



DATES OF MEETINGS
2013

JANUARY

Mon 14th	8pm	Planning
Wed 5th	8pm	Facilities
Mon 21st	8pm	Environment
Wed 23rd	8pm	Resources
Wed 30th	7.45pm	Parish Council

FEBRUARY

Mon 4th	8pm	Planning
Mon 25th	8pm	Planning
Wed 27th	8pm	Resources

MARCH

Mon 11th	8pm	Environment
Wed 13th	8pm	Facilities
Mon 18th	8pm	Planning
Wed 20th	8pm	Resources
Wed 27th	7.45pm	Parish Council

EASTER 29th March – 1st April

APRIL

Wed 17th *Annual Parish meeting*

NEW VICAR FOR ST. JOHN BAPTIST

Danbury Parish Council would like to welcome Clive Ashley as the Vicar. There will be a Service of Installation taken by the Bishop of Bradwell on January 31st, and Mr. Ashley will take services from 1st February.

DANBURY SPORTS AND SOCIAL CENTRE

DECEMBER

Saturday 1st 9.00-12.30pm
Farmers Market and Parish Council Surgery

Friday 7th 8.00-9.30pm
Christmas Carol Concert with Hadleigh Temple Salvation Army Band - all proceeds to Ehler Danlos Syndrome

Saturday 8th 8pm-midnight
Winter Ball with Cabaret and hot buffet with the Strictly Ballroom Dance Band

Tuesday 11th 9.30-12.30pm
Ladies Shopping Morning

JANUARY

Saturday 12th 8.00-11.00pm
Ballroom Practice Night

FEBRUARY

Saturday 2nd 9.00-12.30pm
Farmers Market and Parish Council Surgery

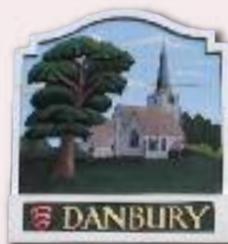
Saturday 9th 8.00-11.00pm
Ballroom Practice Night

MARCH

Saturday 2nd 9.00-12.30pm
Farmers Market and Parish Council Surgery

Saturday 9th 8.00-11.00pm
Ballroom Practice Night

For more details telephone 10245 224515
www.danburysportscentre.co.uk



CAROLS ROUND THE TREE

Come and sing carols round the Christmas tree at Eves Corner on Wed, 19th Dec. at 7pm, organised this year by the joint churches.

Refreshments provided by the United Reform Church in their hall afterwards.



'GIVE IT BACK MAK'

At Danbury Mission, 8th December, 7-8pm, by Riding Lights Theatre Company. A Christmas show for 5 year olds and above, with hilarity, puppets and inventive re-telling of the nativity story. Call 01245 227428 or e-mail info@danburymission.org.uk

DANBURY

WINTER 2012

TIMES

No. 32



Danbury Parish Council wishes all residents a happy, healthy and prosperous Christmas and New Year.



STREET LIGHTING IN CHELMSFORD

Essex County Council (ECC) has informed the Parish Council of plans to modernise the ECC owned street lights throughout the county. ECC are proposing a new system which turns specific lights off between midnight and 5am. ECC report that benefits include:

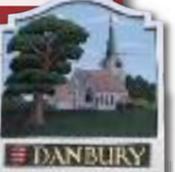
- Significant reduced energy consumption
- Significant reduction in light pollution, 'sky glow', across Essex
- A more responsive service e.g. lights could be programmed to stay on later on New Year's Eve or other key events during the year
- Improved management of all ECC street lights; the CMS monitors for faults, allowing improved response to maintenance requirements
- Greater accuracy of lights turning on/off in relation to natural light levels

ECC reported that during the pilots in 2011 in Maldon and Uttlesford Districts there were no adverse reports of significant increases in crime statistics or road collisions. The number of offences occurring between 11.30pm and 5.30am actually dropped by 14% in Maldon and by 12.6% in Uttlesford.

ECC anticipate that the scheme will make significant savings for the county. The pilot in Maldon and Uttlesford has already saved in the region of £70,000 in the first year.

