

AUGUST 2022

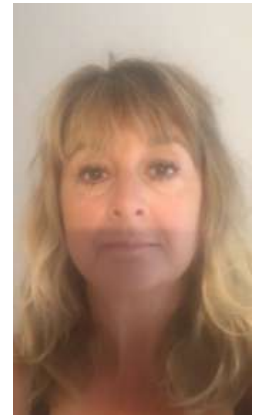
HIGHWOOD

PARISH MAGAZINE



HIGHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS & CLERK



First Row

Chairman - Peter Latham - cllr.peter.latham@highwoodpc.org

Vice Chairman - Trevor Horsnell - cllr.trevor.horsnell@highwoodpc.org

David Cameron - cllr.david.cameron@highwoodpc.org

Steve Maclean - cllr.steve.maclean@highwoodpc.org

Second Row

Kelly Latham-Pearmain - cllr.kelly.latham.pearmain@highwoodpc.org

Ursula Maher - cllr.ursula.maher@highwoodpc.org

Stacey Gill - cllr.stacey.gill@highwoodpc.org

Clerk - Karen Kuderovitch - clerk@highwoodpc.org

MEETING DATES 2022

No meeting in August

Monday 19th September

Monday 21st November

www.highwoodpc.org

Parish Directory

St Pauls Church

Vicar - Rev Tony Cant - 01245 631078
Church Warden - Janet Young - 07971 947980
PCC Secretary - Anne Gooch - 01245 248538

Cooksmill Green Church

Secretary - Lyndia Bridges - 01245 248208
Treasurer - Paul Aston - 01245 248685
Youth Activities - Hannah Randell - 01245 422368

MP Saffron Walden

Kemi Badenoch 0207 219 1943

City Councillor

Nicolette Chambers - 01245 231709

Essex County Councillor

Mike Steel - 01245 360918

Neighbourhood Watch

David Cameron - 01277 353272

Highwood Village Hall

Bookings Clerk - 07305 580329

Primary School

Executive Head - Nick Taylor - 01245 248200
Head of School - Aedin Lipski - 01245 248200
PTA - Kelly Latham-Pearmain - 01245 248200

Next publication - November
All adverts and editorials in by 28th
October

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HIGHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - COUNCILLOR PETER LATHAM

The Parish Council soon enter what is called the August recess. We don't stop pursuing what is best for all the residents. We don't shut our phones off or no longer pursue all the ongoing projects we have allocated funds for.

HPC have a lot on the go, with the speed indicator devices having the best location decided and the necessary licence application. Continuing to find the best solution for safe walking on the verges and pavement. With this in mind it includes private gardens where bushes and trees extending over the boundary cause pedestrian difficulties.

Noticeboard replacement and methods of improved communication within the village remain high of the agenda.

I cannot thank our clerk and my fellow councillors enough for the combined efforts and dedication all so we can spend wisely and look to further the well-being being of all.

So when we meet again in September I hope we all had a lovely recess.

Peter

The Parish Council have some land available in Radley Green which is available to rent. Please contact the clerk at clerk@highwoodpc.org for more information



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HIGHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT - KAREN KUDEROVITCH

The Council are entering recess in August, which means the Clerk will still be working (except for any holidays) and the Councillors, although all still contactable, are looking forward to less emails etc, giving them a well-earned rest.

We continue to strive to make progress on all our projects, albeit not as fast as we would like! We hope residents liked the recent improvements, i.e., new bus shelter, new noticeboards.

I would like to apologise for the delay in distribution of the Jubilee bookmarks, there was a delay with the supplier and then I was unwell and could not attend the July meeting. They will still be given to the children at the local primary school when they return in September.

We will shortly be placing comments cards in and around the Parish for residents to let us know any comments or views they have. We have done this to also ensure that residents without computer access have an opportunity to share their views.

We were encouraged to have 15 members of the public at our Annual Parish Meeting but would like to build on this number for 2023.

Have a great summer!

Karen Kuderovitch, Clerk to the Council, Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA)

HIGHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCE

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22

We acknowledge as the members of:

HIGHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022, that:

	Agreed		‘Yes’ means that this authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors’ rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority’s accounts.
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
			✓

*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each ‘No’ response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

18/07/2022

and recorded as minute reference:

26/22 a)

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

Clerk

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FOR PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

HIGHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCE

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2021/22 for

HIGHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2021 £	31 March 2022 £	
1. Balances brought forward	58,032	34,335	<i>Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.</i>
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	31,858	31,851	<i>Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.</i>
3. (+) Total other receipts	4,360	5,707	<i>Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.</i>
4. (-) Staff costs	6,091	7,163	<i>Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.</i>
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	10,338	10,338	<i>Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).</i>
6. (-) All other payments	43,486	11,142	<i>Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).</i>
7. (=) Balances carried forward	34,335	43,250	<i>Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).</i>
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	34,335	43,250	<i>The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.</i>
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	59,477	59,477	<i>The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.</i>
10. Total borrowings	185,308	183,567	<i>The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).</i>
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	N/A
		✓	
			<i>The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.</i>
			<i>N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.</i>

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2022 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

SIGNATURE

Date

18/07/2022

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

18/07/2022

as recorded in minute reference:

26/22 b)

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

SIGNATURE

LOCAL INFORMATION



Refuse collection days

With the Highwood winds that we get round here please make sure that on rubbish day any light bags are either weighted down or secure so that the bags and it's contents don't get blown down the road.



