

Woodham Walter annual report 2018-19



WOODHAM WALTER ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19 MARCH 2019

Woodham Walter Parish Council

From the Chairman...



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I am John Tompkins and as Chairman of the Woodham Walter Parish Council I would like to invite you all to the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 14th March, 2019 in the Village Hall at 20:00. This is your opportunity to meet your Parish Council Members, learn more about your Council, what it does, what is going on in our Village and have your say during the public forum, so you all are very welcome.

The Parish Council is the first tier of local government followed in order upwards by the District Council (representatives Cllr. Henry Bass currently Chairman and Cllr. Mark Durham CC),

County Council (representative Cllr. Penny Channer CC) and of course ultimately Parliament (representative Priti Patel MP). In our case the Parish Council is composed of seven Members elected under the Representation of the People Act every four years. Occasional vacancies occur through ill health or resignation giving rise to the opportunity of co-opting new Members where the vacancy is not contested. Our well-balanced team consists of myself as Chairman and Councillors Jenny Hughes as Vice-Chairman, John Brown, James Bunn, James Rushton, Joanna Symons and Peter Warren. We all live in the parish, do not align our-

selves with any political party and above all are volunteers with no attendance allowances being paid. We are kept in line by our dedicated and hardworking Parish Clerk, Jacky Bannerman, who is employed by the Council, deals with all the considerable administration and keeps a 'weather eye' open for Village issues.

Meetings are held monthly on the second Monday in each month in the Women's Club at 20:00 with additional meetings as required and these are posted on the website and the Village notice board next to the War Memorial Shelter opposite the Queen Victoria public house.

Annual Parish Meeting - Thursday 14th March 2019

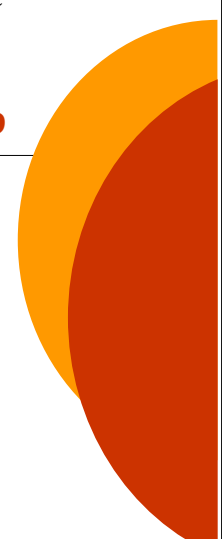
All Woodham Walter residents are invited to attend the

Annual Parish Meeting

On Thursday 14th March at 8pm

At Woodham Walter Village Hall, Rectory Road.

- Matters Arising from Annual Parish Reports
- Presentation from Community Protection Team
- Presentation from Playground Working Party
- Public Forum



Woodham Walter Parish Council - Chairman, John Tompkins

Meetings are generally open to the public who have an opportunity to bring to the attention of Members any problems or grievances during the public forum that require consideration by the Council. Where there are major issues affecting the whole Village, a separate public meeting is sometimes held to focus on that one particular topic; these are usually held in the Village Hall and are fully advertised.

For a small village the Council is surprisingly busy. Probably the most important area of involvement and by far the largest is related to consultations on planning applications and a summary of applications dealt with is shown below. The Parish Council is not the local planning authority as that duty rests with Maldon District Council; it does however respond to all consultations whether for large or small projects by ensuring that residents' views are reflected in the replies and recommendations to the Planning Authority. The District

Council enhanced the Parish Council's role during 2017 with the endorsement of the Village Design Statement, which together with the Conservation Area and the Article 4 Direction are material planning considerations sitting alongside the Maldon Local Development Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. The Village Design Statement has proved to be a very useful document to reinforce residents' views and highlight the local area character. It also helps in advising the District Council where planning enforcement is required.

Being inhabitants, we are extremely fortunate in living in such an iconic village surrounded by woodland, common and farmland, not far from the sea and with a canalised river bordering the parish. Yet, we are near to one of the 51 English cities, are a short distance from a regional distributor road, the A12, and are not far from two railway stations

linking with East Anglia and London; Southend and Stansted airports are within easy travel distance.

The Arcadian village in which we live is bucolic but it is a constant battle to maintain it as such a beautiful place to reside in. The pressures of everyday life, housing, transport, communications, healthcare and education, to name but a few are a constant erosive challenge. There is the incessant threat of development that requires tempering with needs but the Village cannot be ensconced in aspic. It must be allowed to develop but in a controlled manner. The Conservation Area helps in this by conserving the central core; it is not necessarily preserving it in a time warp but allowing it to develop in a manner that will not destroy the area or Village character but at the same time cope with 21st century living. The semantics of conserving and preserving is an extremely important aspect of the Conservation Area.

Planning Summary 2018/2019

PARISH COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS	
Support	17
Object	3
Comments	3
No Comment	6
No Evidence	3
To Be Decided	3

MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL DECISIONS	
Approve	18
Refuse	4
Withdrawn	1
Allowed to proceed	2
Grant LBC	3
Grant Coupa	1
To Be Decided	6

Extension	8	Holiday Lodges Development	1
Demolition/Replacement	3	Residential Development	1
Claims for Lawful Development Certificate	5	Changes to conditions	2
Listed Building Consent	5	Amendment to plan	1
Extension/Alteration/Outbuilding	1	Hedge Removal	1
Change of use from agricultural to dwelling house	2	TPO/Tree	1
Change of use from agricultural to light industrial	1	Tree in Conservation Area	1
New Stable/Tack room	1	Public Playground Facility	1

Total Applications: 35 (to 21/2/19)
(35 in 2017/18)

Decision contrary to WWPC: 2

Appeals responded to: 2

Enforcement Queries Raised: 6

Woodham Walter Parish Council - Chairman, John Tompkins

The Parish Council has other tasks to perform. Apart from managing a pro-rata sized budget and setting the Parish precept, it monitors the extensive network of footpaths throughout the Parish. Cllr Peter Warren is the Footpath Officer and his thorough and close monitoring of the paths and bridleways ensures that they are kept in good condition and safe for all users. Cllr. Jo Symons is the Parish Council's representative on the School's Governing Body where her portfolio is 'Outward Facing' and she also chairs the Playground Steering Group. Cllr Jenny Hughes is the representative on the Bell Meadow Association Committee, which is an important role as the Parish Council owns Bell Meadow and holds the licence for the use of music and dancing. Cllr James Rushton is the representative on the Allotments Association whilst John Brown monitors the Broadband installation across the Village. For my part, as a retired Chartered Architect, my focus is on the built environment but I also sit with Cllr. Symons on the Playground Steering Group and am the link with the Church Defibrillator Group.



In addition to these tasks others include grass cutting, Bell Meadow maintenance, tree inspections, streetlight maintenance, the War Memorial bus shelter and telephone kiosk maintenance. This year two new trees were planted



in the Memorial Garden and dedicated on 11th November to mark the 100 years since the Armistice and those Villagers who made that Supreme Sacrifice. Our grateful thanks must go to Villager James Richmond from the Greenbrook Garden Centre, Writtle, who so very generously donated the trees and the planting medium as well as provided some manual help during planting and tree trimming. The Council also arranges a litter pick twice a year and generally tries to keep our Village tidy.



Recent additions to Bell Meadow include the erection of a new gate and side rails to separate the Meadow from the adjacent Warren track and the replacement of a rotten gatepost to the entrance opposite the Church. This is in addition to the replacement of damaged parts and new nets to the goal posts.

One of the major and most underused Parish facilities is Woodham Walter Common. Maldon District Council devolved

control of the Common to the Parish Council in June 1978 which is now responsible for its maintenance and upkeep. This is achieved with the help and assistance of the Essex Wildlife Trust under a service level agreement. The Trust performs a marvellous job in ensuring the husbandry of the Common and safeguarding its status as a Site of Special Scientific Interest is maintained. Access is free, open to all and consists of some 32 hectares of open space, woods and streams. If you have not visited, please do so; there are plenty of pedestrian access points.

See details on page 22 of a Guided Tour of Woodham Walter Common which the Parish Council has organized with the Essex Wildlife Trust on Saturday 6th April.

The use of the Maldon Community Protection Team has proved an invaluable initiative for the Parish Council in the past year. Speed checks have regrettably proved very necessary with speeders being clocked at the rate of 1 every 15 minutes during some sessions. The TrueCAM recorded infringements are sent direct to the Essex Police who take the necessary action for immediate prosecution - you have been warned! The team also deals with anti-social behaviour, littering and fly tipping as well as parking infringements particularly around the school and generally endeavours to make our Village safer.



Woodham Walter Parish Council - Chairman, John Tompkins



During this last year some of our tasks have been hindered by District Council decisions. Such influencing pronouncements include the withdrawal of the Parish Trigger, covered in last year's report, as well as the withdrawal of paper copies of planning applications that makes public consultations on planning matters extremely difficult, if not impossible. The latest adverse proposal was to withdraw financial support for the investment in the Broadband infrastructure. Your Parish Council took the view that this was inequitable and lobbied all the District Councillors and all Parish and Town Councils in the District as well as the County Councillors. We are pleased to report that exercise was successful in as much as the full District Council dropped the blanket withdrawal in favour of one that was based on results and at present the investment continues and the infrastructure is underway. By the time that you read this article Superfast Broadband should be



available for the centre of the Village for those that sign up for the facility. It will be a game changer for those lucky enough to receive the service. Other operators are able to serve the more remote parts of the Village using WiFi technology but again it requires residents to sign up for the service.

The very latest assault comes from a proposal by Essex County Council to devolve highway maintenance issues to the Parishes throughout the County. This does not include actual work to the footpaths or carriageways, probably where it is needed most, but to the maintenance of verges, signage, grass and hedge cutting and public rights of way maintenance. As the County is unable to advise on what work they already carry out(!), your Council is standing back from a decision until such time as the extent of work is known and how that relates to a proposed annual grant payment of just £1,000 with any further finance being raised from the Parish precept which is then added to Council Tax bills.

The provision of a children's playground for use by the entire Village has for some time been a cause for concern since the withdrawal of access to the school's facilities. Cllr. Symons reported on this and the consultation in her report last year. During 2018 this project has moved forward and planning permission is being sought for five pieces of play equipment set within a low fenced area on the eastern boundary of Bell Meadow. It is hoped that once this has been achieved the project will swing into a public information meeting and fund raising of £25k in the hope that construction can start at the earliest opportunity. It is hoped that by doing this the wellbeing of the

village children can be adequately catered for as well as safeguarding the sanity of parents and grandparents in the knowledge that their young charges can play in safe and secure surroundings.

LOCAL ELECTIONS 2019

Town, Parish & Village Councils

Make your voice heard on an issue that matters to you.

Make a difference in your Community

THURSDAY 2ND MAY 2019

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

This coming year will bring its own challenges, not least an election in May, but your Council is prepared to meet those challenges in whatever form they present themselves. A full range of policies can be viewed on the Parish Council website at www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc. If you feel that you are able to assist in any way on a voluntary basis, please let the Clerk know. All help is very welcome.

If you wish to be included within the Village email circulation, please email parishclerk@woodhamwalterpc.org stating your request to be included and you will be added to the circulation. It is a good way to keep up-to-date with Village events and news.

Finally, I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 14th March 2019.

