

Chignal Parish Council

C/O 45 Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 1DH
Tel: 01245 360811 Email: Clerk@Chignal-pc.gov.uk



Clerk: Will Adshead-Grant
Website: Chignal-PC.gov.uk

Chair: Lynn Ballard
Vice Chair: Linda Nelson

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Chignal Parish Council held on Monday 8th September 2025 at 7.30pm for transacting the following business.

Governance

2025/899 Chair's Welcome.

Chair: Ballard

Cllrs: Elwick, Lewis, Nelson, Polley and Towns.

2025/900 Apologies for Absence.

Cllr. Stainton.

2025/901 Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th July 2025.

Resolution: ***The minutes were confirmed.***

2025/902 Note the minutes of the Orchard Committee held on 2nd September 2025.

Resolution: ***The minutes were noted.***

2025/903 Declarations of Interests and any requests for dispensation.

Item 1. Cllr Polley. neighbour.

Item 3. Cllr Elwick. neighbour.

2025/904 Public Open Session for any matters that need to be drawn to the Parish Council's attention. The item does not need to be on the current agenda.

9 Members of the Public.

- Request for a Boules / Pétanque court to be placed on the Village playing field. Materials costs required from the Parish Council. Labour will be supplied for free. 10m x 5m court open to the public. Estimated costs around £1,000. Expected players will bring their own playing sets. Potential to have a starter session in the Village Hall car park. The croquet club would run alongside the court.
- Defibrillators: can additional units be placed in the Parish? Where can one be placed?
 - Chignal Chapel could host a unit.
 - Little Hollows on a new parish noticeboard.
- Dog waste on the footpath to Pengy Mill. Several other areas reported.
- Any update on the Local Plan Gravel extraction?
- 25/01138/FUL Objection to the 3 Kilnfield Barns Plans.
- 25/01182/FUL. Objection to proposed 4 bedroom house on land south-east of Woodhall House.

2025/905 County and City Councillors' Reports.

1. Essex County Councillor Report – Cllr Mike Steel.

Members Highways Initiative – MHI for Broomfield and Writtle:

MHI for w/c 4th Aug 25

- Broomfield School Lane pavement
- Great Waltham South Street adjacent to Duffries Close – where the parents park
- Great Waltham South Street/Duffries Close junction kerbs



- Edney Common broken sign
- Edney Common broken pole
- Ford End pavement
- Great Waltham Barrack Lane manhole cover

The 40mph sign in Chignal Smealey has been straightened.

Church Lane, Ford End, has also been repaired, but not as part of MHI – this is too big a job for MHI, and I used the normal escalation route for this.

I also managed to get the holes on the A131 filled – north of Sheepscote roundabout near the Gt Leighs turning

Persimmons have given permission to have a PC Notice Board on their land.

Pylons

NGET applied for a DCO 29th August 2025. The Planning Inspectorate now has up to 28 days to decide whether to accept the application. If accepted, the submission documents will be published on the Planning Inspectorate's website. This will include a Consultation Report providing responses to the feedback submitted during the 2024 statutory consultation and the targeted consultations earlier this year.

The Planning Inspectorate will then appoint an Examining Authority which will hold a six-month examination of the application. Local residents, landowners and stakeholders will be able to register an interest at that point so they can provide comments and take part in the examination period. Further information on how to take part, will be provided if NGET's application is accepted.

Following examination, the Examining Authority will then prepare a detailed report along with its recommendation to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. The Secretary of State then has three months to decide whether to approve the application.

We expect the whole process to take around 18 months.

I continue to use all democratic avenues to oppose the pylons that will go through 9 of my 11 parishes!

I am also working with the Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk Pylons group (Rosie Pearson) to formulate and lobby for response from ECC, City Council, parish councils and our combine parish council group. I was scheduled to meet with the "Offset" MPs in September – these are the Conservative MPs along the route. We will be coordinating efforts across Norfolk/Suffolk/Essex to oppose the DCO. This has now been moved to October.

