

Hawkwell i

HAWKWELL
PARISH COUNCIL

ISSUE 54
SPRING/SUMMER
2024

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES; YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!

Do you want to join Hawkwell Parish Council?

- * Would you like to give something back to your community? *
- * Help shape change for the benefit of your local area? *
- * Make a difference to local people? *



VOLUNTEER



VOLUNTEER

Interested?

For more information please contact the Clerk:

- info@hawkwellparishcouncil.gov.uk or 01702 207710 •

What's been happening in Council's parks?

Magnolia Park & Nature Reserve

Further to Council's last newsletter, work to permanently divert the bridlepath away from the badgers' 'home improvements' has now been completed. Council worked with Essex Council's Public Rights of Way to create a temporary diversion over neighbouring land. Thanks to the generosity of that landowner, a temporary path was created to join up with the bridlepath running along the northern boundary of the Nature Reserve. Council is pleased to report the new path has been completed and the temporary path is no longer required. The new bridlepath runs south of the badger sett and joins the existing bridlepath towards Rectory Avenue.



Council has planted a Walnut tree to replace the tree which fell by the former brickworks tipping skip wagon, or 'Bogie', on the field. The tree is starting to grow but it will take time to establish. Council has erected a fence to offer it some protection while it grows. The Coronation planter will also soon be back to its glory of last year, and Council is hopeful that visitors will be able to enjoy it once more. Council's resident artist will also return to add more wildlife artwork to the field wall!



*New BR35 permanent diversion;
new path in centre of picture.*



*The King's Coronation
planter in full bloom.*

Spencers Park

Council has obtained a permit from the Environment Agency (EA) to de-silt the brook at the weir on the outer perimeter of Spencers Park. A contractor has been engaged to carry out the work this year. Some of the evasive Pennywort will also be removed to allow the water to flow more freely. For a period, there will be a fenced area containing the removed silt and Pennywort. This will allow the invertebrates and other wildlife a chance to find their way back to the water. It is hoped the work on the brook will mean the area will return to its once wildlife-abundant state and give residents another area of natural beauty to enjoy.





Eco-Audit update

Council is continuing to work through the recommendations from its Eco-Audit, with the aim to reduce its carbon footprint to net zero by 2030. It has since adopted an Environmental Policy and a working group has been formed to devise a plan to achieve the target, which reports to Full Council.

One recommendation has been to consider PV solar panels for Magnolia Park store roof; Council is pleased to confirm that this project has been approved and the 6.5kW system installation has been scheduled. It is estimated that the payback period will be seven years and the annual environmental benefits equate to a saving of 1.4 tons of CO2 (30 long haul flights, or 273 trees planted).

Other initiatives include installing a rain harvesting



system at Magnolia Park store and subscribing to the Essex Wildlife Trust Wilder Villages scheme to access expertise on local species to support biodiversity in the open spaces managed by Council. A program of switching from petrol-powered tools to battery operated equipment in Council's park operations has also begun.

Council's 150 streetlights were also switched to LED lamp heads several years ago and it now uses a green energy supplier; the office and Magnolia store lights have also been switched to LED lights. Some other energy-saving improvements have also been made within the parish office.

Council will keep working through the report recommendations and where possible, keeping cost considerations in mind, continue to make changes that will further reduce its carbon footprint.



Save the date!

Council is looking to hold a **Harvest Festival Fayre** at Hawkwell Village Hall on:

**** SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2024 ****

(Watch out for more details on Council's website, noticeboards and Facebook.)



Defibrillator out of action

Since 2019, Council has installed four community access defibrillators across the parish, making them accessible 24/7. Free defibrillator and CPR training sessions have also been hosted by qualified professionals.

In February, unfortunately, one of Council's defibrillators sited at the White Hart Garage along Main Road, had a car accidentally crash into the wall on which the defibrillator unit was sited. The defibrillator was fortunately saved, but the unit was damaged and the electrics supplied to it had to be disconnected while repairs to the building need to be carried out.