Village Design Statement Working Group – David Beattie



Since November 2017, a series of fifteen of monthly articles on the VDS has appeared in the Parish Magazine, with the final article appearing in the February 2019 issue. These articles have covered the full range of VDS topics – the VDS explained, extensions, roofs, dormers, replacement windows, materials, design relationships, boundary treatments, garages, lighting, landscape, village life - and I hope that readers have found them both interesting and useful. Three of the topics – replacement windows, materials, design relationships – have each been the subject of two articles, underlining their importance to the visual impact of any building on the village environment. If you are thinking about carrying out any work to your property, please do refer to these easy to understand articles or the full

VDS, all of which can be found on the Parish website
 Based solely on the needs and views of residents as established in village survey of 2015, the VDS is a working document written for use by residents as well as designers, architects, surveyors and builders. It should be used to help with all external works related to any building, be it new development, extension, or simple modification, such as re-roofing or replacing windows. The VDS should for example, be used to select an appropriate replacement window design which will enhance a property visually, rather than impacting negatively on it. In this context, the Parish Council is able to advise you as to the relevant parts of the VDS applicable to your project and the appropriate materials which can be selected. If you require any form of assistance, please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

The VDS is concerned with how planned development in the village, of any sort, should be carried out so that it is in harmony with its setting and that it contributes to the conservation and, where possible, enhancement, of the local environment. It is not the job of the VDS to determine whether a particular development should take place. That is the job of the Local Plan. The VDS is about managing change in the Village, not

about preventing it. It is applicable to the whole Parish, not just the village centre and Conservation Area (which has its own unique requirements additional to those of the VDS), and whether Planning permission is required or simple Permitted Development rights apply, the VDS should be referred to.

Endorsed by the Maldon DC Planning and Licensing Committee in June 2017 and formally launched at a village event in September of that year, the VDS both supports and strengthens the role of the Parish Council when it is consulted on planning applications. The VDS is a material consideration for all relevant planning applications in the Parish used to assist in protecting the historic environment of our delightful village and its beautiful setting.

A further series of articles on the VDS will be appearing in the Parish Magazine later in the year. Please watch out for them!

The full VDS, Parish Magazine articles and other archived material is available at www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter.

The VDS Working Group is now disbanded, pending a future review of the VDS.

Woodham Walter Conservation Area



Woodham Walter has a designated Conservation Area and Article 4 Direction. You can view more information on the MDC or Woodham Walter websites.

Establishing a conservation area immediately places firmer planning controls over certain types of development. The main additional requirements include the following:

- 6 weeks’ notice must be given to the local authority before works are carried out to any tree in the area. This does not include trees whose trunks have a diameter of less than 75mm above ground level
- Planning permission is required for the demolition of any unlisted building with a volume of more than 115 cubic metres
- Planning permission is required to demolish a gate, fence, wall or railing over 1 metre high next to a highway (including a public footpath or bridleway) or public open space; or over 2 metres high elsewhere
- Planning permission is required for alterations to the roof of a dwelling house resulting in a material alteration to its shape, notably dormer windows
- Planning permission is needed for the installation of a satellite dish on a chimney, wall or roof slope which faces onto and is visible from a public highway
- Planning permission is needed to clad any part of the exterior of a dwelling house with stone, artificial stone, timber, plastic or tiles

Parish Clerk's Report — Jacky Bannerman



It is the job of the Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to carry out the functions, serve or issue all notifications

required by law and carry out the decisions of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is responsible for maintaining Bell Meadow and a number of grass verges and hedges, the street lighting and the general care and upkeep of the village. If you spot that a street-light is not working correctly please let me know. We are due our annual inspection in May so if there are any issues we can get them sorted out at that time.

Parish Councils are funded principally by an annual precept. Income and expenditure for the next financial year are calculated and this is added to the council tax collected by MDC and paid to Woodham Walter Parish Council annually. Councillors have agreed that the precept requirement for Woodham Walter in 2019/20 will be £20,281.00 which works out at £75.23 per Band D property for the year. The Party Tents still provide a good income (£800 last year).

During 2018/19 we provided community funding to local organisations to help with maintenance including Women's Club (£180) and Village Hall Association (£243). We also make an annual grant to the Essex Wildlife Trust (£127) towards their work managing Woodham Walter Common.

Other expenditure last year included the Community Protection Team (£604.47) who are contracted for up to 4 hours per month. We had to make repairs to the goal posts (£311) and we installed a new gate and fence at Bell Meadow (£958.42). We have so far spent £149 on maintenance of the telephone kiosk outside the Old Chapel Stores (Tadpoles Nursery) which we adopted from BT last year.

In 2019/20 there are plans for continued expenditure on the Community Protection Team. We have budgeted £1000 towards the possible new playground on Bell Meadow. We have set aside a budget for repairs to the Memorial Shelter and some signage for the Memorial Garden. As 2019 is an election year we also have a budget for costs associated with a contested election.



Sadly I am all too frequently notified of fly tips in the parish. I report these to Maldon District Council who generally attend promptly. You can report fly tipping directly to MDC by phoning or filling in the on-line form on their website www.maldon.gov.uk

I also report any Highways Maintenance issues but you can also report issues directly on the website www.essexhighways.org/tell-us/report-all-issues.aspx

You will find Useful Links and a new Noticeboard page on our website with various posters that I am sent for display by MDC, ECC or other organisations.

I send out a village email from time to time with information relevant to villagers—such as any major planning applications, road closures or a recent appeal for information when a two week old calf went missing, thankfully I was able to update on a happy outcome when it found its way home. I have also issued alerts for rogue traders and when burglaries have taken place in the village.

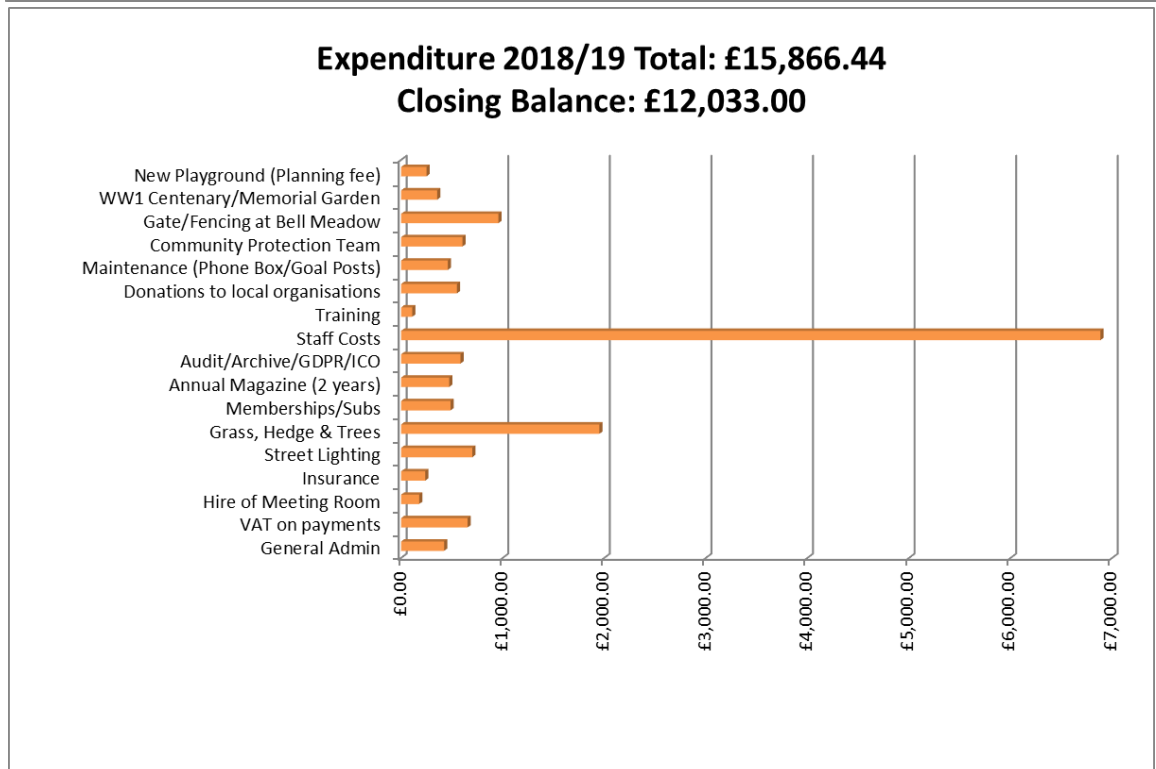
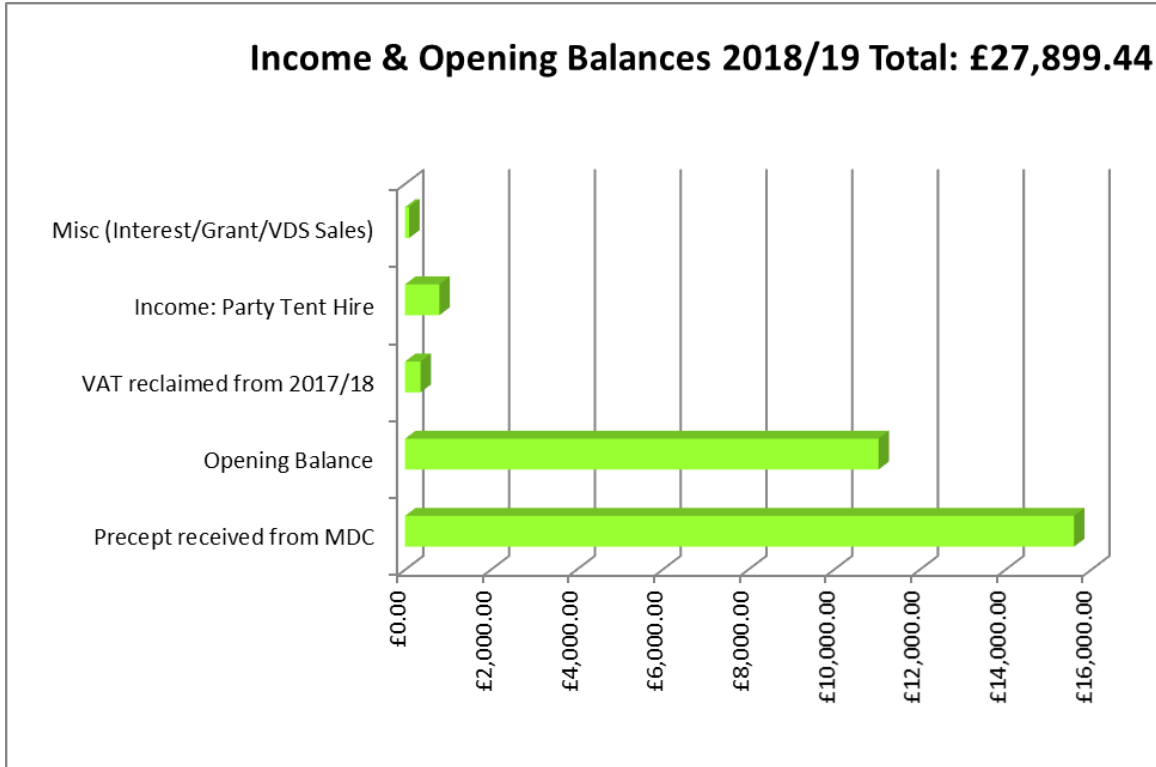


