

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

### **Representative Reports.**

#### **Events attended Cllr Stephanie Gill**

#### **Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC)**

##### **AGM: 7pm Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2026 held as a hybrid meeting**

Of note:

Peter Davey, previously an EALC Chair, was elected as EALC President on the retirement of Mrs Jennifer Tollshurst, Lord Lieutenant of Essex.

Annual Report and Accounts received.

It was agreed that the Subscription would be increased by 3.1% effective April 2027

The proposed amendments to the EALC Constitution were agreed.

Annual Executive Meeting will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **Biodiversity**

##### **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September. 9.30am -1pm 'Discovery Day' hosted by RCCE at Wildfell, Wethersfield.**

This is a 296 acre site for Environmental Recovery owned by Ground Control. Arable land has been transformed into a habitat bank for high-integrity biodiversity net gain units.

Essentially developers achieve the required BNG for a development by buying a unit at Wildfell.

Wethersfield Parish is certainly benefiting by the increased biodiversity on its doorstep, and riverbank improvements along The Pant, though Ground Control were unable to comment on how the change from arable to more trees would have an impact on the local microclimate in the future. Most Parish Councils present were of the opinion that BNG is best kept local in the rural parishes, though an urban Town Council may have a differing view.

30year buy in

Of note for CPC:

They are attempting to promote a community orchard on site – not easy to keep community on board.

Labour intensive when establishing new woodlands, flower meadows and need for deer fencing!

#### **Training**

##### **Scribifest Day (Webinar) Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am-4pm**

Talks included:

Clare Reed - Proper Practices re AGAR and Digital Agar being introduced.

Steve Parkinson – VAT Advice & retention of documents for HMRC

'The Library of Things' Town Council hosting a lending library of objects in return for donations

Colin Raffell (James Hallam Insurance) – Cyber insurance cover

Tom Sykes (Common Works) - Understanding Planning Applications and making Design Code comments.

Becky Walsh – Fight/Flight/Feeze/ Fawn in PC meetings

Dorchester TC – Apprentices and their contribution.

Breakthrough Communications – Data Breaches

Mark Thompkin (Aubergine) – Engaging the Community

James Corrigan (HR) – Employment Rights Act 2025

Jackie Weaver – Vexatious and Challenging behaviours

Clare Linguard (WGW LLP) Accounts being audit ready

Mike Manton – Kompan Play

Parish Clerk Great Chart – Community Engagement

**EALC HR Conference 28<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am -3pm**

Speakers were Becky Walsh (Counsellor and intuitive catalyst coach), Christian Vincent (HR Consultant) at WorkNest, Jo Cheal ( Leadership Development Specialist) Imaginarium Learning and Development.

Christian Vincent covered HR and especially changes re. the Employment Rights Acts 2025. His slides will be made available and will be circulated for councillor and clerk use.

The other speakers were soft touch speakers addressing dealing with HR issues and possible strategies.

**Essex Passenger Transport Report**

**Replacement of DaRT 299, operated by Transport Made Simple, with DRT 3, operated by Digigo.**

Efforts are still being made alongside by parishioners, and other councils to reinstated the bus journey to Bishops Stortford.

***Cllr Stephanie M. Gill 6<sup>th</sup> October 2026***