



CLAVERING NEWSLETTER

CLAVERING PARISH COUNCIL Issue 233 14th September 2026

Email address: clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk

Editor: Stephanie Gill

Parish Council Meeting 14th September 2026

Five members of the public present in part, Cllr Oliver sent apologies. UDC Cllr Richard Pavitt attended as a member of the public and spoke on Chalk Stream Revival on the Upper Cam
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) – Report received on work to date.

Defibrillators – Both defibs 'rescue ready' 14th September and replacement pads received.

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

External Audit Report - received meeting morning: no matters to raise.

Allotments – Invoices to be prepared this month

Bridge over Stort at Druce – Repaired by ECC Structures and Bridges Team and re-opened 11th September at no cost to PC

FOI and SAR Requests – Clerk's work on these within legal framework noted

Bus Passenger Transport Representative Report and Demand Responsive (DRT) Bus – CPC continues to press for return of bus journey to Stortford.

Replacement Benches – Agreed to reinstate decayed bench at Valance Corner; council advised concrete is also failing on a similar benches at Stickling Green and possibly the road to the Mills and these should be replaced (originally erected mid 1960's)

Village Assets – Report of September's full inspection of Street Furniture presented with suggested works

New website- Councillors to review site, content and accessibility before launch

National Grid Upgrade of Pylons 'North London Reinforcement' – Verbal report given as Transport Management Scheme now using Clavering as route to and from Berden, and the National Grid Community Fund available. Informal requests have been made to the transportation company that traffic moves slower than the speed limit though Clavering. Parish groups will be advised funding details when released

External Audit – No issues raised by PKF Littlejohn

Remembrance Wreaths – Agreed to purchase wreaths for the Sunday Church Service (Cllr Couchman to lay) and the Christian Centre Service (Cllr Smither to lay)

Community Speedwatch - Verbal report received on work to date

Jubilee Field – AGM 22nd October 8pm at the Village Hall. New junior swings installed, baby swings needing urgent maintenance.

Village Carols – Agreed for Thursday 17th December at 6.30pm: St Mary's Brass to accompany.

Employment - Considered in Private and Confidential per advice.

Planning for CPC Comment:

UTT/26/1982/HHF & UTT/26/1983/LB: Ruttels Valance Road Erection of annexe/study outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation, extension to approved garage for plantroom, ASHP located behind garage and 1 no. new dormer and 1 no. relocated dormer on approved extension **No Comment**

UTT/26/2195/CLE: Land At Stickling Green Single storey timber log cabin erected year built 2026 used for storage hobby purposes not used as residential accommodation **Comment made**

UTT/26/2286/CLP: 2 Endways Cottage Stickling Green Replacing roof on existing conservatory **Comment not required**

UDC Planning Decisions:

UTT/26/1906/TCA: Woodloes Hill Green 1 no. Monterey Cypress - reduce canopy by up to 8m to reduce load on a failed co-dominant union and 1 no. Horse Chestnut - re-pollard limb nearest to house

No Objections

UTT/26/1443/FUL: Land East Of Hill House Wicken Road Erection of self-build dwelling **Approved**

Planning at Inspectorate

Appeal ref: 6014477 was UTT/25/2897/OP Land to the West of Clatterbury Lane Outline application with all matters reserved except access for the construction of up to 9 no. residential dwellings. Determination will be by written representations. Latest comment to be made 24th September CPC agreed not to comment further given its initial representation.

