



Runwell Roundabout

Summer 2025



RUNWELL ROUNDABOUT is sponsored by Runwell Parish Council: Keeping you informed about issues affecting Runwell Residents. Every effort is made to ensure the information in this newsletter is correct. The Parish Council cannot accept any liability for errors or omissions. Views and opinions expressed in this edition are not necessarily those of the Parish Council.



runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council Report



Dear residents

Welcome, to the Summer 2025 edition of the Roundabout.

A brief update on what has been a quiet period for the Parish Council.

As a result of a faulty boiler we had some flood damage to the hall. An insurance claim will indemnify the repairs to be carried out during the summer break from activities at the hall. For those who would like members of their family to attend Play in the Park, please read the advert in this newsletter and book in advance. This was very well attended last year, so could be fully booked by the time of the event.

We are making some improvements to the facilities in the park, mainly to provide toilets. This should be done very soon and will be available during the daytime. It's something that has been requested for a while and allows those using the park and picnic area to stay and enjoy the park for longer periods. The Parish Councils of Chelmsford met recently and decided with the proposed Local Government Reform about to take place, the 29 parish councils within the City of Chelmsford needed a stronger voice for what happens at a local level. The powers maybe somewhat limited, but we have a loud voice when it matters!! We are still the eyes and ears on the ground for the residents and will be more important as the conduit for local issues to the Unitary Authority, as the District and County councils disappear. Therefore, the Chelmsford Association of Local Councils (CALC) has been formed.

Enjoy the summer, kind regards

Cllr Paul Clark (Chair)



Runwell Parish Council

OUR WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE

GO TO

runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

THE WEBSITE IS THE BEST WAY FOR YOU TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AND COMMUNICATE YOUR VIEWS.

- YOU CAN READ THE MINUTES OF OUR COUNCIL MEETINGS.
- SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER AND GET AUTOMATIC UPDATES BY EMAIL.
- GET USEFUL INFORMATION.
- READ THE AGENDA
- GET LATEST PLANNING APPLICATIONS
- COMMUNICATE YOUR VIEWS AND CONCERNS

Be an active member of our local community. Remember it is your civic right to attend and observe our meetings.

The dates and venues are always posted on the website.

So go to:-

runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

and bookmark it on your computer, laptop, mobile phone or tablet.

Contact us

For general information:

clerk@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

For Hall bookings:

hall.bookings@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

For next newsletter articles:

newsletter@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website:

runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

News from St Mary's Church, Runwell

Yet again, the sun is in the sky and we are looking forward to a hot day at the end of the week, which probably means that I will hide. As I write, we are in the middle of the week of Love Your Burial Ground: Churches Count on Nature and the Great Big Green Week. On Sunday we had our third (now traditional, annual) Pet Blessing Service, where there were nine dogs in attendance and who all behaved very well – no incidents, no rain – that's a result.



Yesterday Wickford Wildlife came again to survey the wildlife, both flora and fauna, in both our churchyards and are looking forward to a Moth Night on Friday, weather permitting. All this data will go into a national database once it is collated. This year the grass was not as long as last year, as we did not have the same wet May, though I did have two pyramidal orchids in the uncut part of the vicarage garden, which was twice as many as last year.



A recent addition to our Eco provision is a 'Little Library' placed outside the hall. People are able to bring and take preloved books for others to enjoy. I am running out of books to give away, so hoping that this will get more two-way use soon. We have also installed a bat box in the north churchyard in the hopes that the bats will move out of the church into a new home. Plus, thanks to my last article, we were kindly given a little oak for the south churchyard and I sold some Vicarage Cat books (there are still some left).

We are looking forward to our Patronal Festival on August 10th, in the Vicarage Garden. This takes the form of an Afternoon Tea, followed by a special service, giving thanks for our church. Anyone can come, so keep your eyes open for more news. We also decided to have an Open Day, on Saturday 6th September, 10am-3pm. We plan on having some of the old records on show, which we will borrow from the Essex Records Office, and we will make the church even more beautiful than it usually is. There will also be refreshments in the hall. If you have never been inside the church then do come along. People often say to me that they have walked past many times and wondered what it is like inside, and now is your chance to see our lovely Grade 1 listed building up close.