Once the repairs have been completed, Council will reinstate the defibrillator and inform Essex Ambulance Service who will re-activate it on their system.

Please remember, if someone suddenly becomes ill, make sure the person is safe and dial 999. The operator will stay on the phone and guide you until the ambulance arrives. What3words is an app and/or online tool which can be used to help find and describe a precise location.

Council's current active defibrillators are located at: Hawkwell Baptist Church, Rectory Road; Jet Garage, Ashingdon Road; Clements Hall Leisure Centre.



A thought for Christmas...

a food parcel or box of biscuits at Christmas to those who live alone within the Hawkwell Parish and who are aged 70 and over.

Despite having run this initiative for many years, some residents are still unaware they are eligible for a gift.

Council is therefore keen to include all eligible residents, so when reading this please have a think if you know anyone who fits the criteria. If you do, then please contact the Parish Office.

Last Christmas Councillors and volunteers delivered over 80 food parcels and 120 box of luxury biscuits to eligible residents.

Council will be continuing this long-running initiative of gifting



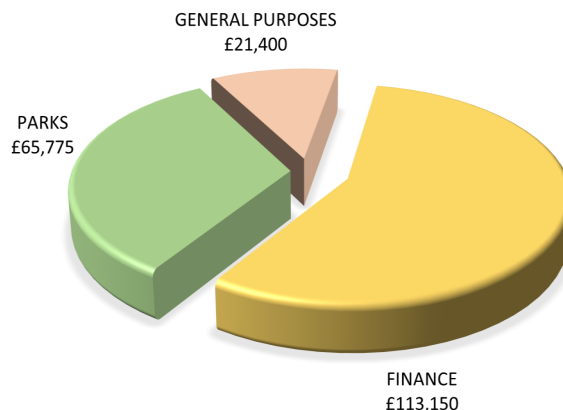
Your Council precept for 2024-25

Hawkwell Parish Council (HPC) set its precept for 2024-25 at £199,964. Council continues to try to keep costs down and operates within strict budgets, while trying to provide Parishioners value for money. New initiatives are carefully planned and external funding for capital projects is sought where possible.

Council is mindful of the economic situation and the cost of living crisis and has kept the annual increase to a nominal amount of £2.29 per household. The annual Parish Council charge for a Band D property is £41.83. For this modest sum, Council maintains three parks, two play areas, an adult gym, 150 streetlights and 19 bus shelters. This also includes the cost of emptying 21 dog and litter bins within its parks and contracting a private security company to patrol and offer added security to the parish.

HPC's precept for 2024-25 equates to just under **2%** of your total Council Tax charge which is collected by Rochford District Council. HPC has the second lowest parish precept within the Rochford District.

HPC Budget by Committee



Council welcomes a new Member

Council is pleased to have welcomed a new Member in January. Cllr Liam Fane lives in West Hawkwell with his young family, having moved to Hawkwell last year from the Southend area. He is keen to invest time and energy into supporting the local community and to work together to ensure Hawkwell evolves, while maintaining its current beauty.



Liam believes strongly in the importance of community as well as caring for the environment, particularly anything of historic value, and is fascinated with ancient history. Having elderly parents, as well as a young child, he is conscious of the differing needs and issues facing these demographics. He is keen to contribute in making environmental improvements for Hawkwell residents, where possible.

Liam also has experience of fund raising and organising events, the latter skill being a valuable asset to Council as it intends to put on a Harvest Festival Fayre later this year.

A change to office opening hours

Council's offices have new opening hours for the public. For those who are unaware, Council's offices can be found along Main Road, at the rear of Hawkwell Village Hall, SS5 4EH. (What3Words ///screeches.nasal.sums)



HAWKWELL PARISH COUNCIL

This office is open to the public on:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
10:00am – 2:00 pm

Staff are entitled to work without fear of verbal or physical abuse or threatening behaviour. Council has a zero-tolerance policy for this type of behaviour.



