

DANBURY

WINTER 2016

TIMES



No. 44



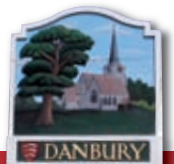
*Danbury Parish Council wishes
all residents a happy, healthy
and prosperous Christmas and New Year.*

LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD

**Season's
Greetings**



PLEASE TURN TO PAGES 4/5 FOR NEWS ABOUT THE
VILLAGE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 29TH ON PROPOSED
DEVELOPMENT IN OUR VILLAGE.



DANBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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Ex-Officio member of all committees

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Member of Facilities

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Member of Environment and Facilities

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

John Alexander



Planning

Roger Cole-Jones



Planning

PARISH COUNCIL STAFF

Margaret Saunders



Parish Clerk

Maria Dyer



Assistant Clerk

Hannah Mayes



Assistant Clerk

Robin Dickens



Groundsman

Lesley Mitchelmore



Neighbourhood Plan Co-ordinator

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

Website: www.danbury-essex.gov.uk

Like us on Facebook 

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed from
Friday 23rd December to Tuesday 3rd January.

On the front page is the winner of the Christmas card competition for our primary schools; it is by 9 year old Amaya Ekanayake from Heathcote School.

CHRIS BAKER



I am an Essex boy through and through growing up in the village environment of Rivenhall in a large family.

After a spell in the Army and working for a bank in London I moved to Danbury 25 years ago. I am married and have two grown up children who went to St Johns School and one granddaughter, 2 dogs (and a new puppy), 1 cat and 10 grass parakeets.

Having spent the last 26 years working for the Police at Chelmsford Headquarters doing shift work as a Communications Officer and Radio despatcher, I have found myself medically retired. This has given me more time to spend on my hobby as an amateur radio enthusiast.

My main reason for becoming a councillor is to help keep Danbury as a community and assist others in doing so. I am always willing to listen to the local residents and take their comments/views to committee meetings.

BILLY HINKEN



I am a relatively new resident to Danbury having only moved here in July. My wife and I became parents for the first time in January and so needed a little bit more room than our previous house in Chelmsford. One day, on our regular dog walk in Danbury Country Park, we noticed the new development at Danbury Palace and decided that it was the ideal location for us. We have always dreamed of living in Danbury and we are so pleased that we are finally here.

I am the manager of an insurance claims team in London, working for one of the world's largest brokers. I specialise in defending claims against solicitors and so I have an expert understanding of contentious legal disputes and process. I have responsibility for delivering results against set budgets and financial targets. I will be able to apply these skills to my role as a Parish Councillor and hope that I will be able to make a real difference in areas such as planning.

I care about people and I feel that everyone should have a voice and I hope that I will be able to give something back to the community. I would urge you all to get involved in, and be part of, what is going on in Danbury and I would be pleased to receive any questions, comments or concerns you may have. I very much see myself as being your representative and I am here to serve you to the best of my abilities, so please do get in touch.

JOHN STEELE



I was born in Hertfordshire and have lived in North West London, St Albans and then Buckinghamshire. I spent my working life with a well-known Insurance Company. About 5 years ago, my wife Pauline and I discovered Danbury when we were moving to be nearer family in Essex. We have found Danbury to have a highly developed community spirit with a welcoming and friendly atmosphere and feel lucky to be living in this village.

There have been a number of local issues concerning planning and environmental matters in which I have taken an interest since our move here and during the course of dealing with one of these, it was suggested that I join the Parish Council.

I am interested in wildlife, gardening, DIY, dog walking, computers, music and reading.

Judging by the people and families I meet Danbury is regarded both as good place to live and to visit. I would like to help maintain the best aspects of the village and its rural setting. We cannot get away from the fact that the modern world does bring pressure to change both from outside the village and within. It is important to try to understand the views of all the people in the community when dealing with these pressures.

PLANNING MEETING

The Parish Council held a public meeting at Danbury Mission on Tuesday 29th November 2016 regarding the two planning applications below.

- **16/01770/FUL Land South West of 52 Maldon Road:** Construction of a 72 bed care home, together with 22 car parking spaces and landscaping.
- **16/01810/OUT Land East of Little Fields and North of Maldon Road:** Outline planning application for up to 140 residential dwellings (including up to 35% affordable housing), introduction of structural planting & landscaping, informal public open space & children's play area, surface water flood mitigation & attenuation, 2 no. vehicular access points: 1 no. from Maldon Road & 1 no. from Runsell Lane and associated ancillary works. All matters to be reserved with the exception of main site access.

The meeting was well attended by 290 people. Representatives from Oakland Primecare spoke and residents asked questions and made comments on both applications. The Parish Council then held an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting and resolved comments to be returned to Chelmsford City Council (CCC). The Parish Council will be referring both applications to the local CCC Ward Member for determination by the CCC Planning Committee (unless Officers are minded to refuse it).