Every five years the church is inspected by a Diocesan architect. The Quinquennial report that results has various items that have to be sorted immediately and some that have to be done by the next inspection. As that will be next year we will be looking at some of the outstanding items, such as repairs to the two porches, which are regarded as two of the finer points of the building, and fixing some of the stonework. We are very grateful to our church warden, Alan Jones, who has looked after the fabric for many years, and to those who help him. It is a real labour of love. We hope that the community will be able to benefit from the church for many, many years to come.

Blessings from [Revd Sue](#) (Team Vicar).

Find us on Facebook '[St Mary's Church Runwell](#)' and www.wickfordandrunwellparish.org.uk

RUNWELL PARISH COUNCIL



VACANCY

VILLAGE CARETAKER

SALARY: £14.00/HOUR, 12 HOURS PER WEEK

Runwell Parish Council is seeking a reliable person to fill the role of caretaker to carry out routine duties at Runwell Park, SS11 7JG.

The role includes opening and closing the entrance gate barrier to the park daily (8:00 AM and 8:00 PM potentially with earlier closing times in winter) along with general maintenance duties carried out over the course of the week.

To obtain an application form and full job description:-

Email: clerk@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: Runwell Parish Council: 01268 735152 or 07895 234650

In writing to: Miss Jurgita Norinkeviute – Clerk to the Council

Council Office, Runwell Village Hall
Church End Lane,
Runwell, Wickford,
Essex SS11 7JE

Closing date for applications 10 July 2025

Runwell allotments update



Things all growing well now after some welcome rain. Looking forward to harvesting the early potatoes soon.

For allotment availability inquiries
Contact Linda Payne 01268 732033

Play in the **Park**



Join us for lots of fun, games & activities

Runwell Park

Tuesday 5th August
10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

Extra - Skateboarding and Scooter workshop, Inflatable Pirate Galleon Face Painting & Inflatable Assault Course

Book now to avoid missing out!

E csaw@chelmsford.gov.uk
T 01245 606569
f /playchelmsford
chelmsford.gov.uk/play



Why was six afraid of seven?
Because seven ate nine

Runwell Hospital Bowls Club (outdoors)

Our green opened on 19th April and we started with a bank holiday drive then four friendlies against local clubs to get some practice.

The green has been well looked after by our groundsman Malcolm (a member) and a team of volunteers. We have no help from RSSC so rely on members for the upkeep and running of all our facilities. So far this year we have purchased a reconditioned mower, fence panels, a new carpet for the clubhouse and kitchen and paid for repairs to two roofs.

We have 60 men and 20 ladies this season. We are always looking for new members so in May we held a TRY BOWLS DAY which was well attended and 12 people are now attending free coaching lessons.

We have three mixed triples teams in Basildon League and two men's teams in Southend League.

We have a Wednesday morning league internal club Comps. Two ladies only leagues and several roll ups or practice games, the green is in constant use. Most weekends there is a friendly either at home or away.

On Tuesday 29th August we hold a LADIES CELEBRATION DAY. 24 teams of ladies from other clubs will play against each other for money prizes which are donated by our sponsors CARE CLEAN. This is our main fundraiser for the season and everyone is invited to watch the teams having a great time.

Anyone who is interested in coming along or needs more info please contact Graham on 07954 821046

Thank you, **Judith**

Wickford Town Council invites you to a Summer Music Event in Memorial Park ...



Wayne Dukes

A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE MICHAEL

BOOK TICKETS NOW ADULTS - £3 CHILD U16 - FREE
www.moonbeamers.co.uk/wtc

SATURDAY
12 JULY 2025
6 PM - 10 PM

AN EVENING OF MUSIC IN MEMORIAL PARK
A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE MICHAEL
PLUS SUPPORT ACT

BAR FOOD STALLS MUSIC 'TIL 10PM



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Disability • Football

Your place to play
A safe space for disabled children aged 5 - 11 to kickstart their football journey

Just be you!



kick ball **happy**



Scan here to see Comets in action!