Plus other events and matters of local interest that we think should be shared with the village—You can see our website for a full list. There are currently about 70 subscribers but with over 270 properties in the village there are many people who are missing out! If you would like to be included on the village email for local information please visit our website and fill in Subscribe to our Mailing List on the home page or send me your email address parishclerk@woodhamwalterpc.org

Find out more about Woodham Walter Parish Council from its website www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc

Woodham Walter Parish Council - Financial Overview

All Parish Council's have to adhere to the Transparency Code. Information is available on the Parish Council website so that that parishioners can view financial documents, agendas and minutes in order to meet the governments desire to place more power into citizens hands to increase democratic accountability. Transparency gives local people the tools and information they need to hold local public bodies to account. So have a look at the Parish Council website and see what you think! www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc



Please Note: Due to the timing of the Local Elections and in order to miss the purdah period, we have published this document prior to the end of our financial year. These figures were estimated on 25/2/19 See our website for full and updated information after the year end on 31/3/19



District Councillor—Mark Durham



The last twelve months have seen some significant developments at Maldon District Council. For the most part during 2018 I was Leader of the Council and Henry has been chairman since May 2017. These roles are quite different and the chairman is non political during his chairmanship, however the leader of the council is the leader of the largest political group. The chairman's job is ceremonial in part as he represents the council across the county. He also chairs the full council meetings during the year. Henry has been an excellent chairman and he has taken it on himself to try and visit all businesses in the district. I'm not sure if he got to all of them, but certainly he has visited all of the main employers and larger businesses. Henry has decided not to stand again and therefore his time as a district councillor will end in May. I have really enjoyed the time with Henry sharing this large ward. He has been a strong support and has always got some wise words when required. This means that I will have a new co-ward

member from May onwards and I sincerely hope that this will be Karl Jarvis who lives in Wickham Bishops and is also a parish councillor there.

During my tenure as leader, I was tasked with introducing a transformation project for the council which started last autumn. The reason for this exercise is largely due to continued reduction in government grant, indeed the Rate Support Grant that has previously been one of local governments main sources of income will be abolished in 2020. We are told by central government that this will be replaced by retaining locally collected taxes such as council tax and business rates. The exact formula for this is still unknown, but it is fairly certain that there will be little or no new money. The result of this is that there was a forecast budget gap of £1.5m in 2020 so it was important to find savings in order that a balanced budget could be set.

In January 2018 I visited an authority in Dorset that had undergone a similar restructuring and during the course of last year the same consultancy was engaged to bring a similar project to Maldon. Basically this involves a total reorganisation of the council structure and the way that day to day business is carried out. One of the objectives was that front line services to residents should be protected wherever possible, in fact in many cases an improvement could be achieved. Inevitably there would have to be staff losses

and also new appointments where existing staff were not able to fit into the new roles. The entire transformation project is scheduled to take about 18 months.

Part of the first stage of this reorganisation was to review the senior management structure and this resulted in a change from the established model of a chief executive and service directors to one that only had three director level managers and no chief executive. From a functional perspective, this also meant that the leader would probably be required to take a more active part in the day to day overseeing of the council business and monitoring of the transformation project. I wasn't able to commit the amount of time to devote to MDC as my responsibilities at Essex County Council and other business interests took up too much of my week. I therefore stood down and have been replaced by Cllr. Adrian Fluker who is doing an excellent job steering the council through these difficult times.

It is apparent that the required savings are on track to be achieved and it is envisaged that almost all essential services will remain unaffected. It may be necessary to scale back on some discretionary services, but for the most part, residents will not be effected and the new working methods should make it easier and quicker to get information and deal with any council matters that you may need.

District Councillor—Mark Durham

Planning continues to be one of the most controversial roles of the district council and one of the most significant landmarks for MDC happened in July 2017. This was the adoption of the Maldon Local Development Plan by The Secretary of State. Since this time we have seen a reduction in speculative planning applications as any new applications have to comply with the policies in the plan. Hand in hand with the LDP is the Village Design Statement that Woodham Walter parish Council completed last year. This makes the design characteristics of applications material considerations for determination of that application. The VDS is an excellent document that the parish worked extremely hard to get into a workable and meaningful format. I commend them for this valuable work. Final decisions about applications are still made by the district council, either by planning officers or a committee of members.



One of the highlights of last year was the celebrations to commemorate the centenary of the 1918 armistice. The staff at MDC made fantastic silhouettes of a bowed soldier and one was given to every parish in the district. It was really interesting to see what various villages had done with their soldier, some made a big display in their village centres or war memorials and others simply used them in a less dramatic fashion. It will be good to see them come out every

year to mark the sacrifice that men and women made for us in the two world wars. The district held a very impressive show at the Promenade Park to mark the centenary which was a highly moving and humbling experience.



Thursday 2nd May this year sees local elections in many councils across the country. This means that I have served the ward for eight years already. It has been an honour and I sincerely hope that I will have the opportunity to serve again in the future. National politics are somewhat fluid at the moment and whatever side of the Brexit divide you are, we can only hope for a satisfactory outcome. In the meantime, local government continues with business as usual, providing the services that our communities require.

Recycling Bags

An annual delivery of recycling sacks will be made to households during May/June.

If you need additional supplies of pink recycling sacks or food caddy liners prior to May they can be obtained from the following locations.

- All Libraries in the District
- Maldon District Council Princes Road, Maldon

- Woodham Walter Parish Council - sacks can be obtained from 7.50pm, prior to Parish Council meetings which are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Women's Club Room, Top Road

- **There will be a supply of pink sacks and food caddy bags for collection at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 14th March at 8pm in Woodham Walter Village Hall, Rectory Road.**



Woodham Walter Women's Club - Jean Newton



Looking back over the past year Women's Club has enjoyed monthly meetings, participated in Village events, hosted a Cream Tea last May and the Club Room is the venue for the monthly Village Lunch on the first Monday of every month. Thank you to Linda Hamilton who prepares and cooks the delicious lunches, a huge thank you to Sally, Jacky, Cathy and Sue who has recently joined the team. The girls welcome, serve and wash-up always with big smiles and cheerful greetings.

Monthly Meeting Speakers once again thank you to Gill our Programme Secretary who arranges a varied programme of Speakers including a talk entitled "Life as a Prison Officer" an experienced speaker who could sing too. We had a trip to Myanmar (Burma), and an indulgent evening trying on glamorous hats. The year also included the annual Bring and Buy Sale the popular Fish and Chip Supper in the Club Room and bringing the year to an end the Christmas Celebration. At the beginning of January the popular post Christmas Lunch at the "Bell" took place, thank you to everyone at the "Bell" for making us so welcome.

Fund Raising Events As mentioned previously in May we hosted a Cream Tea and Penny donated some plants, a taste of what would be available at the Flower Festival. The Flower Festival is a big date in our calendar, once again a huge thank you to all members and non

members who help man the Tea Tent, this year no complaints about inclement weather, hot sun for the four days of the festival. Thank you to everyone who bakes delicious cakes and scones, the ploughmans 'team' who produce a ploughman's lunch worthy dare I say of 'Master Chef'. To everyone who served tea's coffee and kept the Tea Urn loaded – whew that was a hot job, not forgetting the ladies washing-up in extremely hot conditions. Outside the Tea Tent Penny was to be found with her successful plant stall, Club members are urged some might say 'nagged' to propagate, sow seeds as many plants as possible and we are always grateful to anybody who donates anything to the Plant Stall. At the end of August 'Bell Meadow Day' oh dear that weekend sadly signalled the end of the hot summer, setting up our Cake and Tombola Stall the weather although threatening was dry, but as 12.30 pm approached the heavens opened and it didn't stop raining for the rest of the day, thank you to the brave souls who showing great determination soldiered on disregarding the elements. A huge thank you to the 'Bell Meadow Day Committee' who work so hard throughout the year to arrange this successful day, sadly the one thing that couldn't be organised was the weather.

Moving on to October the annual Jumble Sale in Danbury Village Hall is an important event for us raising more funds for the Club.

Other Activities Founders Day at the beginning of August was a visit to Beeleigh Abbey Gardens unlucky with the weather as it was a little drizzly but a walk around the gardens was possible and when the rain became more than a drizzle tea and cake a very welcome distraction. Trips to the Civic Theatre the first in September to see 'Top Hat' a Young Generation production and this February we have tickets to see 'My Fair Lady'

The Village Revue took place in November, as usual the Club Dance Team took to the stage, this performance was the last one that the Dance Team will perform under Sylvia's supervision. Sylvia has been a leading light within the team without her our performances wouldn't have been quite so 'professional', sadly she has decided to hang up her choreograph and rehearsing hats, over the years it has been a huge commitment choosing music, deciding on costumes etc. So thank you Sylvia for all your hard work, I think I speak for all of us it has been a most enjoyable fun experience and the camaraderie that exists between us all is second to none.



Maintenance In August 2018 we had all our windows replaced with more efficient double glazing and extra opening windows which will make the Club Room more comfortable in the warmer months. Later this year we intend to have further maintenance on the Club Room, replacing rotten boards and painting the building.

Finally I would like to thank the Committee and Club Members for supporting Women's Club over the past year, we always welcome guests to our monthly meetings. Dates, Speakers plus our activities are always in the monthly Parish News.

Woodham Walter Village Lunch Club – Sally Bull

Since it's first serving in 2014 the Village Lunch has become increasingly successful. Running on the first Monday of each month there are now regularly more than 20 attendees who join the group to enjoy a delicious two course meal which costs them £6 per head.

The original two objectives behind the setting up of the Village Lunch still stand. The first is to give older people in the community, the opportunity to meet up with friends and neighbours whom they may not get to see regularly either because of illness, being housebound or just having lost social contact. The second objective is to give those people an opportunity for a good quality home cooked meal in a warm and

welcoming environment. Based in the Women's Club Room, Village Lunch is a non profit making venture and is run by volunteers from the local community.

The cooking is done by Linda Hamilton who does an amazing job, creating wonderful lunches using seasonal, locally sourced ingredients. Her food is truly delicious and the full house of clean plates at the end of each lunch is a perfect indicator of just how good the food is! On the menu for our March lunch is Roast pork, potatoes and veg with Apple pie & custard to follow. Linda is supported by volunteers Sally Bull, Jacky Bannerman, Cathy Barber and Sue Neale, who help to serve the

lunch and clear away afterwards. Attendees book a month in advance and there is often a waiting list.

There is a real buzz at the lunches which is just the way it should be; lots of conversation and good food shared between friends. If you know of anyone, especially living in the village, who would benefit from joining our lunch then please let us know and we will make sure they have a place at our table.

Our next lunch with Fish Pie on the menu will be on Monday 1st April. If anyone would like more information about the Village Lunch, please contact Sally Bull 01245 227908 or Jacky Bannerman on 01245 222595

Woodham Walter Village Hall Association - Sarah Maxted



It has been another successful year for the Hall. We have several regular bookings ranging from keep fit classes to a puppy class.

