

6.2. Damage to parked cars, Nunnery Street: On behalf of a resident, Cllr Westrop reported a stationary car being hit during the school run at Nunnery Street, caused by a driver being forced over by oncoming traffic. Other similar incidents have been reported with drivers not always stopping to take responsibility. Residents parking spaces and 20's plenty signs have been suggested as a solution.
Action: The clerk will chase up the police who had been asked to visit the location at school run times
Action: The clerk will contact the head at De Vere Primary as they were looking into 20mph signs.

7. REPORTS

7.1. Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch. Police reports have been circulated to Councillors.

Cllr Schwier arrived

7.2. Essex CC report. Cllr Schwier had sent a written annual report. He also reported on:

Ukraine refugees: numbers arriving in Stanstead are increasing, and ECC is working with the Red Cross and other agencies to house them safely. Harwich is also an arrival location but with smaller numbers so far. Arrivals number around 1,000 so far in Essex and expected to continue increasing.

Secondary school places: ECC administered 16,000 applications, 98% of applicants were offered their first choice of school. 99% of applications were processed online this year.

Country parks parking charges: these have been increased by a small amount this year to cover continued upkeep of the facilities. Visitor numbers are increasing, with 1.5million visitors last year.

Army & Navy junction, Chelmsford: this is to be replaced with a "hamburger style" roundabout, not just for vehicles but for safer use for pedestrians and cyclists, linked with active travel and public transport

Chelmsford North-east bypass: Planning permission has been granted for changes to the Essex Regiment Way and links with Beaulieu railway station with links with active transport initiatives. The timescale is not confirmed but he will keep the Parish Council informed

A120 plans: In answer to a question from Cllr Bayes, Cllr Schwier responded that the government has yet to decide a preferred route for the upgrade to the A120. He will keep the Parish Council informed.

Cllr Schwier left the meeting before item 8

7.3. Braintree DC reports:

Cllr Johnson arrived and reported after item 8

Daffodils, Sheepcot Road: these look superb and he thanks everyone who donated and planted them

Heddinghams Medical Centre: This comes to planning committee on April 19th. Cllr Southgate requested that the Parish Council comments be represented by Cllr Johnson as a committee member.

Prison proposals, Wethersfield: Surveying for ordnance is taking place, nothing else is happening.

40mph SID, Crouch Green: This is still not working. The clerk confirmed it has been reported.

Fly tipping: Incidents should be reported to BDC, who act quickly to clear waste and pursue offenders

Planning enforcement, Sudbury Rd: A good result was achieved at the Crown Court at the end of March. He notes that the electricity supply to the site was recently being disconnected.

Cllr Johnson left the meeting before item 9. Cllr Beavis arrived and reported after item 10

Sible Heddingham Parish Council: due to resignations, the Parish Council is very short of Councillors in Sible Heddingham, which is a great shame because there are some excellent Councillors who are doing good work. Cllr Beavis may offer to stand as a Parish Councillor but will ensure she continues to support Castle Heddingham as District Councillor if elected or co-opted

Heddinghams Medical Centre: The application goes to Planning Committee on April 19th. Cllr Beavis sits on the Planning Committee and is aware of the comments already submitted by Castle Heddingham Parish Council. These comments include requests for adequate parking to meet requirements, making the Castle Heddingham end of the Riverside Walk properly accessible for alternative modes of travel, and ensuring a joined-up solution with public transport availability.

Planning: 3 issues- a) the Local Plan is late being returned by the Planning Inspector b) Planning forums engaging all stakeholders for larger developments are still not in place, c) Planning enforcement improvements being developed include better communication with residents.

Council tax rebates: £150 rebate payments to Band A-D properties will start in May, by bank transfer if direct debit arrangements are in place. Other residents will be contacted by letter

Prison proposals: like Cllr Johnson, Cllr Beavis reported no notification of a planning application but is aware surveys are taking place at the Wethersfield Airbase.

Cllrs Beavis left the meeting before item 11

8. PLANNING

Applications received:

22/00672/ELD Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use - Retention of use of existing outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation.