Local Govt Reorganisation – LGR - Update

It is very likely that the joint ECC/12 DCs/Southend Unitary/Thurrock Unitary will make a single application but with 4 options – two 4 Unitaries, a 5 Unitary option and a 3 Unitary option.

The favoured option from ECC is the 3 Unitary model of north, mid and south Essex.

On the 18th of Sept ECC Council meeting, ECC will confirm its 3 Unitary proposal (or not!) – in time for the formal submission to Central Govt 26th Sept 25. The Govt will then decide on whether to consult on these 4 options (or fewer) which will run from Nov 25 to Jan 26

One point of clarification that came out in the information sessions, is the role of the "Neighbourhood Committees". I have noted a degree of concerns from Parish Councils about a duplication of roles, but I can report that I have a better understanding of Unitary "Neighbourhood Committees". Whilst there is little detail on these, it seems that the intention is



to have decision making closer to communities and this can be achieved by such committees led by the Unitary Cllr. These "Neighbourhood Committees" will solely deal with Unitary Council services and not cross over with Parish Council services.

Chelmsford City Council have initiated a Community Governance Review (CGR) to look again at whether there is a case for parishing the centre unparished area of Chelmsford. This is not directly connected to LGR, which can leave the centre unparished, although it would mean that parish council type services would need to be delivered by the Unitary Council rather than CCC, as is now. Because a full review was conducted in 2021/22, the Council intends to limit this review to the city centre, or the 'unparished' area – note that out of 33,000 households (52,000 electorate) in the unparished area, there were only a handful of responses in 21/22 (less than 40), and it was decided to leave the area unparished.

I am on the Connectivity and Governance committee which is performing this review. Personally, I think it is too soon to be doing this and will get confused with LGR as there will be 2 separate consultations going on at the same time. I think we should wait until we know the direction of travel for LGR, but the CCC ruling administration are determined to do this.

Whilst the review is limited to the subject of whether to parish the centre unparished areas, the consultation will invite comments from the parish tier council area that currently adjoins this. This includes Broomfield, Chelmer, Chignal, Galleywood, Great Baddow, Margaretting, Springfield, Stock and Writtle. This is because any of these Parish Councils might wish to make a case for absorbing parts of the unparished area.

The consultation will run 22nd Sept to 22nd Dec 2022

Incinerator at Rivenhall

ECC is responsible for waste disposal (districts are responsible for collection). It is the intention to totally remove the need for landfill by high levels of recycling, and incinerating the residue waste, at the new plant in Rivenhall. Some of the CO emissions from such incineration are routed to tomato growing greenhouses as part of the overall planning application.

The Waste Planning Authority has received notification from the operators of Rivenhall that the Combined Heat and Power Plant (CHPP) element of the Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) is planned to commence operation on 4th August 2025, without all other elements of the approved IWMF.

The Waste Planning Authority has opened an enforcement case on this matter to consider whether this, and/or any element of that operation, is representative of a breach of planning control, and if so, whether it would be expedient to take enforcement action at this time.

A report on this case was presented to Development & Regulation as part of the meeting on 22nd August 2025 (I am a member of that committee). Whilst the IWMF was a strategy at all levels of waste disposal and was a coordinated approach to extracting recyclables (at source and from black bin waste) and incinerating just the residue, the operation of just the CHPP means that it will burn some recyclables that won't be extracted from black bin waste. Economics in the waste business has made this more difficult, but even if CHPP operates alone, it still avoids using landfill.



Application for Review of a Premise Licence - Chelmsford City Racecourse – rescheduled for 19th Sept

As the Essex County Cllr for Broomfield and Writtle, which includes the racecourse, I have responded to the request for a review of the premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003. Following the event and problems, I was contacted by residents (and met with some) in relation to management of the highway.

I understand from ECC Member Enquiries, that the role of ECC Highways is to implement requested Traffic Regulation orders (TRO) and that they play no role in the event, or enforcement of such TROs.