There's a new bus stop in town!

The Parish Council have invested in the replacement of the bus stop at the school after signs the old one was potentially dangerous. The Council deliberated and decided that the new shelter was more in keeping with the village scene.



Parking at the School

We would like to remind parents at the school not to park between the build outs. This can cause issues with vehicles passing including buses, lorries and other vehicles who are not stopping at the school. This could also cause an accident if a vehicle swerves.

LOCAL INFORMATION



New Dog Bin

The dog bin at the school has been replaced and now comes with a lid to stop any of the bags being removed or falling out over the path. If you feel a dog bin is required in your area please let us know.



New Notice Board

We have installed a new notice board at the bus stop in Edney Common. This will ensure that the information in there is kept clean and doesn't get damaged from the elements.



Keeping pathways Clear

The Parish Council have noticed that there are various shrubs which overlap the pathways throughout the parishes, Could we please remind home owners to keep any overhanging trees, shrubs and bushes tidy to enable villagers to walk down the pathways safely.

Cllr Mike Steel – County Cllr for Broomfield and Writtle division

The last few weeks have been a busy period. As well as the usual pothole, verges, footpaths, school, transport, etc escalations, I have been dealing with RideLondon and NG's proposal:

RideLondon – I start every statement about this event with “Don’t shoot the Messenger!” I wasn’t consulted but once I knew about it, I did all I could to help mitigate the issues by spreading the word on the road closures, arranging some drop in sessions and presentations, and working with impacted locals and businesses to stop them being trapped on the Sunday, which was the most disruptive day. I thought that the events on 28th (GW and Chignal) and 29th June (GW, Chignal and Writtle), were well managed. The VCPs and Pedestrian crossings were in place. On the 28th, I visited some of the businesses along the way with Cllr Lee Scott (Highways Cabinet Member). I am still receiving complaints! ECC have not signed a 5 year contract. Cllr Scott has promised me a review before any commitment. I have insisted on being part of that review and made it clear that any future event has to resolve the problems that caused several businesses to close because they rely totally on car traffic.

East Anglia GREEN – National Grid (NG) - Pylons– I hope you have all made comments on the Non-statutory consultation? I certainly have! It affects quite a few of my Parishes from Little Waltham in the North, through to Highwood in the South, so I have been active in numerous ways in opposing it:

We have formed a North West Parish Group, comprising the affected parishes in my division and now Margaretting and Ingatestone have joined us making us 9 PCs. We have submitted a joint statement as well as helping all the PCs to make statements which emphasise the individual disruptions in their areas. Our common approach is to object to the impact of the proposed route, concern that the consultation was only on NG's preferred route, and support for an offshore grid.

I have been lobbying County Council to come out in opposition, which they have now done, “objecting in the strongest possible terms” and stating “This pylon infrastructure is neither wanted nor needed considering the viable option of undersea power cables” . (Statement can be viewed here - <https://www.essex.gov.uk/news/statement-on-east-anglia-green-project>)

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City Council have been slower in responding and at the time of writing this article, had not responded but have requested and been granted an extension until 16th July, and will consider their response at the 14th July Policy Board, which I will join.

The Chelmsford City Council Conservative Group have put out a statement that they are opposed to NG's current proposals, that they see the off-shore route as the first preference, and that NG should hold a proper public consultation on all options, including the off-shore route, with full details and costings.

I have also met with our MP, Kemi Badenoch, and she has joined forces with 5 other MPs (spanning Suffolk, Norfolk, Harwich, Essex, Bury St Edmunds), jointly writing to the Minister of State for Energy. In summary, they state that they support an offshore solution, support OffSET, why was only one option presented for consultation, and Central Govt's commitment to delivering an offshore grid.

I know that many other "protest" organisations have made their views clear. With all that, NG cannot be under any illusion as to how unwanted their current proposal is!

Pot holes – Just a final word on them. I have been successful in getting some of the worst holes filled, and some road resurfacing done. The RideLondon route got done (at no cost to County Council)! The County Member Led scheme for getting the worst holes fixed, has been launched, and I have asked my 10 Parish Councils for their nominations which will be fixed in the next few months.