Although the consultation ends on 30th November, if you wish to contact ECC the website is: partnightlighting@essexhighways.org or write to: Street Lighting Section, Essex Highways, PO Box 11, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX.

In Danbury lights will be left on all night at Eves Corner, outside the Co-op and at the mini-roundabout at Well Lane.



Danbury Players Presents **"A Magical Family Panto"**
PINOCCHIO
12-16th DECEMBER 2012
Danbury Village Hall
Book Now : 07774 046925
Online WWW.danburyplayers.co.uk

COUNCILLORS

Stuart Berlyn 13 Hopping Jacks Lane Danbury CM3 4PN 01245 225883 stuart.berlyn@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Chairman of Parish Council Ex-Officio member of all committees
Mike Wood 49 Hopping Jacks Lane Danbury CM3 4PJ 01245 222839 mike.wood@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Vice-Chairman of Parish Council Ex-Officio member of all committees
Arthur Allen New Rectory Farm, Southview Road Danbury CM3 4DX 01245 224707 arthur.allen@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Vice-Chairman of Planning, Member of Facilities and Environment
Dave Bolwell 3 Mildmays Danbury CM3 4DP 01245 223591 dave.bolwell@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Member of Environment and Planning
April Chapman 6 Southview Road Danbury CM3 4DX 01245 224791 april.chapman@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Vice-Chairman of Environment, Member of Planning
Chris Jacobs 1 Millfields Danbury CM3 4LE 01245222162 chris.jacobs@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Member of Environment and Facilities
Sarah-Jane Court 14 The Avenue Danbury CM3 4QN 01245 227604 sarahjane.court@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Vice-Chairman of Facilities
Alan Keeler Hazelbank, Fitzwalter Lane Danbury CM3 4DZ 01245 222329 alan.keeler@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Chairman of Environment, Member of Planning and Resources
Brian Kennewell 82 Maldon Road Danbury CM3 4QW 01245 226476 brian.kennewell@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Chairman of Resources, Member of Facilities
Arthur Pemberton 21 Barley Mead Danbury CM3 4RP 01245 224343 arthur.pemberton@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Chairman of Facilities, Member of Resources
Bill Scaife 3 Simmonds Way Danbury CM3 4PT 01245 226119 bill.scaife@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Vice-Chairman of Resources, Member of Facilities and Environment
John Scott 21 Mildmays Danbury CM3 4DP 01245 222673 john.scott@danbury-essex.gov.uk		Member of Resources and Planning

Max Telling
 Colne Lodge, 42 Peartree Lane
 Danbury CM3 4LS
 01245 226037
 max.telling@danbury-essex.gov.uk



Chairman of Planning,
 Member of Facilities

John Thomson
 3 Hyde Lane
 Danbury CM3 4QX
 01245 222935
 john.thomson@danbury-essex.gov.uk



Member of Environment and Planning

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

John Alexander



Planning

Paul Walton
 Danbury Society



Planning

PARISH COUNCIL STAFF

Margaret Saunders



Parish Clerk

Maria Dyer



Assistant Clerk

Hannah Mayes



Assistant Clerk

Robin Dickens



Groundsman

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
 Fax: 01245 226798

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

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

In the past I have been Chairman of Facilities Committee and of various working parties before becoming Vice-chairman of the Parish Council, and until recently editor of the Danbury Times. There is a saying "Jack of all trades but master of none" which defines the role of the Vice-chairman – i.e; ex-officio member of all committees. The role of Vice-chairman is to deputise for the Chairman as and when required, not that there have been many opportunities, just the occasional Council meeting, several public meetings and a number of working groups.

Looking back, how things have changed! Staff in the 1990s consisted of a part time Clerk with a typewriter, and a part time Responsible Finance Officer. Now we have three part time staff in the office – a Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer and two Assistant Clerks aided by modern technology, and our groundsman who regularly wins awards for all his efforts.