Nevertheless, I met with the Racecourse organisers to discuss the event (along with the Chelmsford City Cllr for the area – Cllr Raven)

The view of the organisers was that they had a good traffic management plan, but it failed in the implementation. They employed a reputable traffic management company.

The organisers were genuinely apologetic and recognised that improvements could be made.

I understand that the Saturday and Sunday events were better managed, but these were for a lower audience.

I get the impression that local residents welcome the presence of the Racecourse and the events that they put on. But in this case, the audience was significantly higher than their regular ones.

This begs the question whether the review should find:

1. This site is not appropriate for events of this size and lower audience restrictions should be applied
OR
2. The organisers have understood the failures and can be relied upon to ensure that the next time such an event takes place, it will be appropriately managed.

I think it would be too punitive to remove the licence in total and stop all events.

However, I will be interested to hear any representations from the residents at the review meeting, and other consultees.

2025/906 Planning.

National Grid Electricity Transmission (NG-ET), Norwich to Tilbury: submission of the planning application 29th August and next steps www.nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury

North and Southwest parishes commissioned a landscape study that looks at the impact of the Pylons in our area. Also looks at running East of Chelmsford on existing Power lines.

2025/907 Planning Applications.

1. Planning Application Reference: 25/01138/FUL
Address: 3 Kilnfield Barns, Chignal Road, Chignal Smealey
Description of works: Single storey side extension.

The original planning application for this site was for the conversion of a collection of farm buildings, which were 'non-designated heritage assets', to provide eight dwellings. The only new built structures on this site were to be ancillary to the dwellings in the converted farm buildings, such as garages and bin stores and development was expected to utilise materials to reflect the dominant building types: black horizontal boarding, slate roofs, red brick walls and pantile roofs.



The Parish Council took the view that a sensitive conversion of these barns with appropriate landscaping and biodiversity measures could improve the local environment and conserve this significant grouping of traditional agricultural buildings.

The Chignals Village Design Statement (VDS), page 19, includes guidance on development in the area around Beaumont Otes, Chignal St James. The following is of relevance to this application: "Period farm buildings are an integral part of the Chignals' strong agricultural identity, and their retention is considered important for both visual character and heritage reasons". The VDS, page 20, recommends that, "demolition of redundant farm buildings should be avoided whenever possible" and that, "when agricultural buildings are converted, they should retain their original 'barn' character". There is also guidance in the VDS on using building materials, "that blend with the local environment, in particular, brick, timber, flint and clay pantiles". In Chignal, shingle, rather than hard materials such as concrete, tarmac and block paving, is more appropriate for parking areas and assists with water drainage.

The planning permission 20/000121/FUL, removed PD rights for the whole of the Kilnfield Barns development, to maintain the rural setting of the site, amongst other criteria. The subsequent planning applications which have approved, for No 3 (small front extension) and No 8 (small garden building), and the application refused for No 1 (two-bedroom annexe) recognised the character of the farm building group.

The proposal already approved for No 3 was modest in size and the design took guidance from the cat slide front elements to Nos 1 and 2. The new proposal for No 3 now seeks to enlarge the existing barn to incorporate a lounge, bedroom area and bathroom, together with its own front entrance door. This appears to be a self-contained annexe, which could potentially be used as a separate residence. The size, scale and design are not considered to be in keeping with the host building, contrary to the VDS guidance that "when agricultural buildings are converted that they should retain their original 'barn' character".

This proposed extension overwhelms and encloses this side of the courtyard which serves No 4. Coming forward to meet the carport building, it would obstruct open views across the fields from No 4 and Courtyard 1 and the open nature of this end of the courtyard would be infilled and dominated by the front element, higher ridge line and linking canopy of the proposal.

With the inclusion of the canopy over the estate road access path, no 3 would become linked to No 4, becoming a 'linked-detached', creating an almost terrace feel to the buildings. The proposed full height window of the TV Lounge and the entrance door/window of the 'office' would overlook the front elevation of No 4.