Once again my thanks to the committee for their continued work in keeping the Hall running. Our treasurer Ken, handyman Ivor, secretary Mel, Ann, Doug &

Peter. We must thank Colin Warner for his continued support by keeping the outside of the hall tidy. Also thanks to Terry Fisk for helping out with lighting and fire extinguishers.

Pleased to announce we do have a couple of new committee members but as always the committee would welcome more members. It isn't an arduous task – meetings every 6 to 8 weeks, 2 fund raisers per year and a couple of tidying sessions

In the past the Hall's 2 main fund raisers each year are the Art Show and the Village Revue:

June Chandler, Tina Warren & Jane Weedon run the Art Show with assistance from the screen shifters & picture hangers. The revue continued to come up with something new. The Wom-

en's Club really go to town with their performance & costumes. We also must also thank the volunteers who run the bar & the waiters as well as the artistic director AJ & Mark Durham for running the evening. Unfortunately The Women's Club have decided to hang up their dancing shoes so 2018 was the final show. We are searching for a new fund raising idea to replace the Revue so if anyone has any ideas please let us know

We continue to work towards improving the facilities in the Hall and have a long to do list!

Once again I would like to thank the volunteers who help with maintaining the Hall and running the fund raising events.

Sarah Maxted
Chair WWVHA

Bell Meadow Village Association - Mark Durham



This will be a much shorter report for reasons that will be clear to many. After a year of preparation and hard work by all of the dedicated committee, Bell Meadow Day dawned on 26th August after what had been the best summer weather for many years. The forecast was not promising and although the day before was very pleasant, it became clear that rain was likely for the whole afternoon and evening. In fairness, the rain started about 30 minutes after it was expected, but unlike other years where we had experienced showers, this was an entirely different prospect. We had the best range of stalls booked for many years and two stages which should have seen bands play from late afternoon with the headline act, For Funk Sake due to start playing at 6:30pm.

Several stalls decided not to turn up due to the inclement weather, but we tried our best to keep things on track as far as possible. Predictably only a small percentage of our usual visitor numbers came through the gates and those that did brave the deluge only stayed for a short time. The weather

got progressively worse during the afternoon and both of our stages were soaked which prevented the bands from setting up their equipment. Electrical instruments and amplifiers are not safe in wet conditions and we had no choice than to abort the live music. As a result Bell Meadow Day fizzled out by about 6pm and everyone left. As luck would have it, the following day was warm and sunny which was massive disappointment, but at least it enabled us to clear up and pack things away dry! We managed to save some of our overheads and for that reason the financial loss was actually minimal. We are all indebted to our sponsors and supporters without whom the loss would have been much worse.

Part of the negotiations that we made on the day was to agree to book the band for 2019 in return for a reduced fee. Many of the band had travelled from Cornwall for our event and it was fair and reasonable to at least cover their mileage costs. That does of course mean that we have a confirmed booking with For Funk sake for this year.

Usually by this time, arrangements are already well advanced for the event in August. However things took a disastrous turn at the end of November with the sudden passing of Kerry Boswell. Kerry was a key element of the

organising committee, but more than that, we all loved her and were left devastated when she died. For this reason, we have been slow to get things going for this year. Clearly if an event is to take place, we need some new faces to help. Much of the hard work is done and we have a tried and tested formula which makes life a bit easier. As chairman of BMVA, I would dearly like to hold the event this year, if for no other reason than to dedicate it to the memory of our dear Kerry. In my opinion it would be a great shame and loss for the village to lose what has become one of the most popular social events of the year.

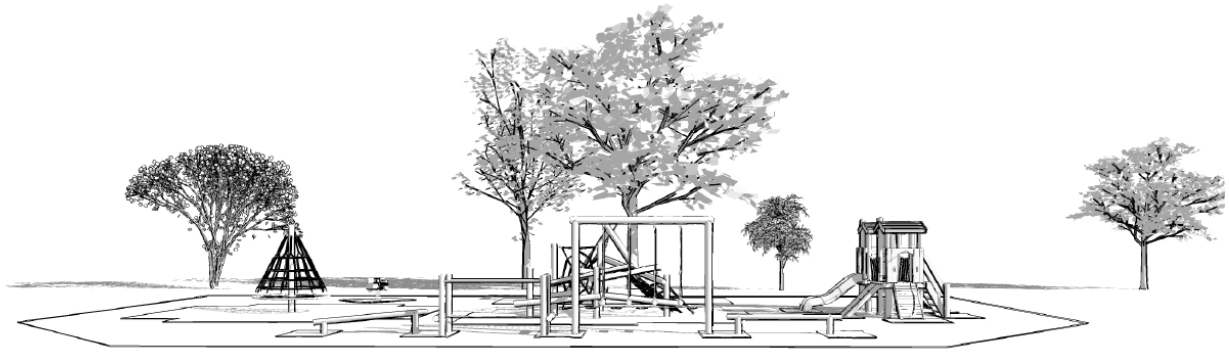
The event can be scaled down if that is necessary, but it would be greatly appreciated if people can come forward to keep Bell Meadow day alive.

You can contact me by email: mfldurham@aol.com

07850 967239

Bell Meadow Day
Sunday 25th August 2019
www.bellmeadowday.co.uk

Bell Meadow Playground Working Party – John Tompkins



ABOVE: SKETCH VIEW OF PROPOSED PLAYGROUND AT BELL MEADOW

At last year's Annual Parish Meeting a presentation was given with respect to the survey carried out in the Village as to the need for a community use children's playground. This had come as a result of the withdrawal from public use of the facility within the School grounds. Although the withdrawal of use was considered a blow to the community especially as the Parish Council had contributed to its upkeep, the Parish Council, reinforced by the Village Playground Survey result, considered that there was strong support for a community facility to be available.

Accordingly the Parish Council Working Party prepared a feasibility study by investigating and seeking prices from a number of suppliers in order to determine the types, styles and costs of various equipment and installations. The Working Party considered that the proposed installation should be funded by public subscription and grant aid rather than the capital cost being a burden on the Parish Council precept. It was established, after much discussion with Maldon District Council, that a planning permission would be required for this use and the Working Party decided to first seek this permission to establish the principle before progressing to a

final design and fund raising.

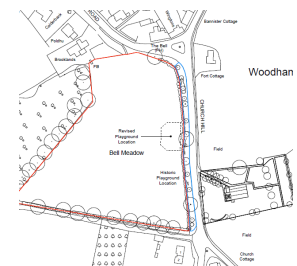
A planning application has been made in the name of the Parish Council and is currently receiving consideration by the local planning authority. If the application is successful, it is expected that there would be a public exhibition before the detailed design is finalised. This will then allow fund raising and grant seeking to begin in earnest. To this end the Working Party would welcome any assistance from residents who have experience in not for profit grant applications and/or fundraising.

The playground will be located on Bell Meadow adjacent to the eastern boundary approximately halfway between the Church facing access gate and the Ted and Rita Sismore memorial bench. It will take the form of an area enclosed by a low height picket fence containing at present a Young Explorer complex, a Tractor Springer, a Birds Nest Swing, a Timber Climber, a Rotaweb Climber and a Fitness Agility Trail. This equipment may be subject to change. The location is sufficiently far away from the Meadow entrances for child security and far enough away from the historic assets of the Church and the Bell to minimise impact. It is also sufficiently far from the western

and southern housing as to not cause a nuisance. The site also has the advantage that it is one of the few flat areas on the whole of the Meadow.

There has been a great deal of work to bring the project to this stage and the Working Party is indebted to Carolyn Filmer who has juggled a new born with putting together the drawings and planning statements to make a very detailed and attractive planning application submission. These will be available to view at the Annual Parish Meeting on 14th March and can be seen on the MDC planning portal using the reference 19/00187/FUL.

We must now look to the future and the next stage after hopefully a positive decision from the planning authority. Anyone interested in helping with the next phase of fundraising and some preparatory ground works should speak with Jacky Bannerman, Jo Symons or John Tompkins. All offers of help will be gratefully received.



Woodham Walter Allotment Association - Jane Weedon



As ever each year has its fair share of challenging weather and this last year 2018 was no different but the long hot spell kept us busy watering our crops, morning and evening in some cases. Some plants loved it when you had a good combination of enriched soil and early leaf development the yields were amazing. Some carrots crops were good while parsnips just didn't get away but then very early and late climbing beans produced a great crop into September. Courgettes, marrows



and pumpkins were definitely in their element enjoying the warmth and getting larger all the time over the summer. We all tend our allotments to the best of our abilities and share seeds and produce between ourselves whenever we can and comparing notes on the best varieties or methods of growing. As ever we looking after each other's allotments during the holiday periods has



worked well with the load being shared equally. We have 1 taster plot free which is in good condition and ready for some one to take on without too much effort with possibly one larger plot also available.

We decided at the last minute to have a B.B.Q. this year but instead of holding at the allotment we held it very successfully in Red Brick Cottages garden which made it all more comfortable and saved us taking everything up to the allotment. Next year we should give the allotment holders more notice and then perhaps more of our members would be able to join us and then we could get to know everyone better. The autumn garlic and broad beans are looking very good as are some of the brassicas and now the weather is warming up we will be back to seeing our holders tending their plots, weeding and manuring, and looking forward to



fresh produce to eat. Plenty of seeds have been planted at home and potatoes and onions are nearly ready to put in once the ground has warmed up a bit more. As ever we are waiting to put those tender plants out after the danger of frosts have passed.

Thank you again to Chris Wheadon for sharing his horticultural knowledge with us in the Parish News and gardening advice on the allotment. Shelley's updates on her progress with the raised bed method of growing vegetables has been very encouraging and her pumpkins were eye wateringly huge! Our Allotment Association is now into its 10th year thanks to Bryony and Peter Maynard for making this thriving scheme available to the local community and filling our larders, freezers and stores with home grown produce to eat during the year.

So we are looking for some new members to join our happy group and grow some of their own vegetables on the vacant plots.

Jane Weedon

janeanneweedon@gmail.com

Sue Cumming

sue.cumming@hotmail.co.uk



To be eligible for a plot, you must be a Parishioner of Woodham Walter, be an Educational establishment within the Parish or have a direct connection to the village.

Footpath Officer - Peter Warren



I've now been walking the Parish paths virtually every day for the past 12 years with my old dog Bella and still enjoy making sure that our public rights of way are clear and safe to walk. There are 28 footpaths and 5 bridleways in the Parish and I try to cover two or three each day. The ones close to my home are checked at least once a week whereas the ones further away I endeavour to check every few months. Any problems that I can't rectify easily are referred to the appropriate farmer or landowner and failing that, logged onto the ECC Highways online reporting system. At long last, after 3 years without a Rights of Way Inspector for this area, I'm now very pleased to report that Nicky Coleman has returned to the role that she previously held from 2009-13. Although she has to cover over 30 mid-Essex parishes this is really good news as Nicky has always been so helpful and proactive whenever we have had a footpath problem.