The following is a brief summary of comments made by Danbury Parish Council; the full comments can be found on CCC's website at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning or on the Parish Council's website at www.danbury-essex.gov.uk. and copies can also be obtained from the Parish Office during opening hours or via email.

16/01770/FUL Construction of a 72 bed care home, together with 22 car parking spaces and landscaping.

The Parish Council strongly objects to this application as it considers that it is not sustainable development and that it would cause substantial harm to the village. The proposal fails to protect or enhance the environment, causing significant harm to the open character and appearance of the area.

The site lies within the Conservation Area and this proposal would adversely affect it. It is also outside the Defined Settlement Boundary. The site is not in the Local Development Framework Site Allocations 2001-2021. It is contrary to a number of CCC Policies and Danbury Planning Framework Policies.

Increase in traffic leads to increased rat running, air pollution and concerns for the safety of pedestrians and drivers, particularly at the junction leading to the site. The number of car parking spaces proposed is inadequate for the size of the care home.

There would be an adverse effect on the many wildlife species using the site as a habitat and wildlife corridor. This environment would be lost if the application was approved. The Parish Council is concerned at the loss of protected trees on the site.

There are concerns about the capacity of services within the village, including the Medical Centre, dentists and pharmacy. These village amenities are already stretched to capacity and the additional strain on these resources would be detrimental to the residents of the village. .

In summary, the Parish Council does not believe that the public benefits outweigh the substantial harm that would be done to the meadow and that this application is inappropriate in its location, access, design, parking and size and would result in the loss of valuable green space in the centre of the village.

16/01810/OUT Land East of Little Fields and North of Maldon Road

The Parish Council strongly objects to this application as it does not consider that it is sustainable development. The proposal fails to protect or enhance the environment, causing significant harm to the open character and appearance of the area. The development fails to make a positive contribution to the village and would be demonstrably harmful. The proposal for the site would be high density and out of keeping with the surrounding housing.

The site is outside the Defined Settlement Boundary and is not in a sustainable location within the village. The site is not in the Local Development Framework Site Allocations 2001-2021. It is contrary to a number of CCC Policies and Danbury Planning Framework Policies.

Road infrastructure and capacity is already poor within the village resulting in significant congestion levels. The increase in traffic will have a further detrimental effect. Rat running is already a big issue in Danbury and continues to increase as additional developments progress, particularly in the Maldon District where several large developments are already proceeding; this has had a noticeable effect on traffic and congestion, particularly at peak times. A large development in Danbury would add to the severe congestion that already takes place. The Parish Council understands that ECC Highways are not supportive of an access point onto the A414 from the site. The use of Runsell Lane as a proposed access is not suitable for the size of the lane which is a narrow lane with no passing spaces. Danbury does not offer the amount of employment opportunities required by this number of properties so most residents would be commuting out of the village, contributing to daily traffic movements. There are limited public transport options.

The GP practice does not have sufficient capacity for the additional growth required. The primary schools do not have the capacity for the number of children that would result from this development.

The area is known to contain many different wildlife species which use it as a corridor, and it is close to nature reserves and other countryside sites. The application would threaten wildlife habitats on and close to the site.

In summary, the Parish Council believes that this application would result in significant harm to the local environment and the character of Danbury for the reasons given above which far outweigh any benefits put forward by the developer. It is inappropriate in its location, access and size and would result in the loss of valuable countryside.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Danbury Parish Council is continuing to support the Neighbourhood Plan process. The Neighbourhood Area Designation was approved by Chelmsford City Council in June and in the summer edition of the Danbury Times a request was put out for volunteers to join the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. There was a good response and on the 5th October, the Parish Council held an information session for approximately 20 interested residents to obtain more information and get to know each other. Residents were given information about how a Neighbourhood Plan is produced and the process that the group would need to follow.

The Parish Council has also now appointed Lesley Mitchelmore as Neighbourhood Plan Co-ordinator who will facilitate the Steering Group and enable the Plan to progress. The Parish Council has been very pleased with the response from residents and looks forward to supporting the Steering Group for the duration of the plan which will take some time. The next meeting on December 5th dealt with the logo, terms of reference and a committee. There will be lots of different ways for residents to get involved e.g. completing questionnaires and attending workshops, which gives everyone an opportunity to put forward their views on the future of Danbury. It is very important that all members of the community have their say and vote in the referendum to finalise the process.

PLAYING FIELDS AWARDS

On Thursday October 13th the Essex Playing Fields Association held their A.G.M. and awards evening. The organisation encourages use of playing fields and local authorities which improve associated facilities such as pavilions and car parks. They offer advice and have a small grants scheme. Only 2 authorities in England have taken up the idea of a Best Kept Playing Fields competition, and many classes in Essex are sponsored by local firms. There were 199 entries this year.

