



## **Danbury Parish Council – October/November 2020**

It has been a busy month for the Parish Council.

The Parish Council was pleased to host Chelmsford City Council's Play in the Park. As with previous years, it was very successful and enjoyed by the children who attended, particularly the additional parkour and skateboarding activities.

The Facilities Committee arranged for the lighting bollards, gates and railings at the Dawson Memorial Field to be freshened up with a new coat of paint. Disappointingly, the Memorial bench under the tree that had been repaired after being vandalised has been damaged again after just a few weeks of the repair being completed.

At the pond, it was lovely to see the duck house in use, and ducklings and coot chicks growing up this Spring and Summer. As with previous years, The Conservation Volunteers have completed pond maintenance work at Eves Corner and Runsell Green. We're sure that you all agree that the volunteers do a fantastic job, clearing the weeds and making sure that the water inlet channels are clear.

The Health and Wellbeing Committee are making good progress with two new projects. A 'Happy to Chat Bench' is soon to be installed at Eves Corner. Sit there, if you are happy for someone to stop to say hello and maybe have a natter. The bench will be blue and easy to find! In addition, a virtual carers group has been started. It will provide an opportunity for local residents caring for a loved one to share experiences, information and mutual support. If you would like to join, please contact Michelle Harper, the Parish Clerk on 01245 225111 or by email: [parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk](mailto:parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk).

With kind permission from the Co-op, the Parish Council is proud to be providing a Defibrillator to be located outside the Co-op.

The Planning Committee is formulating a response to the new Government Planning White Paper which proposes to radically overhaul the planning system, aiming to make it more efficient, and accessible to local people. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>.

The Environment Committee has a number of Essex County Council Local Highway Panel requests in progress for a variety of schemes to improve aspects of road safety throughout the village. The process can be lengthy and as funds are limited, schemes are prioritised by the Panel. We are pleased to say that the application for an advisory speed limit outside St John's School with associated signage and wig wag lights; and a scheme to replace faded junction on bend signs and install white 'SLOW' markings for the Runsell Green and Hyde Lane junctions on the Maldon Road have both been placed on the Funded Schemes list and are estimated to be installed in the early part of next year. More information about the Local Highways panel is available here:

<https://www.essexhighways.org/transport-and-roads/highway-schemes-and-developments/local-highway-panels/chelmsford-lhp.aspx>

Four residents responded to the advertisement for Footpath Volunteers and it is anticipated that by the time you are reading this, they will have been co-opted onto the Parish Paths Partnership Scheme Sub-committee ready to identify and carry out limited maintenance works on the Public Rights of Way. This scheme was initiated and is supported by Essex Council who provide training and funding for the works that the group volunteers to carry out.

After a request from residents and assistance from MP John Whittingdale, the red telephone box that had been removed from Pedlars Path has been adopted by the Parish Council and will be returned once a new base has been installed. Elsewhere, adopted boxes have been used as art galleries, notice and information boards or book exchanges and the Parish Council looks forward to seeing the use that the local residents opt for.

The Parish Council is still looking for new Councillors. If you would like engage with residents, have a say in local issues that affect the village, influence the provision of local services and take part in decisions on local spending, please contact Michelle Harper, the Parish Clerk on 01245 225111 or by email [parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk](mailto:parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk).

### **Council Meetings**

Council meetings have now been resumed and are being held remotely via Zoom. Residents are welcome to attend the meetings and will have an opportunity to address the Council during the public questions item. The links to join the meetings are published on the Agendas which are posted to the Parish Council Website and also on the Parish Notice Board.

**October Meeting Dates:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Planning, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Health and Wellbeing, Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Resources.

**November Meeting Dates:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Facilities (Budget), Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Planning, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Facilities, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Environment, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Resources, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Community Engagement, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Parish Council, Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Planning.



**Please visit our website at [www.danbury-essex.gov.uk](http://www.danbury-essex.gov.uk) and 'like' us on Facebook to get up to date information on meetings, local events and village information. Village events can be publicised on the website diary and Facebook. There are also listings for Danbury businesses, clubs and organisations on the website. Please contact the Parish Council if you would like to be included or to make any amendments.**

Michelle Harper, the Parish Clerk can be contacted by email:  
[Parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk](mailto:Parish.council@danbury-essex.gov.uk) or by telephone: 01245 225111.