



Wakes Colne Parish Council

www.wakescolne.org

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL WORKING FOR YOUR PARISH

Business Plan 2017 – 2020

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Mission Statement

To promote the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the Parish.

To protect and improve open spaces, conserving and enhancing the natural environment within the Parish.

To promote sustainable development within the Parish, protecting the rural aspect of the Parish.

2. Strategic Objectives

To assist in the creation of a socially inclusive and economically viable community, embracing all residents irrespective of age, culture, income, race or religion, and which seeks to develop their wellbeing, knowledge, understanding and mutual co-operation.

To provide a channel for the views and expressions of the local community and to be responsive to its needs and aspirations.

To develop partnerships and agency working with the public and private sectors in terms of resources and finance for the benefit of the community.

To develop the role of the Parish Council under the concept of the Local Council Awards scheme and to achieve appropriate awards.

To liaise with and support local community associations.

3. Principles

In all its actions, the Parish Council will take into account, and where appropriate act in accordance with, the principles enshrined in the relevant legislation and best practice for:

Equal Opportunities

Best Value

Disability Discrimination Act

Age Discrimination Act

Equalities Act

Data Protection Act

Local Council Award Scheme

4. Achievements from the 2017-18 Annual Plan

Re-use of the decommissioned telephone boxes on Colchester Road and Middle Green as Book Exchanges for parishioners. Members of the Parish visiting the Book Exchange place a book they no longer require into the 'incoming book' bin and then choose any book to take away with them.

Cost – Insurance - The book monitors are nominated Councillors, who also clean and tidy the books, - maintenance is also carried out to the box (cleaned regularly), - books are donated.

Developed a working relationship with Nicholas Percival regarding the development of a footway along Tyburn Hill from Wakes Hall to extend footpath 25 to link into the footpath network. Nicholas Percival is developing Wakes Colne Hall and has included within the planning application a footpath on Wakes Colne Hall land to link Tyburn Hill into the footpath network.

Cost – to be included with the re-development of the area by the developer.

Undertake two litter picking events within the parish linking into the National litter picking weeks. Purchase of a selection of litter pickers, gloves and high visibility jackets for use by the Litter Picking Volunteers.

Cost – to the Parish Council was £150.00.

Continue to work with Essex County Council and Colchester Borough Council, the local Highways Panel and Parishioners to improve and enhance the safety of pedestrians and drive on the road network through Wakes Colne Parish. A joint village parish meeting was chaired by Cllr. Peter Chillingworth (CBC0, Wakes Colne Parish Council, Chappel Parish Council, Mt Bures Parish Council and Great Tey Parish Council to discuss traffic calming and safety on the road network through the village. Cllr Chillingworth and representatives from Wakes Cole Parish Council and Chappel Parish Council meet with ECC Highways portfolio holder, Cllr Anne Brown (ECC) and members of the Local Highway Panel to discuss proposals put forward by the joint village parishes. The Parish Council is taking forward the option for traffic calming installations in Station Road and lower speed limits throughout the village.

Cost – Funded by the ECC Highways and application to the EALC Local Services Fund.

Working with Essex County Council and BT regarding the installation of Superfast Broadband in the village during 2015. BT indicated that during 2016 that Superfast Broadband was installed in part of the village. Several areas of the village are not achieving superfast speeds and are under review by BT and ECC Superfast Broadband team. Information available on the ECC webpage with inter-active map for updates.

A parishioner has taken the lead on this issue and the Parish Council are supporting their investigations and their liaison with Essex County Council.

Cost – via BT and Essex County Council.

Replacing the lighting in the bus shelter on the Colchester Road (outside the Post Office) with solar lighting.

Cost – Insurance

Wakes Colne Parish Council Award.

Introduced a Council award scheme which acknowledges the important role of local parishioners who have acted in the best interests of the village. Parishioner's nominate local residents of Wakes Colne and award is presented at the Annual Parish Assembly. First recipient for 2017 was Trudi Cresswell

The scheme is implemented by Wakes Colne Parish Council to award local people for the work or service they undertake for the Parish.

Cost – Certificate – Photo frame (£25.00)

Installation of solar pedestrian cat's eyes lighting along Station Approach from the station buildings at Chappel & Wakes Colne station through the car park. Working with the Essex County Council Rail Engagement Manager.

Costs - £9,000.00 grant awarded from Essex small stations community railway partnership and Wakes Colne Parish Council donated £2,000.00.

5. Three-Year Plan 2017-2020

In 2014 Wakes Colne Parish Council achieved the Foundation Award which demonstrates that it has the required documentation and information in place for operating lawfully and according to standard practice. The Council also has policies for training for its Councillors and Staff and so has the foundations for improvement and development in place.

Wakes Colne Parish Council achieved Quality Award in 2016. To achieve the award Wakes Colne Parish Council demonstrated that it meets all the requirements of the Foundation Award. The Parish Council demonstrated evidence of good governance, effective community engagement and continuous improvement.

In 2018 Wakes Colne Parish Council are currently in the process of obtaining the Quality Gold award. The Quality Gold Award demonstrates that a Council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership and council development. Quality Gold Councils provide leadership for their communities, bring people together, have excellent business planning processes, ensuring value for money as well as constantly seeking new innovations and opportunities to improve. The Parish Council highlight the very best we, as a sector, can achieve for our communities.

