an experienced planning consultant, Ann Skippers, in order to finalise writing of the policies required as this is not supported by UDC, was agreed by Full Council.

Village Green and Parish Land – Discussion on CPC work to the area of the water pump at Sheepcote Green postponed while confirmation of land ownership sought. Noted that residents at The Druce are meeting to discuss a way forward in order to cease damage to the Registered Village Green, which is confirmed as being owned by Clavering PC; it is not Essex Highways Land. Noted that a parishioner is attending to worn surface of a Registered Village Green access per agreed Licence

RCCE – Determined not to enter Village of the Year Competition this year, given Neighbourhood Plan work. Agreed to continue membership of RCCE

Defibrillators – Both defibrillators recue ready 4th April (*NB Further checks made 17th April*)

Easement Grant – Determined to give a grant of £3,000 to Clavering Parochial Church to purchase a lawnmower for cutting of the churchyard grass

Clerk's Report – The Clerk informed the Council of the work she had carried out in the month.

Policies - Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, and the HR Suite of policies adopted April 2025 were readopted without amendment.

Planning - It was noted that Cllr Gill had spoken at the UDC Planning Committee on 8th April under delegated authority.

External Audit – Finalised audit findings from PKF Littlejohn received. The Council has not received a qualified audit, and auditors findings will be considered in May meeting

Finance – Bank statements received and payments agreed.

Training- Noted that Cllr Gill has completed GDPR training (f.o.c) to fulfil future Audit requirements.

Enforcement Matter – Discussed in private and confidential per advice of UDC

Planning for CPC Comment:

UTT/26/0715/HHF: 46 Pelham Road Proposed front extension to studio/garage building **No Comment**

Planning for information only:

UTT/26/0848/AG: Curles Farm Pelham Road Extension to an existing agricultural building to be used as an agricultural workshop and for storage of farm equipment

Planning at Appeal:

UTT/25/2657/LB Elm Cottage Further Ford End Proposed internal alterations and rear extension including demolition of existing conservatory - Appeal Reference: 6006330 to be determined on written representations. **No Comment by CPC**

UDC Planning Decisions:

UTT/25/2404/FUL Land at Hill Green Wicken Road Erection of 28 no. proposed new dwellings including 11 no. affordable dwellings, 6 self and custom build plots, and associated infrastructure. **Refused**

Annual Parish Council Meeting: Monday 11th May 2026 at 7.30pm
Annual Meeting of the Electorate: Monday 18th May 2026 at 7.30pm

All meetings detailed 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 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.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

A meeting for the Electors of the Parish to discuss Parish Affairs.

To be held at Clavering Village Hall on

Monday 18th May 2026 at 7.30pm

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Welcome by Parish Council Chairman and introduction of councillors
3. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Clavering Annual Meeting of the Parish held on 29th May 2025 (to be published on the Council's website)
4. Annual Meeting of the Parish Report to include coming year's plans
5. Any Parish Councillors comments on the coming year's plans
6. Presentation by Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
7. Newly elected Essex County Councillor invited to speak
8. District Councillor Edward Oliver invited to speak
9. Representative of the Jubilee Field Committee invited to speak on the charity's work over the past year and upcoming projects
10. Representative of the Village Hall Council of Management invited to speak on the charity's work over the past year and upcoming projects
11. Other Village Organisations invited to make a short presentation
12. Questions and comments from Electors

Fabian Bullen

Chairman Clavering Parish Council

20th April 2026

ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

Councillors can make a huge difference to the quality of life of local people and how local issues are dealt with. People from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect the communities served are needed to put themselves forward.

The only expectation is that you should be able to commit the time and effort to the role and to attend as many monthly Council meetings as possible.

Clavering Parish Council is responsible for looking after the Dick Ball Meadow, as well as the Registered Village Greens and other parish land that it owns. It owns and leases out the

allotments. It provides and maintains the benches and litter bins in the village as well as the defibs at the shop and the village hall.

It also organises the monthly Green Waste Skip service and supports local groups as it is able.

The Council comments on Planning Applications as a statutory consultee and makes representations if needed at UDC Planning Committee Meetings and Planning Inspectorate Appeals and Hearings. The writing of the new Neighbourhood Plan is supported by the Parish Council.

In the past it has co-ordinated village events such as those for the late Queen's Jubilees, VE & VJ celebrations, and of course organises the village litter picks!!