The Parish Council had for a number of years wanted to move the office nearer to the centre of the village and thus be more accessible to residents. With the help of Essex County Council this was achieved in April 2011, and we have seen a marked increase in visitors. Other major targets achieved include the rebuilding of Robin's Nest, Quality Council Status, the Danbury Parish Plan, the Danbury Planning Framework and refurbishment of both car parks. Associated with Local

Democracy Week starting in October, some councillors visited our primary schools to work with Year 6 pupils on what democracy means and how it applies in the context of Parish Council work and responsibilities. These sessions were both interesting and successful.

The Parish Council was asked by then Chelmsford Borough Council if it was able to take over the running of the public toilets in Danbury. The refurbishment necessary and the continued running costs proved prohibitive. When asked, there was little support to maintain them from residents. The Parish Council declined the offer and the toilets have now been demolished.

Earlier this year as a result of complaints, Essex County Council removed all advertisements from Eves Corner. Representations made to the Parish Council on behalf of local charities who for years have advertised their events there, resulted in a meeting with Essex County Council, Chelmsford City Council, Danbury Parish Council and representatives of local charities to try and resolve the impasse. The results will be published on the Parish Council's website and in the next edition of Danbury Times.

MIKE WOOD VICE-CHAIRMAN

HIGHWAYS ISSUES

I have divided up below how members of the public can contact the Highways Department of Essex County Council to report various Highways Issues; different items are dealt with by different sections.

Chelmsford Highways Panel

This new panel has a range of responsibilities including budgetary approval (£1 million for Chelmsford in 2012/13). It will agree and prioritise work programmes for the Chelmsford City Council area, including the parishes. Items for discussion at this panel should go through the Parish Council. The following are items which the panel deals with: public rights of way improvements, traffic management improvements, safer roads, tackling congestion, passenger transport improvements and cycling schemes.

Highways Maintenance Issues and Defects

The following are details of how to contact Essex County Highways if you wish to report a Highways defect such as a pothole: E-mail highwayenquiriesmid@essex.gov.uk or telephone 0845 603 7631 or via Essex County Council's website <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Travel-Highways/Report-ahighway-problem/Pages/Default.aspx> or <http://www.essex.gov.uk/highwayfaultreporting>

Highways Rangers

Highways Rangers are funded by Essex County Council under the localism initiative. They are based with the Street Scene Team at Chelmsford City Council. The types of work that are generally carried out by the Highways Rangers are as follows:

- Painting, and removal of graffiti from, 'municipal' street furniture such as litter bins, street nameplates and seats
- Cleaning and minor repairs to non-electrical signs and street furniture
- Removal of weeds and vegetation from pavements
- Reinstatement of posts and bollards (minimal excavation)
- Removal of small fly tips from highway land
- Trimming of vegetation and removal of arisings
- Removal of illegal signs and fly posting
- Ad hoc grass cutting and strimming
- Localised cleaning of roadside grips

All requests for this service should be sent by email to highwayrangers@chelmsford.gov.uk

N.B. Figures supplied by ECC show a decrease in traffic flows through Danbury 2010 and 2012, although this does not include any specific figures on sand/gravel lorries.

MARGARET SAUNDERS PARISH CLERK

EMERGENCY PLANNING ARRANGEMENTS

Whilst they are generally rare, major emergencies can happen with little warning and are capable of causing serious impact on the lives of members of the community.

Under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, Chelmsford City Council (CCC) working with the Emergency and other Local Services is required to produce contingency plans for the risks that have been identified within the Council's area. As a result, CCC and Maldon District Council have combined their resources and experience and have created a Joint Emergency Planning Unit that is tasked with supporting and advising residents and businesses before, during and after an emergency. The emergency plans prepared by CCC are wide ranging and include identifying risks, assessing their likelihood and potential severity, risk reduction, assignment of responsibilities, training and, perhaps most importantly, regular review of the plans. Outlines of some of these plans are provided on the very comprehensive CCC Emergency Plans website with printed versions, including Braille and large print, available. CCC undertakes liaison with and training of representatives of the Parish Councils within its boundaries.

