

June 2026

# Springfield Parish Council Annual Report



We are pleased to provide a report on our achievements and challenges over the last year.

Springfield Parish Council & Centre

## SUMMER FESTIVAL

  
**DATE: SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>  
SEPTEMBER**  
**TIME: 11AM – 3PM**  
**Location: Field Next to the  
Parish Centre**

**FREE ENTRY!**

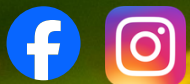
JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN!

- Food & Drink stalls •
- Music •
- Inflatables •
- Children's Entertainer •
- Events Programme to be confirmed •

Please join this community event!  
More information to follow

For more information visit our Socials:

 Springfieldpc  Springfield Parish Council and Centre



[www.springfield-pc.gov.uk](http://www.springfield-pc.gov.uk)  
01245 464583



## SPRINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



### **PRESENTED BY CLLR. IAN FULLER (VICECHAIRMAN) @ THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026**

It gives me great pleasure to present this Annual Report on behalf of the Council. I was delighted to be elected as Vice Chair of the Council again at the Annual Council Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> May alongside the Chair of the council, Cllr Richard Carson. We serve the community with ten other councillors, three of whom joined the council in the last year. My thanks go to all our councillors who give up their time and commitment, with no remuneration, for the benefit of the Springfield Community. In addition, we have a team of hard-working and dedicated staff who do a brilliant job at promoting and maintaining this marvellous centre.

This has been a positive and productive year for the organization, with stronger community engagement and successful delivery of several key projects and events. Despite ongoing financial pressure affecting many organizations, we have remained vigilant and focused on our objectives.

Last year the Springfield Parish sign was erected on the green space. Up until then it had been over in Chelmer Village. Now that Chelmer Village and the Garden Community have their own councils, perhaps it is now a good time to think about the identity of Springfield. Parish. Many people might say that they live in Springfield but do not live in the parish.

It was in 1907 that large parts of the original Springfield Parish were taken over by the Borough of Chelmsford. There had been strong objections, and the matter had gone to Parliament. The centre of the original parish was around All Saints Church. Indeed, the church is part of the Springfield sign. Yet currently it is not within the Springfield Parish.

### **Highlights and Achievements**

There have been some significant improvements to the Parish Centre this past year. The office downstairs has been closed, with all staff now based upstairs, where there is a new welcome window. This has freed up an extra space that is being hired out, generating more income. This council chamber has been painted, new blinds have been put up and new floor covering, extending down the stairs.

New lighting has been installed, new kitchen units in the nursery area, and a new heating system has been put in the building where the library is situated. The floor of the Bowers Hall has been rejuvenated and looks very smart. Outside the parking spaces have been refreshed, with additional disabled parking and spaces for motor bikes and mobility scooters.

The garden on the far side of the car park is being transformed into a space that will be more of a nature area with seating.

The Springfield Community Café successfully re-opened in October 2025. There has been a steady increase in customer use and special events have taken place, including the MacMillan coffee morning, alongside the occasional Dog Café. The local camera club has provided photographs to decorate the walls.



With all these improvements it is pleasing to report that bookings are up and there has been a huge increase in those using this centre.

The council has sought to improve our engagement with the community over the past year with new initiatives. Residents now receive a regular newsletter, delivered to their door. The council's website has been improved, and we have a better presence on social media. Community events have taken place including a Christmas party, a craft fayre and the Play in the Park scheme.

Further afield the council has replaced ten of the litter bins dotted around the parish. Following an accident, a new bus shelter was installed on Brackenden Drive and a new seating bench provided.

Alongside all this there has been a review of our policies to ensure the council continues to operate effectively and responsibly. A new finance system is in place, and an Action Plan has been developed to keep residents informed on our progress.

### **Challenges and issues**

This past year has not been without its challenges, particularly surrounding the complex situation of our separation from Chelmer Village Council.

A lot of hard work has gone into strengthening the relationship between the Council and our residents and community groups. But some people are still not aware of where we are and what we do. We will continue to strive to make our presence better known and more relevant.

Like everyone else our running costs have increased, and we have had to invest in the centre to make it more attractive to hirers and more comfortable for our users. But we are seeing a return on that investment through more bookings.

### **Financial Overview**

Preparations are underway for our Annual Internal and External Audit for the last Financial Year, which must be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> June 26.

The web site will be updated monthly by our Finance Officer, showing all aspects of our financial transactions in line with our Financial Regulations and the Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Practitioners' Guide 2026/27. An example of which is that all expenditure over £500 is now shown.

Also, our residents will be able to see how much we hold in our contingency reserves, earmarked reserves (projects), and our Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The web site will also show monthly income and expenditure, and how we are performing in line with our budget.

Our staff strive to achieve best value for money at all times.

