



HOCKLEY NEWS

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Spring 2021



HOCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY AWARDS 2021

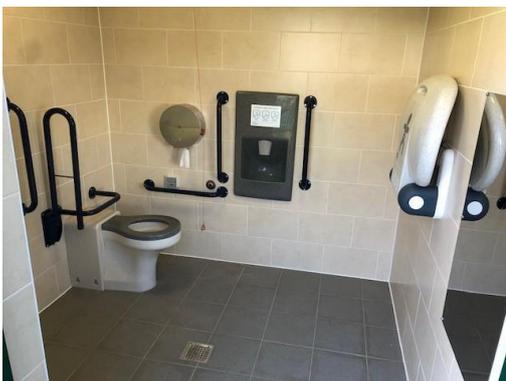
The Community Awards is a new initiative set up this year by Hockley Parish Council to help promote all of the wonderful things Hockley Village has to offer, from our local organisations/ groups, businesses and schools to the individuals who have all made a difference to our community. The winners in each category will be decided by Hockley Parish Council and all nominees will be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting in April for a special evening to celebrate their achievements when the awards will be presented.

Award Categories

1. Community Volunteer Award
2. Environment Award
3. Schools Award
4. Business Award

If you know someone in your street, school, workplace or community who deserves a “thank you,” simply complete the nomination form which is available on our website.

Closing date for nomination is noon on Monday 22nd February 2021.



Public Toilets, Southend Road.

Rochford District Council contractors have finished the internal refit and it is a vast improvement. We are waiting for external maintenance to be completed so a handover date can be arranged. The recent community survey results regarding the area in front of the building have been received and all ideas are now being considered.

Chairman's News



Hockley Parish Council is coming to the end of its Civic Year. Elections are held every 4 years and are anticipated in May. 2021 continues to be very challenging for everyone and Hockley has proved itself up to the challenge. We should have nothing but praise for all those who have taken it upon themselves to help others and in particular all the key workers. There are sure to be many people who deserve a "Thank You" and hopefully you will put their names forward for a Community Award from the Parish Council. At our January meeting the 2021/22

budget was agreed with all members and a Precept of £293,492 approved which represents no increase on the previous year so we can continue to maintain services and provide for new initiatives which will benefit Hockley going forward. So many plans had to be postponed or cancelled during 2020 but we have some light at the end of the tunnel now with vaccinations. There will obviously be many changes to contend with and your council will be asking for your views on how we can continue to work on your behalf towards a better future for Hockley.

Councillor Roy Martin

Hockley Parish Council Budget

The Parish Council has a responsibility to set an Annual Budget and Precept. All Committees discuss budget requirements which are assessed in detail and presented to Full Council for approval.

- A Precept Request of £293,492 has been made to Rochford District Council for 2021/22. This is slightly less than the previous year and the sum of £3,148 has been taken from the General Reserve, with Earmarked Reserves being used for projects. Therefore, the Band D Equivalent will remain the same as 2020/21 at £75.50 per property.
- It has been a testing year with many of the Council's projects being put on hold or not progressing as envisaged and public events being cancelled.
- As the Parish Hall has been closed no income has been received from the bookings.
- Regeneration of the Nature Reserve still continued together with the maintenance of the Play Areas.
- It is hoped to continue with the establishment of a new allotment site; the transfer of the Public Toilets (when the refurbishment has been completed by Rochford District Council); the provision of Special Constables; the provision of wheelchair hires and the refurbishment of the Old Fire Station ready for when it re-opens.

Dates for your Diary

Parish Council Meetings are currently held via Zoom. Members of the public are welcome and if you wish to join meetings details can be found on our website along with all agendas and minutes.

Annual Parish Meeting Monday 26th April 2021
Christmas Celebration Saturday 27th November 2021
Remembrance Service Sunday 7th November 2021

Local Elections May 2021

Do you want to do something within the village?
Do you want to help shape the village for the future?
Do you have a few hours per month spare?

On 6th May 2021, elections will be held for local Parish Councillors, any resident over the age of 18 is eligible to stand. Please contact the office for more information.

So, what is a Parish Council?

Provides Services

Keeping the village a place where people want to live and work



Partnership Working

Represents residents

Clerk to the Parish Council

Heritage Scheme in Hockley

The Parish Council Heritage Group have been working with members of the community on more plaques during lockdown and The Bull Inn is one of three new plaques to be seen around the village - no sign of Dandy Jack's loot yet! We now have 8 completed and you will find the locations on our website.



MARYLANDS NATURE RESERVE UPDATE



Despite the terribly wet weather over the last few weeks, this winter’s work on the nature reserve has progressed well with more thinning out of the wooded areas. 2021/22 will see the completion of the five-year regeneration project, which has vastly improved the viability of the nature reserve. Visitors will also have noted that the area to the left of the Plumberow entrance has been cleared. This is in preparation for a community orchard which will be planted with English variety fruit trees and a wild flower meadow next year.

