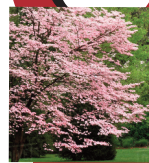


DANBURY



SUMMER 2019

TIMES



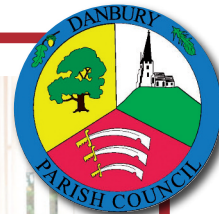
No. 52



Max Telling's retirement - see page 3



Robin Dickens - 25 years - see page 3



Photography Competition

Are you a keen photographer with a passion for the great Danbury outdoors?

The Parish Council would like to run an independently judged photography competition over the course of the summer. There are three categories of entries – a) ages 11 years and under, b) ages 12-16 and c) ages 17 and above. The theme is “Summer Nature in Danbury”.

Digital photographs can be submitted to parish.council@danbury-essex.co.uk. Alternatively, hard copies (6 x 4 inches) can be posted or delivered in person to the DPC Office. Please remember to include your name, phone number or email address, the category of entry, and, if possible, the date and location the photo was taken. There are no limits on the number of photos you can enter, but please be aware that they cannot be returned and will remain the property of the Council at all times and may be used in future publicity.

The best judged photo in each category will be published in the next edition of the Danbury Times, and each winner will receive a commemorative framed copy of their winning photograph.

Closing date for all entries is Monday 16 September. Good luck!

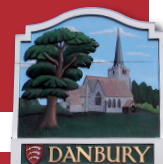
Sorry – Councillors, Council Staff and their families are not eligible to enter.

ESSEX LIBRARIES – STOP PRESS

On July 9th, after considering the consultation responses,
Essex County Council decided that

NO ESSEX LIBRARIES WILL CLOSE.

We will publicise further details as they become available.



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ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

John Alexander

Planning

Roger Cole-Jones
Danbury Society

Planning

PARISH COUNCIL STAFF

Michelle Harper

Parish Clerk

Maria Dyer

Assistant Clerk

Lesley Mitchelmore

Assistant Clerk.
Neighbourhood
Plan Co-ordinator

Robin Dickens

Groundsman

Parish Council Elections

In May the current councillors were returned unopposed., with the exceptions of John Steele who left the Council earlier in the year for personal reasons, and Max Telling who retired after 12 years' service (see later article).

It was disappointing that there were no more village volunteers to join the council, particularly from younger residents. With only 11 councillors now and so many projects to cover we are hard put to manage. It is a rewarding way to contribute to village life and the amount of time members volunteer varies. PLEASE look at the advert on page 3 and come to the office to find out more.

NORMAL PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Monday to Friday 9.15 am to 1 pm.

The Old School House, Main Road,
Danbury, Essex CM3 4NQ

Tel: 01245 225111

E-mail: parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk

Website: www.danbury-essex.gov.uk

Like us on Facebook 

THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

On Friday 21st June Council held a double celebration lunch in the meeting room to say 'thank you' to:-

Max Telling

Max had been a council member since 2001 and decided to retire at the last elections held in May. He had served the majority of his time on the Facilities Committee and in particular as Chairman of Planning. We welcomed five current and previous Clerks who had also worked with him as well as Parish Councillors.

As is customary for members who have served for more than 10 years Max was presented with an engraved pint mug for him to remember us by, and a bouquet was presented to his wife Rita.

**Thank you Max – you will be missed
– enjoy retirement and a pint**

Robin Dickens

Our second celebration was to recognise and say 'thank you' to Robin our dedicated and hardworking groundsman who completed 25 years' service to the council, the village and its clubs, organisations and residents in May.

We also welcomed some of the clerks that Robin had worked with during his 25 years, plus a number of current and previous members who had chaired or been members the Facilities Committee and kept him busy with projects etc. His knowledge, skills and experience have been invaluable to all of us, his cheery 'Good Morning' to car park users and walkers will be greatly missed.

During this part of the celebration I was able to formally announce that Robin has decided to retire from around the end of July and a move to Suffolk is in the pipeline.