Mike

Mike Steel | Essex County Councillor (Broomfield and Writtle), Chelmsford City Councillor (Broomfield and Walthams) & Great Waltham Parish Council | Tel:+44 (0)1245 360918 | E:Mail mike.steel@chelmsford.gov.uk

LOCAL NEWS

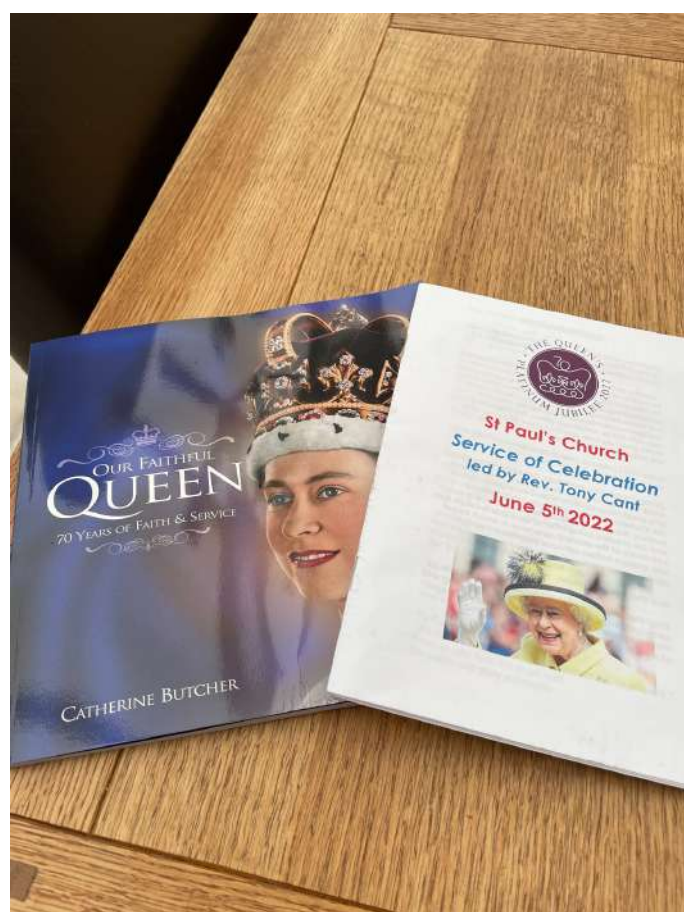
The Queens Jubilee



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LOCAL NEWS

The Queens Jubilee



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LOCAL NEWS

The Queens Jubilee



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The Queens Jubilee



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The Queens Jubilee



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LOCAL NEWS

The Queens Jubilee



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LOCAL NEWS

The Queens Jubilee



Highwood Jubilee Committee

Janet, Mel, Lin and Alison would like to thank the many people who contributed to making the Jubilee Weekend the success that it was. So many friends and neighbours lent their support, too many to thank individually, but you know who you are. We are very grateful and hope you enjoyed the weekend as much as we did.

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LOCAL NEWS

Recycling at your local library

Here's a tip about disposing of your empty ink cartridges in an eco-friendly way. Take them to your local library.

Every library has a new Ink Bin recycling box to put your empty home-use ink cartridges in. Once they're collected, they'll be sorted, refilled and put back on the market as remanufactured ink cartridges. This will stop them ending up in landfill.

What else does your local library recycle? Most will take old batteries; some take small electrical items too. Save yourself a trip to the recycling centre!



If you're running short of recycling sacks or caddies for roadside collections, your local library may be the place to help. Food sacks, garden sacks and recycling boxes can all be found at some of our libraries.

Coverage does vary, so check out the recycling facilities available at your local library.

Book groups and Essex Library Service

Are you keen to share your thoughts about a book you've read? Can't wait to find out what others thought of it, too? Starting a book group is a great way to stay in touch regularly with book lovers and to make new friends.

Essex Library Service helps book groups in many ways. By registering your group with us you can reserve multiple copies of your chosen book which can be borrowed for up to three months, and you chose to be added to the list of book groups which can be shared with other interested readers. Our website can give your group ideas for what to read.

LOCAL NEWS

Whats Happening at Highwood Primary School



From the Year 6 students who are leaving for the next step

Highwood is a fantastic school; the small class sizes, having a lot of one-to-one time and having our own pool, all add to the enjoyment of going to school. We are also lucky to have a large playing field, as well as two forest schools! We love going to the forest to build dens, use the mud kitchen, play in the ditch, whittling and just playing outdoors with our friends. The pool in the summer is perfect for those hot days - the PTA even bring in ice lollies!