Greenwich House 8 Queen Street CO9 3EX *Objection comments as previous ELD application, plus: Planning notice not displayed, documents are illegible or inaccurate and site plans are incomplete*

22/00439/LBC Repainting of exterior walls from pink to cream

Badgers Sudbury Road CO9 3AG

No objections

Applications determined

22/00054/LBC & 22/00053/HH Erection of detached cartlodge and attached covered store

26 St James Street CO9 3EW

Application PERMITTED

22/00237/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to a tree in a Conservation Area - Eucalyptus (T1)

Fell the tree This tree is poorly rooted on a mound. If left to get much taller, it is at risk of failure

Binghams Pottery Lane CO9 3EU

Application PERMITTED

9. FINANCE

9.1. The monthly payments were approved for authorisation by two Councillors. The monthly bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Cllr Bayes.

Proposed: Cllr Southgate

Seconded: Cllr Jordan

Agreed unanimously

Apr-22	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
DD	Bulb	Electricity Toilets	£17.72
DD	Invoco (GOCARDLESS)	Portable telephone number	£1.19
B/P	E C Waters	Home as Office April	£75.00
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk Expenses March 14th - April 11th	£16.06
B/P	A&J Lighting	Monthly Charge April	£11.40
B/P	CH Club	April meeting	£20.00
B/P	BDC	Rates Pump House	£5.00
B/P	EALC	EALC/NALC Affiliation Fees	£357.12
B/P	BALC	BALC Affiliation Fee	£40.00
B/P	P M Smith	Payroll Jan/Feb/March 2022	£48.00
B/P	M D Landscapes	Grass cutting March	£1,202.40
B/P	Graham Nicholl	Fallen Tree branch St Nicholas Church	£375.00
B/P	Darkins Supply Stores	Cemetery Noticeboard materials	£119.98

TOTAL in month

£2,288.87

Apr-22	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
	None		

TOTAL in month

£0.00

Mar-22	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
DD	Wave	Water Toilets	£117.73
DD	Wave	Water Cemetery	£13.85
DD	Eon	Electricity New Park	NIL
DD	Bulb	Electricity Toilets	£25.56
DD	Invoco (GOCARDLESS)	Portable telephone number	£1.19
DD	B&CE Holdings	Peoples Pension	£67.80
DD	ICO	Registration fee 2022-23	£35.00

B/P	Staff	Salaries & back pay to April 21	£2,032.14
B/P	HMRC	Tax/NI February month 11	£58.53
B/P	E C Waters	Home as Office March	£75.00
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk Expenses Feb 14th - March 14th	£55.73
B/P	A&J Lighting	Monthly Charge March	£11.40
B/P	CH Club	March meeting	£20.00
B/P	BDC	Rates Pump House	£5.42
B/P	Over 50's Tea Club	Grant Jubilee craft materials	£100.00
B/P	Garry Southgate	Chairmans Expenses: Pay Review meeting	£12.50
B/P	Rentokil Initial	Sanitary Disposal Public Toilets	£13.67
B/P	BDC	Rent Pump House 2022-23	£30.00
B/P	Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator pads x 6	£337.20
	Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	£18.00
TOTAL in month			£3,030.72

Mar-22	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
30-Mar	Bulmer PC	Clerk mobile phone 2021-22	£67.21
30-Mar	Finchingfield PC	Clerk mobile phone 2021-22	£12.22
TOTAL in month			£79.43

Accounts balances at 11th April 2022

Unity Trust Current account	£14,425.47
Unity Trust Deposit account	£10,473.10
Cambridge & Counties 95 day	£34,915.63
	£59,814.20

9.2. BDC Street Cleaning agreement: receipt of the 2022-23 agreement was noted. The clerk will complete the street cleaning activity report and invoice BDC for the street cleaning grant of £5691.96 which is a 3% inflationary increase over 2021-22. Channel sweeping dates were discussed – although a schedule of sweeping vehicle visits to the village is given, these dates often change due to BDC staff being redeployed to other urgent tasks so publication of the planned dates for residents is often inaccurate.