It gave me great pleasure to present Robin with suitably engraved watch (on which his wife Margaret gave us advice) on behalf of the council and the village to remember us by.

We also presented Margaret with a bouquet

Thank you Robin – you will be missed – enjoy Suffolk – no need to watch the clock! Dan Chesterman

Annual Parish Meeting

On 20th May at 8pm Parish Council held this meeting in the Sports and Social Centre. There were over 12 stalls by village organisations. About 70 members of the public attended with all your Parish Councillors plus the 3 clerks, City Councillors Bob Shepherd and Richard Ambor, and Essex County Councillor John Spence.

The speakers were Dr. Gogarty ECC Director of Public Health and Communities and his colleague Kirsty O'Callaghan who spoke on reducing social isolation and the services available. Access to these is by telephone 0300 303 9988 or by e-mail: livewell.linkwell@nhs.net. This coincides with Parish Council's setting up of the Health and Wellbeing Committee – see page 7.

Sue Dobson, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group gave an update on where the plan is at present. This speech is given in full on page 6-7.

GEMCO also gave a presentation regarding the Land Slippage.

There were few questions and the meeting closed at 9.27pm.

Work Parties

If you are interested in our trees and public footpaths would you be willing to give a little of your time to helping maintain them? We need help cutting across main ivy stems on trees on public land, mulching round trees, clearing overgrown vegetation from the footpaths and replacing way marker posts.

Details from the Parish Office – contacts on page 2.

DANBURY NEEDS YOU!!



Are you interested in local issues?

**Do you want to be involved in making decisions
about Danbury?**

**If the answer is yes, you could become a Parish
Councillor and help improve the quality of life in
your community.**

If you would like to find out more about becoming a Councillor, please contact the Clerk on 01245 225111 or email parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Each year the Parish Council works with Danbury Park and St John's Schools to give pupils (normally Years 5 and 6) an insight into the work of the Council and participate in activities related to local issues and environment.

This year Councillors April Chapman and Barbara Hallett began each session with a short PowerPoint presentation about the Council and its responsibilities and answered questions that the pupils had prepared. The focus for the remainder of the session was trees.

Pupils worked in pairs to think about why trees are important and were very knowledgeable especially about how trees help to improve the environment. Parish Council is supporting the Tree Charter; if the pupils wished they could put their names on to a leaf and stick on a tree poster to give their support.

The group activity was to plan a small housing development on land containing trees and hedges. Pupils thought about whether these would remain and planned tree, hedge and wildflower planting to ensure the development blended with its surroundings, thinking about reducing, for example, pollution and noise and providing habitats for wildlife.

Danbury Parish Council Visit to Danbury Park Primary School

On Thursday 6th June, all Year 5s in Class Budgerigar were taught by the Parish Council. If you don't know already, the Danbury Parish Council (DPC for short) are a group of people (up to 15 at most), who are residents of Danbury. They know about the area and do their best to make Danbury look like what others would like it to look like in the future. Not only that, they also look after the environment, making sure that trees, nature and wildlife are preserved. The DPC have other jobs too, like say there were a block of flats or houses needing to be built, they would make sure it is all as environmentally friendly as possible.

There were different tasks to do throughout the morning, until 11:45. The first task was reading a section of a magazine. The author was Mrs Anstee and she had written about an old tree with a disease and how she loved it, yet still felt sad with the thought of it dying. Once the Parish Council had entered the room, they showed us a timeline of the morning. Straight after, they went into telling us who they were and what they did. The councillors were: Mrs Hallett (member of environment and community engagement) and Mrs Chapman, who is a vice chairperson (someone who judges whether or not everyone is listening to each other and interpreting the different ideas). Mrs Chapman and Mrs Hallett were two of the 11 councillors voted for by the public to look after our village.

They then, one at a time, explained some more about their jobs or colleagues. They told us all about the important values of the committees, which were:

- Resources - to manage the money for projects, to pay people and buy things.
- Facilities - to make sure everything is safe, secure and clean.