Fortunately there haven't been many issues on our paths in the past year. Following wet and warm weather in May and June, the weeds grew rather well and several paths were hard to walk,

and as usual FP18 through the old ruins of WW Hall became impassable and remained so until the annual ECC cut in early August. Our glorious summer and lack of rain last autumn

meant that all paths dried out really well and were good to walk right through to mid January. The dry ground also meant only 5 trees came down in the wind as opposed to 16 the previous year.

After a two year wait, the dodgy bridge on FP5 between West Bowers Road and Little London Lane has now been replaced. Nicky organised a volunteer group from Maldon to do the work and they have done a brilliant job, much welcomed by the local dog walkers! Also several collapsed or rotten fingerposts and waymark posts have been replaced.



After many years of disuse, the section of FP33 running through

the grounds of Hoe Mill House has now been officially extinguished. A new route has been created from the canal towpath at the Millrace footbridge running south to join bridleway BR2 just west of Raven's Farm. This has involved a lot of work for ECC contractors cutting a path through the scrub, erecting a footbridge and 3 smaller bridges. Although the route can get very waterlogged in winter, this new path has created an excellent circular walk from the village (see photos).

It was suggested to me, over a drink in The Queen Vic, that as our Footpath Officer I ought to re-institute the New Year's Day Walk. So, with help from my publicity man Dave Still, the walk is back! 65 people and approx 20 dogs (moving around too fast to accurately count!) enjoyed a 3.5 mile casual walk on a mild sunny day, ending in time for lunch in the above hostelry.

Whilst walking the local paths I also carry out the job of Tree Officer. This is to satisfy the Parish Council's responsibility to check on the safety of trees bordering the paths on WW Common, plus the trees surrounding Bell Meadow and others in 8 locations dotted around the village. Last year six trees required removal, fortunately none this year.

Please help me to keep our paths in good order. When you're out walking please have a snip with your secateurs. If you see anything that needs attention, or any improvements that you could suggest, don't hesitate to let me know and let's hope that we have yet another good summer to enjoy our lovely WW countryside!

Peter Warren 01245 221326

Woodham Walter Parish Councillors

John Tompkins (Chairman)



By profession I am a Chartered Architect now retired from a lifetime career as a principal in private practice. In addition I was appointed a General Commissioner of Income Tax serving 22 years and becoming Deputy Chairman of the Havering Division. I also acted as Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Bakers for 17 years until 2012. My wife and I moved to the Village in 1977 and we have a son and a daughter both of whom are married with each having two daughters. As a family we enjoy being involved with village life and are active in St Michael's as well as socially. I have always been interested in the environment in which we

live and became involved with the Parish Council by way of the Village Design Statement where as a volunteer I was able to use my knowledge and experience of design, planning, building and the environment together with design and graphic skills to best advantage. I now strive through the Parish Council to endeavour to retain the happy, friendly and pleasant environment in which we are all privileged to live.

Jenny Hughes (Vice Chairman)



I have been a parish councillor for three years and joined as I felt that I could add a valuable perspective to the council. I have lived in Woodham Walter all my life my parents still live in the village and I'm lucky enough to live here with my husband and two young girls. I am passionate about the countryside and our farming heritage and the preservation of this in the modern world.

John Brown



I grew up in Rayleigh and moved to Woodham Walter in 2004 with my wife Shelley. We have two gorgeous horses, four troublesome but adorable cats and feed a large number of the local wildlife.

For my day job I commute to the city of London where I am the global Head of Information Systems for an investment company.

My spare time is spread thinly between seeing friends and family, fixing things round the paddocks and stables, tinkering with Land Rovers and a large number of hobbies. Most of my interests can be summarised by saying, I like to design and make things. I enjoy playing games on the Xbox and, occasionally, I roller skate. I initially became involved with the parish council to try to get decent broadband to the village that led to taking up a vacancy.

James Bunn



I have lived in Woodham Walter for most of my life now, having lived in Danbury from age 1-6, then Woodham Walter there after except for periods working away all over the country. I spent my childhood playing in the Wilderness and cycling round the lanes of the village. I went to school in Danbury, then in Ingatestone before working for several years for an Electrical Engineering company before going to University to get a degree in Engineering. I bought my own house in the village 20 years ago, and have loved the village since I was a child.

I became a Parish Councillor at the time that Bell Meadow was being disposed of by the water company as I wanted to ensure that the asset was not lost to the village. I have always felt that being a Councillor is a small way for me to do some good for the place I grew up in, and intend to continue living in.

Woodham Walter Parish Councillors

James Rushton



I am Essex born and bred, born in Loughton and growing up in Frinton. My wife, Anne, and I moved to Woodham Walter in 2004 with our two daughters, Elizabeth and Charlotte, having fallen in love with the village and the Essex countryside. Our principal reasons for moving here were quality of life and to be nearer to family, both Anne's and mine.

I work as a music publisher, all genres of music but mainly classical, and so unfortunately have to travel into London every day, but living in Woodham Walter is worth that hassle. Anne, the girls and I all play, but some (in particular in my case) not as fluently as once was the case.

I am a passionate cricket fan, and since moving here I have found myself growing more and more interested in the natural world around us, particularly the birds, and aim, when retirement comes, to devote time to volunteering in that sector.

The community of Woodham Walter gives a lot to us as a family and I am concerned as a Councillor to help to retain that sense of togetherness in the village as a whole and to ensure that social and generational diversity is maintained, something essential if Woodham Walter is to continue to flourish and keep its unique character.

Joanna Symons



With the exception of the three years that I lived in Warwickshire while at University, I have lived and worked in Essex for most of my life.

My late husband and I moved to Woodham Walter nearly 28 years ago, attracted by its peace and tranquility, the lovely views of rolling countryside, the open skies and the beautiful woodland walks. My working life was spent mainly at the University of Essex, where I was Head of a Department, so when the opportunity came to take early retirement about six years ago, I took it due mainly to personal circumstances at the time, but was also keen to devote the spare time I had to some community activities. Thus I joined the Parish Council in the hope that I could, in some very small way, help to preserve the character and history of the village for future generations, and provide advice and help on any local issues as necessary to parishioners.

Peter Warren



Both born and bred in Essex, keen on walking and the countryside in general, my wife Tina and I have always enjoyed visiting this area. So, on my retirement after 43 years in the pharmaceutical industry, we couldn't wait to move from Rayleigh to the tranquillity of Woodham Walter and 14 years later have never regretted it. Living not far away, our 3 children and 5 grandchildren are frequent visitors.

I really value the strong community spirit in the Village and joined the Parish Council 11 years ago to help protect the unique character and charm of this area. My main role is Footpath Officer and I'm always wandering around the Parish paths with my yellow Labrador Bella. Besides walking and the countryside my interests include tending my vegetable plot, sea fishing, playing snooker badly, going horse racing and sampling the occasional pint of real ale.

Jacky Bannerman (Parish Clerk)



I was born in West Sussex where I lived until I married Graham and moved to Bicknacre 26 years ago. I worked at the BBC World Service as a Radio Production Assistant before leaving just before our daughter was born in 1998. We moved to Woodham Walter in 2002 and I took on the role of Parish Clerk in 2006. Our son was born in 2007 so the job of Parish Clerk, working from home continues to fit in well with my life. I also work with Graham for our business TV, audio and events company which we run from home. I enjoy taking on other community roles such as helping with the village lunch and I'm on the Playground Working Group. We like walking and you will often see us out and about walking around

Woodham Walter which we love. Our daughter is at university in London and our son is in year 6 at Woodham Walter Primary School, it will seem strange when he moves to secondary school in September to not be walking to and fro the village school twice a day!

St Michael's Church - Michael Bradbrook & Paul Clark



We started in March 2018 with the re-election of Michael Bradbrook and Paul Clark as Churchwardens following their first year in office.

We have been very fortunate with Canon Stephen Carter, Rev'd Penny Sayer and Rev'd Julie Willmot leading our services of Holy Communion with assistance from Alan Marjoram and Adrienne Knight and our 'Home Team' in leading Morning Prayer and Family Services. In October 2018 Rev'd Penny Sayer was appointed Archdeacon of Sherborne so her time with us came to a close. We all wish her every success in her new appointment. As always we are indebted to Ken Hay, who is now in his 41st year as our organist, and also to Martin Cook who steps in when needed.

We have continued our links with Woodham Walter (C of E) Primary School with church members and Rev'd Penny Sayer (until her new appointment) serving as governors and with our clergy and church members leading assemblies, and maintaining contact with Tadpoles Nursery. The 'Messy Church' group for chil-

dren run monthly by volunteers from our congregation has continued to flourish.

In January 2019 church members

started 'Open the Book' at School which is a way of reading aloud well known Bible based stories from The Lion Storyteller Bible. This was well received by children and staff and it is intended this will continue.

During the year there was one baptism, one wedding and ten funerals. The wedding, on a very cold day in December was a most joyous occasion.

We have remained involved with the community and the Flower Festival in July remains a highlight of the year with an amazing display by our wonderful flower arrangers. This year's theme was 'Lest we Forget', which was most poignant. The 'Fizz and Flowers' event during the Festival is also much enjoyed.

We have remained active with social and charitable events with a pets blessing followed by a BBQ at the Church which was well received and attended. In the summer we held a Churchwardens BBQ for members of the congregation and friends of the Church which was blessed by fine weather and an attempt to play school cricket with varying de-

grees of success. The joint Harvest Supper with St Margaret's was held again this year in our village hall and a farewell presentation was made to Rev'd Penny.

A concert was held in December titled 'Joy to the World' which was attended by some 80 people and raised £580 which was donated to Maldon Food Bank. We have been strongly supported in running these activities by our social committee and members of our congregation.

The work never stops to maintain and improve St Michael's and our main focus for the coming year is the wall mounted radiant heating system and associated electrical wiring which is showing its age. Our Fabric Officers have been exploring an alternative under pew electrical heating system and although this is likely to be more costly to install initial findings from inspections of other churches is that it creates a more comfortable and warmer environment for the congregation. It is hoped that the money received from this year's Flower Festival and the funds carried forward from last year will make a significant contribution towards the costs although it may be necessary to raise further funds. A detailed analysis of costs and benefits will be undertaken before any works are carried out.

The Robert Henry Falkner Almshouses remain fully occupied and we are so grateful for the continued well-running of the Almshouses by our Honorary Clerk Angus Neale.

St Michael's Church

The memorial clock at St Michael's was completely overhauled in the year and the dial regilded by the original manufacturers Gillet & Johnson who remarkably are still in business. The works were completed in time for the centenary of the end of The First World War and the dial and hands have been returned to their former glory. The clock was rededicated at our Remembrance Day Service and two trees were planted. We are most grateful to all those who made donations towards the costs and to David Weedon and Brian Cumming for all their efforts in overseeing the works and for their continuing contribution in the daily running of the clock.



The Church led project to provide a defibrillator for the village is nearing completion and is currently located in the School and we understand plans are underway for it to be located in the phone box in the coming months.