Monthly Parish Council Meeting 12th October 2026 at 7.30pm

All meetings usually 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

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

Community Engagement Meetings at Clavering Village Hall

Thursday 17th September 7pm to 9pm

Saturday 19th September 11am to 1pm

Presentation of Proposed Sites for the Neighbourhood Plan : Questions & Answers

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has collated information regarding the Plan, on behalf of the Parish Council. Should any parishioner, unable to attend the September events, wish to view this and also speak with a member of the Steering Group, please email claveringnp@gmail.com or clerk@claveringparishcouncil.gov.uk. The information will also be posted on the Neighbourhood Plan website – <https://www.claveringnp.co.uk>

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 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
19th September, 10th October and 31st October**

Also scheduled to stop at Long Ley Langley Upper Green CB11 4RX
3.10pm – 3.40pm 17th September, 8th October and 29th October

As the bird nesting season is over ... grateful thanks are given to villagers who try to keep under control the unruly elements of nature such as hedges which grow over any highway or have enlarged themselves to cause people to walk in the road, and brambles plus other overgrowth which sneak out to attack unsuspecting passers-by using the village pavements.

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 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**

Dog Waste on Footpaths

Dog owners in Clavering are reminded that Uttlesford District Council allow dog poo bags to be placed in any litter bin provided, not just those which state they are for such a purpose.

There are quite a few litter bins scattered around the village:

- One is sited on the triangle of green opposite the start of Footpath 51 on the Pelham Rd.
- On Stortford Road there is a bin opposite the Christian Centre, one near Iona and one near the shop.
- There are bins at Blacksmiths Corner by the sign, Middle Street by the Ford, and at the Bridges.
- More bins can be found at Upper Hill Green alongside the pavement and there are bins at the Jubilee Field/Village Hall too.
- Some are provided in the parish church grounds also.

The Countryside Code guidance is to 'bag It and bin it' and never leave bags of dog poo around, even if you intend to pick them up later

Of course, rather than using the open litter bins in hot weather, it may be a little more 'neighbourly' if the dog waste is taken home.

Thank you

The Annual General Meeting of Clavering Jubilee Field (Registered Charity No: 277011) Thursday 22nd October 2025 at 8pm at Village Hall, Clavering

All persons registered in the Parish of Clavering are invited to attend - but only those over the age of 18 are entitled to vote.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held on 22nd October 2025
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Correspondence
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Club Reports
8. Election of the Committee of Management for 2027

(N.B Election of Officers takes place in the ordinary meeting immediately following this AGM)

9. Update on discussions on possible merger with Clavering Village Hall Committee of Management (Registered Charity)
10. Any Other Business

Donna Duckworth, Chair. 14th September 2026

Essex County Council and Demand Response Transport Buses serving Clavering

Update on service: The bus now serves Tesco Saffron Walden. CPC continues to press for a direct route to Bishops Stortford as DigiGo cannot guarantee connections for the ECC suggested route of travelling to Newport and connecting with an hourly bus to Stortford. A councillor has used the service to connect with Audley End station, and requests have been made to the Walden DigiGo Co-ordinator that assistance is given to users in opening bus door as these are not automatic.

To learn more about DigiGo DRT3 to Saffron Walden, which also covers Quendon and Newport please go to <https://www.travelessex.co.uk/digigo/3>.

Return travel to Audley End station is covered, but Farnham is excluded...

In this zone, DigiGo operates 7 days a week from 7am to 10pm (excluding bank holidays).

Journeys can be booked up to 7 days in advance by calling **03330 137 138** (Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm). Next day journeys must be booked by 5pm on the previous working day

.As well as travelling between destinations within the zone, DigiGo state they can take you to key 'TravelEssex Connect Points', making it easier to continue your journey further afield, including: Saffron Walden High Street, Saffron Walden Community Centre , Saffron Walden County High School, Elsenham train station and Newport.