- Environment - keeping a clean, healthy village full of trees and other safe plants. Making sure the roads don't have any dangers or traffic problems.
- Planning - to make sure, whilst building, that the wildlife is still considered as it is all valuable in many different ways.
- Community Engagement - to involve the community in discussions for the future.

The DPC have a symbol which is split into thirds, each with a meaningful picture inside: a tree, St John's Church and the Essex symbol (three swords).

Next, they showed us a form you could sign to show that you appreciate trees. For children, to say that you want to protect trees, there was a tree with no leaves and on a leaf you would put your name and stick it on the tree.

Now it was 10:45 and we were given an A3 piece of paper with a picture of a bird's eye view onto some countryside. We had to add different houses to the site, whilst thinking about the nature background.

- A block of flats
- Three detached houses
- Two terraces
- A green communal space
- Entrances and exits to the roads

We think the Danbury Parish Council have a wonderful job. I believe they have helped Danbury in many ways. I really enjoyed learning about the different roles and responsibilities that the council has and I am looking forward to seeing what else we can learn about our local area.

Thank you Danbury Parish Council.

A class pupil

TREES

Parish Council is currently working out ways to encourage people to care for and value our trees more than they already do.



We are so lucky that Danbury has so many trees; the view from the church tower shows a sea of green.

We would like people to sign the TREE CHARTER (easy to find via Google) - to show support for the 10 principles:

- Sustain landscapes rich in wildlife Plant for the future
- Celebrate the power of trees to inspire Grow forests of opportunity and invention
- Protect irreplaceable trees and woods Plan greener local landscapes
- Recover health, hope and well-being with the help of trees
- Make trees accessible to all
- Combat the threats to our habitats
- Strengthen our landscapes with trees

As part of this at the same time as the Play in the Park sessions, at the Northern edge of the field there will be an

opportunity to dress a tree.

Children could bring a crocheted flower, knitted square, plaited ribbons or bring anything to decorate the Norway maple there. They could also add a leaf with their first name or initials and the date to the tree chart already begun by the schools (see another article page 5).

There will also be a woodland walk led by one of our footpath officers on Sunday August 18th of approximately 3 to 4 miles, starting at 10.30am in the Sports Centre top car park. The walk will last 1.5 to 2 hours and would be classed as easy to moderate.

We need to know numbers so please book first by phoning the Parish office. Children (under 18) must be accompanied by an adult parent/guardian.

Both events are to be repeated in winter on Tree Charter Day which this year is Saturday 23rd November. Watch the Parish Council website for details.

PLAY IN THE PARK

Parish Council has booked with Chelmsford City Sports 3 days for the Play in the Park activities this year:

Thursday August 8th

Tuesday August 13th

Friday August 30th

As usual all sessions have inflatables, sports and games suitable for children aged 3 to 11 years.

From 10am to noon.

- * Children under 6 must be supervised by an adult parent/guardian throughout the whole session (maximum 3 children per adult)
- * 6 to 8 year olds must be dropped off and picked up by an adult (password will be required)
- * Children over 8 can come and go without an adult, but must provide any relevant medical information and emergency contact
- * Skip registration queues: pre-register your child's details on-line. **PRE-REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL FOR CHILDREN ARRIVING ALONE** at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/play
- * Children should wear suitable clothing for playing games and be prepared for any weather.

They will need to bring a drink.

For information please visit:
playinthepark@chelmsford.gov.uk

01245 606684

www.facebook.com/playchelmsford

DAN CHESTERMAN

I've lived in Danbury now for a few years and from the outset found that the community in Danbury is a great one. I was warmly welcomed by everyone - from the pre-school to the local shops and, as I walked my dog, by passers-by saying a cheery "Morning!"

