



Maplestead Magna Carta

Great Maplestead Parish Council's Award-Winning Newsletter

Community-based support for an ageing population...

Agents of change...

As people get older, their natural wish is to carry on managing their own lives and stay living independently for as long as possible, and for as long as they are safe.

Inevitably, however, they will eventually need help and support to enable them to do this; for some, that will come from friends and family but for others access to a community-based support network will be essential to meet their needs.



Recognising that this kind of pastoral and practical support service could be of benefit to parishioners now and in the future, the

Council has been in discussion with **Community Agents Essex** to see how residents could best use the free, confidential service **CAE** provides to support their needs as they grow older.

CAE can help in a number of ways:

- **Mobility** – where equipment and adaptations are needed in the home or to support travel, independence, social interaction and/or physical activity to help improve health and well-being.
- **Practical Living Skills** – support to gain or regain skills such as paying bills, needing care in the home – personal/shopping/housework, taking medication or getting to appointments.
- **Social Inclusion** – connecting people to clubs or interactions with friends or activities.
- **Healthy Living** – support with preparing meals, linking to care providers who home-deliver food or a community activity such as a lunch club.
- **Helping Carers** – providing practical support, information and advice for those new to caring or who have been caring for a while and are struggling to cope with their changing role.
- **Individual Resilience** – advice and support to ensure correct entitlement to benefits/pension credit and any matters that require addressing to improve quality of life.

CAE can be contacted by ringing **08009 775858** or **01376 574341**; all calls are confidential. More details about this valuable service can be found at <https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk/local-amenities/community-agents-essex/>.

Community Agents Essex is being funded by **Essex County Council** until March 2021 and is a working partnership with **British Red Cross**, **Age UK Essex** and **Neighbourhood Watch**.

A heartening response...

On Saturday 22nd June, parishioners from both **Maplesteads** attended a free 2-3 hour training/refresher session in the Village Hall on CPR and the use of a defibrillator.



Attendees were given the opportunity to practice their skills on dummies, linked via WIFI to an i-pad, to show how effective their chest compressions and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation attempts were – all hi-tech stuff, but invaluable in helping heart attack responders develop the correct techniques.

The **Council** would like to extend their thanks to parishioner and local First Responder, **Keith Sarti**, who kindly gave his time and provided all the training and appropriate equipment free of charge. The **Maplesteads** are extremely lucky to have him!

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Dealing with dog waste...

The **Council** has taken action on parishioner concerns about dog faeces being deposited on the grass verge opposite the school car park and along Gestingthorpe Road.



A new dog waste bin has been sourced from **BDC** and installed there to deal with the problem. This means there is now no possible excuse for failing to scoop and bag dog faeces deposited in this area.

However, if this irresponsible behaviour persists, residents can report it by using the information at: <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/forms/form/306/> or contacting the **Dog Warden: 01376 552 525**.

Playing Field improvements...

A few changes have recently been made to improve conditions in the Playing Field.



The **Car Park**, which had become potholed and was prone to flooding in wet weather, has been re-surfaced by the **Task Force** who, on a Saturday morning in June, laid and levelled several tons of stone and gravel. However, it has become apparent that more work will be required in due course to get a uniformly consistent surface. Weeds, which had proliferated alongside the boundary marker poles, have subsequently been removed.



In the **Childrens' Play Area** the long grass under some of the equipment has been cut back by a volunteer and a **'No Dogs'** notice, which had been removed, has been re-instated. **No dogs are allowed in the play area** as a safeguarding measure, so this is a regulation that must be respected at all times.

To appraise users of the statutory regulations, the **Conditions of Use** sign, a handy on-site reference as to what is and isn't allowed on the **Playing Field**, and which was removed by persons unknown from its original location last year, has now been re-instated at the **Car Park** entrance, for best visibility and to encourage compliance.



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Mobile phone coverage/reception...

Historically, mobile phone reception in the parish has been poor to non-existent.

In an attempt to improve things, the **Council** has linked up with its counterparts in **Pebmarsh** and **Little Maplestead** to undertake a joint project aimed at better coverage across the local area.

It is felt that a combined proposal would make a more viable business case for potential telecoms providers. Also, such an approach may require fewer masts and so prove to be a cheaper option.

Further information about this project will be announced in due course.

Latest Planning News

The **Parish Council** considered the following application at its meeting on 3rd July:

Applications Received:

- ✦ **19/00938/LBC** September Cottage, Church Street. Repair/replacement of wall plate to sitting room, rebuild south gable wall plinth & re-render wall in traditional lime render.

It was agreed that the response to this should be "No objections raised, no comment".

See other responses & comments by clicking on: http://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200225/search_and_track_planning_applications.

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Forthcoming Events

The following are some forthcoming village events (*these at the Village Hall) that you may wish to note for your diary:

- ✦ **Friday Evenings until 30th Aug: Boules** – on the **Playing Field**. Starts around: **6.30pm**. Bring your own drinks, snacks & chairs.
- ✦ **Sat 7th Sep*: Maplesteads Autumn Show** – for entry details and the full programme contact Carol Brownlie (461 527). The photo competition for adults is **Water** and for the under 16's **Pets**.
- ✦ **Sat 7th Sep: Ride & Stride** - a sponsored tour of churches in the local area. 50% of donations goes to **Friends of Essex Churches** and 50% to the walker/rider's chosen church. Sponsorship forms available from Mary Elms (461 421).
- ✦ **Sat 21st Sep*: Jumble Sale** - starts **3.00pm**. Admission **30p**. Raffle and Refreshments. More details from Diane Smith (473 300), Doreen Faulks (460 727) or Liz Newton (461 308).
- ✦ **Mon 23rd Sep*: WEA Autumn Course** - the **seven-week** course is entitled '**The History and Culture of Italy**'. This **free-of-charge** first session starts at **6.30pm**. Course is **£54**.
- ✦ **Sat 5th Oct*: Charity Bingo Evening** - in aid of **Cystic Fibrosis**. Starts at **7.00pm**. For tickets contact Myra Jeggo (474 285) or e-mail m.jeggo@sky.com
- ✦ **Sun 6th Oct*: Harvest Village Walk** - meet at **11.00am**. Cost: **£2.50/person** – dogs & children **free**. Half-way drinks + refreshments.

Further information about these and many other village activities can be found on the 'Events' page of the **Parish Council** website.

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Contacting the Council

Any comments, requests or correspondence should initially be made to the Parish Clerk:

**Ann Crisp, New House, St Giles Close
Great Maplestead, CO9 2RW**

Tel: 01787 460 216 (4-6pm Mon-Thurs)

E-mail: anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk

Website: <https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk>