



chilham parish council

serving chilham, old wives lees and shottenden

PARISH QUESTION TIME

An Invitation from Cllr Paul Lulham, Chairman of Chilham Parish Council

Dear Parishioner,

Assuming the Chairmanship of an all-new Parish Council last summer was a daunting task - Chilham is a very special parish with a proud history and a strong community. In order to do the role justice, my fellow councillors and I were clear from the start that we need to engage with all parishioners so that we can effectively represent your views, aspirations and concerns for the rest of our four-year term. The Independent Review of the previous Parish Council also emphasised the importance of community engagement and we have therefore prioritised this area of work during our first six months in office.

It now gives me great pleasure to invite you to attend one of our Parish Question Time events, which we will be holding on consecutive days in March:-

Friday 18th March - 1600-1900, Old Wives Lees Village Hall

Saturday 19th March - 1000-1300, Chilham Village Hall

These events will be informal drop in sessions providing an opportunity for you to come along and meet your new Parish Councillors, to learn more about the work of the Council and to influence our priorities at a time of significant challenges and opportunities for rural communities like ours. Light refreshments will also be available!

Whether or not you are able to attend the events themselves, we would be grateful if you could spare five minutes of your time to complete the attached questionnaire, the results of which will inform the Council's new Strategic Priorities Statement. ***Once you have completed the questionnaire, please drop it into the collection box at the exhibition, or alternatively, return it to Chilham Post Office or Chilham Shop by 23rd March 2016.***

I look forward to meeting you and thank you in advance for your participation.

Yours sincerely

Paul Lulham
Chair
Chilham Parish Council

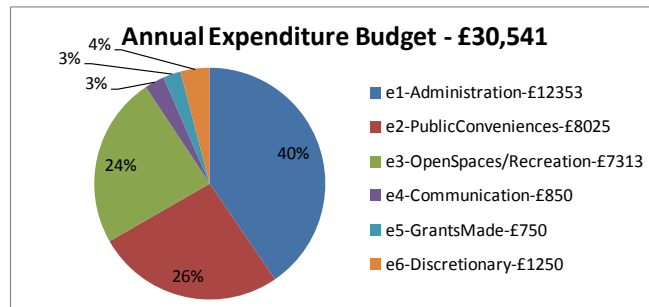
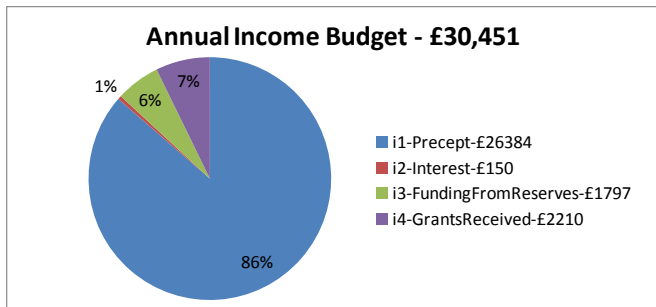


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PARISH COUNCIL FACT SHEET:

How we plan to spend your money:



Our Statutory Powers:

Legislation has conferred onto local councils a range of specific yet discretionary powers which they may exercise if and only if they wish to. Chilham Parish Council currently exercises the following:-

Function	Discretionary Power	Current Use of Power
Allotments	Powers to provide allotments.	Allotment plan for Felborough Close
Bus Shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters.	Provided in Chilham and Shottenden
Litter	Provision of bins	Provided in Chilham and Old Wives Lees
Newsletters	Power to provide	Quarterly PC Tips
Open spaces	Power to acquire & maintain land for public recreation	Old Wives Lees village green
Public Conveniences	Power to provide	Conveniences in Taylors Hill car park
Recreation	Power to provide recreational facilities	Old Wives Lees play area
Tourism	Power to encourage tourism to the council's area	Grants to tourism group (CTRG)
Transport	Powers to spend money on community transport	Subscription to Wealden Wheels
War memorials	Power to maintain, repairs, protect war memorials	Memorial in St Marys churchyard
Websites	Power for councils to have their own websites	Parish Council website

Sawmills Site Developer Contributions – Scheme Summaries:

The Parish Council is considering 8 schemes promoted by local organisations. Summary details are provided below:

Scheme	Total Cost	Requested
Recreation Ground Trust – Football pitch drainage	£24.6k	£24.6k (100%)
Recreation Ground Trust – 3G pitch (40m x 20m) with floodlights	£108k	£54k (50%)
Recreation Ground Trust – Play area improvements	£15k	£15k (100%)
Tennis Club – Courtside facility with kitchen and disable toilet.	£61k	£30.5k (50%)
Tennis Club – Third court with markings for 2 mini-tennis courts	£32k	£16k (50%)
Tennis Club – 2 standalone mini-tennis courts	£20.5k	£10.25k (50%)
Parish Council – Relay wetpour surface at Old Wives Lees play area	£10k	£5k (50%)
Little Owls Preschool – Improve and increase outdoor play facility.	£6k	£6k (100%)
TOTAL	£277.1k	£161.35k

More details of these schemes will be available at the exhibitions and can also be downloaded from the Parish Council website. Your view on each of these schemes is invited on the questionnaire that follows. The amount available is in the region of £160k and your views will help the Parish Council rank these schemes.



QUESTIONNAIRE (page 1 of 2)

Please tick one box for each of the policy statements below to indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, don't know, disagree or strongly disagree in respect of each one					
	strongly agree	agree	don't know	disagree	strongly disagree
The Parish Council should take a more active role in:					
(1) influencing borough council planning policy regarding the parish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) Chilham's Future Delivery Board and its project to improve Chilham Square	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Parish Council should support the use of Sawmills site developers contributions for:-					
(3) Recreation Ground Trust – Football pitch drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) Recreation Ground Trust – 3G pitch (40m x 20m) with floodlights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(5) Recreation Ground Trust – Play area improvements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(6) Tennis Club – Courtside facility with kitchen and disable toilet.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(7) Third court with markings for 2 mini-tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(8) Tennis Club – 2 standalone mini-tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(9) Parish Council – Relay wetpour surface at Old Wives Lees play area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(10) Little Owls Preschool – Improve and increase outdoor play facility.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Parish Council should:					
(11) use up to £5,000 of its £23,360 Toilet maintenance reserve to refurbish the toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(12) take on maintenance duties devolved by ABC and KCC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please tick one box for each of the proposals below to indicate the level of funding you would consider reasonable (£500 is equivalent to an extra 70p per year on the Band D precept charge)					
How much should the Parish Council increase its annual precept in order to spend money on:	None	Under £500	£500 to £1000	£1000 to £1500	Over £1500
(13) providing allotments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(14) community transport schemes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(15) maintaining borough and highway assets (eg grass cutting, cleaning signs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(16) promoting tourism in the parish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(17) crime prevention measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(18) funding trading entities in the parish run by volunteers (eg village halls)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(19) funding entirely voluntary groups in the parish (eg clubs for the young or the elderly)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(20) replacing the bus shelter in Old Wives Lees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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QUESTIONNAIRE (page 2 of 2)

Please tick one box for each of the questions below concerning how you find out about what the Parish Council is doing.					
How many times a month on average do you use the following:	Never	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	Over 10
(21) Parish Council noticeboards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(22) Parish Council pages in Parish News	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(23) village news column in local press	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(24) Parish Council website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(25) Parish Contact emails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(26) Parish Council newsletter (PC Tips)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please tick one box for each of the questions below regarding your engagement with the Parish Council.					
	Never	Once	Twice	4 times	5 times or more
(27) How often during its 4 year term should the Parish Council hold a community engagement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(28) How often during a typical year do you attend a Parish Council meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Add any other comments below and attach additional sheet if necessary.

Please tick box if you are a resident of the parish of Chilham	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Please tick box to confirm you are over 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Please tick box if you would join a Parish Volunteer Network and identify preferences. Is there any other contribution you could make?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gardening activities <input type="checkbox"/>
		Painting / decorating <input type="checkbox"/>
		Leaflet distribution <input type="checkbox"/>

Please enter your details (in block capitals) in the boxes below

Name:	
Address:	
Post Code:	Signature:

Chilham Parish Council (March 2016)

Parish Councillors: Florence Bouzekria; Giovanna Brennan; Paul Hardisty; Lindsay Heasman; Paul Lulham (Chairman); Doug Marriott; Allan Rooke-James; Gill Schofield