My life is pleasantly busy with being a dad of two, a husband, and the Chairperson of my local Residents' Association. I really enjoy being in the outdoors - exploring areas I visit using my trusty OS phone app, rowing on the Navigation or gardening.

I have a wide range of professional community project experience within the public sector and I'm looking forward to putting this to good use as a Parish Councillor.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT BY SUE DOBSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING GROUP

First of all, a big thank you to all who completed the Questionnaire last September. The results provided the Steering Group with valuable information for us to continue our work to prepare a draft Neighbourhood Plan.

The Steering Group are a group working on your behalf to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan. Current members in alphabetical order are Steve Arthurs, Elly Bunn, April Chapman, Judith Clacy, Irene Guidotti, Mandy Hessing, Stephen Holland, Martin Lister, Gilly Lutton, Mark Schofield and me. We are ably supported by our co-ordinator, Lesley Mitchelmore.

So, what have we been doing? In December we held an exhibition summarising the results of the Questionnaire and answering your questions. We have formed two teams: Sites Selection and Plan Writing.

Sites Selection: this team must evaluate each site to provide a direct comparison of the good and bad points. Over 30 criteria have been used in this assessment. A common methodology was developed to ensure:

- Each site is treated equally
- It will remove any personal preferences
- It will ensure consistency of method and results
- All group members are familiar with the sites and decisions so we can explain the results of our findings to residents in an understandable way
- Provide the necessary evidence to rebut any challenge of unfair assessment.

We have to consult with Natural England, Historic England, the Environment Agency, Essex Highways, Essex Minerals, the Council's Heritage and Conservation Officer and neighbouring parish and town councils to name just a few.

We have been very fortunate to receive free technical assistance from AECOM, a company appointed via Government to assist Neighbourhood Plan Groups where they must select sites for housing. This is an independent assessment of the sites intended to aid the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. We have seen a draft report and it is pleasing that the AECOM findings are in line with the Site Assessment we have undertaken above.

The next stage is to consider the views of the village from the Questionnaire. With these views and the information above we will develop a short-list of suitable sites and provisionally allocate housing to these selected sites with help from the Parish Council and Chelmsford City Council where necessary; only then can we discuss our findings with the relevant Landowner/Developer.

There is a further piece of essential work to undertake – a Strategic Environmental Assessment which Chelmsford City Council have concluded will be required. It will determine the likely scale and significance of environmental impacts of the proposed policies and plans set out in the draft Plan.

This is often carried out once the Plan has been drafted, but we are commissioning AECOM to start it now (again it's free) as it will give us the benefit of their findings which will help with the site allocation.

Plan Writing: this team are drafting the Neighbourhood Plan, the Vision and Objectives and Policies for Danbury. They are working on a draft of the plan, pulling together results from the questionnaires and additional research to formulate and justify policies, and create an introduction to the plan that will provide the reader with a flavour of Danbury, its unique features and the background and context to the Neighbourhood Plan. We hope the draft Plan will be available to you all later in the year.

Neighbourhood Plan Report (continued)

Next Steps: the process to complete the Plan is specified in legislation. Once the draft Plan is complete and we have agreed the content with the Parish Council, the following steps are required:

- Formal Consultation with residents on the draft Plan which lasts 6 weeks
- Analyse all consultation comments and revise the draft Plan in conjunction with the Parish Council
- As the Qualifying Body, the Parish Council will submit the draft Plan to Chelmsford City Council. Chelmsford will carry out a final check to ensure that the Plan complies with legal requirements

- CCC formally publishes the draft Plan – this is a minimum 25 working days
- Next is an Independent Examination to evaluate the Plan to ensure it meets all statutory obligations; if it does, a Referendum will take place where a simple majority in favour of the Plan is enough to take it through to adoption as Planning Policy by Chelmsford City Council.