Historically, the open aspect between the original farm buildings, now Nos 3 and 4, had been maintained as an access route for both pedestrians and farming machinery. The layout and collection of the more recent farm buildings, since 1989, was used to support the approval of 20/00121/FUL – Conversion of existing buildings to form 8 dwellings.

Whilst the materials used for the proposal may match those of the main barn, the design, including the roof plan/pitch, the canopy and the veranda area, is not in keeping with No 3, No 4 and the overall grouping of farm buildings on the site, again contrary to guidance in the VDS.

It is noted that the sewage treatment plant is designed to serve a maximum of 50 persons; the proposed annexe would add further accommodation and a bedroom.

Conclusions and Recommendation

The original approval for this site was for 8 former agricultural barns to be refurbished to become residential homes that closely matched the collection of original farm buildings, not an opportunity to continue to build new dwellings so that this becomes just another new residential development.



This four-bedroom property already has permission for the cat slide front extension (24/00399/FUL) and the part infill of the first floor (24/01204/CLOPUD). The latest proposal, to add a 1-bedroom annexe, is an unreasonable expansion of the property, not well proportioned and forms an unacceptable relationship with the neighbouring properties in this rural area.

The Parish Council recommends that this application should be REFUSED.

Resolution: **The Parish Council objects to this planning application and recommends refusal.**

2. Planning Application Reference: 25/01124/FUL
Address: Barn South Hillcroft, Chignal Road, Chignal Smealey
Description of works: Removal of identified buildings on site. Conversion of existing buildings on site to a residential dwelling.

This is yet another application for the conversion/ refurbishment/ replacement of what are now very dilapidated sheds. Extensive heavy structural repairs were required to the existing buildings when conversion was first mooted ten years ago but no remedial work appears to have been started to secure them despite planning approval having been granted for a one-bedroom unit. As a result of this inaction, extensive re-construction of the building with new foundations is likely to be required. It would be in effect a new build not a conversion of an agricultural "barn".

The original application indicated the existing and proposed materials as "timber framed horizontal weatherboarding" but there is no detailed specification in the application of the construction or materials that would be used. In as much as the "barn" had any historic or architectural merit, this latest plan for its conversion to a two-bedroom dwelling shows no evidence that it would retain any of its original barn character as advocated in the Chignal Villages Design Statement (VDS), page 20.

The application form states that NO trees or hedges are on the site, this is incorrect. It also states that foul water will discharge to a FW sewer, but to our knowledge no such sewer exists.

Conclusions and recommendation

The drawings still show the buildings in the same location as the previous application and the only change is to demolish one shed and extend the other, to make just one building, however given the inaccuracies in the application as itemised above and the lack of information on the materials to be used, it is recommended that the application be REFUSED.

Resolution: **The Parish Council objects to this planning application and recommends refusal.**

3. Reference: 25/01182/FUL
Address: Land Southeast of Woodhall House Chignal Road Chignal Smealy Chelmsford.
Description of works: Proposed new dwelling and garage, associated landscaping, parking and formation of access.

The Parish Council recommended refusal for a previous planning application 25/00399/FUL for the construction of a new 5-bedroom dwelling, garage, and new access on former garden land southeast of Woodhall House. This was considered to be contrary to Chelmsford Local Plan policies DM8, DM9, DM10, DM29 and the Chignal Villages Design Statement (VDS).

This current application is substantially the same as 25/00399/FUL which was refused. Although the size of the property has been reduced it still represents a large 4-bedroom house, with double garage, on a limited size plot.

The Design & Access Statement Section 2.0 still states that the hamlet has a village pub, The Pig & Whistle. This is incorrect as this business is an upmarket restaurant and not a public house. Whilst there is a



church in Chignal Smealey, the village hall, village green and playing field are all in Chignal St James, at least two miles away from the application site.

The D&A Statement also states " close proximity of the surrounding villages and towns of Great Waltham, Little Waltham and Broomfield there are many services to sustain family life such as shops, restaurants and schools in the nearby towns and villages.....and to the south lies the nearby City of Chelmsford..."