Our teachers are very friendly, make us feel safe and always arrange fun activities for lessons that will educate us well. We also get to help decide what goes on our walls that will help with our learning. We love using our iPads and enjoy learning new apps and games, as well as using them to help us with our work. Everyone is very friendly and gets along with each other, no matter what year group you are in. We also have a music teacher who comes in and teaches us how to play different instruments. We are allowed to have things like drums, keyboards, ukuleles and many other instruments. We don't always sound the best, but we are getting better.

In year 6, we have especially enjoyed being House Captains and running events like sports day. We also like reading out hexagons in assembly and cheering our teams on in the race for more house points. We have been able to go on some trips as well and are looking forward to the Year 6 Treat at the end of July.

Recently, we had a class trip to Danbury Outdoors and took on some challenging activities the some would find terrifyingly amazing. We have been able to do lots of different activities throughout our time at Highwood: sports events like Mini-Olympics, shows in London and Southend, visits to museums and lots of things at the school itself (Jubilee picnic, Halloween Party/Disco, Christmas Plays and Dinner and many more).

Highwood is a lovely village school with a big sense of community, even though we are quite small. The teachers, the children and grounds all make Highwood special.

We have all enjoyed our time at Highwood and take lots of good memories with us.

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LOCAL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting



LOCAL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2022

As my second year as Chairman, I am guided by the previous reports from David Cameron which included so much information.

Luckily Zoom meetings have finished and we are back to face to face giving a better degree of debate. Fortunately, we have the Highwood Village Hall and its' committee to thank for its' continued and forever developing use now opening the foyer as a lovely place to meet.

Up to date accounts once again show that the Parish Council continue to act wisely and are dedicated to satisfying the needs of Highwood currently holding a healthy balance of £43,261.33 with a large proportion allocated to future projects.

These projects include but not limited to, a new bus shelter, vehicle activated speed signs, maintenance to the playpark and improvements to the walkable verges. Highwood Parish Council have a grant policy in place to support those looking to enhance the village in aesthetics, activities or any project that is compliant with the policy. I ask anyone to read the policy and we can see if the project is something we can assist with.

The village as a place to live

The Parish Council encourage healthy lifestyles for all with not one but two playparks. One of which has a well-used table tennis table and adult gym equipment. It is our intention to make the Edney Common playpark more easily accessible.

Communication and feedback are so important, and facilities are available through the website and Facebook to let us be more aware. The magazine always requires comment or entries so please share what you know or need to know. Please use them to stay in touch remembering that our Clerk is happy to receive your emails. Comment card will be situated around the village to again improve the lines of communication, remember we are here to represent our residents.

LOCAL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting

Allotment site

The allotment site at Radley Green is still under discussion although it is now devoid of use.

Safety first

I mentioned the playparks and the Parish Council remain aware of the difficulties with safe access to Edney Common and the verge, or lack of it. The problem is under constant review as is the safe walk between the bus stop and St. Paul's Church.

The playpark at the Highwood Village Hall continues to be used and we are pleased that the fencing gives all adults the security of their children and off-road parking seems to be well used.

To benefit all in Highwood the Council maintain several grass verges and continue to grant funds to St. Paul's Churchyard.

Councillors

Thanks as always must go to all the Highwood Parish Councillors and those that sit on the liaison panels. We undertake the Councillor role on a voluntary basis and give our time freely for the benefit of the Parish. I am pleased to report we were recently joined by Cllr. Ursula Mayer and Cllr. Stacey Gill making a full house which ensures a balanced view of all expenditure and projects.

To ensure that the communication lines are maintained Cllr Steve Maclean are active with the new magazine and keeps a very careful watch on the playparks reporting back to the Council. His knowledge of communications infrastructure is endless.

Cllr Kelly Latham-Pearmain is the liaison with Highwood Primary School complementing her role as Chair of the PTA allowing feedback in both directions and she is looking to get the pupils involvement is junior reporting.

LOCAL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting

Garages

The garage sale is ongoing with the sitting tenants still the first-choice buyers and it is our intention this is resolved without further delay.

Litter Pick

I am personally indebted to those that litter pick either at the organised event but more so to the many that either go out to collect or simply pick up litter on passing, this is invaluable to the tidiness of our village.

Remembrance

It was once again a moving service, and our Vice Chair laid the wreath at the memorial on behalf of not only HPC but being there to represent the whole of the village residents.

Speeding Vehicles

It will come as no surprise that the Speedwatch activity was curtailed for a while and the lack of trained volunteers does cause its' own problems. Fortunately, the Police Community Speedwatch teams arranged two 'Surround the town' days and we could put a team out on both days.

The actual results never change, 10-15% are recorder at over 37mph through Loves Green. It is hoped that the police will authorise a second site at Edney Common.