As you can see, a tremendous amount of work has already been done but there is still much to do to complete the process which I said at the start – **WE ARE DOING THIS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESIDENTS OF DANBURY.**

Danbury Sports & Social Centre

Danbury Monthly Market

On Saturday 6th April the Mayor of Chelmsford opened the new Danbury Market in the Sports and Social Centre. It was a huge success with more than 400 customers attending. We have over 20 stalls with quality products available. These include Jamie's fruit & veg, Kelly Turkeys with their award-winning turkey & beef; Wicks Manor pork sausages; Flamingo Paperie cards; Eggs; Blossom Hill florist; Snugglebums Bunting & Blankets; Cheese; Mighty Oak Brewery; Chutneys; Candles; Dan Hull prepared food; Sugar Lump Lane cakes; a Norwegian bakery; Vegetarian meals; Photography; Smoked fish; Wooden items & Hand crafted Silver jewellery.

Subsequent markets have also been very busy and with many and varied stalls.

Support your local monthly market on the 1st Saturday of each month between 9:30 and 12:30.

Fitness Centre – we have a fantastic promotion for new annual gym memberships and renewals. If you pay your fee by August 31st in a lump sum you will receive 15 months membership – 3 months FREE.



The Mayor of Chelmsford, Yvonne Spence, with on her right her consort, Councillor John Spence, and on her left the General Manager of the Sports and Social Centre, Adrian Owers.



The newly-formed Health and Wellbeing Committee of Danbury Parish Council took the initiative to arrange a Dementia Friends training session in June, led by Mark Neville, Essex Dementia Friendly Communities Coordinator for the Alzheimer's Society. The presentation began by dispelling myths and highlighting key facts about dementia and later provided perceptive, well received analogies all in layman's terms to develop everybody's understanding of this disease. We were delighted that the feedback from this

Developing a Dementia Friendly Community

well attended, informative and interactive session was all extremely positive:

"Thought provoking and helpful when communicating with those living with dementia."

"We were really impressed with how informative the evening had been. We learnt a lot. In our hair salon, we do notice changes in our clients and we try to be as supportive to them and their families, so this evening has been a great help. Proud we are a dementia friendly salon."

"Very informative evening with an engaging speaker. It was a comfort to be amongst those with similar experiences. I thoroughly recommend!"

During the evening, we raised £90 for the Alzheimer's Society through a well-supported raffle. The Parish Council would like to extend their thanks to all those who attended and the following local businesses who generously donated raffle prizes: The Co-operative; Tesco Danbury Express; Bakers Funeral Services; Natural Beauty by Chantal; and Jamie's Fruit and Veg, Bicknacre.

It is the Health and Wellbeing Committee's hope that, through training and social events, we can continue to collaborate with local residents, organisations and businesses to support people whose lives are affected by dementia, their dedicated carers and others to live as well as they possibly can.

DATES OF MEETINGS

JULY

Mon	22nd	<i>Environment</i>
Wed	24th	<i>Resources</i>
Mon	29th	<i>Planning</i>
Weds	31st	<i>Parish Council</i>

SEPTEMBER

Mon	2nd	<i>Planning</i>
Wed	11th	<i>Facilities</i>
Mon	16th	<i>Environment</i>
Wed	18th	<i>Resources</i>
Mon	23rd	<i>Planning</i>
Weds	25th	<i>Parish Council</i>

OCTOBER

Mon	14th	<i>Planning</i>
Wed	23rd	<i>Resources</i>

NOVEMBER

Mon	4th	<i>Planning</i>
Thurs	7th	<i>Facilities</i>
		<i>Budget</i>
Weds	13th	<i>Facilities</i>
Mon	18th	<i>Environment</i>
Wed	20th	<i>Resources</i>
Mon	25th	<i>Planning</i>
Weds	27th	<i>Parish Council</i>

All meetings begin at 7.30pm

What is the Point of Speedwatch?

It isn't to catch speeding drivers.

Not really.