Danbury Parish Council has appointed a team to take local responsibility and has produced its own Emergency Plan. However, this plan is subordinate to the plans of the Joint Emergency Planning Unit and any decisions of the appointed Incident Officer and Emergency Planning Officer. Consequently, Danbury Parish Council has reviewed risks within

the village and considers that the most likely local emergencies could include a serious road incident, severe weather, a major fire or a pandemic of the influenza or avian flu varieties. Experience has shown that heavy snow et cetera has restricted motor vehicle access into the village and it is in this particular eventuality that Danbury Parish Council's Emergency Plan may be activated.

In the event of a major incident, residents may be required to leave their homes and businesses may be closed, therefore emergency accommodation will need to be provided. Rest Centres or other types of Assistance Centres run by Local Authority Officers and trained staff will be set up in buildings that might include local schools, church halls, etc. Danbury Parish Council has identified a number of such locations within the village and has provided the details to the Joint Emergency Planning Unit. Control of such centres is through a registration process so that information on evacuees can be matched with enquiries from friends and relatives.

CCC suggests that individuals should consider what they would need to take should they need to leave home in an emergency and provides an information leaflet that suggests important items that might be left in a 'grab-bag' ready to go.

Comprehensive details of the Emergency Plans are available on: www.chelmsfordresilience.info The Emergency Planning Team can be contacted at: emergency.planning@chelmsford.gov.uk or can be called on: 01245 606606.

WINTER SALT

Last winter your Parish Council received 1 tonne of road salt to be distributed around the village for those times when snow and ice threaten to bring the village to a halt. In such a large village like Danbury, 1 tonne doesn't go very far. So the decision was made that whilst some would be used at the shops and Community Association, the lion's share would be placed with parishioners who lived at known 'pinch points' in the village where it is difficult to keep traffic moving. These volunteers agreed to spread the salt when the snow came. We chose just three sites as we wanted



thanks from villagers - and that doesn't happen all that frequently! This year we are in a position to repeat the exercise

properly: Elm Green Lane; The Heights and Hyde Lane/Barley Mead corner. It was an experiment to see if we could make a difference. Feedback has been universally good. We even had letters of

and we want to throw it open to all. If you could raise a small group of able bodied volunteers who would undertake to spread some grit in the event of bad weather, then please contact the Parish Office for more information. The sort of places we have in mind are bends, hills or corners, where it is especially difficult and where, once you are stationary, you are stuck and the road is blocked.

We do not have unlimited supplies of salt so we will have to distribute it as strategically as we can. Hopefully we can repeat last year's exercise and keep even more of the village up and running.

DANBURY PARK SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER MRS CAROL GOODING



It doesn't seem possible that I have been headteacher at Danbury Park Primary School for over a year. The time has flown by but thanks to the warm welcome of our children, supportive parents and dedicated team of staff and governors, I feel as if I've been here forever. I am no stranger to this area as I was born and raised in Great Baddow. I attended local schools and

had many friends from here, only moving away to study at university. At the end of my studies I knew my heart lay here in Essex and I returned to establish my home with my husband and two daughters.

I moved to Danbury Park in September 2011 having been headteacher of St Peter's in West Hanningfield for six and a half years. Both schools belong to the same cluster so I knew a lot about Danbury Park long before Mr Arnold decided to retire. I was so impressed by the motivation and enthusiasm of the children, and by the creativity of the teachers, that I felt honoured to be

entrusted with taking the school forward and the responsibility of making an outstanding school even better.

During my first year we completed some major projects including the separation of one large teaching space into two classrooms, installing a new computer network, erecting a wooden galleon and a climbing tower in the playgrounds, developing the hedgerows, trees and wildlife areas and raising standards particularly in writing. This year we aim to go from strength to strength and I am looking forward to our open morning for prospective parents to show off our wonderful school.

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER MISS CLAIRE ROBINSON



My first year as the Headteacher of St. John's C of E Primary School has been the most rewarding, challenging, exhilarating and satisfying year of my career so far. I am 35 years old and have been teaching for 13 years and it is quite remarkable how teaching has changed and how I have changed over the years.