Parish Magazine

The magazine has changed its' design and now has a totally different look. A bit of tweaking had to be done to ensure readability. Enormous thanks must go to our Clerk Karen and to Steve Maclean for the smooth changeover and very polished result.

Special thanks must go to David Taylor for all the past editions so widely distributed and enjoyed.

LOCAL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting

Speed Indicator Devices

The Council have studied and approved the best option and with approval from Chelmsford City Council the siting of the equipment can be sanctioned. These devices will draw attention to the actual speed and hopefully drivers become more aware. I said earlier that the health and safety of all in the village or visitors remain best protected.

CCTV

This is under constant review and a wealth of information, including cost have been obtained and hopefully once the current projects with allocated funds have been completed this can be an area of consideration.

Build Outs

The Council had approval and funding for two such build outs, the other at Edney Common but despite the siting being the decision of Highways, as was the Loves Green one, they have withdrawn the second due a line-of-sight issue. Maybe they should see the one at Highwood School if line of sight is an issue. The Council we try and get this decision reviewed.

Help and Support

During my tenure I have received excellent guidance from our Clerk Karen Kuderovitch, the font of all knowledge and look forward to another year of our exchanges which is always in the best interest of Highwood. Another mention of Karen soon. My fellow Councillors are active in debate and makes for excellent decision making.

Thanks indeed to indeed our local Councillors from Chelmsford and Essex County Council. Cllr. Mike Steel from Essex County Council has been particularly active and his never-ending support and finally Cllr. Nicolette Chambers of Chelmsford City Council for her wealth of local knowledge.

LOCAL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting

It must be noted that Highwood Parish Council, through our Clerk Karen, mentioned previously is our guiding light and has gained the Council the Local Council Accreditation Award at foundation level which is the steppingstone to the Quality Award. The Quality award requires proven good governance, community engagement and continued Council improvement. A target to aim for.

So, David, you are hard act to follow but here's to another year of trying.

Cllr. Peter Latham
Chairman
Highwood Parish Council



LOCAL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting

Can we have QR codes to links mentioned in the magazine?

What can be done about the goats in Edney Common playground?

Can we have more rubbish and dog bins installed on Blackmore Road?

Why is there two bus stops near the school?

What can the proposed SIDS do?

What is being done about the build outs as they are unsafe?

Can we do anything about fly tipping?

What can be done about the playground equipment in Edney Common?

Why can't we have speed bumps outside the school instead of the build out?

Can the signage be improved along the roads within the Parishes?



What a fantastic Jubilee we had at Highwood Village Hall! We were directly on the route with the planes flying straight over the hall, an amazing experience for all those in attendance for the community picnic

We are happy to let you know that we have a new bookings clerk, the committee are please to announce that local resident Tracy Stringer, who also hires the hall for her own meditation classes so is well versed with the running and ethos behind the hall.

We have various activities at the hall each week and you can check what's on each week looking at our activities page on our website and the online diary.

For all queries and information please call the bookings clerk on 07305 580329 or email enquiries@highwoodvillagehall.org.

The Highwood Village Hall AGM will be held on the 7th September at 7.30pm where we will have some cake and tea/coffee available. We will also be re electing our committee members. If you would like to come along or even join our committee we would love to see you there.

FROM THE VICAR

Rev. Tony Cant

Facing up to something is not always a comfortable experience, is it. You'll probably know what I mean....those times you've done or said something that wasn't so good and you need to make amends. Or there are times when your actions are completely misunderstood by others and ill-feeling happens and you've got to face their ill-feeling and put your case as to why you took the actions you did.

Facing up to something – it's that term, 'facing up', that's got me thinking. And it literally has to do with the word 'face'. Our faces are really important: we look out from them; they're what people see when they talk to us. Being face-to-face with someone is far more revealing than dealing with someone remotely, through social media, or Zoom for example.

There's also a vulnerability that comes with showing our faces. When we feel ashamed, we don't like to show our faces – we hide behind something. We protect our faces in dangerous situations – our hands and arms come up instinctively if something threatens our faces. But the vulnerability of our face can also be beautiful too. There are times we look lovingly at someone's face and see the whole of their life shown in the uniqueness of their eyes, the lines on their skin, the way they smile. Or we feel the beauty of nature as the wind caresses our faces on soft summer days, while at other times the raw power of nature batters our faces with freezing rain and gales, and we feel something elemental through the vulnerability of our faces.

At times I don't like what I see when I look at my face in the mirror. And if I let myself be my own judge at those times I could easily despair of life. But I remind myself that I am not my own ultimate judge. God knows me and knows exactly what it's like for me when I feel that despair because he became like me in the person of Jesus. He showed his face to the world. He became vulnerable as a human being in order that my vulnerability, and yours, are acknowledged and cared for, healed and restored.