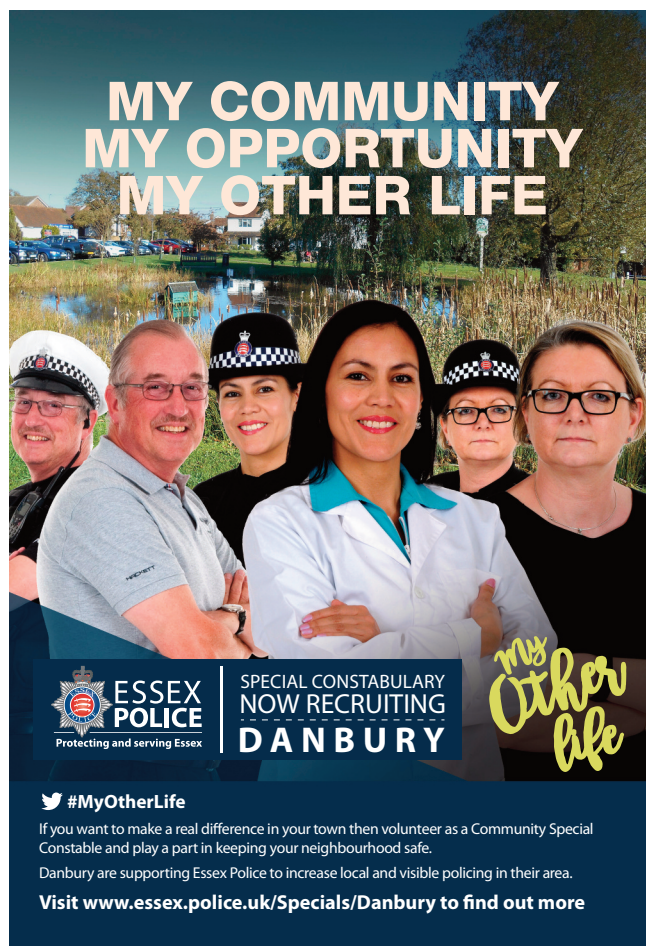
It is to remind drivers that there is a speed limit.

It is amazing how many drivers put on their brakes when they see the high viz and signs, even if they are within the limit. As the adverts say - 'speed kills' - and injuries are much worse at speed.

Do you think it is a useful scheme? On each session some people often stop and say, "Well done and thank you".

There are just 3 people on the Danbury Community Speedwatch team - a resident who actually started the scheme 5 years ago, and 2 councillors. This is not enough to make it work in the long term. Little Baddow has at least 11 volunteers. Despite adverts and requests no-one else in our village of 6000+ people seems to think it worth while joining.

It could take as little as 2 x 2 hour sessions a month to make a difference. Unless there are more volunteers the scheme will end this Autumn.



**MY COMMUNITY
MY OPPORTUNITY
MY OTHER LIFE**

ESSEX POLICE
Protecting and serving Essex

**SPECIAL CONSTABULARY
NOW RECRUITING
DANBURY**

#MyOtherLife

If you want to make a real difference in your town then volunteer as a Community Special Constable and play a part in keeping your neighbourhood safe. Danbury are supporting Essex Police to increase local and visible policing in their area. Visit www.essex.police.uk/Specials/Danbury to find out more

Space Chase – The Summer Reading Challenge 2019 in Essex Libraries

Saturday 20 July – Monday 2 September

The Summer Reading Challenge this year is out of this world as it's inspired by the 50th anniversary of the moon landings.

Children aged 3-12 will be challenged to read 6 books to earn cool space themed stickers and if they complete the challenge a certificate and medal. With a specially designed activity for the 0-3 there's intergalactic fun for all the family over the summer holidays. Find out more about how to take part on our website danburylibrary.org

Can you help?

Essex Libraries are looking for volunteers aged 14 or over to help children with this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Volunteers will join children to the challenge, talk to them about their books and hand out stickers and rewards. It's fun and great for CVs! Find out more on our website danburylibrary.org

The national Summer Reading Challenge is created by The Reading Agency and delivered by libraries.