The Council also awards grants to various village organisations for activities/equipment which benefit the community.

There are four vacancies on Clavering Parish Council - Are you interested??

These vacancies can be filled by a process called co-option.

Applications are invited from local people to join Clavering Parish Council.

Please contact the Parish Clerk on clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk for more information

Thank you

Village Green Waste Service at Clavering Place Farm, Stickling Green

This service is available for Clavering and Langley residents only: it is paid for via their parish precepts

10.30am - 11.30am 9th May ~ 6th June ~ 4th July ~ 1st August ~ 29th August

26th September ~ 24th October ~ 21st November

Users of this service are reminded that it is polite to clear up any mess that they may create

The Parish Councils thank the Balaam Family for facilitating this Service at their premises

Essex Mobile Library

Clements Close CB11 4GU (opposite the village shop) 10.30am – 11am

25th April, 16th May & 6th June

Also scheduled to stop at Long Ley Langley Upper Green CB11 4RX

3.10pm – 3.40pm 23rd April, 14th May & 4th June

Friendly reminder re. the Allotments

The allotments are owned by Clavering Parish Council, but there is no public right of way through them, nor are they considered public open space.

Allotments holders are licensed to occupy their plots, for which they pay a rent.

It has come to the Parish Council's attention that members of the public are walking their dogs through the allotments. Whilst it may be a lovely walk amongst the growing plants, please may the Council ask that villagers cease this practice out of respect for the allotment holders. Thank you.

Ever wondered which areas of the Parish are owned by the Parish Council or are Registered Village Greens?

The Parish Council website has all the information! !

Go to <https://www.claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-documents-and-policies/> and click on the button 'Village Green and Parish Land Policy'.

There are illustrative maps as well as details of how areas are maintained.

If more detailed information is needed, simply contact the Clerk.

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

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will be issuing monthly updates on the Parish Council Facebook Page - do look out for these.

Notes of the verbal report given by the District Councillor at the CPC Meeting 13th April

Cllr Oliver commented on the Planning Committee's refusal of the application for a build of 28 houses at Hill Green. He also observed that there appears to be cancellation of certain business matters at UDC, pending information on LGR.

Clavering Church

Coffee and Crafting Wednesdays 6th May, 3rd June, & 1st July 10am to 12noon at the Christian Centre Bring your latest project, knitting, crochet, needlepoint, crossword, or just come for a chat!

Soup and Sweet Lunch supporting Water Aid
Saturday 16th May 12noon – 2pm at the Christian Centre

Clavering Landscape History Group – Spring Lectures

Thursday 7th May: *The History of Brent Pelham Hall* Jenny Milledge (Garden Historian of Clavering)

At the Clavering Christian Centre at 7.30pm All welcome - Tea/Coffee and Cakes afterwards

Clavering Friends of St Clare Hospice – Annual Spring Fayre

Saturday 9th May 10am -1.30pm Clavering Village Hall Entrance 50p

Plants + Bric-a-Brac + Toys + Nearly New Clothes & Bags + Paperback Books + Linens + Jewellery + Cakes + Raffle + Tombola + Refreshments + and much more!

Donations being accepted only until 24th April! For more information please contact Jean 01799 550758, Andrea 01799 550425 or Carolyn 01799 521965

Tea and Chat – At Wicken Church & Community Centre Thursdays 21st May and

18th June 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 Bowls Club –

Open Evenings for training and practice: every Tuesday at 5pm, weather permitting, May-September. New members most welcome Friendly tuition and equipment available- just bring flat shoes. For more information contact Lee 01799 550916 or email claveringbowls@gmail.com or see www.claveringbc.org *The Clubhouse and Bowling Green are located at the far side of the Jubilee Field next to the Tennis Courts*

Royal British Legion –

23rd May – The Woodman PH Nuthampstead. Event to remember all who served with the UASF Bomber Group based at Nuthampstead in World War II.

Ordinary meetings are held every Second Tuesday of the month at 8pm in The Bull PH Langley Lower Green. Do come and join in an enjoyable evening – previous military service is not a requirement as the Legion is open to all who support its work.

Somme Battlefield Tour - 9th to 12th October 2026. Anyone interested in joining the tour, please contact the secretary soonest. Travel will be by car via the Channel Tunnel

For more information contact Revd Paddy Cable 01763 258043 or paddycable@gmail.com

Clavering Horticultural Society – Dates for your Diary!