When I was on retreat the other week, I read this from a wise man, '...my sense of self-worth comes, not from examining myself and discovering I am not so bad after all, but from gazing at God's love and discovering that nothing can stand between it and me...and because God forgives me I must learn, under his directions, to forgive myself.'

So, when I look at my face in the mirror, I remind myself that God is looking at me with infinite and unbending love that holds me in that love – and that slowly but surely, healing and wholeness comes. Slowly but surely, I'm facing up to that truth. It's there for you, too.

With every blessing to you over this summer,

Rev Tony
July 2022.



THE HIGHWOOD HUB

HIGHWOOD VILLAGE HALL, LOVES GREEN



An evening of fun & games or
just a good old chit chat with
your friends and neighbours.

Third Friday of every month

Doors open at 7pm

Tea, coffee, squash available (small
donations) or bring your own tipple



See you there

It's free!

Contact Tracey on 07903 738519

LOCAL NEWS

The Highwood Hub has been going for over a year now and is a non profit community venture by local resident Tracey Poole.

Tracey was thinking about the lonely people within the parish as there isn't a local place to meet and came up with the idea of providing a monthly night at Highwood Village Hall, calling the Highwood Hub.

Tracey made enquiries with the Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) for advice and secured funding to put towards the set up of the event.

The Hub offers a variety of activities for both adults and children including bingo, pool, air hockey, cards and various board games.

The Hub is a friendly place to be with all the ideas about activities coming from the attendees so come along and join the fun



LOCAL NEWS



**Come and join us
at**

**Highwood Table Tennis Social Club
1.30pm to 3.30pm every Monday at
Highwood Village Hall**

We welcome players of all levels, whether you have played regularly or only occasionally on holiday.

Table tennis is great for both your physical and mental well being and the emphasis is on friendly, sociable fun.

We have up to three tables available and can supply all equipment. £3 per session, paid on the door.

For further information please
contact Alison Shuttleworth:

07925 206122/
shuttsa@gmail.com



LOCAL NEWS

SPEEDWATCH

HIT BY A VEHICLE
TRAVELING AT:

**20
MPH**



9 out of 10 pedestrians survive

HIT BY A VEHICLE
TRAVELING AT:

**30
MPH**



5 out of 10 pedestrians survive

HIT BY A VEHICLE
TRAVELING AT:

**40
MPH**



Only 1 out of 10 pedestrians survives

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**What's involved:
Receive appropriate
training, normally
around 2 hours and
be available as part
of a three-person
Speedwatch
Team for one / two
hours per week.**

CHECK

30

SPEED

**For more information please contact Peter Latham by emailing
lathamp@live.com**

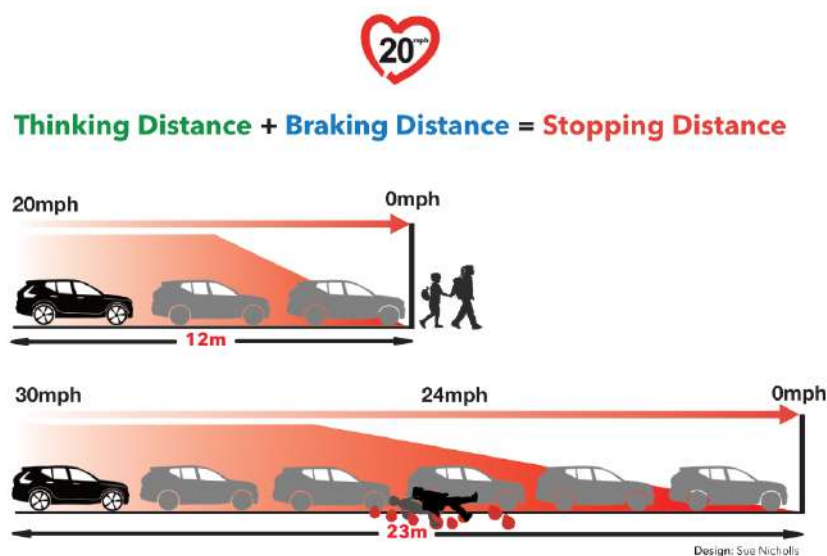
20 IS PLENTY

We have a road safety risk in rural parishes caused by too many, too large vehicles travelling too fast. Villages are often seen as annoyances, getting in the way of travelling between two places, rather than communities in their own right. While, as parish councillors we are not the Highway Authority, we can influence lower speed limits as a risk mitigation measure.

There is clearly a risk to neighbours when walking or cycling, and especially to children. While harm from an impact is increased by heavier vehicles, speed is a greater factor because harm is proportional to the energy in the vehicle ($E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$). The risk that a pedestrian is fatally injured in a crash if they are hit at 30mph is about 7x greater than at 20mph.