We are always most grateful to the friends of St Michael's who help maintain the church and care for the churchyard and in particular Colin Warner who ensures that the grass is cut, hedges are trimmed and trees managed - all on a voluntary basis.

As previously reported we have been extremely fortunate in that we have been donated a parcel of land to the southern boundary of the churchyard and during the year the legal formalities of the transfer were completed. We are now at an advanced stage of preparing a planning application for change of use of the land as a first stage of the planning process. We expect to be able to bring forward proposals for landscaping and the general layout for consultation later in the year as part of the ongoing planning process and in due course the arrangements for the consecration of the land. We have made a major step forward in being able to serve the needs of the local and wider community now and for future generations.

As always our church is open every day and we intend to keep it that way. We will continue to celebrate weddings, baptisms and joyous occasions but also to be there to console during times of sadness.

St Michael's is constantly aware of the need to keep up

with the times. We will endeavour to promote initiatives that will appeal to the younger generation and we are particularly pleased by the response to the 'Open the Book' initiative. We are here for the community, the young and the more mature. We welcome new ideas so please share them with us.

As always we do need extra support at our weekly services and always appreciate an extra pair of hands during events etc.

As a church, we want to be known to represent God's love to all. Although we gather to praise and worship on a Sunday, as Christians and as a church our mission is to extend that love to our community every day.

A big thank you to our PCC team who have worked tirelessly and to everyone that has extended a hand to make sure that St Michael's runs smoothly. Your loyalty and dedication has been greatly appreciated.

Ending now with the words that encompass the heart of all at St Michael's.

The doors of St Michael's will be open for all, whatever age, colour or sex they may be and we are committed to welcoming all that enter our doors.

**St Michael's is here for you.
Please Use It.**

Bus Services for Woodham Walter

The village is currently served by two bus services run by Arrow.

The DaRT 99A runs Monday-Friday to/from Chelmsford/Broomfield Hospital.

There is also the D6 which is now running on Tuesdays and Thursdays to/from Maldon.

The main village bus stop for these services is outside The Bell but there are other stops on the route—please see the timetable for full details.

The timetable is available on the noticeboard outside the Old Chapel Stores and on the Parish Council website:

www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc

Further information on bus services can be found at www.essexhighways.org/Getting-Around/bus.aspx

and timetables are available at: www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk



DaRT 99A Monday—Friday

Woodham Walter, The Bell	0728	1144
Danbury, Eve's Corner	0746	1200
Sandon, The Crown	0756	1210
Chelmsford, Railway Station	0810	1226
Broomfield Hospital	0824	1237
<hr/>		
Broomfield Hospital	1545	1715
Chelmsford Railway Station	1601	1731
Sandon, The Crown	1612	1745
Danbury, Eve's Corner	1622	1755

Please note, other stops are made on the route, these are highlights only.

See timetable for full details.

DaRT 6 Tuesday and Thursday

Woodham Walter, The Bell	1240
Maldon Town Centre	1250
Maldon, Tesco	1252
<hr/>	
Maldon Tesco	1430
Maldon Town Centre	1432
Woodham Walter, The Bell	1442

Essex County Councillor—Penny Channer



The County Council exists to secure the economic, social and environmental well-being of Essex. Despite the difficult circumstances of a challenging financial environment the Council did not step away from the aims it set itself a year ago because the Members believe they were and still remain the key to Essex's long-term well-being. And however difficult the circumstances we should never stop being ambitious for this great county and the residents of Essex that we serve.

The aims reflected the Members' focus on those larger ambitions that our residents have for themselves – a great education, a good job, a healthy life, a safe community, a stimulating environment to live, work, and enjoy in to old age :

- a. Inclusive economic growth – we believe the only guarantee of long-term well-being is a strong economy from which everyone can benefit.
- b. Helping people get the best start and age well – it is our fundamental duty to protect the most vulnerable and to maximise the opportunities for Essex people, whatever their circumstances, to make the best lives they can for themselves and their families.
- c. Help create great places – we are the guardians of the county for future generations and we will always act responsibly to address the growth needs of our population whilst maintaining the essence of what makes Essex great.
- d. Transform the Council – we know that none of the above can be

achieved if the Council is not constantly pushing itself to be more resourceful and more efficient.

The Council, focussed on those aims, achieved much during the year and the following are a small sample of its achievements:

- Delivered more than 2,750 school places
- Delivered a campaign to promote apprenticeships to employers and young people
- Ensured there is a range of employment support services for people with disabilities, including those with mental health needs
- Influenced the roll out of broadband in Essex to support businesses and invested £5m
- Invested £120m of capital to improve and maintain the roads in Essex
- Been inspected by Ofsted and HMIP who found our Children's Services and Youth Offending Service to be outstanding
- Continued to reduce the number of permanent admissions to residential care
- Driven a truly collaborative approach with NHS partners to health and social care integration to achieve best outcomes for Essex residents.
- With partners, developed, a new Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy with clear objectives around improving outcomes for mental health; obesity; health inequalities; and long-term conditions
- Developed a Green Infrastructure Strategy to take a positive approach to enhance, protect and create an inclusive and integrated network of high quality green spaces and green infrastructure in Greater Essex
- Completed an efficiency review of existing waste infrastructure to ensure it remains fit for purpose and is optimised.
- Worked with district colleagues and counter fraud experts to deliv-

er £700,000 through identifying fraud in Council Tax and Business Rates

- Delivered £5m of receipts through sales of surplus assets which has helped to fund the capital programme and identified £7m more next year
- Delivered £59m savings and through a review of 720 fees and charges across all services, generated an extra £10m over 2 years to 2020/21

The success of some of the achievements was by working closely with partners across the county. This will become more necessary in the coming years.

In February the Council agreed the 2019/2020 budget which totals £939.9m in revenue to continue to deliver quality services to Essex residents, and £249m in the capital programme to fund investments to ensure the long-term financial stability of this council.

The Council has delivered £311m of savings in the last 4 years by improving value and will be making a further £60m of savings and efficiencies in the 2019/20 Budget.

The budget contains an increase in Council tax of 2.99% and 1% for the Adult Social Care Precept. These increases recognising that we are a low tax council, having only increased Council Tax 3 times in the last 9 years and also do this balancing the needs of the taxpayer with the need to provide our vital services and ensure they are on a sustainable footing. Additional funding, for repairs to footpaths /pavements; mental health schemes; prevention of homelessness and rough sleepers; for partnership work to help children at risk of County Lines, was announced. Essex's ambition to be the leading Council in innovation and efficiency is at the heart of its budget proposals and Essex was recently rated in the top ten most productive councils in the country.

Wood Corner Caravan Site - Steve Andrews



Once again, I am happy to report that we still have Danny firmly at the helm as our “live on” manager of the site. This has been a very settled year, in terms of movements on and off site, and I am happy to report that we have had no movements whatsoever.

Through the ECTU outreach team, we have recently started a series of monthly events lead by Sally Lyall, in the community room. These are mainly targeted

at children, but by default, parents also take key information from them. In December, we concentrated on Christmas activities making Reindeer food bags, Christmas decorations etc. January’s

session was around healthy eating including traffic light food labels and healthy portion sizes. Tesco is supporting these events by supplying milk and fruit for those attending.



The **Essex Countywide Traveller Unit (ECTU)** is coming to the end of its 6th year of operation, and will be seeking commitment from our partners to renew the agreement for the next 3 years. We hope that Maldon District Council, and by default Woodham Walter Parish Council will continue to be a partner and benefit from the services of the unit.

Steve Andrews
Essex Countywide Traveller
Unit Manager

Woodham Walter Common—Guided Tour

**Woodham
Walter
Common
Guided
Tour**



**ESSEX
Wildlife Trust**

Woodham Walter Parish Council have arranged for Essex Wildlife Trust representatives to give a Guided Tour to interested parishioners.

Woodham Walter Common is a hidden gem in our village and this opportunity offers a great chance to learn more about the area.

Places are limited so please contact Parish Clerk to find out more information and register to attend.

Saturday 6th April at 9.30am (meeting point tbc)

Email: parishclerk@woodhamwalterpc.org

Woodham Walter Common - Chris Wheadon



PATHS:- All paths remain in reasonable condition despite periods of inclement weather which do adversely affect certain sections that are in regular use by Riders, Cyclists and Walkers. The Bridleway which enters the Common from Spring Elms Lane was temporarily obstructed in August by a very large Hornbeam, this was removed by our Contractors. Overhanging branches are removed if necessary, which is an ongoing process.

BOGS:- The two Bogs on site remain in good condition. They have remained very wet despite the dry Summer. The Sphagnum Moss remains healthy. The regular removal of the invasive bracken by Work Parties has had the desired effect (an ongoing process) I am pleased to report that there has been a substantial increase in the number of the majestic Bucklers Fern in both the Bog areas, and the area between the two Bogs.

HEATHS:-

“New Heath” The Heather is continuing to thrive. The Autumn Work Party in October removed a considerable number of small

invasive Birch saplings (see pictures) .We now have an area which is even more attractive to Butterflies/Moths with much improved Biodiversity.



**Before Clearance (Oct 2018)
Pulling out Invasive Birch
(Oct.2018) Heather after Birch
has been cleared (Oct.2018)**

“Rowan Hollow” This area is now beginning to show its real potential. A considerable amount of work is still being undertaken by Work Parties to clear as much unwanted undergrowth as possible using a combination of hand pulling and Brush Cutters. A very

small number of Rowan Trees have been added to the existing group. In October 2018 we cleared and hand seeded an additional area using Heather Seed collected from New Heath.

HIMALAYAN BALSAM:- I am very pleased to report,as last year, the existence of this invasive species is no longer a major issue on this Reserve. Our Management approach over the past few years has proved very successful. The situation is, of course, still regularly monitored however the odd plant that does remain can now be easily removed by hand.

PROJECTS:-Woodland Management work will take place in the area at the lower perimeter of “The Hollow”.This will involve the removal of some mature trees,including invasive Birch. This work in will obviously have the advantage of preventing further seeding into the Heather area.The work will allow more light onto the ancient veteran trees to help prolong their life. An explanation of what is intended, was given to a very interested group of Woodham Walter Parish Councillors by Neil Bedford, EWT Area Manager, when the Councillors visited The Common for a guided walk with me on the 10th November 2018.

We also intend to organise a Guided Walk of the Common for those interested in the Spring, Saturday 6th April 2019 at 9.30am. Please contact Parish Clerk for details of location.

Chris Wheadon
(Volunteer Warden)



Woodham Walter Primary School - Headteacher

Woodham Walter Primary School welcomes the opportunity to share with you just a few of the wonderful events and happy memories we have of the past year. Thank you to all members of the community who have contributed so positively to our year.

Well Done Woodham Walter

We were really pleased and proud to receive a letter from Clare Kershaw the Director of Education in Essex, earlier this year. She said:
‘I would like to personally congratulate you and your staff on your 2018 summer results. I was very pleased to see that based on the 2018 provisional data the outcomes for your school have improved in KS2 attainment in combined RWM since last year. In addition, there are positive average progress scores in all 3 areas and the progress scores are above the Essex average. We know that achieving high standards and significant improvement with children is very demanding and this is in part due to the hard work of your staff.’