Great Waltham village is approximately 2.5 miles away with a small village store which has a post office counter. Little Waltham village is approximately 2.75 miles away but does not have any shops. Broomfield is a more substantial village approximately 3.25 miles by road with several small stores but to get there you will pass a supermarket in Chelmsford.

All these three villages do have primary schools and pubs / restaurants but there is no bus service to these facilities from Chignal Smealey. There are only two buses a week to Chelmsford that pass the application site.

Fit with Local Plan Development Management policies.

The applicant argues in the Design and Access Statement that the proposed development would be in line with Chelmsford Local Plan policies: DM8, DM9, DM16, DM25, DM26, DM27. Alignment with policies DM10, change of use of land and buildings and DM29, protecting living and working environments should also be considered.

Policy DM8 New buildings and structures in the rural area

Planning permission will be granted for new buildings and structures in the Rural Area where the development will not adversely impact on the identified intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.

The proposed house is set back from the main road, but it *would detract from the existing character or appearance of the area*. Especially considering the properties immediately to each side of the proposed dwelling.

The style/materials proposed in the construction do not appear unreasonable, noting the mix of existing properties in the area. But as noted on the previous application, the new dwelling could not be regarded as *a design of exceptional quality or innovative nature*.

The proposed dwelling site formed part of the garden for Woodhall House and is included in the Chignal Villages Design Statement, (VDS), Area 8: Woodhall, Chignal Smealey p.18 where, "the trees and hedges in and around the good-sized housing plots help to maintain the rural feel and the gaps between the properties emphasise the rural location by showing that there are no buildings behind". Furthermore, on page 20, the VDS states that "it is important in a rural community to provide views of the countryside beyond and thus avoid the urbanisation of the street scene".

Policy DM10, change of use of land and buildings. C) Rural Area Planning permission will be granted for the change of use of land or buildings in the Rural Area where: iii. it does not adversely impact on the identified intrinsic character, appearance, and beauty of the Rural Area. In the Rural Area, the critical aspect will be identifying the intrinsic character and making a judgement as to whether an adverse impact would result.

It is considered that development of the open land between Woodhall House and Stumps Cross would impact on the intrinsic character of the Chignal landscape, contrary to DM8 and DM10 and the VDS.

Policy DM9 – Infilling in the green belt, green wedge, and rural area. B) Green Wedge or Rural Area. Planning permission will be granted for infilling in the Green Wedge or Rural Area provided that: i. the site is a small gap in an otherwise built-up frontage; and ii. the development does not detract from the



existing character or appearance of the area and would not unacceptably impact on the function and objectives of the designation.

The proposed development is not infilling as defined in DM9. The site, lying between the properties of Woodhall House and Stumps Cross, could not be considered as a small gap in an otherwise built-up frontage. In addition, this part of Chignal Smealey is an area which has a dispersed settlement pattern where infilling may not be acceptable. It could not be defined as a "village" as this would be expected to have community facilities such as a pub, shop, church, village hall etc. On the contrary, there are no such community facilities anywhere near the site. The applicant refers to The Pig & Whistle as a public house but as mentioned above, this business has operated as a high-end restaurant for over 10 years and does not serve as a community facility.

In addition, Chignal Smealey has extremely limited public transport provision, with one morning bus service to Chelmsford only on Fridays and Saturdays.

It is considered that the proposed development is contrary to policy DM9 because it is not infilling a small gap and would detract from the intrinsic rural character of the area as described in the VDS.

Policy DM29 Protecting Living & Working Environments. Development proposals must safeguard the amenities of the occupiers of any nearby residential property by ensuring that development is not overbearing and does not result in unacceptable overlooking or overshadowing. The proposed large dwelling and garage would be overbearing in relation to the neighbouring properties and would overlook and overshadow the garden of Woodhall House.

The Parish Council has concerns regarding the creation of a new access to application site as it has limited sightlines on a blind bend, on to the Chignal Road.