While we are unlikely to return to the age when cars were smaller and had to be driven slowly to protect fragile suspension, we have to do what's within our control to minimise the risks from vehicle drivers to pedestrians. We can influence road signs via ECC, we can influence visibility via hedge maintenance, and we can influence the speed of traffic.

It is more effective for groups of neighbouring communities to apply for a reduced speed limit for all their villages, so that it becomes normal for drivers to slow down in all villages, instead of just one.





**We are keen to hear
from our residents on
any topic**

Ways to contact:

email: clerk@highwoodpc.org

www.highwoodpc.org/contact-us

Write to

Mrs Karen Kuderovitch, Clerk
c/o Springfields, Crows Lane,
Woodham Ferrers, Essex CM3 8RR



Report It

<https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us>

**For information about a whole range of
services please visit
www.chelmsford.gov.uk**



www.highwoodpc.org

LOCAL NEWS

We would like our residents to make more poppies this year for the annual display in the villages building up on last years efforts which looked amazing.

If you would like join in with fostering a net or help make the wool poppies please send a message to highwoodpoppyappeal@highwoodpc.org





COME AND JOIN US!

We are welcoming new members to

Chelmsford Croquet Club

Writtle College Sports Ground

— April to October —

All abilities welcome, including beginners

We offer three taster sessions for FREE!

Equipment provided

For more information:

www.chelmsfordcroquet.uk

info@chelmsfordcroquet.uk

Tony Frewin: 07796 816208



LOCAL BUSINESS ADVERTS

Here are some local business which you may find useful



M. 07860 353900

W. www.olivercatering.com

E. enquiries@olivercatering.com

All Inclusive Bars – From £14.50pp for 4-hour period
Includes 5 x Beers, 2 x Bitters, Liqueurs, Spirits + Mixers, Wines & Shots.

CATERING FOR ALL YOUR EVENTS

- WEDDINGS
- BIRTHDAYS
- CORPORATE EVENTS
- BBQ'S
- BLACK TIE BALLS
- HAMPERS
- BUFFETS
- DINNER PARTIES
- CHRISTENINGS
- COCKTAILS & LICENSED BARS
- HOGG ROASTS
- FUNERALS
- PARTIES
- LAUNCHES
- CHAMPAGNE RECEPTIONS
- DANCES
- SOCIAL GATHERINGS
- ANNIVERSARIES



@OliverCatering



Oliver Catering - Redefining Food...



[olivercatering_redefining_food](https://www.instagram.com/olivercatering_redefining_food)

ESSEX EPC SERVICE

Energy Performance Certificates
Aerial Photography
Retrofit Assessments for Eco Measures
For more information email
steve@essexepcservice.co.uk
or call 07862058174

LUCKING & SONS FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Est over 100 years.
Personal Service 24 hours a day
Chapel of Rest. Monumental Craftsman
Prepayment Plans by "Goldencharter"
195 New London Road, Chelmsford. CM1
0AE
Tel: 01245 353733

D GOODALL LTD. OFTEC registered

DOMESTIC OIL BOILER ENGINEER
Servicing - Maintenance Breakdown
Call Darryl on 07921 566874

NICK'S GARDEN MAINTENANCE

By Highwood's friendly ex postman
Tel 07757 088039
nicksgardening@yahoo.com

LOCAL BUSINESS ADVERTS

Here are some local business which you may find useful

D S EAGLE - 9 WELLFIELD, WRITTLE

HIGH CLASS FAMILY BUTCHERS

Prime quality English beef, pork, lamb &
Poultry

Home made sausages & burgers. Home
cured gammon hams and bacon

Open Tues- Fri 9am - 5pm Sat 9am -
5pm

J ODDY & SONS Est 1914

Woodyard, Ingatestone Road,
Highwood

Rails - Stakes - Posts - Fencing - Lap
Panels - Close Board - Jump Poles -
Wire Products - Gates (timber & Steel)
- Sleepers.

T: 01277 352388 Open Mon - Fri 8am -
5pm

WRITTLE RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY

A charity to assist those who live in
Highwood and Writtle who find
themselves in short term financial
difficulty.