Essex Police launch another recruiting round for Special Constables. At the request of the community the Parish Council is to fund Specials for Hockley and would be pleased to hear from anyone who wishes to help make our community a safer place in which to live and work.

**MY COMMUNITY
MY OPPORTUNITY
MY OTHER LIFE**

ESSEX POLICE
Protecting and serving Essex

**SPECIAL CONSTABULARY
NOW RECRUITING
HOCKLEY**

My Other Life

#MyOtherLife
If you want to make a real difference in your village then volunteer as a Community Special Constable and play a part in keeping your neighbourhood safe.
Hockley Parish Council are supporting Essex Police to increase local and visible policing in their area.

Contact the Clerk to the Council to find out more
clerk@hockley-essex.gov.uk



LITTER – A COVID PROBLEM?

Over the last months, the open spaces and footpaths of Hockley have received what is without doubt the highest amount of footfall ever due to the restrictions imposed upon us by the government over the last ten months. Unfortunately, this increase has brought with it a rise in irresponsible behaviour, particularly where the disposal of litter is concerned. The Maryland's nature reserve has suffered badly, necessitating daily visits by the Parish Council's rangers to pick up the rubbish discarded by visitors, assisted on a regular basis by a hardy band of volunteers.

Hockley is fortunate in having some of the most attractive countryside in south east Essex, criss-crossed by a fine network of footpaths. As with the open spaces, these footpaths have seen an increase in walkers and once again, litter is proving to be a very real problem. Hockley Parish Councillor Brian Hazlewood has been a regular footpath walker for many years, taking with him whenever he goes out a plastic sack for collecting rubbish. Over the last two years Brian says he has collected an appalling 1,625 sacks of rubbish and reports that over the Covid period the situation has worsened alarmingly.

The Parish Council is pleased that people are getting out and enjoying the countryside but it would ask that litter be placed in a rubbish bin, or if there isn't one, taken home for disposal. The Council's contractor reports that there has been an increase in dog faeces disposed of in litter bins: the bins they have to sort by hand when collected. Not a pleasant task. Please use the dog bins provided on all sites.

The Parish Council would ask residents to use their open spaces and footpaths responsibly and at all times follow the Countryside Code:

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways is clear
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow

- Leave no trace of your visit, take all your litter home
- Don't have BBQs or fires
- Keep dogs under effective control
- Dog poo - bag it and bin it

- Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs and obey social distancing measures

Thank you.

Hockley Parish Council

The Parish Council has agreed to support a Hockley litter pick group led by Donna Lawrence. The volunteers regularly clear litter at Maryland's Nature Reserve and have been provided with Hi-Viz vests and litter picking equipment. The group welcomes help if you have some spare time available and Donna posts details on Facebook - its only once a fortnight but makes a big difference.



HOCKLEY PARISH COUNCILLORS



Hockley West Ward

Cllr. Mark ANDERSON	01702 204 879
Cllr Steve CHELMSFORD	01702 200 178
Cllr Brian HAZLEWOOD	01702 201 786
Cllr Shirley JAMES	01702 205 050
Cllr Roy MARTIN (Chairman)	01702 202 750
Cllr Sue MARTIN	01702 202 750
Cllr Phil MEACHAM	07005 980 128
Cllr Veronica RANDALL (Vice Chairman)	01702 202 142
Cllr Barbara THOROGOOD	01702 203 748

Hockley East Ward

Cllr Nick BOXALL	01702 204 800
Cllr Mike CARTER	07958 707 070
Cllr Toni CARTER	01702 205 648
Cllr Brian O'SHEA	01702 204 334
Cllr Lesley VINGOE	01702 202 829

If you have any comments or enquiries, please contact Clerk to the Parish Council
Phone: 01702 20 77 07: Email: enquiries@hockley-essex.gov.uk : Website: hockley-essex.gov.uk
Please address all correspondence to the Clerk at the Parish Office:
The Old Fire Station 58 Southend Road Hockley Essex SS5 4QH

ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCILLORS HOCKLEY WARD

Cllr Keith HUDSON 01702 233 434 e-mail: cldrKeith.Hudson@rochford.gov.uk
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Cllr Brian HAZLEWOOD 01702 201786 e-mail: cldrBrian.Hazlewood@Rochford.gov.uk

ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCILLORS HOCKLEY & ASHINGDON WARD

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Cllr Carole WESTON 07525714715 (Mobile) e-mail: cldrCarole.Weston@Rochford.gov.uk

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROCHFORD WEST

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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR RAYLEIGH & WICKFORD

Rt. Hon, MARK FRANCOIS MP mark.francois.mp@parliament.uk

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(Unavailable during a General Election).