



**Galleywood Parish
Council**

3 Year Forward Plan

2022 – 2025

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INTRODUCTION

Galleywood Parish Council has a long-term strategy by means of a Forward Plan which is developed every three years.

The plan is designed to form a long-term vision for the Parish Council to follow; many of the issues identified may take several years and significant amount of money to achieve. Some issues may require the help and resources of external bodies and this will be dependant on the available resources.

The Forward Plan contains the Action Plan for the current year which will be a rolling document, reviewed quarterly and amended as the various aims and objectives are achieved and new ones identified.



STRATEGIES & OUTCOMES

1. ROAD SAFETY

Galleywood Parish Council's objective is to improve road safety for residents on the roads and footpaths.

Road safety is a main concern of residents and a main objective of the Parish Council. The main solution to many of these problems is only achievable with the co-operation of Essex County Council, however, in times of severe financial constraint some of the objectives of the Parish Council will be difficult or even impossible to implement.

To continue to work with all local residents, associations, groups and stakeholders to strive for resolutions to all issues of road safety including parking and speeding. To identify and monitor those areas of the Parish of most concern for possible implementation in the near future.

1.1 OBJECTIVE

To make improvements and provide safer roads and footpaths in a number of identified areas in Galleywood.

1.2 STRATEGY

Engage with residents, City and County Councillors and make use of the Local Highways Panel scheme. Maintain pressure to improve surfaces, areas of concern are monitored and reported to the appropriate agencies.

1.3 OUTCOME

Improved parking, surfaces and access for pedestrians on the footpaths.

2. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

2.1 OBJECTIVE

Galleywood Parish Council will encourage the increased use of public transport and transport links.

2.2 STRATEGY

React, respond and raise awareness. A Parish Council representative is appointed on Essex County Council's Transport Forum. Monitor effectiveness of public transport in Galleywood.

2.3 OUTCOME

A better public transport network to serve Galleywood and provide improved links to other destinations.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

3.1 OBJECTIVE

Galleywood Parish Council will seek to improve the environment and facilities in the village.

3.2 STRATEGY

- Litter/street cleansing – 3 Village Attendants employed to service the village
- Engage with other agencies, including Chelmsford City Council and encourage participation in initiatives i.e. Love Your Parish Days and Community Litter Picks
- Graffiti – monitored by the Village Attendants and residents. Small graffiti is dealt with by the Village Attendants
- Fly tipping – monitored by the Village Attendants and residents
- Dog Fouling – monitored by the Village Attendants and problem areas are reported to Chelmsford City Council
- Flyposting – monitored by the Village Attendants and incidents are reported to Chelmsford City Council
- Trees/shrubs/flowers – to strive to plant additional trees, shrubs and flowers
- Noticeboards – possible upgrade of all Parish Council owned noticeboards
- Bus shelters – possible upgrade of all Parish Council owned bus shelters
- Community assets – to be maintained
- Noise – residents' complaints or concerns are passed onto Chelmsford City Council Public Health department

3.3 OUTCOME

To maintain a clean and tidy village in which residents will take pride in living.

4. ENGAGEMENT

4.1 OBJECTIVE

To constantly strive to improve engagement across the Parish.

4.2 STRATEGY

- Communication with residents – continue to communicate with residents via the Parish Council office, website and noticeboards, the Galleywood Grapevine magazine, Annual Parish Meeting, Forward Plan and Annual Report
- Monthly Councillor Surgeries at the Galleywood Library
- The Parish Council has a social media page
- <https://www.facebook.com/Parish.Council/>
- Communicate with local shops and businesses
- Communicate with local groups and organisations, contact details available on the Parish Council website
- Regular reports from Essex Police and Galleywood Neighbourhood Watch
- Outside Bodies – the Council is a member of the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) and has a representative on the Larger Local Councils Forum (LLCF).
The Clerk is a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) Essex branch and regular meets with other Clerks in the local area. Councillors are appointed as Trustees to the Keene Hall Trust and the Galleywood Heritage Centre. Councillors are also representatives on Essex County Council's Transport Forum, Neighbourhood Action Panel, The Galleywood Common Liaison Group, Minor Local Authority Galleywood Infant School and the Chelmsford Association of Local Councils
- Consider establishment of quadripartite meetings with Essex County Council, Chelmsford City Council and Chelmer Housing Partnership
- Promote Parish Council events – Annual Parish Meeting (a legal requirement), Senior Citizens Christmas lunch and other Christmas events, Remembrance Day service
- Engagement with youth via the Galleywood Youth Club

4.3 OUTCOME

Continuing with the current engagement will assist the Parish Council to liaise with other groups and residents and raise awareness of the Council and its activities.

5. LOCAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

5.1 OBJECTIVE

To improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of Galleywood.