Enquiries in confidence to Mrs C
Aldridge
01245 421524

BLACKMORE FARMERS MARKET

Every third Sunday in the month -
10am - 1pm

Blackmore Village Hall
Traditionally reared meats, fish, local
honey, eggs, cheese and veg
Plants, craftsvegan meals and more.
More information - email
blackmorefarmersmarket@gmail.com

**If you would like to advertise your
business please send an email to:
magazine@highwoodpc.org**

www.highwoodpc.org



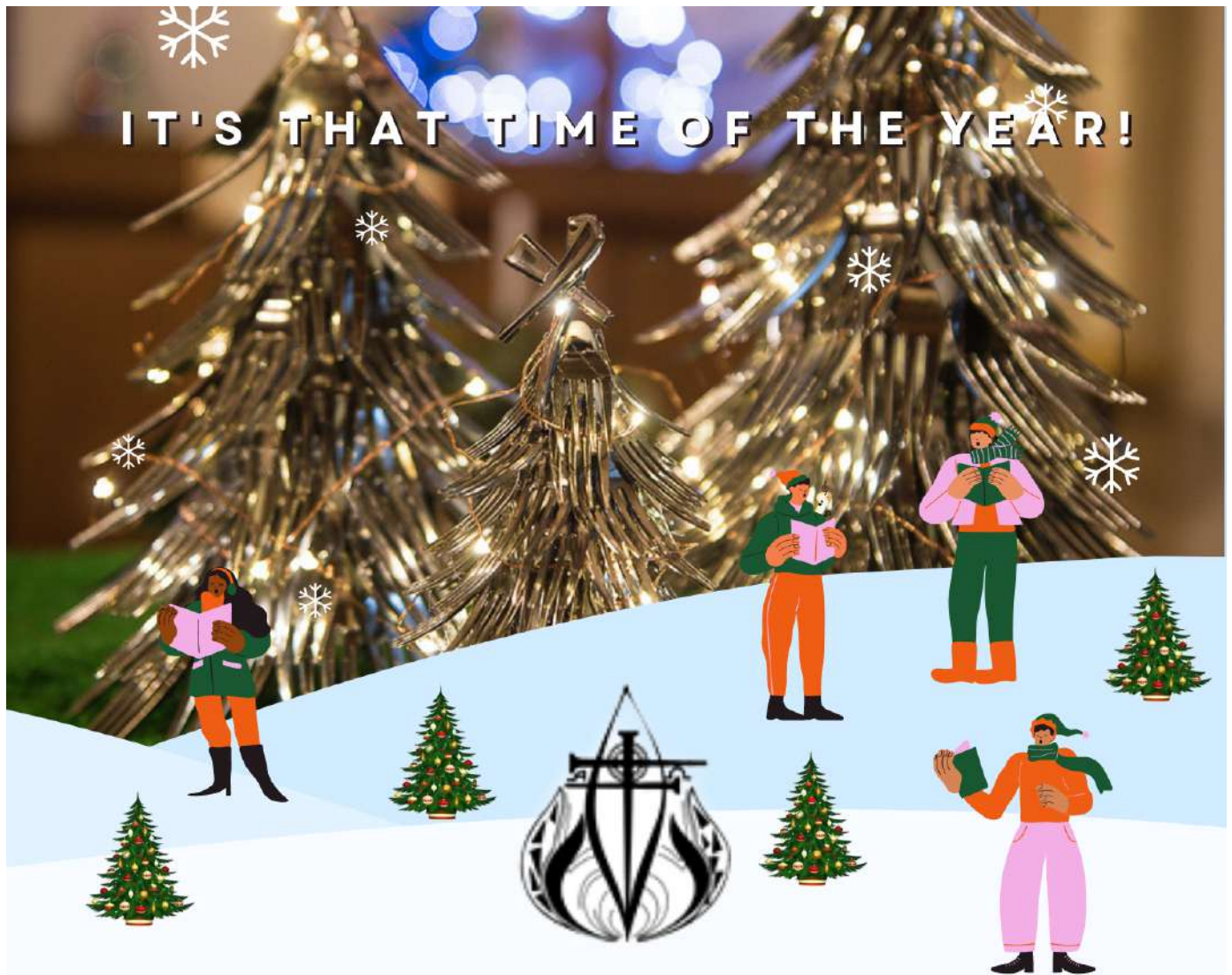
Do you have any spare time
Could you spare a couple of hours
Your local charity, Barrow Farm RDA
needs help with a variety of tasks.

Helping with our riders and drivers
Help with general maintenance/gardening
Help with our new "Tea with a pony" sessions

If you are interested please contact
anne@barrowfarmrda.org.uk
www.barrowfarmrda.org.uk



IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR!



ALL SAINTS CHURCH WRITTE

TREE FESTIVAL

The Catch-up Cafe and Highwood Primary School both contribute trees each year with the school winning with the most votes last year.

Is there anyone else who would like to enter a tree? This could be from an organisation, a business or an individual.

Please contact Alison Woollard (alisonwoollard2@gmail.com or 01245 421729) for more information and to enter.

3RD & 4TH DECEMBER 2022

www.highwoodpc.org



Residents in Loves Green recently had the tractors out on the fields as they began collecting the hay and creating the amazing patterns as they collected the years harvest