Danbury achieved 7 awards:

Gold in Class 1 – playing fields serving a population of 2,500 or more.

Silver in Class 3 – children's playgrounds.

Silver in Class 4 – cricket grounds.

3 Golds in Class 6 – football pitches 2, 3 and 4, and runner-up to Loughton for pitch 1.

Well done to Robin and the team.

MIKE WOOD MEMORIAL BENCH

On Tuesday 25th October a bench was dedicated to the memory of Mike Wood. He served as a Parish Councillor from 1996 and was Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council from 2004 to 2015. He gave generously of his



time and was very keen on the sporting activities on Dawson Memorial Field, especially the cricket, and more recently supported the work the council does with the local primary schools. Sadly he died earlier this year. His family together with members and staff of the Parish Council met to dedicate the bench and a bouquet was given to his widow, Liz, before we went over to the Parish Office for refreshments and to chat about a few memories.

TRAFFIC AND THE A414

Your Parish Council continue to be concerned about the volume of traffic using the A414 and in particular the large increase in HGVs.

The increase in development in Maldon and the Dengie is inevitably going to have a significant impact on this: the improvements being made to the road network at Morrison's roundabout is likely to result in further traffic using our main road as access will be easier.

During the Maldon Development Plan public hearing the highway authority advised that 'Eves Corner' would be at saturation point by 2026 without any further development in Maldon. This of course also applies to developments on the Dengie including the likelihood of a Bradwell 'B' power station as well as any in Danbury and the surrounding villages. The impact is likely to see an increase in 'rat-running' and increased use of other roads e.g. Woodhill Road.

The closure of the bank has resulted in a lot less traffic parking on the double yellow lines outside, and the opening of the new Medical Centre with increased on-site parking has helped enormously for residents and businesses around Eves Corner.

The traffic lights at Eves Corner which the Parish Council objected to do not appear to have made any difference to the traffic flow on the A414. However traffic stopping at the Little Baddow Road red lights often blocks access to Eves Corner (the road leading to Hopping Jacks Lane). PLEASE also remember a green light here does NOT give right of access to the roundabout. There have been squealing of brakes and a few near misses particularly from the Mayes Lane direction. Do report incidents to Essex County Council Highways who appear to think all is fine.

Traffic levels also impact on the villages around Danbury, particularly Little Baddow where their primary route to/from the village is via the A414 at Eves Corner.

Your council will continue comment on planning applications that impact on the traffic in and around the village in addition to lobbying our City and County Councillors.

Residents are also encouraged to express their opinions on the issue as and when consultations are requested; please copy in the Parish Council so that we know your opinions as well.

Stuart Berlyn, Chairman

DANBURY TENNIS CLUB



The sun was shining and no centre-court roof was needed for the Danbury tennis club finals day this year! Over 100 players had competed in the knock-out rounds and this was the pinnacle of the club competition. The BBQ was lit, the Pimms was flowing, and many spectators were entertained as the finalists battled to win the coveted trophies. We also held a Bake-Off competition and the entries were creative, imaginative and absolutely delicious. The winners were Megan Hollingsworth and Hana Broadbridge and we raised £80 for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity.

For the third year running, Danbury entered more teams than any other club in Essex into the Aegon County Summer League and received the Aegon Venue Commitment Award for Team Tennis 2016.

In the Chelmsford and District 2016 summer league our juniors had two winning teams. Over 80 juniors have represented the club in these competitions and more than 150 juniors take part in weekly coaching sessions either at the club or at local schools.

In the senior league, the Danbury Men's first team won the Division 1 title for the first time in the club's history – a fabulous achievement!

Thank you to all our members and their supporters for another fantastic year. If you are interested in playing tennis, go to our website www.danburytennisclub.net for more information and to view the photos of our finals day.

DANBURY CRICKET CLUB

More Wins Than Losses This Year!! | Promotion to Division 6 | Sunday Friendlies

In pure results terms, 2016 was a pretty good success! 10 Wins and 7 Losses on Saturdays should mean that our 3rd place finish translates to a promotion to Division 6 for next year (the 1 small caveat is that the league organisers habitually restructure the divisions at the end of each season to keep us guessing, so who knows!!). This year also saw us play 6 Sunday friendlies, with much humour and just a little ability. And our midweek 20-20 team, once the monsoon season was over, enjoyed a good run. And we also managed to beat local rivals Boreham 5 times including 2 tight finishes.

Encouraging more colts (generally age 13 upwards) to join us is one of our key aims at the Club. This season saw, on occasions, a much younger team play together with encouraging results - runs, wickets, and milkshakes after the game! We are always keen for any new members, young or old, and a friendly welcome can be expected. We run practice nights generally on Wednesday / Thursday over the Summer, and start Winter Nets indoors at Ingatestone School from January.