The day I was shown around St. John's I knew straight away that I could feel at home there. It is an amazing school, (obviously I am slightly biased now) but before I became the Head I saw the potential. I saw the hard work of the staff, the enthusiasm of the pupils and I felt warmth and friendliness. It was where I wanted to be.

As a Headteacher, every day is different. If I had to write a list of what I do on a daily basis it would not only be eclectic but also, to some, unbelievable. But that is what makes my job so interesting. Every day is different and every day I have the opportunity to make a difference to a child's life. That is why I became a teacher and that is certainly why I strived to become a Head. Being able to make decisions that increase opportunities for children to improve their life skills is the most rewarding role I could possible have.

HEATHCOTE SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER MISS HANNAH PETERSEN



I feel extremely privileged to hold the position of Head at Heathcote School. I love the diversity that comes with my role and each day brings something different.

I feel fortunate that I am still able to teach a Year 2 class, part time, as I love to be hands on with the children and watch them learn and develop. I value all of the reasons why I wanted to teach and it would be a shame to become distant from these. Beyond providing an excellent education for the children I want them to have fun and really enjoy coming to school.

It gives me so much pleasure to watch them run into school. The children give me the energy and drive to love coming to work every day.

My spare time is divided between completing a Masters degree and my horses and dogs. I am an absolute animal lover and it is a lifelong passion. I ride and drive my horses and Shetland ponies and literally walk miles with the dogs. Winter is a challenge but the summer holiday provides the time to really appreciate all I have and I realise the time and dedication is truly worth it.

HOW TO GET THINGS DONE!

It doesn't matter whether you are concerned about bin emptying, fly-posting or what's happening in the arts and culture - **Who do I talk to? What's their number? How do I contact them?**

Your Parish Council is often the first port of call and our helpful staff are always ready to point people in the right direction if the query does not involve action by the Parish Council itself. As a modern, forward thinking council, Danbury is keen to encourage online access to report difficulties and to source information. This frees up resources, reduces costs and increases efficiency. Next time you are about to pick up the phone or write a letter, why not try the website first. (Computers are available in the library if you are not online at home.)

Pretty well everything you need to know to resolve your query can be found on our local authority websites. These are increasingly easy and straightforward to use, with only a very few clicks of a mouse, be it Danbury, Chelmsford or Essex. You can access your local authority websites as follows:

Danbury - www.danbury-essex.gov.uk
Chelmsford - www.chelmsford.gov.uk
Essex - www.essex.gov.uk

For example; say you want to find out information on **dangerous dogs** or perhaps report an incident of dog fouling. You can click on "Planning & Environment" on the Chelmsford home page; then click on dogs and you are there at the menu which gives you all of the options for a dog related enquiry. If you are concerned about breach of a **planning application**, or believe that enforcement action is required, then two clicks from the main menu take you to Planning Enforcement where you can fill in an online form; alternatively email the enforcement team using the following email address, or if you prefer it contact using the telephone number; planning.enforcement@chelmsford.gov.uk telephone 01245 606826.

Noise from a variety of sources is another perennial problem for many residents, as was evidenced by the input to the original Danbury Parish Plan and

the 2010 follow up survey. Just a couple of clicks on the Chelmsford website takes you to the page where you can read information about noise nuisance and/or submit an online complaint.

Items for report such as **fly-posting** can be dealt with online by completing the straightforward form, or emailed direct on: streetscene@chelmsford.gov.uk

If you do not wish or are unable to use an online approach, the switchboard number for Chelmsford is 01245 606606, and an automated system will ask which department you wish to speak to. For general enquiries for the County Council call 08457 430 430, or if you prefer to use a geographically routed number you can dial 01245 430 430. The email address for Essex is contact@essex.gov.uk

For County Route matters relating to the A130 bypass between Howe Green (A132) and the A127 please telephone 0845 3511 130.

