

Chelmsford Garden Community Assembly

Report from the Chair

Chelmsford Garden Community represents a new development bringing together existing and new neighbourhoods in Chelmsford which will grow to around 10,000 homes when complete.

Following the outcome of a recent Community Governance Review (“CGR”) undertaken by Chelmsford City Council, two new local councils were formally created on 1st April 2023, namely Chelmer Village Council and Chelmsford Garden Community Council. The Community Council consists of 13 elected members across 4 wards and is responsible for key community assets such as the Beaulieu Community Centre.



Chelmsford Garden Community Council has a bold ambition to be part of developing and maintaining an all-inclusive, healthy and vibrant community through involvement with residents who want to make a positive difference to where they live.



A Shadow Council was convened in July 2022 and was tasked with several deliverables which included:

- Creation of a website and social media pages.
- Identification of assets to be transferred.
- Identification of Council premises.
- Preparation of 2023/24 budget and precept arrangements.
- Appointment of a Council Executive Officer/Clerk.

Through the hard work and dedication of Shadow Councillors, all the above were achieved to ensure that the new Council was fit for purpose as of 1st April 2023.

Shadow Councillors became unelected Chelmsford Garden Community Councillors on 1st April 2023, they attended the inaugural meeting of the Council and remained as Councillors until 9th May (following the local elections) when they stepped down and elected Councillors took up office.

I would like to thank all those that were part of the Shadow Council and who have helped to lay the foundations for the future by getting us to where we are now.

There has been a great deal of activity since 1st April to progress key governance and legal tasks that need to be undertaken and we now welcome the newly elected Councillors, and our highly experienced Executive Officer, to take residents into a new era by supporting the vision for the Chelmsford Garden Community.

From the outset, the vision for Chelmsford Garden Community Council was to be different with a focus on community development, engagement, and place-making. Indeed, the Garden Community will be designed in collaboration with new and existing residents, contributing to a legacy of which we can all be proud, and Chelmsford Garden Community Council will be at the heart of this journey.

Lastly, please do bookmark the Council website:

www.ChelmsfordGardenCommunityCouncil.gov.uk

You can sign up to receive e-mail updates when news or public notices are posted, you can find out who your Councillors are and check the dates of all future meetings and events.



Andrew Wright

Chair of Chelmsford Garden Community Council

Date: Thursday 18th May 2023