5.1 Key Council Objectives

Continue to build on the Quality Status to improve partnership working with Colchester Borough Council and Essex County Council.

Where appropriate, seek the development of services from Colchester Borough Council and County Council which would lead to an improvement in services and amenities for the community.

Pursue the implementation of traffic calming measures and speed restrictions on Station Road and Bures Road.

Support Chappel Parish Council with their Community Speed Watch programme and improvements to the A1124.

Pursue the installation of a footway at Tyburn Hill.

Seek to protect inappropriate development within the Parish. Provide comment and constructive criticism on planning issues affecting the local community.

Continue to support the Telephone Box Exchanges located on Colchester Road and Middle Green for the enjoyment of residents and visitors to the Parish.

The Footpath Working Group will continue to work with Essex County Council Public Right of Way Officers to improve and maintain the footpaths within the Parish.

To undertake two litter picking events within the Parish (spring and autumn).

To continue to work with Essex County Council on the provision of Superfast Broadband to all residents of the Parish.

To encourage Councillors to attend relevant training courses/events where possible.
To continue to support the Essex County Council Salt Bag Partnership Scheme. The scheme has been designed by Essex County Council to help local communities support themselves during periods of heavy snow.

The Chair of the Parish Council to contribute a regular article to the Village Reporter magazine highlighting the work of the Parish Council.

Continue to attend and respond to consultations with Network Rail regarding the proposed closure of the railway crossing at Thornfield Wood. Oppose the closure which impacts on the footpath network within the Parish. Support neighbouring Parishes that are also impacted by proposed closure of railway crossings in their Parishes.

Attend and respond to consultations as appropriate with the Highway Authorities regarding improvements to the A12 and A120.

Investigate the feasibility of installing a Parish noticeboard on Crepping Road. The Parish Council have considered this not to be cost effective, and so will therefore not go ahead.

Continue to update and develop the Parish Website.

To investigate the installation of suitable solar power lighting outside the bus shelter on the A1124 (Colchester side). – Achieved in 2017 - the light was free of charge from the manufacturer, the Parish Council working in connection with Essex County Council.

To resurrect the Parish Council concerns regarding the lack of lighting at Chappel and Wakes Colne station with Greater Anglia and pursue improvements with Essex County Council. – Achieved in 2017/2018 – the solar cats eyes pedestrian lights were installed at and the project was funded by Association of Community Rail Partnerships (ACORP) which donated £5,000, Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership (ESSCRP) which donated £3,800 and a further £2,000 was added by Wakes Colne Parish Council. In 2018 further funding £1,215.32 was made available by Association of Community Rail Partnerships (ACORP) for extra lights and Wakes Colne Parish Council added £1,000.00.

Investigate the feasibility of developing a Parish Neighbourhood Plan Village Design Statement. Agreement to be sought from the Parish Council to set up an initial working group by 2019, collate information on a Village Design Statement and develop and action plan, seek advice from Colchester Borough Council, RCCE adjoining Parish Councils who have developed Village Design Statements or Neighbourhood Plan.

Costs – Approximately £2,000.00 can be taken from reserves and investigate available funding from outside organisations.

Investigate updating the Chappel & Wakes Colne Millennium Green Walks pamphlets, including Nature notes, Historical notes and Agricultural notes. Work with the Riverside Colne Country Side Project, Wakes Colne Parish Council Footpath working Group and Essex County Council Public Rights of Way Officers.

Cost - £1,000.00 to revise and reprint pamphlets.

5.2 Planning Issues

General Objectives-

To seek to ensure that:

The environment of the Parish is maintained and enhanced.

Environmental protection is balanced with economic and community prosperity. Open spaces are maintained in a way that will support bio-diversity policies.

Specific Actions

To consider planning applications in the Parish and to comment accordingly.

To report planning or environmental infringements to Colchester Borough Council

5.3 Emergency Planning

To compile and maintain a Parish Emergency Plan, including an Emergency Flood Plan, which is sent to Colchester Borough Council's Emergency Planning Officer.

WAKE COLNE PARISH COUNCIL
FORWARD FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	Budget 2017-18	Budget for 2018-2019	Forecast for 2019-2020
Clerk's Employment Costs	£6,900.00	£7,000.00	£7,200.00
Insurance	£310.00	£350.00	£400.00
Audit	£200.00	£200.00	£200.00
Office Expenses/Office Rent	£650.00	£910.00	£910.00
Room Hire	£350.00	£350.00	£400.00
Subscriptions Paid	£400.00	£375.00	£375.00
Training	£400.00	£400.00	£400.00
Quality Council	£544.22	£242.94	£242.94
Election	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Parish Open Spaces & verges	£600.00	£500.00	£600.00
Footpaths	£250.00	£250.00	£250.00
Street Lighting	£610.00	£610.00	£650.00
Projects	£0.00		
Grants paid	£1,260.00	£1,300.00	£1,300.00
Contingences	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Chairman's Allowance	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00
Village Design Statement			£2,000.00
Millennium Walk Pamphlets updates			£1,000.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£15,524.22	£15,537.94	0000
VAT paid pending recovery		229.08	
Less Grant for Quality Council	544.22	£242.94	
Less Grant	£843.00	£805.00	
Precept	£14,137.00	£12,740.00	
To be taken from Reserves.	£1,397.00	£1,520.92	

Re-Adopted

Date 4th July 2018

Minute reference 18/147

Signed Chairman

Review Date: May 2019