### **Future plans**

- An Annual Fayre is being planned for the 13<sup>th</sup> September to bring the community together
- The development of the nature area in line with our Bio-Diversity Policy providing an area to be enjoyed by all.
- A new booking system, due to go live in June, will allow residents to enquire online about hall bookings.
- Using our new finance system to make financial reporting more transparent.
- Health & Wellbeing – we are proud to be working in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society and Specsavers to bring services locally for our residents and we will continue to explore further opportunities.



## Acknowledgements

The Council records with sadness the passing of Cllr. Mike Mackrory, who has represented Springfield on ECC and Springfield North on the city council over a significant period of time. He opened this centre when he was Mayor and was instrumental in bringing a library to Springfield after many years of advocacy and planning. He would always try to attend our full council meetings and promoted Springfield with dedication and commitment for over 30 years. His contribution to the community is gratefully acknowledged. The Council extends its sincere condolences to his family and friends.

My thanks go to our staff. Many of the initiatives and improvements that I have mentioned have come about through the enthusiasm and hard work of Karen, our Parish Clerk. She has shown a lot of resilience this past year and has brought stability to our service. Maisie, our Finance Officer has helped to bring in our new finance system and banking arrangements and has been a catalyst for developing our Christmas events. Kim our bookings clerk has impressed our hirers with her can-do attitude and positive outlook. One of the team, Bella, is currently on maternity-leave. Nicky has done great work in the café and makes exceedingly good cakes. Our cleaners, Rachael and Paul, make sure that the place is ready for use each day, and our maintenance supervisors, Billy and Rob, keep the place in order. Billy, in particular, has taken on the redecoration, repainted the parish sign, carried out much of the DIY work and unblocked the toilets.

So much gratitude to all the members of the staffing team for their commitment and flexibility to ensure the Centre runs efficiently.

## Closing statement

I urge residents to be more involved in what we do here and to share views with us. Our role is to represent our communities' views, so your feedback is essential to us. We are always seeking volunteers to assist with various tasks to assist us in making our community an even better place to live.

The Parish Clerk can be available (by appointment, Monday - Thursday) to discuss any issues or concerns, or you can speak directly with any councillor.

One of our new hirers is a well-known optician. Hopefully going forward our residents and hirers will be able to tell others, "You should have gone to the Springfield Parish Centre".

Best wishes to you all.

# CLERK'S REPORT:

## KAREN KUDEROVITCH

Well, what a year! I joined Springfield Parish Council as a Locum Clerk in March 2025 and took the permanent role in July 2025. I do like a challenge, and this role has certainly been just that!

Many of the achievements have been mentioned in this newsletter but I would like to focus on the staffing team. Every member of staff plays an important individual role in ensuring the Springfield Parish Centre operates to a high standard. By everyone pulling together in times of need, this has proven to be the most effective way to operate. No member of staff is precious about what role they play, especially in times of emergency, to ensure we get the job done. There are so many different challenges to deal with, but I am proud of the achievements we have made over the last year. I believe that Springfield Parish Council is now a forward thinking and engaging Parish Council.

I am proud to say that we have had so many comments on how helpful, caring and efficient the staff are and how the Springfield Parish Centre is now a fantastic and vibrant venue to visit. We go over and above what is required to ensure we keep our centre users satisfied and have seen a huge increase in centre hirers. Rarely do we have issues, but when we do we act quickly and efficiently to rectify them. Staff come in earlier than their official start time if required and stay after their official finish time should the need arise. Thank you to our 2 casual staff who deliver the newsletters to your door and also do a great job.

So much work goes on behind the scenes of a busy centre, and for this I am truly grateful to all the staff for always being there, even when they are not strictly on duty, to support me and the Council. We could not have achieved so much without us all pulling together.

The Springfield Café continues to grow in attendance, but we do still need more people to visit to ensure we can continue to operate. We are not seeking to make a huge profit, we only want to continue to provide a community hub for everyone, so if you have not visited us yet, please do so. We now have outdoor seating as well, so you can take your drinks/food and enjoy the sunshine.

So well done team, as I often am heard saying – 'teamwork really does make the dream work'. My thanks also to the Councillors who have supported me in many new ideas and changes and for giving up their time freely for the benefit of their community. We are also excited to now be organizing community events and if anyone has anything they would like to suggest then please let us know.

A memorial bench is being planned for our nature area to mark the sad passing of Cllr. Mike Mackrory.

I am always available (by appointment) to discuss anything so don't be shy, pop in and see me.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer.