5.2 STRATEGY

- Urge residents to contact their appropriate health forums with any problems, or their views on proposed changes
- Play in the Park – provide financial assistance to the scheme run by Chelmsford City Council
- Footpaths map provided to encourage walking and cycling
- Galleywood Library – maintain and improve the library services provided locally in line with the Parish Council's Strategy containing options for the services and building
- Wellbeing leaflet provided – signposting residents to local groups and organisations
- Galleywood Parish Council Health and Wellbeing Plan – with the Parish Council's strategy
- Community Resilience
 - Provision of community defibrillators
 - Provision of community bleed bags
 - Community Resilience Plan in place

5.3 OUTCOME

Local participation to improve health and well-being.

6. CLIMATE ACTION

6.1 OBJECTIVE

To support and encourage our community in moving forward towards net zero carbon emissions.

6.2 STRATEGY

- Encourage cycling and walking and the use of electric vehicles/scooters
- Work with stakeholders to increase tree cover, protect natural habitats, increase biodiversity and improve the amenity value of public spaces
- Engage with schools, local businesses and local organisations to share best practices in reducing waste, recycling and lowering energy consumption
- Increase awareness of opportunities to reduce energy use through building insulation and renewable energy sources

6.3 OUTCOME

- A greener Galleywood

7. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

6.1 OBJECTIVE

To constantly strive to improve resilience across the Parish.

6.2 STRATEGY

- Communication with residents to understand their needs and expectations
- Establish a Working Group with a view to creating a Village Response Team
- Provide training, workshop and opportunities to practice for highest/future scenarios

6.3 OUTCOME

- To build more resilient Village in terms of infrastructure and readiness

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The Plan is a statement of the Parish Council's intentions over the next three years and will be subject to at least an annual review in January each year. Elements of the Plan will be controlled through the monthly Parish Council agenda process. This will ensure that the plan is carefully monitored and that it aligns with the aspirations of the Parish Council.

The Plan will be widely published via the Parish Council's website, the Grapevine magazine which is produced quarterly and other community channels.

The Parish Council will promote its availability and seek feedback on the contents from within the community.

BACKGROUND



Galleywood is a village surrounded by countryside in Essex, about 30 miles from London and close to the city of Chelmsford.

Galleywood dates back to early medieval time, recorded in 1250 as Gauelwode (Galleywood Common), a hamlet of Great Baddow, part of an ancient forest interspersed with open shrubland. Gradually the common land was enclosed and the surrounding lower land formed. The racecourse dates back to the 1750s and since then The Common has been used for defensive fortifications during the Napoleonic Wars, a golf course (1893-1922), a training ground for soldiers and artillery defences in the First World War and brick making in the 19th and early-20th centuries.

In early Victorian times the village was centred on The Eagle crossroads, The Street and Well Lane, education being provided by a school that doubled as a Chapel of Ease on Sundays and by a Methodist chapel built in Well Lane.

It still retains some lovely old character properties – Walters Farmhouse, the old Methodist Chapel (now a private house), the old village school (now the Galleywood Youth Centre) and many traditional rural Essex cottages and farm houses, with the names of many Galleywood's families and farms living on in the road names – Ponds Road, Pyms Road, Pavitt Meadow and Pryors Road, to name but a few.

Galleywood has an excellent network of footpaths, many hectares of Metropolitan Green Belt land and plenty of open countryside to explore. Galleywood Common was the historic home of the racecourse from 1759-1935, made famous by the racehorse 'Golden Miller'. The area, which is approximately 400 yards in width and one mile in length, has more recently been designated as a Local Nature Reserve.

St Michael and All Angels' Church, whose soaring spire is a local landmark, is built near the highest point in Galleywood (85 metres), was established in 1874 and is surrounded by The Common. It is unique as the only church in the country to be built in the middle of a racecourse.

The Civil Parish of Galleywood was created in 1987 when Galleywood separated from Great Baddow parish.

THE COUNCIL



Galleywood Parish Council serves the parish of Galleywood in Essex which has a population of around 5,800 people living in 2,250 residential households. It consists of nine Councillors.

The Parish Council levies a tax (precept) to pay for its local services and for 2022/23 the precept is £109,812. The precept covers the cost of running the council and providing services such as maintaining local open space, litter control, bus shelters, litter bins, events, public toilets, telephone book exchange, youth club, grants scheme.

The Council is committed to listening to and working with local people and many local residents work with us to help keep Galleywood a great place to live.