It is considered that the amenities of the occupiers of the residential property Woodhall House will be adversely affected by overshadowing and overlooking, contrary to policy DM29.

Recommendation

The construction of a new substantial 4-bedroom dwelling, garage, and new access would be overdevelopment of the site and would be contrary to DM8, DM9, DM10, DM29 and the Chignal VDS. It is recommended that permission is **REFUSED**.

Resolution: The Parish Council objects to this planning application and recommends refusal.

2025/908 Chelmsford Association of Local Councils, (CALC)

Review constitution and approval of annual membership fee of £40.00.

Response to CALC questionnaire, feedback from CALC meeting on 14 August and attendance at the CALC AGM on 15th October, 7pm at Great Baddow Parish Hall. Focus on the impact of Devolution in Essex and Local Government Reorganisation on Town and Parish Councils.

Resolution: The annual payment of £40 was approved.

2025/909 Essex Love your Bus.

update on implementation of project to promote the Lodge bus services 17/18.

Working with High Easter in support of this service. The Grant was successful and will now be implemented. This route is a subsidised route where the cost of the service exceeds the requirements of Essex County Council.

A new additional "Chignal loop" service to Chelmsford Market is planned to start on 2nd December. This will provide a bus service for residents from both Chignal St James and Chignal Smealey four days a week, (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday). Proposal to issue a leaflet to highlight the benefits of the Chignals to encourage visitors from Chelmsford to visit the community orchard and/or do a circular walk.



Another leaflet to be issued within the rural parishes served by the Lodge bus to increase bus use and promote leisure opportunities along the Great Dunmow to Chelmsford route.

2025/910 Chignal Parish branding:

Update on using the branding on parish council emails, agendas etc; parish notice boards; and community orchard information board. Siting and installation of a new parish notice board near the junction of Chignal road and Hollow Lane.

The new noticeboard plates were shown along with the Orchard circular plaques.

An e-mail policy and helpful hints has been created.

Persimmon Homes has approved the installation of a Parish Council Noticeboard on the small piece of land off Chignal Road that is no longer part of the highway.

Resolution: Purchase a new notice board to complement the other 3 noticeboards. Spend up to £1000 to purchase a green metal board.

Resolution: Arrange a quote from JCM to install the noticeboard.

Resolution: Clerk to confirm with Highways the exact location of the noticeboard

2025/911 Chignal Community Meeting. Saturday 1st November morning

items for discussion:

- Public Rights of Way, clearance and repairing signposts. Volunteer team.
- Promoting greater use of the No 17/18 bus service.
- Website training for clubs and groups.
- Locations for further Defibrillators and training on the units.

Finance

2025/912 Update on Budget 2025-2026

Up to 29th August 2025.

	Budget		Current Spend		Balance	Remaining
Staff Cost	£5,600		£2,194		£3,406	
Admin	£5,405		£2,251		£3,154	
Total	£11,005		£4,445		£6,560	60%

Cil	£16,660		£5,858		£10,802
Reserves	£19,616		£1,947		£17,669
Orchard	£2,903		£220		£2,683

2025/913 Finance:

Figures taken 31.08.2025 14.35.

Accounts

Account Balances:

Cheque Account £ 148.43 @ 0% Interest

Saving Account £ 37,762.07 @ 1.21% Interest

Earmarked reserves:



- Orchard Account £2,801
- General Reserve. £17,549
- Infrastructure & Sustainability £ 3,178
- Legal Challenges V Pylons. £10,000 reduce
- Cil. £10,802

Total £37,910.50

Resolution: The accounts were noted.

2025/914 Payments for approval.