We are still looking for more players to help grow the club, so if you are of "varying ability and age", then **please contact Lee Collins on 07493 814 399 or Simon Moore on 07941 771 860 or simoore100@gmail.com.**

OAKLANDS CRICKET CLUB

2016 saw the debut season of Oaklands Cricket Club in Division 11 of the T-Rippon League. The club was formed in The Rising Sun Pub in Chelmsford in 2014 and gained agreement from Danbury Parish Council to use Dawson Memorial Field in Danbury for their home games.

At this stage, it is worth pointing out that the players are a mixture of cricket lovers, injured footballers, dreamers, fools, wanderers and oddballs. But – as the lady behind the bar at Danbury Sports and Social Club declared – "It would be nice if everybody else was like you lot," when she commented on what she observed of our friendliness to the opposing teams and the way we seemed to laugh all the time. On that note it has to be said that coming third in our division in terms of Sportsmanship was a wonderful achievement of which we are all very proud.

We lost most of our matches but won a few too. We enjoyed every single second of it – from chatting to the dog-walkers before the game to having a drink in the bar afterwards.

We are very much looking forward to more of the same next season!

Stu Ayris



DATES OF MEETINGS

DECEMBER 2016

Tues	13th	Resources
Mon	19th	Planning

JANUARY 2017

Tues	10th	Facilities
Mon	16th	Planning
Wed	18th	Resources
Mon	23rd	Environment
Wed	25th	Parish Council

FEBRUARY 2017

Mon	13th	Planning
Wed	22nd	Resources

MARCH 2017

Mon	6th	Planning
Wed	8th	Facilities
Mon	13th	Environment
Wed	22nd	Resources
Wed	29th	Parish Council

APRIL 2017

Mon	3rd	Planning
14th - 17th		Easter
Mon	24th	ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

All meetings begin at 7.30pm

DANBURY SPORTS & SOCIAL CENTRE

Farmers' Market – Every 1st Saturday of the month (except January)

We really need you to support the Farmers' Market. Visitor numbers have been declining, but we have good news – BREAD is BACK!! Yes, we have an artisan baker who has returned to our market. The Market is from 9am to 12.30pm so please come along.

Here is a list of the items at the market:

Organic Fruit & Veg	Pork & Ham products	Greeting Cards	
Bread	Coffee	Organic Skin Care products	Eggs
Local Honey	Photo Restoration & Video Transfer	Turkey & Beef	
Cakes	Parish Council Surgery	High Quality Sausages	Jam

Membership, Activities and Events

Are you a member? We are not just a sports club. There are also social activities and events, for example the ADELE ONE AND ONLY TRIBUTE SHOW on Saturday 25th February 2017. The Centre belongs to the residents so if you have not been into the building recently pop in to see our wonderful facilities and the activities on offer. We are sure you will be impressed. Annual membership is only £18 with reductions for students and senior citizens.

DCA 500 Club

This monthly lottery has been running for just over 2 years. Participants pay for a £5 stake each month. You will ALWAYS be playing for 50% of the total we collect. You're assigned a unique number for your stake. If that number comes up – you've won. There are 3 prizes each month.

Currently there are 80 members and the prize fund is £200 making the prizes 1st £100, 2nd £66.67, 3rd £33.33. The other half is reinvested in major projects to improve the Centre.

Full details and application forms are available at Reception and on our website.

Details are available from Reception in person or phone 01245 224515 and on our website www.danburysportscentre.co.uk.

You can also follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/DANBURYSPORTSANDSOCIALCENTRE

Beauty
and the
BEAST

Danbury Panto 2016

Shows

Thursday 15th December 7.30 pm
Friday 16th December 7.30 pm
Saturday 17th December 7.30 pm
Saturday 17th December 2.30 pm
Sunday 18th December 2.30 pm

Box Office:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/danbury
Box Office Telephone:
07774046925
Book Now!!!!

**Tickets: adults £9,
concessions £6
At Danbury Village Hall**

WINTER SALT

After two warmish winters most of the volunteers in this scheme still have salt, so the Parish Council did not take up Chelmsford City Council's offer of another tonne due to difficulty of storage.

If the coming winter is full of snowy or freezing days however, we can only use what we already have: no more can be requested so please use wisely. The salt bins would only be refilled once if there is harsh weather.

DANBURY AND LITTLE BADDOW OPEN GARDENS

This event in June together with a plant sale at Wych Elm in May, raised £8000 for **Farleigh Hospice**. The Open Gardens will take place on Sunday June 11th next year and even more gardens and helpers would be gladly welcomed.

Tel: 01245 222674