MISSION STATEMENT

'To enhance the quality of life for the community of Galleywood, maintain the village identity and encourage a community spirit'.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Assets

Ownership and maintenance of the public conveniences in Watchouse Road, Galleywood

Ownership of the War Memorial at the Keene Hall, Watchouse Road, Galleywood which was built in 2010

5 public noticeboards at the following sites:

- On the wall of the Galleywood Library, Watchouse Road
- Inside the bus shelter in Watchouse Road
- Barnard Road (opposite the Co-op)
- Outside the Keene Hall
- Inside the Keene Hall lobby

8 bus shelters at the following sites:

- Watchouse Road (NW)
- Barnard Road (West Lawn)
- Barnard Road (opposite the Co-op)
- Skinners Lane
- Watchouse Road (opposite Keene Hall)
- Watchouse Road (near crossing)
- Stock Road (opposite youth centre)
- Stock Road (near youth centre)

A number of public seats around the village

A number of litter bins – emptied by Chelmsford City Council

Ownership and maintenance of open spaces in the village:

- Twitten Green – a grassed area surrounded by trees
- The Spinney – to the west of the parish; houses a pond and a dipping platform

The Green at Pipers Tye is treated as Common Land, remains subject protection under Section 9 of the Act of 1965 and is maintained by the Parish Council. The grass on the Green is cut under contract with the Parish Council and the trees maintained

The Galleywood Common and Nature Reserve is owned and maintained by Chelmsford City Council. The Common was registered as a Common in 1967 and confirmed as a Local Nature Reserve in July 1994

Two Village signs located at Pipers Tye and the shops in Watchouse Road

Ownership of the Red Telephone Box at Pipers Tye which houses the Village Book Swap

Ownership of the Village Pump at Pipers Tye which was presented to the Parish Council by Norman Bayes on 1 February 1997 to mark the location of an original pump that stood on this spot up until the 1920s



Services

The Parish Council office is located on the first floor at the Keene Hall, Watchouse Road and is occupied by the Clerk and Administrative Assistant. The office is the first point of contact for residents

- The Parish Council employs four Village Attendants, three of which collect litter on the weekly basis and one who cleans the bus shelters every month
- The Parish Council funds the Galleywood Youth Club which is held each week in the Galleywood Youth Centre, Watchouse Road
- The Parish Council owns the public conveniences in Watchouse Road and they are open 24 hours a day every day of the year
- The Parish Council maintains the open spaces in its ownership and work is contracted out, as and when required
- Street Furniture: The Parish Council owns and maintains a number of seats, litter bins and dog foul bins in the village which are provided for the benefit of the community

Events

Remembrance Service

The annual service of Remembrance is held at the War Memorial at the Keene Hall.

Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch

An annual Christmas luncheon for the senior citizens in the village. A three-course meal is provided along with entertainment to celebrate Christmas with friends and neighbours.

Carols on the Common

The Parish Council works in partnership with St Michael and All Angels' church to provide this annual event held at Galleywood Heritage Centre.

Community Litter Picks

These are arranged on a regular basis to engage with residents whilst also helping to keep Galleywood clean and tidy.

Play in the Park

The Parish Council provides funding for events in Galleywood through Chelmsford City Council's Play in the Park scheme.

Councillor Surgeries

The Parish Council provides an opportunity for residents to meet their Parish Councillors monthly. The surgeries are held at the Galleywood Library on the last Saturday of the month 10am to 12 noon.



OTHER WORK OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Pastoral work

- Planning related questions
- Rubbish collection
- Anti-social behaviour

Monitoring and Reporting

- Road and utility works (Essex County Council and Utility companies)
- Street Lighting (Essex County Council)
- Public Rights of Way (Essex County Council)
- Footpaths and Verges (Essex County Council)
- Fly tipping on public land (Chelmsford City Council)
- Potholes and pavement maintenance (Essex County Council)
- Housing and Open Spaces (Chelmer Housing Partnership)

ACHIEVEMENTS

Galleywood Parish Council continues to organise and manage various events throughout the year for the benefit of the residents. In the last 12 months the following achievements were made:

		Cost
New tree planted at Jubilee Park to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee	Jan 2022	£150
Barnard Road – new noticeboard installed	Jan 2022	£3,916
Pens and bookmarks purchased to celebrate the Parish Council's 35 th anniversary	March 2022	£611
Information Board installed at The Spinney	March 2022	£60
Grants provided to local groups in April 2022	April 2022	£3,161
Information Board installed at Twitten Green	April 2022	£60
Jubilee Event - Storytelling at Twitten Green	June 2022	£100
Jubilee Event – Senior Citizens buffet lunch	June 2022	£480
4 Bleed Control Bags purchased for the Village	June 2022	£418
Financial support for the 'Play in the Park Scheme' held in Chelmer Park and Jubilee Park	August 2022	£878
Grass maintenance contract provided for Pipers Tye and Twitten Green	Annually	£1,118
Publication of the Galleywood Grapevine Community Magazine both printed and online versions	4 editions per year	Self funded
Financial support for the Galleywood Youth Club	2022-23	£7,555
Annual Parish Meeting held in May 2022.		
Continued with public engagement through Saturday morning Councillor surgeries held at the Galleywood Library.		

PLANNED PROJECTS

The Parish Council sets a budget to provide funds for projects which can be implemented through a combination of reserves, grants and the annual Precept. These will be scheduled into the plans over the three-year period and will be agreed on an annual basis.

ACTION PLAN

2022-2023 See Appendix 1