Annual Rose and Flower Show: Sunday 7th June. 9 classes and children's competitions

Annual Flower, Vegetable and Cookery Show: Saturday 25th July. Over 80 classes for all ages and abilities

Clavering Village Hall Fete Committee - The fete is planned for Saturday 13th June but

volunteers are needed to keep our village fete alive. Please contact Donna on 07502 338920 or Jack on 07515 759234 for more information.

Clavering Village Hall - Trustees needed!

The Management of Clavering Village Hall is via a Charitable Trust, which is separate from the Jubilee Field Trust and the Parish Council.

Trustees are responsible for the running and maintaining the Village Hall as a venue. The hall hires in the services of a booking secretary and cleaner.

The Management Committee would welcome new Trustees to share the management load and also the fundraising activities undertaken. There is also a need to appoint a Treasurer from the Trustees.

If you feel able to support this community asset as a trustee, please contact Aimee Balaam, Chairman on claveringvhall@hotmail.co.uk

If you wish to receive the CPC Newsletter by email, do send your email address and the first line of your home address to 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.

UDC Community Grants

UDC has a one-off community grant available for voluntary organisations and groups. This is ideal for pilot projects, one-off events or new services. Grants of up to £3,000 are available. The scheme will be open from 1 April and full details will be on the UDC website.

Government Support for Vulnerable Households who rely on heating oil

You may have seen the government announcement of £53m of support for vulnerable households who rely on heating oil.

The support will be targeted to help low-income households in rural communities affected by the recent surge in costs.

The additional funding will be distributed by local authorities via the Crisis and Resilience Fund, which comes into effect on 1 April and replaces the temporary Household Support Fund. Locally, the fund will be administered by Southend-on-Sea Council on behalf of Essex County Council.

If help is needed before the Crisis and Resilience Fund starts in April, people can apply to Essex County Council for support, but any cash would need to be from existing pots of money.

The Cost of Living Support section on Uttlesford DC website has been updated to make it clear to whom enquiries should be made if any resident needs help with their heating costs. However, UDC officers will be working to ensure available funds are distributed equitably to those in need.
(latest update 26th March)

Upcoming Elections

Elections will be taking place across Uttlesford on 7th May to elect Essex County Councillors.

Poll cards will be issued soon and will be delivered to all registered electors by 10 April.

Applications after this date will be sent a poll card during week commencing 13 April.

Key dates:

- **Registration** – for those not already registered to vote, the deadline is midnight on Monday 20 April
- **Postal votes** – anyone who wishes to vote by post and who has not already got a postal vote set up has until 5pm on Tuesday 21 April to apply
- **Proxy votes** – the deadline for new proxy vote applications is 5pm on Tuesday 28 April
- **Voter Authority Certificate** – anyone who does not have the required photo identification (such as a photo driving licence, passport or bus pass) can apply up to 5pm on Tuesday 28 April

When voting in person, electors must take their photo voter ID and this must be the original document – no copies or images on mobile phones.

The elections page on the UDC website includes information for prospective candidates, polling stations and more.

Uttlesford District Council Housing Repairs and Maintenance Service

There are upcoming changes to UDC's housing repairs and maintenance service.

Following feedback from tenants, UDC has decided to bring the service back in-house. This means it will directly manage repairs and day-to-day maintenance instead of using an external provider. The new arrangement will be fully in place from 1 April.

Managing the work directly is expected to help UDC respond more quickly, keep a closer eye on standards and shape the service around what tenants say is important.

Tenants should continue to report repairs in the usual way, by calling UDC on 01799 510510 or online

Essex County Council DaRT 299 Bus Transport

Please note contact email has reverted to 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.

UDC Welfare Liaison Officers – Jen and Evie welfare@uttlesford.gov.uk

If you need information on how to apply for help or need support with Council Tax, Debt, Rent, Financial Hardship, Universal Credit Shortfall, Cost of Living, Entitlement to Benefits, please make contact with the officers via the above email or phone 01799 510510.

They can assist you with your concerns or signpost you to the appropriate support organisation.

///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.

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 an audit trail is started as you will be given a reference number. It is then easier for our local Essex County Councillor 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. 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.

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

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 or you may register by calling 0345 988 1188

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