The re-designed DigiGo services states that it offers:

- *An enhanced service, Monday to Sunday, 7am until 10pm daily*

- Increased capacity compared to the previous contract
- Bookings up to 7 days in advance
- Group bookings for up to 10 passengers
- Single fares from £1.87–£3 under the Government's £3 Fare Cap
- Free travel for concessionary bus pass holders after 9am on weekdays and all day at weekends
- Booking via an app from September, to increase and diversify use of the service

Uttlesford Chalk Streams

At the September PC Meeting, Richard Pavitt spoke on his volunteer work since 2017 on the River Cam. Given that all water in north Uttlesford is provided by chalk aquifers, he had found it disturbing that previous development here had not considered effects on the nature and environment of the chalk stream. Water Companies now have targets to control the pollution entering rivers but Mr Pavitt considered that their actions still need monitoring and local interest taken in chalk streams, such as The Stort in Clavering. (He was not aware that parishioners currently inspect the river for Himalayan Balsam and either pull it out or advise the Environment Agency if too tricky to get to!)

He recommended watching *Rivers Return*, a film available on the UDC You Tube channel, which documents the work carried out to restore the River Cam in Newport & Chesterford.

He also considered that perhaps someone should come forward in Clavering as a 'River Champion' to initiate work with UDC and Essex Wildlife Trust to consider how the Stort could be improved.

CPC will consider this at the next appropriate meeting, but if anyone has any ideas or wishes to find out more in the meantime, please do contact the Clavering clerk.

Tea and Chat – At Wicken Church & Community Centre 17th September, 15th October, and 19th November 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

Royal British Legion –

Arnold Hitchcock Memorial Lecture. Speaker: Lucy Lewis – the first female bomb disposal officer. Thursday 17th September 7.15pm for prompt start at 7.30pm Langley Community Centre Refreshments available £5 entry to cover speaker's fee and expenses

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.

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

RBL Annual Poppy Collection – Volunteers are welcomed to assist with this door-to-door collection. If you are interested in helping with this rewarding and fulfilling work, please contact Revd Paddy Cable or Sarah at The Bull PH, Langley Lower Green..

Clavering Landscape History Group

Ludgate Memorial Lecture – Eileen Ludgate: her life and legacy Speaker: Jacky Cooper Thursday 24th September 7.30pm

The Impact of the Norman Conquest Speaker: Prof. Stephen Church Thursday 22nd October 7.30pm

The Bayeux Tapestry Speaker :Elizabeth Allan Thursday 19th November 7.30pm

For more information contact mrsjacquelinecooper@gmail.com. All meetings at Clavering Christian Centre

Clavering Church

Stride by Stride Walking Group – Friday 25th September 10.30am start from St John's Langley

Quiz Night– Saturday 3rd October 7 for 7.30pm at the Christian Centre £10ph.Teams of 6. Contact Juliet at tudormid@gmail.com for a table

Coffee and Crafting - Wednesdays 7th October & 4th November 10am to 12noon at the Christian Centre Bring your latest project, knitting, crochet, needlepoint, crossword, or just come for a chat!

Clavering Friends of St Clare Hospice- Quiz Night

Friday 16th October 7pm for 7.30pm Clavering Village Hall Tickets 12.50ph include Luxury Ploughman's Supper. Bring your own drinks and glasses, tables of 8. Tickets available from Carolyn 07773 137666 or Tina 07584 296784

Clavering & Langley WI- Charity Coffee Morning -

Thursday 22nd October Langley Community Centre 10.30am -12noon

Clavering Bowls Club -

The Green is now closed for the season but make a note of our **Annual Bowls Quiz Friday 20th November**: more details next month

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 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.

Uttlesford Help Hub Service: currently offered in Saffron Walden and Dunmow, and in Elsenham from October. This is an outreach service to provide early help and support, particularly around welfare, benefits, council tax, debt, access to employment and mental health support which may help mitigate the level of hardship people are experiencing. Support is offered by the expert team on site and no appointment is required.

The only criteria is that the individual lives/household is in Uttlesford

Saffron Walden Community Link - 10am - 2pm, last Thursday of the month

Dunmow Library - 10am-2pm, second Wednesday of the month

Elsenham Memorial Hall - 1.15pm - 4.15pm, third Tuesday of the month

<https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/article/8451/Uttlesford-Help-Hub>

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"

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.

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.

///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.

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