To approve the following payments:

Payment to	Description	Budget Column	Cost
Clerk Salary	August - Salary	Salary	£276.33
DM Payroll	1/2 year payroll administration	Expenses	£72.00
Broomfield Parish Council	Norwich to Tilbury report	Reserve	£344.84
Fran Layzell Design	Orchard Logo Plaque	Orchard	£20.00
Fran Layzell Design	A5 sign for Notice Boards	Reserve	£40.00
HMRC	PAYE - August	Paye	£59.40
Essex Pension Fund	Pension	Pension	£195.62
Amazon	62XL colour cartridge set	Expenses	£36.48
Print 2 Media	New signs for the noticeboard and orchard	Reserve	£119.89
Amazon	Magnets , Erasers and Dbl sided Tape	Expenses	£33.47
Essex Pension Fund	Pension	Pension	£182.30
HMRC	PAYE	Paye	£59.40
Clerk Salary	September - Salary	Salary	£210.53
Chignal & Mashbury Village Hall	Village Hall Hire	Hall Hire	£107.00

Resolution: The payments were approved.

2025/915 Review of the Bi-monthly bank reconciliation.

Resolution: Zero difference between cash account and bank account.

2025/916 Note the Internal Auditor reports on the FY 2024 / 2025.

- For Fidelity Insurance Cover, the recommended guideline is the year end balances +50% of the precept. The Council needs to check that amount of its fidelity insurance to make certain that it is not under insured. (currently level of fidelity insurance is £25,000)
 - Year End Balance - £45,823
 - Precept £7,000



- The Council needs to review the composition of the Terms of Reference for the Orchard committee.

Resolution: Clerk has discussed updating the fidelity guarantee with insurer. This has been increased with no increase to the premiums.

Resolution: Orchard Committee to be updated to voting right to be held by Parish Council members only.

2025/917 Parish Council Budget Meeting for FY 2026-2027.
date to agree next year's budget and set Precept.

Resolution: The Budget meeting will be held on Friday 10th October at 10am.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

2025/918 Discuss and adopt the Biodiversity Policy 2025.

Resolution: The policy was approved.

2025/919 Update on Local Government Reorganisation.
Covered under ECC and CCC reports.

2025/920 Updates from Chelmsford Association of Local Councils.
Duplication of 908.

2025/921 Representatives' Reports: to discuss and debate any items.

- A) Little Hollows / Copperfield Place Liaison - Cllr Elwick
 - Update on Copperfield Place landscaping work and road signage.
 - Waiting on CCC enforcement and Persimmon to authorise works .Cllr Elwick has e-mailed both organisations to chase action up on these items at the time if the meeting no reply had been received.
 - The noticeboard installation by the Parish Council has been approved.
- B) Playing Field - Cllr Elwick and Cllr Towns
 - car park. Is closed apart from users.
 - Consider a proposal to construct a Pétanque court adjacent to the car park.

Resolution: The Parish Council supports this proposal with an expectation that the croquet club would support this with maintenance as required.

Resolution: Materials estimates required.

- C) Community Engagement - Cllr Nelson and Cllr Stainton
 - Update on support for clubs and groups to update their information on the parish council website: www.chignal-pc.gov.uk
 - Community Group meeting on the 15th September
- D) Community Safety – Cllr Lewis
 - Defibrillator training from CHT.
 - Discuss the best day of the week for this at the Community Meeting.



- E) Highways (include Hedges) - Cllr Towns, Cllr Elwick, Cllr Ballard
- Update re a No through Road sign on Hollow Lane.
 - A ditch has been filled in opposite Maple View due to Essex and Suffolk Water workings.
- F) Countryside conservation. – Cllr Lewis, Cllr Ballard.
- Nature Notes on the Parish website. Update on the wildlife survey.
- Results of Orchard Bee hotel survey reported to Buzz Club. Nature Notes updated every 2 months.

2025/922 Items for the next Agenda:

- Dog mess on footpaths.
- Community meeting outputs.
- ECC re: road signs.
- CALC AGM feedback.
- Norwich to Tilbury Pylons.

Next meetings:

Monday 10 th November 2025	Bi-Monthly Meeting.
Monday 12 th January 2026	Bi-Monthly Meeting.
Monday 9 th March 2026	Bi-Monthly Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting.
Monday 11 th May 2026	Annual General Meeting and Bi-Monthly Meeting.

Meeting closed 21:30
Will Adshead-Grant