Clare Kershaw Director of Education

An Inspirational Day

An ‘Inspirational day’ was held in aid of the David Randall Foundation. The Foundation was set up in memory of David Randall, who played cricket for Essex. The foundation raise money to provide



“Good Days” for people in Essex with life limiting illnesses and Scholarships to help dedicated young musicians and sports people achieve their goals.

Our children came to school dressed as the person that they aspire to be when they were older. Costumes ranged from famous writers to doctors and hairdressers. An amazing £109.40 was donated to this worthy cause.

Cheerleading Festival



Children in Lion Class took part in a Cheerleading Festival at Plume School and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The afternoon consisted of a variation of

cheerleading skills like practising forward rolls, cartwheels and even stunts. The children also learnt a small section of choreography which they were able to perform as a collective at the end of the session.

Our Class Names

Mrs Dodd set the School Council the challenge of finding new class names for 2018-2019, based around British Values.

The children thought carefully about the different reasons for their choices. They discussed a range of ideas, from musical instruments to capital cities, colours to real and mythical animals from England, Scotland, N. Ireland and Wales. After a democratic decision, they decided on heraldic creatures and the class names for 2018-2019 are:

CLASS 1	UNICORNS
CLASS 2	LIONS
CLASS 3	RED DEER
CLASS 4	DRAGONS

Curriculum Enrichment

Key Stage 2 were lucky enough to go on an amazing trip to the Harry Potter Studios. Here are just some of their responses:

Fergus: “It was very interesting to see how they showed Quidditch and how they did the flying car.”

Heather: “I liked the forbidden forest and the train where they did the green screen and had to cut the things out.”

Sam: “If you don’t like Harry Potter you should go because it will get you into it!”



Open the Book

We are delighted to welcome the “Open the Book” drama group into our school. The group, who are from St. Michael’s Church, visit us regularly, during assembly times. They re-enact stories from the Bible, bringing them to life with actions, costumes and props. Sometimes the pupils take part.

“The stories are really good.” Gracie
“They make we want to read the Bible.” Evie.

“The acting is really good.” Imogen.
“It’s nice they use the children to act it out.” Milo.



Sue Dodd (Headteacher)
01245 223264

www.woodhamwalter.essex.sch.uk

Parent & Teacher Association - Melanie Coates-Jones

Once again a big thank you to all the PTA members for their hard work and enthusiasm and to all other staff, parents and local residents who have supported us this year.

I am delighted to say that the existing officers have continued in post for the coming year, Melanie Coates-Jones continuing as Chair, Tracey Evans as Treasurer and Anita Hiscott as Secretary.

Funds raised by the PTA are used to purchase vital additional resources for the school including:

- New interactive whiteboards
- Laptops and iPads
- Art Resources
- Books
- Subsidised tracksuits
- Subsidised school trips
- Bibles for reception children
- Playground Maintenance

Also, fun treats for the pupils such as an Easter Egg Hunt, and Christmas presents for all.

We have held several fundraising events this year. Movie Nights — The children enjoy a film after



school, with popcorn and drinks. Easter and Christmas fayres,

discos and jumble sales.

Pyjama Day and World Book day have seen everyone (even the teachers) come to school dressed in a variety of attire, paying £1 or bringing in donations for the next event. Other Non-uniform days have been focused around other Charities, such as 'Jeans for Genes Day' and Red Nose Day.

The Christmas Bazaar this year was back in full swing, on the 2nd December with a lovely few hours spent enjoying all things festive. Santa made himself very comfy in the Grotto for the day, and still managed to return to school to see the children and hand out presents before the

Christmas holidays began. In addition the whole school (and a lucky few parent helpers) went to the Civic Theatre to see 'Cinderella'; a fantastic event for all involved.

The parents and teachers supported the Worlds' Biggest Coffee Morning, as they do most years, and there was definitely plenty of cake. This event is open to the public, so please watch out for the adverts next year.



We are planning more events this year, and would love the community to join us, so put a date in your diary for the following:

Jumble Sale Saturday 5th March
at Danbury Village Hall
Summer Fete Celebration on
Saturday 6th July

Woodham Walter Litter Pick



Woodham Walter Parish Council organised the annual village litter pick on Saturday 23rd February.

A group of 20 villagers carried out the annual task. We were lucky with the weather and managed to cover the whole parish.



Together we collected 34 bags of rubbish plus a few hard hats a table tennis table and other general items.

Following up on last year's report - there was a reduction in High Commissioner Whiskey bottles near the stream in Manor Road, down from 40 to 23 and the Leibniz chocolate biscuits seem to have changed into jammy dodgers but again slightly less this year.

Thanks to the team and to everyone who collects litter around the parish.

Friends of St Michael's Church - Brian Cumming



Firstly, a big thank you to all those who have supported 'The Friends' for another year, some financially, some physically and some both. The past year has been another success for us, building on the achievements of the previous 13 years (we started in 2005).

The main activity for us during this year has been the refurbishment of the clock. The church clock is a World War 1 memorial and it seemed very fitting that in the one hundred year anniversary of the end of that war it received the attention that it deserved to see it through the next one hundred years. There are three main elements of the clock and they all needed work.

The first element is the winding mechanism. When it was first installed two sets of heavy weights were employed one to drive the clock mechanism itself and the second to power the striking mechanism to sound the hour. These weights were manually wound on a regular basis and many years ago they were replaced by two electrically powered systems. Last year the original manufacturers of these systems were tracked down and the

'winders' were sent off for servicing. After a bit of a false start they were re-installed and are now working well once again.

The second element is the clock itself and once again the original manufacturers were tracked down and arrangements were made for a specialist service engineer from this company to come to the church to check out the clock and to give it a service. This happened in July and the clock was found to be in very good condition after a hundred years of reliable running.



The third and final element and the most visible is of course the clock face itself. Scaffolding was erected to allow safe access and the clock face was given a fresh coat of black paint and the numerals were treated to a finish of gold leaf. The result looks stunning, especially when lit by bright sunlight and it is a fitting reminder of those lost all that time ago.

This work was funded primarily by the Friends and supported by a special fund created by one of

the Church Wardens. Practical and logistical support was also provided by the Friends. Thanks should also go to the Church Wardens and the church authorities who obtained the necessary authority for this work to be completed ahead of the November anniversary.

Looking forward, there is still plenty to do. Last year the church was given land to the south of the current churchyard; this will require fencing and the land will need some preparation also there is the ongoing issue of damp in the southern foundations of the building. These activities and much more will be supported by the Friends and if you are not already a member I would encourage you to join us to support the upkeep of this important historical village asset.

Brian Cumming
Chairman





Tadpoles Nursery - Pam Seear

Another year has gone by and again lots has happened since our last report.

In the summer term we were busy as always.



In May we celebrated the wedding of Harry and Megan with our own royal tea party, where we ate cakes and dressed as royalty.

We also had fun fundraising for Cystic Fibrosis we wore something yellow and made cakes for our cake stall, faces were painted and we raised over £100 for this very worthy cause!



To celebrate Fathers day we invited Dad's, Grandad's, Uncles in to spend some time with us and share our snack, a good time was had by all.

Also in June we enjoyed our annual Teddy Bears picnic, our raffle and sponsored Teddy bear count helped raise money for more holiday improvements to our outside area. Again we all enjoyed our trip

to Barley lands in July, we made some yummy bread rolls and saw lots of animals as well as going on a tractor ride. We continue to have our walks around the village, to the church, Bell meadow and our allotment, which the children really enjoy, collecting all the seasonal produce. We had great fun painting with blackberries and making rhubarb crumble with rhubarb from our allotment.



Our relationship with the school continues to flourish and again we visited the school and had school dinners with the school children. We also had some P.E. sessions in the school hall led by Mrs Dodd and Mrs Thain

In October due to popular demand we had another Halloween party which was very well attended by old, new and current Tadpoles, lots of spooky costumes and lots of fun games!!

In October we also started out Forest school sessions on Friday mornings led by Mrs Parker-Druce, we have great fun making dens, fishing last time we even make a rope swing.

At Christmas we had our usual party with a visit from Father Christmas and his little Elf helper. We also performed our Nativity in the school hall, with the younger children singing their favourite songs to their friends and family in the Nursery.

We now have school dinners which we collect from Woodham Walter school which the children really enjoy especially the homemade pizza and sausage rolls.

Another very productive year, looking forward to the next one!

If you would like to visit or have any questions please contact Pam on 01245 222046 or the nursery on 01245 222711 or visit our website www.thetadpolesnursery@hotmail.co.uk



Neighbourhood Watch - Brian Cumming



We continue to enjoy a relatively threat free environment and criminal activity in our local community remains low. I receive regular crime reports for the Maldon area and typically there are around twenty criminal activities reported on a weekly basis (there will be other incidents that do not feature on this list as it is not in the public interest to publish this information). Woodham Walter occurs in these lists on average once a month, clearly illustrating the relatively safe nature of our local area.

That said however, we are not crime free and we need to remain alert to potential problems. A quick survey indicates that, during the year, we have suffered seven instances of burglary or attempted burglary with associated stolen property, two cases of theft, two instances of hare coursing and

associated crop damage and one case of malicious damage. As I have reported many times the biggest threats to our community come from the internet and telephone, with criminals attempting to gain access to banking detail and trying to trick people into parting with their money. The latest scam that I am currently plagued with is a recorded message telling me that my internet connection is about to be terminated. The message then invites me to press a number key to be transferred to a representative (read thief) who will help me resolve the problem. This is quite clever in a way since those responsible are not having to pay someone to make the call, by following their advice and pressing the number key you are identifying yourself as a potential target and, finally, you will almost certainly be connected to a premium rate phone line.

Keep your computer security up-to-date and **never** give private information to a stranger, whatever they may be claiming. Your computer is not about to explode, the police don't want you to transfer money to a new account, you haven't won the lottery in

some far flung place and you don't have a long lost uncle in Nigeria who is an exiled prince – trust me!

A good way to keep in touch with local news is through Essex Community Messaging. By signing up to this free service through

www.essexcommunitymessaging.org

you can choose to receive email, text or voice messages from the local police, enabling you to be aware of any current issues that are affecting the area.

As always please keep your eyes open for suspicious activity and if you think that a crime is underway make a note of descriptions and vehicle numbers (take a photo if possible) and ring the police using 999. Other non-urgent information can be fed to the police via

www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/

or by calling 101 (although I believe this can result in a long wait!)

Brian Cumming

Woodham Walter Parish Council - Party Tents for Hire

Party Tents For Hire

8m x 4m White

Party Tents

£50 for one £75 for two

For bookings contact

Parish Clerk: Jacky Bannerman

01245 222595 (Mon-Fri before 6pm)

parishclerk@woodhamwalterpc.org



Income from the party tents forms an important part of Parish Council funding. Last year we raised £800 in hiring income.

Community Protection Team - Adrian Rayner

It has been a successful year for the CPT working in Woodham Walter we have carried out several **Trucam**

30

patrols which has resulted in over sixty prosecutions for speeding.