# Achievements



**Specsavers joined us in May 2026**



**The Springfield Parish Sign was relocated to Springfield in September 2025**



**Our stunning new floor in our air conditioned Bowers Hall**



**Our Cafe reopened in October 2025 and continues to thrive!**



**Play in the Park- funded by us for children to enjoy**



**Our beautiful nature area is currently being developed for all to enjoy!**



**The Council Chamber has had a full refurbish!**



**Our Dog Cafe started in February 2026 and now runs weekly on a Tuesday**

## EVENTS



**Macmillan Coffee Morning 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025- A successful morning that raised £250**



**Christmas Party 2025- A fabulous event for the community!**



**Craft Fayre 28<sup>th</sup> March- Our first event of 2026 was a great success!**

# FINANCE:

## Bank Reconciliation

This reconciliation should include all bank and building society accounts, including short term investment accounts. It must agree to Box 8 in the column headed "Year ending 31 March" in Section 2 of the AGAR – and will also agree to Box 7 where the accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Name of smaller authority: Springfield Parish Council

County area (local Councils and Parish meetings only):

Financial year ending 31/03/26

Prepared by (Name and role): Maisie Kingston Assistant Clerk / Finance Officer

Date: 21/05/26

| Balance per bank statements as at 31/03/26 | £           | £           |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Business Premium Account                   | £0.00       |             |
| CCLA                                       | £123,218.08 |             |
| Current Account                            | £40,918.84  |             |
|                                            | <hr/>       | £164,136.92 |
| Petty Cash                                 |             | £0.00       |
| Less: any unrepresented cheques            |             | £0.00       |
| Add: any uncleared effects                 |             | £0.00       |
| Net balances as at 31/03/26 (Box 8)        |             | £164,136.92 |

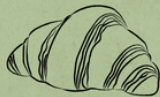
# EARMARKED RESERVES:

| SPRINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL - EARMARKED/CONTINGENCY RESERVES - FULL COUNCIL 1.6.26 |                                  |              |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Barclays end of year balance as at 31.3.26                                        | £ 40,918.84                      |              |                |
| CCLA end of year balance as at 31.3.26                                            | £ 123,218.08                     |              |                |
|                                                                                   | £ 164,136.92                     |              |                |
|                                                                                   | <i>included in figures above</i> |              |                |
| Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) £18,110.64                                    |                                  |              |                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                      | <b>£ 164,136.92</b>              |              |                |
| Minus Contingency Reserve (approx. 3 months Precept)                              | £ 78,557.00                      |              |                |
| <b>BALANCE FOR ALLOCATION TO PROJECTS</b>                                         | <b>£ 85,580.00</b>               |              |                |
| <b>PROJECTS FOR 2026/27</b>                                                       | <b>£</b>                         | <b>Spent</b> | <b>Balance</b> |
| Bowers Hall Kitchen - refurbishment                                               | £ 8,000.00                       | 0.00         | £ 8,000.00     |
| Nursery radiators - replacement                                                   | £ 4,600.00                       | 0.00         | £ 4,600.00     |
| Boleyn Kitchen - refurbishment                                                    | £ 1,500.00                       | 0.00         | £ 2,000.00     |
| 5 toilets refurbishment (2 ladies, 2 mens, 1 disabled)                            | £ 7,000.00                       | 0.00         | £ 7,000.00     |
| Community Grant Fund                                                              | £ 1,000.00                       | 0.00         | £ 2,000.00     |
| Photocopier upgrade                                                               | £ 5,700.00                       | 0.00         | £ 5,700.00     |
| Cafe kitchen refurbishment                                                        | £ 5,000.00                       | 0.00         | £ 5,000.00     |
| Open Space at Centre (Nature area) - funding possibility                          | £ 4,000.00                       | 2687.00      | £ 1,313.00     |
| 4 Community Events in 2026                                                        | £ 2,000.00                       | 0.00         | £ 3,000.00     |
| Centre Car park resurfacing                                                       | £ 22,000.00                      | 0.00         | £ 22,000.00    |
| Bowers Hall Stage Lighting Maintenance                                            | £ 3,000.00                       | 0.00         | £ 3,000.00     |
| Air conditioning - Boleyn Room, Springfield & Council Chamber                     | £ 4,780.00                       | 0.00         | £ 4,780.00     |
| Lock up - building works                                                          | £ 10,000.00                      | 0.00         | £ 10,000.00    |
| Springfield Centre Solar Panels                                                   | £ 10,000.00                      |              | £ 10,000.00    |
|                                                                                   | <b>£ 88,580.00</b>               |              |                |
| Minus £1313.00 (nature area)                                                      | £ 1,313.00                       |              |                |
| <b>Virement to Unity No 2 account for approval</b>                                | <b>£ 87,267.00</b>               |              |                |

## Business Breakfast/Lunches



Business Lunches £7 per head



Business Breakfasts £2 per head



At the Springfield Parish Centre, we have catering options available for team meetings, training days, conferences and more!  
Please get in contact for more information

[www.springfield-pc.gov.uk](http://www.springfield-pc.gov.uk)  
[enquiries@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@springfield-pc.gov.uk)