9.3. End of Year Accounts & Audit arrangements: The clerk provided the year end bank reconciliation together with income and spending summaries for the year 2021-22. An increase in interest rate on deposit accounts was noted. Withdrawal of reserves from Cambridge & Counties requires 95 days notice but there are no plans currently to access reserves in this account. All budgeted withdrawal of reserves can be covered by the Unity Trust deposit funds, which are available with instant access. The internal audit will be carried out by Ann Wood as part of the existing 3 year contract. The full Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the Audit Commission will be presented for approval at the May Annual Parish Council meeting. The external auditor deadline for AGAR submission is 1st July 2022

10. VILLAGE PARK

10.1. Community Garden/Allotment: 3 quotes had been received, the selected contractor was chosen by the Village Park group on grounds of cost efficiency and availability.

RESOLVED: To approve the selection of Leaway Developments Ltd to prepare the site, build raised beds, lay accessible pathways and fence the area to protect from animals that might damage crops. The memorial gate to Jim Moore, past village maintenance operative, will be reused as part of the plans.

Proposed: Cllr Jordan

Seconded: Cllr Southgate

Agreed unanimously

11. PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2ND – 5TH JUNE 2022

Cllr Doe gave an update on plans for village events:

- Thursday 2nd June, 5pm to 7.30pm at the Village Park with bar, beacon lighting and entertainment. Castle Heddingham Club and Adam Redgewell will be providing BBQ and paella at this event.
- Sunday 5th June, 2-5pm, St James Street party. Bring your own picnic. Competitions and events.

Flyers are to be printed and delivered to all village households with the May issue of the Parish Magazine, which will also contain a two-page feature of events planned in Sible and Castle Heddingham.

Action: trestle tables are needed for the Sunday street party – all Councillors to ask around please

Action: Risk assessments for both events to be completed and provided to the Parish Council insurers

Action: Cllr Southgate will determine what time the church bells are to be rung, to ensure other activities do not conflict. A church service at St Nicholas on Sunday is planned to take place between 1.30 and 2pm

12. WETHERSFIELD PRISON PROPOSALS

Cllrs Southgate and Tocaram represented Castle Heddingham Parish Council at the WASC (Wethersfield Airfield Scrutiny Committee) meeting at the end of March. The group is well organised with strong relevant experience and skills, and has a membership of 12 local Parish Councils including Castle and Sible Heddingham. Although some Braintree District Councillors are saying there is nothing to worry about until a planning application is submitted, it was agreed that being fully prepared for a short planning consultation period is important. Funding has not yet been requested by WASC from Castle Heddingham Parish Council, but options for finding a contribution from funds outside the 2022-23 revenue budget were discussed. Parish Councils who were founder members of WASC are committing 10% of their annual precept. 10% of Castle Heddingham Parish Council annual precept would be just over £3,000.

13. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Community 360: June 13th to 17th is Loneliness Awareness Week and Community360 is running a Road Show around villages in the Braintree District. The aim of the Road Show is to engage with as many people as possible who may suffer from isolation & loneliness in order to point them to agencies and clubs who can help them. The Road Show will be invited to attend Castle Heddingham, and Jayne Laken our United in Kind facilitator plans to attend.

EALC Local Council Climate Survey: Councillors have been sent a link to the form and were asked to contribute suggested responses in the context of our existing Environmental Policy adopted in 2019

NALC Smaller Councils Priorities: request for suggestions for additional support needed on smaller council issues and needs. Councillors are asked to forward suggestions to the clerk

14. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Annual Parish Council meeting: Election of Chairman and annual reviews of groups & policies
- Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the Audit Commission

15. NEXT MEETING

Monday 9 th May 2022	7.30pm	Annual Parish Council	Castle Heddingham Club
THURSDAY 19 TH MAY	7.30pm	ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY	VILLAGE HALL
Monday 13 th June 2022	7.30pm	Ordinary Parish Council	Castle Heddingham Club

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

SIGNED
(CHAIRMAN)

DATE