Time and Date: SATURDAY 5TH JULY, 10.00am-11.15am (and every Saturday during the summer holidays)

Location: RUNWELL PARK, CHURCH END LANE, WICKFORD, SS11 7JG

Contact: GLENN CUNNINGHAM Phone: 07774 316815

Email: WICKFORD.RUNWELLUTD@GMAIL.COM



Get in touch to book your first session

Annual Meeting of Runwell Parish

This year the Parish Council is celebrating 100 years since it was founded on the 16th March 1925. So to celebrate this we held an afternoon gathering of past and present councillors for tea and cakes and the raising of our new parish flag.

Around the hall is a selection of past and present information from the last 100 years collated by our clerk Jo (thank you for your hard work and many hours of reading through what is probably thousands of pages).

Residents have been attending the Annual Parish meeting since records began in 1894. Your attendance here today is testament to how much this event is still valued and long may it continue.

We also have representatives from groups that come from the village and wish to report on their activities during the past year. We'll hear from them shortly.

I am pleased to report, despite the cost of living going up significantly, the council decided to freeze the precept this year. So, residents will only pay what they did last year, which for a band D property will be approximately £1.35 per week. This revenue goes towards maintaining the hall we are in now and the 18 acres of park across the road. We also put aside reserves to make improvements for the community on these valued assets.

There are major changes being planned for how local government is managed. Indications are your current local council, here its Chelmsford City Council, will be dissolved and will form a new Unitary Authority with at least two other local councils. This will be up and running by May 2028. There will also be a Mayor of Essex overseeing many new responsibilities such as the Police and Fire service. There are no planned changes for how Parish Councils operate.

Runwell Parish Council is formed of 13 local people who volunteer their service to the community providing the first point of contact and offering advice on local issues. We will keep residents informed as these plans are finalised. This is a meeting of the residents, so let's hear from them...

Our Clerk Jo, who has worked for this Parish Council since 1998, is retiring in May and I would like to say on behalf of everyone here, how much we have appreciated her guidance as the appointed Financial Officer of this council and the work she has done for us over that time, and, hello to Jurgita, who will be taking over the role of Parish Clerk and we all look forward to working with her. So, thank you Jo and a warm welcome to Jurgita.

Runwell Village Hall

Available for hire, Church End Lane, Runwell, Wickford SS11 7JE

For information, bookings and availability

Contact Jurgita Norinkeviciute

01268 735152 mobile 07895 234650 / or

email hall.bookings@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

Well fitted kitchen

Large main hall

Separate Committee Room

Large Car Park

Seated functions 80-150 persons

Conferences max 250 persons

Great for children's parties and all social events



Runwell Parish Council

Comprises of 13 members representing 3 Wards of Runwell – East, West & St. Luke's.

Email clerk@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk

Chair	Paul Clark			
Vice Chairs	Steve Davis			
Councillors	Linda Payne	Angie Ellis	Geoff Redway	Chris Evans
	Jim Sloane	Gerry Gould	Ken Tarplett	Dawn Hutson
	Bill Lansdale	Rachel Voller		

Chelmsford City Council Representatives for Rettendon & Runwell

Paul Clark email paul.clark@chelmsford.gov.uk

Steve Davis email steve.davis@chelmsford.gov.uk

Essex County Council Representative for Stock

Sue Dobson email clr.sue.dobson@essex.gov.uk

Member of Parliament for Maldon

Rt. Hon John Whittingdale OBE MP john.whittingdale.mp@parliament.uk

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA. Tel: 020 7219 3557 or

Maldon Conservative Offices 19 High Street, Maldon CM3 5PE. Tel: 01621 855663

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Articles for the editor; if you have any articles for publication please email newsletter@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk by 30 September 2025 or to Jurgita Norinkeviciute at the Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell SS11 7JE

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