THE GREEN FLAG AWARD

In July Danbury Country Park was awarded the GREEN FLAG AWARD in recognition of attaining the national standard for the third consecutive year.

The GREEN FLAG AWARDS scheme is the benchmark national standard of excellence for parks and recreational green spaces throughout the United Kingdom. The scheme was set up in 1996 to recognise and reward any free-to-enter public park or green space in England and Wales meeting specific high standards, and also to encourage others to achieve the same high environmental levels. The scheme is owned by the Government through

the "Department for Communities and Local Government", though it is managed by other agents under contract. Both primary and secondary schools may be awarded the Green Flag in recognition of steps taken towards making the school increasingly eco-friendly. All the judges are unpaid volunteers with experience in the management of country parks and open spaces. Judging is in April and May each year and the winners announced in July. They must re-apply each year to keep their Green Flag Award, and winning sites are eligible to fly a Green Flag for a year.

Sites for a Green Flag Award are judged against eight key criteria:

- **A welcoming place**
- **Conservation and heritage**
- **Healthy, safe and secure**
- **Community involvement**
- **Clean and well maintained**
- **Marketing**
- **Sustainability**
- **Management.**

This requires a considerable amount of work in preparation for the inspection and in the maintenance of the standard afterwards. The two Rangers at Danbury Park are congratulated on achieving the award for the third year. The park continues to be a valuable asset to the village.



PLAY IN THE PARK

During the school summer holidays the children of Danbury were again able to join in with a series of events sponsored by the Parish Council in conjunction with Chelmsford City Council. There were two free sessions for children aged up to 11 years – a mix of sports, games and craft activities, plus at the second session children were invited to bring along their bikes and participate in 'Go Ride' – fun, games and challenges on bikes! Both sessions were well attended and enjoyed by the children.

Later in the holidays the Parish Council and the City Council organised for the

first time a special session for the **12 to 16 year olds** – the plan for this free session was for the teenagers to decide what they wanted to do – just meet, chill and chat, but with equipment



available for activities such as writing music, drawing, customising clothes and playing rounders. Plus as an extra the

Parish Council had sponsored Parkour – Free Running, with Team Kinetix (from Britain's Got Talent) on hand to demonstrate and teach the skill of free running. The event was well publicised, everything was set up and it wasn't raining, but not one teenager turned up!

If you are a teenager or a parent with teenagers, we would really welcome your comments on why you or your teenagers didn't come along and/or what, if any, activities you would like to see made available during the school holidays – please e-mail or phone the Parish Office.

TRAVELLING THROUGH DANBURY

We tend to think we know the hazards really well but here's a brief quiz to help us think about them.

1. **Where is the permanent speed camera in Danbury?**
2. **What is the speed limit along the main road through Danbury? Where does that zone begin and end?**
3. **How many Pelican crossings are there in Danbury? Where are they?**
4. **Where is the only crossing that is NOT a Pelican crossing?**
5. **What do double yellow lines stand for?**
6. **Where are there busy, concealed entrances/exits as you travel from Eves Corner towards Chelmsford?**
7. **Where are the signs that indicate where schools are located?**
8. **Is there a speed limit along Woodhill Road?**
9. **What are the rules for mini-roundabouts?**
10. **How long is the time limit for parking at Eves Corner?**
11. **What are the differences between ∇ and Δ signs?**
12. **What do zigzag signs on the road indicate?**

AWARDS

On 27th September at the Essex Association of Local Councils' Awards ceremony, we are proud to report that the Parish Council won the following: Annual Report category in the Communications section; The Overall Communications Award, for which Monster Play Systems gave a voucher for £500; The Web Site Competition, for which Acumen Wages Service gave a cheque for £300;



Mark Grace of Monster Play Systems presents Margaret Saunders with their award

On 25th October the Essex Playing Fields Association awarded the Parish Council:
Best Kept Football Pitch – **Merit Gold Award**
Best Kept Playing Field – **Silver Award**
Best Kept Children's Playground – **Certificate of Merit**
Best Kept Cricket Field – **Certificate of Merit.**
Well done to all concerned!