A sad farewell



On a sad note, Council lost one of its long-standing Members in January. Councillor Roy Patient had been with the Parish Council for 22 years and was Chairman between 2019 and 2022. Roy served on many of the Council Committees and was a well-respected member of the Council. Roy also served as Chair of Governors at a secondary school in Barking for over 30 years, and was an avid West Ham supporter. Roy is very much missed by his fellow Councillors.

Need to report a road or highway issue, such as a pothole?

Essex County Council Highways are responsible for road and highway issues. Report and track issues online:

www.essexhighways.org/tell-us

USEFUL NUMBERS

NATIONAL GAS EMERGENCY SERVICE	☎ 0800 111 999	VICTIM SUPPORT	☎ 0808 178 1694
UK POWER NETWORKS (UKPN)	☎ 0800 316 3105	HOURLASS(ELDER ABUSE HELPLINE)	☎ 0808 808 8141
NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL ADVICE	☎ 111	AGE UK ESSEX	☎ 01245 346 106
SAMARITANS	☎ 116 123	CITIZENS ADVICE (Rayleigh/Rochford)	☎ 0344 477 0808
CHILDLINE	☎ 0800 11 11	GOLDEN CROSS PHARMACY	☎ 01702 544 104
DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE	☎ 0808 2000 247	HAWKWELL PHARMACY	☎ 01702 203 867
LGBT+ HATE CRIME HELPLINE	☎ 020 7704 2040		

DISTRICT COUNCIL & COUNCILLORS



ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL— KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Planning & Community: ☎ 01702 318 191

Street Scene & Environment: ☎ 01702 318 111

General Switchboard: ☎ 01702 546 366

Rochford District Cllrs for Hawkwell East

Mr Mike Webb ☎ TBC
 ✉ CllrMike.Webb@Rochford.gov.uk
 Mrs Deborah Squires-Coleman ☎ 07894 021414
 ✉ CllrDeborah-.Squires-Coleman@Rochford.gov.uk
 Mr Elliott Mason ☎ 07561 100511
 ✉ CllrElliott.Mason@Rochford.gov.uk

Rochford District Cllrs for Hawkwell West

Mr Nicholas Booth ☎ 07545 842003
 ✉ CllrNicholas.Booth@Rochford.gov.uk
 Mrs Julie Gooding ☎ 07720 053435
 ✉ CllrJulie.Gooding@Rochford.gov.uk
 Mr Ian Wilson ☎ TBC
 ✉ CllrIan.Wilson@Rochford.gov.uk

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL & COUNCILLOR



ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL - KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Highways: www.essexhighways.org / ☎ 0345 603 7631 Passenger Transport: passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk

General enquiries: ☎ 0345 743 0430

[Essex County Councillor for Rochford North](#) (which includes Hawkwell):

Mrs Laureen Shaw ☎ 01702 540398 ✉ Cllr.laureen.shaw@essex.gov.uk

HAWKWELL PARISH COUNCILLORS



Parish Cllrs for Hawkwell East

Mrs Leanne Dalby ☎ 07956 411911
 Roger Gardner ☎ 01702 548130
 Tommy Hargrave ☎ 01702 207710
 Andrew MacPherson ☎ 01702 207710
 Mrs Lyn Massey ☎ 01702 549615

Parish Cllrs for Hawkwell West

Stephen May [Chair] ☎ 01702 547187
 Liam Fane ☎ 07469 575061
 Mrs Josephine Strubel ☎ 01702 548313
 Martin Strubel [Vice-Chair] ☎ 01702 548313
 Mrs Myra Weir ☎ 01702 207764

HAWKWELL PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

Parish Office, rear of Hawkwell Village Hall, Main Road, Hawkwell, SS5 4EH

☎ 01702 207710 ✉ info@hawkwellparishcouncil.gov.uk



www.hawkwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