We have built up some great

relationships with employees from the local primary school who are eternally grateful for the work we carry out there. We have issued some penalty charge notices to several drivers this year.

An area where I would like to see an improvement is based around communication, we have managed to sign up fifteen members to our Park Watch Scheme, which is where members of the public become our eyes and ears and report any vandalism or anti – social behaviour which includes drug dealing, graffiti, dog fouling and broken glass that they witness. Unfortunately we rarely get intelligence on any of these matters. We have however received information in other parts of the Maldon District this has resulted in some fantastic results. The team has a very flexible approach and will act on any information whatever the time is.

We are currently going through a massive restructure at Maldon District Council but I know one of the things being considered in the future is the use of social media to gain intelligence; if this is used properly it could make a dramatic improvement on the results we achieve throughout the Maldon District. Another change that will be implemented will be improved technology which will enable us to complete the vast majority of our tasks whilst out in the field cutting down the time spent in the office.

Below is a brief summary of some of the incidents that have been dealt with:

Total no of incidents reported = 31

Fly tipping 26

Fly tipping containing hazardous waste ie Asbestos 3

Abandoned vehicles 1

Litter reports 1

4th April 2018: Fly tipping incident Little London Lane.

On the 4th April we received a report of a bathroom suite toilet basin etc. found dumped on the roadside, on clearing the waste our contractor found some evidence within the waste relating to an individual in London.

An investigation found that this waste had been removed from a flat in London and then dumped illegally on the roadside, the resident wasn't aware of who had removed the waste so therefore she was held responsible for failing to dispose of her waste correctly using an authorised and licenced contractor, she agreed to a fixed penalty fine of £300 which was paid meaning that the case would not need to be dealt with in court..

This case highlights firstly the need for any one disposing of their household rubbish that this needs to be done correctly either by taking the waste to your local household waste and recycling centre or by disposing of it via an appropriate person or company that is a licenced waste carrier, legally they should give you written proof of where the waste is being disposed at as well as their details. If an individual is hesitant in giving these types of details out freely then they are best to be avoided otherwise if waste is found fly tipped

and then traced back to where it came from the resident can be held responsible..

Fly tipped asbestos waste.

3 incidents of this type were reported and dealt with inside of your parish, unfortunately no evidence was available or found, the average cost of clearing these types of incident is approx. £350 per incident.

Abandoned Vehicles

2 vehicles were reported and found to have been abandoned within the parish, the council has powers to remove and dispose of any vehicle found to have been abandoned on any land in the open air, the two incidents consisted of 1 car and an abandoned caravan dumped in Curling Tye Lane, caravans are potentially a serious fire hazard hence we try to achieve removal within 24 hrs of report. Sadly no evidence was found on either occasion..

Litter Enforcement

The council was recently passed some evidence consisting of discarded McDonald's packaging, inside was a receipt. We have an arrangement where information can be exchanged between us and McDonald's, we get CCTV footage of the vehicle making the purchase at the drive thru, we then pursue the registered keeper using the number plate details.

The food on this occasion was purchased by someone driving a lease vehicle so we have contacted the lease company to ascertain who was in control of the vehicle when the purchase was made on the 10.01.19 from Maldon. Following a statement received back from the lease company we are now pursuing a gentleman from Little Baddow.

Adrian Rayner

Community Protection Team Leader

01621 852475 / 07771 935330

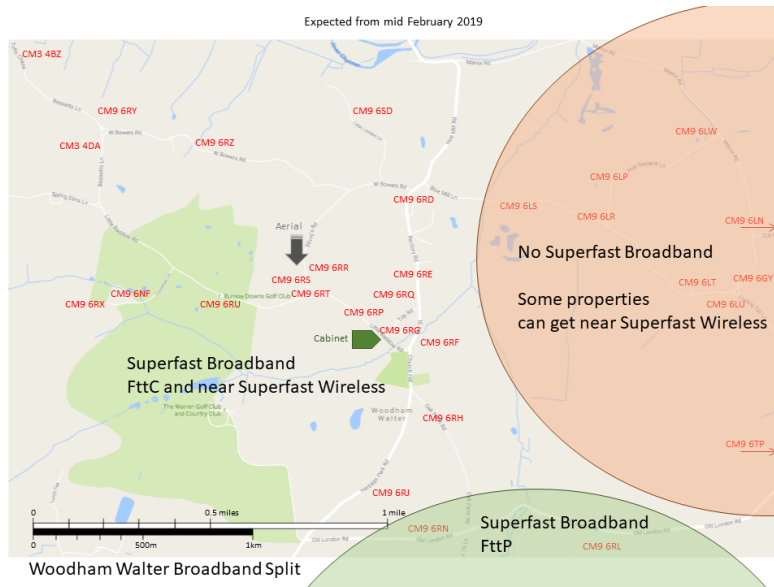
adrian.rayner@maldon.gov.uk



Broadband—Councillor John Brown

IMPORTANT NOTE

Your broadband will NOT improve unless you pay for the faster service.



Over the last few weeks, there has been lots of work taking place in the village to connect Woodham Walter to Superfast Broadband.

We are pleased to let you know that many residents have already been able to place orders. This includes residents along Old London Road, Oak Farm Road, The Street, Rectory Road, Mead Pastures, Little Baddow Road and Little London Lane. We have also seen the cables along Spring Elms Lane, Bassetts Lane and West Bowers Road areas.

Several residents are reporting download speeds of over 60Mbps.

Locations

Different parts of the village have access to different technologies and a few isolated cases, unfortunately, may still have no fast Internet connection.

Most properties with a Chelmsford phone number will be able to order fibre broadband, now or in the near future.

Those on the Maldon exchange, Blue Mill Lane, Curling Tye, Manor Road, etc., are unlikely to get a fibre solution any time soon however, a number of those are able to order a, near Superfast, wireless solution from EssexWiFi.

You can check if fibre is available to your home at the following web site:

<https://www.homeandbusiness.openreach.co.uk/fibre-broadband/when-can-i-get-fibre>

The Parish Council will continue to push for improvements in those areas where it is still not possible get a good broadband service.

Ordering

You can order your fibre broadband from ANY provider. Each offer different prices, packages and incentives however, the underlying broadband infrastructure is the same.

Typically, you order broadband based on the maximum bandwidth you want to use.

Individuals are likely to be happy with a bandwidth of 10Mbps for general web browsing and between 20Mbps and 30Mbps for video streaming and online gaming. Even the lowest cost Fibre packages are fast enough. Most families will probably benefit from 30Mbps and above.

Additional Information

The council have put together a short guide, please email john.brown@woodhamwalterpc.org to request a copy. Feel free to ask any other broadband related questions you may have.



Community Defibrillator Project



Church Led, Community Defibrillator Project

In last year's report and at the annual Parish Meeting you will have read and heard about the Church led, public access community project to provide a defibrillator for use within the village.

It is a pleasure to now report that the fund raising was very successful with a talk given by Maldon Historian, Stephen Nunn and donations received from the Bell Meadow Association, villagers and other local organisations. This has now allowed the purchase of an automated external defibrillator (AED) together with all the associated kit from the British Heart Foundation. The equipment was received during the autumn of 2018. The Parish Council had purchased the village telephone box earlier in the year but it was not until the

very end of the year that the telephony equipment was removed so full possession was not possible until then.

At the time of writing we are now in a position where a community volunteer force will be refurbishing the structure both inside and out and fitting the special cabinet in which the AED will be kept allowing ready access. This will be a community asset so it is hoped that the kiosk and the AED will be treated with respect especially as it might save a life. The AED is exactly what it says on the box, automatic and straightforward to use; it provides a running commentary of what it is doing and what the operator should do, so operators are directed at all times. It is designed to be as error-proof as possible.

Meanwhile, a task force of operators are being brought together by Gill Orford and the first training session is to be held on March 9th 2019 in the village. It is hoped that a substantial number of the village community will come forward and become trained on the use of the AED and in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), as both are interlinked and really important life skills. If you wish to be included in the training, contact Gill on 01245 226721.

As for the future, it is hoped that with further fund raising, similar units can be purchased

and deployed in other areas of the parish with local trained operators. If you wish to volunteer and or donate towards additional units the Churchwardens, Paul Clark or Michael Bradbrook, or the Parish Council link, John Tompkins, would be pleased to hear from you.

It is hoped that the AED will never have to be used but with it, the chances of patient survival will be improved.

Help Save a Life



Woodham Walter Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mrs Jacky Bannerman
 Burnt House, Burnt House Road, Woodham Walter CM9 6RS
 Phone: 01245 222595 (Monday-Friday, Before 6pm)
 E-mail: parishclerk@woodhamwalterpc.org
 Woodham Walter Parish Council website is:
www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc

Here you can find information about the Parish Council, agendas, minutes and other village information.



Who's Who and What They Do

Parish Councillors

John Tompkins - Chairman & VDS, Play-ground & Defibrillator

Jenny Hughes - Vice Chairman & Bell Meadow Village Association

John Brown— Parish Councillor & Broadband

James Bunn - Parish Councillor

James Rushton - Parish Councillor & Allotment Association

Joanna Symons - Parish Councillor & Primary School Community Governor & Play-ground Working Group

Peter Warren - Parish Councillor, Footpath & Tree Officer

Parish Councillors can be contacted via the parish clerk or by email

Firstname.lastname@woodhamwalterpc.org

Parish Council Meetings

Woodham Walter Parish Council meets at 8pm on the second Monday of the month, usually at the Women's Club room, Top Road. Members of the public are very welcome to attend and can address the council on agenda items or any issues relevant to Woodham Walter. The agenda for the meeting is displayed on the notice board outside the former shop and on the website during the week preceding the meeting.

Diary Dates 2019/2020

Thursday 14 March 2019 8pm (APM—VH)
 Monday 18 March 2019 8pm (Please note-3rd Monday)
 Monday 8 April 2019 8pm
 Monday 13 May 2019 8pm (AGM)
 Monday 10 June 2019 8pm
 Monday 8 July 2019 8pm
 August—we only meet if there is urgent business or a planning application to consider—see noticeboard or website.
 Monday 9 September 2019 8pm
 Monday 14 October 2019 8pm
 Monday 11 November 2019 8pm
 Monday 9 December 2019 8pm
 Monday 13 January 2020 8pm
 Monday 10th February 2020 8pm
 Monday 9th March 2020 8pm



Keeping in touch

Woodham Walter Parish Council works hard to keep the community informed of issues and information which affects residents.

As well as this annual printed report and our Annual Parish Meeting (Thursday 14th March at 8pm in WW Village Hall) we include notes from our meetings in the monthly parish magazine. All our Parish Council meetings are open

to the public and you are warmly invited to attend (details above). Full copies of the minutes are available from our clerk and on our website. www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc

As well as this we provide information on the noticeboard opposite the Queen Vic and there is lots of other information on our website.

Our clerk sends out an email with any particular news which is relevant to the village. To be included on the group village email for such information just visit our website and use the sign up form or send our clerk your email address: parishclerk@woodhamwalterpc.org