## NETWORKING EVENTS

WOULD YOUR BUSINESS BENEFIT FROM A NETWORKING EVENT? THE CENTRE IS CONSIDERING STARTING SOME EVENTS FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES



PLEASE GET IN CONTACT IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED

[WWW.SPRINGFIELD-PC.GOV.UK](http://WWW.SPRINGFIELD-PC.GOV.UK)  
[ENQUIRIES@SPRINGFIELD-PC.GOV.UK](mailto:ENQUIRIES@SPRINGFIELD-PC.GOV.UK)

# MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

The full Parish Council meets on the first Monday of every month, and we have various Committees meeting regularly as well. Agendas are available on our website or notice boards. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and may address the council at the start of the meeting during the public session.

**Cllr. Richard Carson**

**[cllrr.carson@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrr.carson@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Chair of Council, Environment & Planning Committee

**Cllr. Ian Fuller**

**[cllri.fuller@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllri.fuller@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Vice Chair of Council, Personnel Committee, Premises Committee

**Cllr. Beata Chadwick**

**[cllrb.chadwick@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrb.chadwick@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Springfield United Charities rep, Environment & Planning Committee, Premises Committee

**Cllr. David Havell**

**[cllrd.havell@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrd.havell@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Transport rep, Environment & Planning Committee

**Cllr. Emmanuel Aluko**

**[cllre.aluko@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllre.aluko@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council, Personnel Committee

**Cllr. Nimalan Sinnathamby**

**[cllrn.sinnathamby@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrn.sinnathamby@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council, Environment & Planning Committee

**Cllr. Sarah Stanbridge**

**[cllrs.stanbridge@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrs.stanbridge@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council, Personnel Committee, Events Working Party

**Cllr Guy Brazendale**

**[cllrg.brazendale@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrg.brazendale@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council, Chair of Environment & Planning Committee and Chair of Personnel Committee

**Cllr. John Pioli**

**[cllrj.pioli@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrj.pioli@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council

**Cllr. Kelly Hine**

**[cllrk.hine@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrk.hine@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council, Personnel Committee

**Cllr. Natacha Dudley**

**[cllrn.dudley@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrn.dudley@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council, Premises Committee

**Cllr. Richard Lee**

**[cllrr.lee@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrr.lee@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Chair of Premises Committee, Personnel Committee

**Cllr. Nicholas Stanig**

**[cllrn.stanig@springfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrn.stanig@springfield-pc.gov.uk)**

Member of Parish Council, Premises Committee, Events Working Party, Environment & Planning Committee

## Chelmsford City Councillors

Natacha Dudley- The Lawns

Richard Lee- The Lawns

Ian Fuller- Springfield North

[natacha.dudley@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:natacha.dudley@chelmsford.gov.uk)

[richard.lee@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:richard.lee@chelmsford.gov.uk)

[ian.fuller@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:ian.fuller@chelmsford.gov.uk)



## SPRINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

### COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES 2026-2027

|                                                 |                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CHAIR</b>                                    | Cllr. R. Carson                                                                                                 |
| <b>VICE CHAIR</b>                               | Cllr. I. Fuller                                                                                                 |
| <b>PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (6)</b>                  | Cllr. I. Fuller, Cllr. S. Stanbridge, Cllr. R. Lee, Cllr. K. Hine, Cllr. G. Brazendale, Cllr. E. Aluko          |
| <b>ENVIRONMENT &amp; PLANNING COMMITTEE (6)</b> | Cllr. G. Brazendale, Cllr. D. Havell, Cllr. R. Carson, Cllr. N. Sinnathamby, Cllr. N. Stanig, Cllr. B. Chadwick |
| <b>PREMISES COMMITTEE (5)</b>                   | Cllr. R. Lee, Cllr. I. Fuller, Cllr. B. Chadwick, Cllr. N. Stanig, Cllr. N. Dudley                              |
| <b>EVENTS WORKING PARTY</b>                     | Cllr. S. Stanbridge, Cllr. N. Stanig                                                                            |
| <b>REPRESENTATIVES</b>                          |                                                                                                                 |
| Transport                                       | Cllr. D. Havell                                                                                                 |
| Chelmsford Association of Local Councils (CALC) | Cllr. G. Brazendale                                                                                             |
| Springfield United Charities                    | Cllr. I. Fuller, Cllr. B. Chadwick                                                                              |
| Essex Association of Local Councils             | Parish Clerk – Karen Kuderovitch                                                                                |

# MIKE MACKRORY MEMORIAL NATURE AREA



At the full council meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026, as a mark of respect and thanks, it was decided to dedicate the area to Mike Mackrory.

Plans are underway for a memorial bench to be added with additional planters.

The photos below show our progress so far. We hope visitors to the centre will come and enjoy the area.

