Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of Roxwell Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 7.30pm at The Reading Room, The Street, Roxwell, Chelmsford, CM1 4PA,.

Present: Cllr Emma Drakeford (Chairman), Cllr Anton Shelupanov (Vice Chairman) Cllr Bryan Watson, Cllr Joseph Hedges, Cllr Katie Howlett, Cllr Katharine Gooday.

In attendance: Mrs Stephanie Gill – Roxwell Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
Eight Members of the Public;

The Meeting was opened at 7.30pm

122/26 Welcome by the Chairman. Cllr Drakeford welcomed all.

123/26 Apologies for Absence.
Apologies for absence for personal reasons were received from Cllr Gray and accepted. P: Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Howlett In Fav: Unanimous

124/26 Declarations of Interest
No Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interest and Non-Registerable Interests were declared.

125/26 Minutes
The minutes of the bi-monthly meeting held on 9th September 2026 were received and agreed (for signing) P: Cllr Howlett S: Cllr Hedges In Fav: Unanimous
The minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 31st October 2026 were received and agreed (for signing) P: Cllr Howlett S: Cllr Watson In Fav: Unanimous

126/26 Public Participation
The Chairman invited questions and observations from members of the public present.
In response to a parishioner, Standing Orders 3f,3h and 3h were explained and it was confirmed these were based on the NALC Model and would be as for Writtle PC.
MOP1: Referred to the road closures by ECC Highways for resurfacing of the 3 major roads into Roxwell on Sundays 15th & 22nd November. The Clerk was asked to read a section of ECC Cllr Steel's report which detailed the activities undertaken by him and RPC Councillors, to no avail, for postponing the resurfacing works.
MOP2: Spoke on the inconvenience of the planned road closures and the replacement bridge.
MOP3: Asked if RPC Highways Working Group were aware of reported broken Highways signs in addition to the broken VAS. Asked for clarification on Agenda Item 129.3 evening, which was given over.
MOP1: With the permission of the Chair to speak again, the parishioner asked whether the rebuilding of the Stonehill Bridge would take into account that the area was in a Conservation Area. The Clerk remined the meeting that the bridge is ECC infrastructure works to the highway.
MOP4: Spoke on the expenses incurred in the bridge replacement and the extra bridges being built. It was explained that one was a temporary footbridge as needed and the other for the construction traffic.

Some members of the public left the meeting.

127/26 Chelmsford City Council Report
No report was received from Cllr Mrs Nicolette Chambers

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128/26 Essex County Council Report
Cllr Mike Steel sent apologies. His report was summarised to the meeting, having previously been circulated to councillors, and is appended to the minutes.

129/26. Planning Matters
.1 It was noted that the Parish Council's response for 26/01194/FUL was submitted on 4th November, with text comment via the CCC Planning Portal and a formal letter with appendices containing photographs emailed to the Asst Director of Planning.
.2 A planning update was received as appended to the agenda. There were no new applications to consider.
.**3** ESS/49/26/CHL: A report from the Gravel Extraction Steering Group, following further information from Essex County Council Planning, was noted, as was the request from a Parishioner concerning further comment by RPC re. the application. When the documents requested by ECC are submitted by the applicant, there will be a reconsultation period of 21 days for the Parish. The Parishioner's comments noted would be considered further during the reconsultation, as documents requested by ECC include the Transport Management Statement.

0130/26 ECC Love your Bus Grant
.1 The data sent by Central Connect on the Passenger numbers to end October was received and noted; it was noted that this data has been formally reported by the Clerk to Essex County Council as part of the grant agreement.
Cllr Shelupanov asked it be noted that he has taken the bus from the station, and there are other who also alight at Roxwell, though this is not shown in the data supplied.
.**2** The Love Your Bus schedule has been advertised on bus stops. The Shuttle Bus introduced to cover the Stonehill Bridge Closure has enabled the service to continue to serve Roxwell. No further action determined.

0131/ 26 Criminal Damage at the Recreation Ground and Toddler Play Area.
A report was received and noted. The Police Local Neighbourhood Team has offered to visit the parish and patrol; either Cllr Shelupanov or the Clerk will meet PC Mepham on 18th November (morning) for a village 'walk-around'.

0132/26 CCTV at the Recreation Ground/ Toddler Play Area
Chelmsford City Council's (CCC) Public Protection Manager visited the areas on 20th October, accompanied by the Chair and the Clerk, to ascertain whether CCTV could be fitted. Clerk has chased the promised report and recommendations.

0133/26 Pavillion
.1 It was noted that the new cleaner taken on in September was unable to continue due to increase in existing workload and that, after consultation with the Chair, the position was offered to a recommended person at the same rate.
The agreement with Ms Jordanna Senior at £20ph was ratified.
Ms Senior will be asked to provide toilet tissue and bin liners. Councillors/Clerk to determine where the 'yellow outside bin' at the pavilion is sited.
.2 Cllr Watson to bring to January'27 Meeting a report on the Water Risk Assessment Maintenance which has been instigated, as he has been unable to gain entry with keys provided.
.3 It was noted that the approved plumbing works required under the Water Risk Assessment at the pavilion have been carried out. The dead-leg was not removed.

.4 It was noted that, after the visit by Chelmsford CC's Protection Manager, the main pavilion doors were forced, damaging the locking mechanism. The Clerk, under delegated powers, contacted Dr Window, who was able to repair the door same day and so the premises could be secured. (Reported to the Police). It was noted further damage was reported on 5th November and the handle snapped off the doors; under delegated powers the clerk has instructed a replacement be found as currently a 'gadget' is needed to open the door. Clerk to investigate if any 'anti vandalism handles' could be used.

134/26 Recreation Ground & Toddler Play Area

.1 A report was received from the Grounds Representative, Chris Pavitt, and noted. Cllrs Howlett and Gooday to look at the leaf fall on the Recreation Ground and need for removal; and it was advised that timber and branches are being dumped on the Recreation Ground at the old burning site.

.2 It was noted that a picnic bench at the Recreation Ground was torched and further spate of extensive graffiti was carried out at the Toddler Play Area. A vote of thanks was recorded to Cllr Gooday and the contractors who cleaned up the Toddler Play Area. P: Cllr Howlett S: Cllr Watson In Fav: Majority (1 Abstention as recipient)

.3 It was noted that the hedge cutting contractor had been chased to confirm cutting. The Clerk had been contacted 10th November and the work will be carried out in November, though no date yet advised. It was reiterated that the work was to cut the hedge adjoining the farmer's field with all arisings removed by the contractor.
A barrier key will need to be provided for access.

.4 A written report on cutting of ditch alongside path from St Michael's Drive to the Recreation Ground was received. It was agreed to instruct the Clerk to contact Mr Pavitt for a quote on cutting back 10m of the ditch and that Cllr Howlett will meet with him to explain the works required. P: Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Gooday In Fav Unanimous

.5 It was noted that the Grounds Representative has advised that the hedge cutter is not starting so requires maintenance. Agreed that this be taken to Lens Mowers for repair. P Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Gooday: in Fav: Unanimous

With the permission of Council, Items 146/26.4, 146/26.5, 146/26.6 moved here.

The remaining members of the public left the meeting.

146/26.4. The Q2 accounts were received and noted.

146/26.5 The budget for 2027-2028 was discussed as the councillors considered a more detailed format. Budgeted amounts for upcoming projects were discussed It was agreed to defer to agree the budget (2027/28) to the January 2027 meeting, when CCTV costs will have been detailed.

Cllr Gooday left the meeting during this item at 9pm

146/26.6 To determine the precept requirement for 2027-2028. Deferred to the January 2027 meeting

Proposal: That Standing Order 3x be suspended to allow the Council to consider the items remaining on the agenda. P: Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Howlett In fav: Unanimous

135/26 Play Areas Working Group Report

No matters had been noted when the graffiti was being cleaned.

136/26 Toddler Play Area and new owners of adjacent land, Guiness Trust

Noted that DCH Contractors has advised that the access to the Toddler Play Area will be closed in the weeks running up to Christmas to construct the housing access road; Clerk chasing the dates.

137/26 Rental of Recreation Ground and Pavilion to Football Team
Noted there have been no issues raised to date and payment of invoicing has been prompt.

138/26 National Grid Pylons
Noted that the Inspector's report was due latest 11th November 2026, that the Secretary of State had three months to make a decision and, upon that decision, a judicial review may be called for within a six week time-frame. Per Inspectorate website, the Inspector's recommendation was forwarded 10th November, but the document is not available online.

139/26 Routing of Bus Route 59
Noted that no further updates received

140/26 Highways Working Group Report
No report received.
Boynton Cross 40mph VAS/SID. By phone, Essex Highways informed a councillor that this is owned by Roxwell PC. No purchase/funding contribution traced in RPC records from 1996. ECC Cllr Steel had investigated further on behalf of the council. See his appended report.
Further research to be undertaken by Cllr Watson and Clerk on costs if repaired by RPC, required licence, replacement costs & etc.

141/26 ECC Salt Bag Partnership & Street Furniture
Cllr Gooday had provided details of salt bin to be ordered for school area. This, one for Memorial Hall and burnt litter bin to be ordered.

142/26 Defibrillators.
A report from the Clerk was received from the Clerk detailing method of guardianship of the parish defibrillators.
It was determined that the 'Village telephone system' should cease. Clerk to advise Community Heartbeat and ascertain whether there is an obligation to pay invoice dd 22.8.26 for £120, being £100 plus £20 VAT, for telephone line connectivity.
P: Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Howlett In Fav: Unanimous

143/26 Dog Waste Bins
The groundsman was emptying three RPC Dog Waste Bins; he also emptied two waste bins. This practice ceased 28th October 2026.
Chelmsford City Council (CCC) was contacted as such must be emptied by an approved waste carrier.
CCC will collect the waste from the three dog waste bins; they will also collect the two waste bins that also were emptied by the resident.
Clerk to email the 'what-three-words' for the required bins.
Clerk will also send over the 'what three words' for all the bins that Mr Pavitt advised were owned by CCC or RPC and hopefully CCC will ensure that their list is the same, There will be no cost for the additional waste collections. Once the collection schedule has been advised, there will be a need to provide a key for the barrier to be opened.

144/26 Outdoor Gym Area at the Recreation Ground

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The provision of outdoor gym equipment and associated landscaping works (with a view to enhancing biodiversity) at the Recreation Ground was discussed. Cllr Howlett to fact-find more information and also canvass residents to allow further Council discussion.

145/26 RCCE Village of the Year & Prize Money.
It was agreed that the prize money, £500, would be allocated to the costs of CCTV at the Recreation Ground.
It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the RCCE subscription and whether necessary for upcoming Environment webinars. If required, RPC to enrol provided subscription does not exceed £80.00.
P: Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Shelupanov In Fav: Unanimous

146/26. Financial Matters
.1 The receipts and payments made under Clerk's delegated authority 10th September to 31st October 2026 were received and noted.
Receipts into the Savings Account

- For: Interest Amount: £131.69 on 7.9.2026

Receipts into the Current Account

- From: Boreham & Roxwell CC For: Pavilion & Ground Hire Amount: £340.00 on 7.9.2026
- From: HMRC For: VAT Reclaim Amount: £962.81 on 14.9.2026
- From: Chelmsford CC For: Precept Amount: £ £11,250.00 on 25.9.2026

From the current account

- Payee: S Pavitt For: Grounds Maintenance Amount: £81.00
- Payee: RG Gardens For: Removal of rubbish from Recreational Field Amount £50.00
- Payee : C Shorter For: Pavillion Cleaning Amount: £40.00
- Payee: Eon Next For: Electricity Total Amount: £29.03 being £ 27.65 plus £1.38 VAT
- Payee: Community Heartbeat For: Annual Support 2x Defibs Total Amount: £324 being £270 plus £54 VAT
- Payee: DJ Barron Plumbing & Heating For: Plumbing works at the pavilion Total Amount: £420.00 being £350 plus £70 VAT
- Payee: SM Gill For: October Salary, wfh allowance & PAYE Refund Total: £912.07
- Payee: S Pavitt For: Grounds Maintenance Total: £108.00

From the Savings Account:

- Payee: Central Connect Transport Ltd For: Love Your Bus Amount: £4,095.00

.2 The bank statements, bank reconciliation and statement of accounts as at 30th October 2026 were received and noted
.**3** The following payments were approved
From current account:

- Payee: C. Pavitt For: Fuel for Machines Total Amount: £ 14.01 being £11.37 plus £2.34 VAT
- Payee: EON Next For: Electricity Total Amount: £21.88 NO VAT
- Payee: DM Malley For: Payroll services Total Amount £ 79.20 being £66.00 plus £13.20 VAT
- Payee: SM Gill For: November Salary, wfh and tax refund Amount: £404.07

From the savings account:

- Payee: Central Connect Transport Ltd For: Love Your Bus Amount: £4,095.00

Tabled at the meeting from the Current account:

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- Payee: RG Gardens For: Reinstallation of single goal post and cross bar on recreational field which had been knocked over (H&S). Amount: £80.00
- Payee: JCM Amenity and Groundcare Ltd For: Grounds Maintenance Contract Amount: £840.90 being £700.75 being £700.75 plus VAT £140.75

P: Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Hedges In Fav: Unanimous
The Clerk advised she had received, that day, a request that RPC finance the Christmas Tree outside the Village Hall. She was advised that the Parish Council had budgeted for this under 'Community' in the 2026/27 budget.
The following were taken before Agenda Item 135/26
.4. To receive and note the Q2 accounts (Appendix 10)
.5 To determine the budget for 2027-2028 (Appendix 11a & b)
.6 To determine the precept requirement for 2027-2028 (Appendix 11b)

147/26 Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation / Chelmsford Association of Local Councils
See ECC Cllr Steel appended report for updates.

148/26 Policies
A Grant Policy was received in draft and agreed for adoption.
P: Cllr Howlett S: Cllr Shelupanov In Fav: Unanimous

149/26 Community Speedwatch – setting up one in Roxwell
Noted that despite an advertisement in the Roxwell Recorder, the Clerk has not received any enquiries on this.

150/26 Allotments Area
A verbal update on the request that Guiness Trust enable a water supply at the CCC allotments was received. Guinnes Trust has responded they were made aware of the request for the water pipe and confirmed that the contractor is currently looking into options for this for costing purposes. Further details will be advised when received.

151/26 Training
Noted that Cllr Drakeford and the Clerk attended the EALC HR Conference on 28th September.
To note the Clerk attended a BNG Discovery Day at Wildfell, Wethersfield (foc) 24th September, ICO Data Practitioner's Conference 2026 (foc) 13th October, RCCE Community Led Environmental Action Webinar (foc) 19th October, ONH Planning Webinar (22nd October) foc.
Cllrs Howlett and Gray have Councillor Toolkit Training on 19th & 26th November.

152/26. Matters for Information
Chelmsford Highways Rangers: As requested last month, a reminder that Councillors should advise Clerk of any works to be submitted for consideration.
Essex Resilience Forum: Clerk asked to investigate further to an email from a Writtle councillor
Parish OnLine: Cllr Howlett advised this did not need to be taken forward at the moment.
CIL Funds: Clerk to enquire whether any sitting with CCC for account of RPC.
Meeting Start: To start the Parish Council Meeting at 7pm as of January 2027
Future Agenda Items:
To consider Sue Lees Consultancy
Biodverisity Plan - Clerk to work with Cllr Howlett
Grounds & Land Maintenance – Cllr Howlett

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153/26 Employment
Proposal: In accordance with the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act (1960) and with Roxwell's Standing Orders, that the public and press be excluded from the discussion on this item as it concerns Staffing Matters.
P Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Shelupanov In Fav: Unanimous

The Clerk's request for extra hours payment relating to recent, necessary extra work including October EOM and planning response was considered and it was agreed to reimburse the Clerk for 14.5 hours.

It was agreed to reimburse the Clerk for expenses incurred by the Clerk for Mobile Phone (October and November) £10.00 and Certificate Frame £2.00

P: Cllr Drakeford S: Cllr Watson In Fav Unanimous

154/26. Closure of meeting and announcement of date of next meeting.
The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 10.15pm, announcing the next meeting for Wednesday 13th January 2027

Appendix
Report: Cllr Mike Steel Member for Broomfield & Writtle, 10th November 2026

LGR
The latest
• LGR Plans Shelved Until 2029: The contentious "five unitary council" model originally announced in March 2026—which faced fierce legal opposition and a successful judicial review challenge from Essex County Council—is officially pushed back until at least 2029.
• Business As Usual for Local Councils: All 15 existing local authorities across Greater Essex will continue to operate as usual within their current two-tier system framework.
• Boundaries Reaffirmed for May 2027 Elections: Local district and borough elections scheduled for May 2027 will proceed as normal using the existing council boundaries.
• Devolution Moves Separately: Despite the halt to local government reorganisation, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) confirmed that it is actively processing the Greater Essex Devolution Agreement. Steps to establish a Mayoral Strategic Authority for Essex remain on track, separate from council restructuring.
Further updates regarding the broader reorganisation framework are expected to be delivered by the government in the new year.
In terms of elections, this means:

- May 2027 – Chelmsford City Council elections
- May 2027 – Parish Council elections
- May 2028 – Unitary elections – with Cllrs to run as shadow until March 2029 when they take control
- Mayoral elections – possibly May 2028

Although there are rumours that LGR may go back 20 2030!

More info at Government's press release
They also announced all areas with previous decisions will receive £450,000 per the number of previously announced I read that as each of the 5 Unitary areas will get £450K which in our case has to be shared between 3 Districts and part ECC. I don't know how that compares with what has actually been spent.
There are also rumours that LGR Unitaries will be delayed even further, which might mean ECC running its full term, which the current administration didn't expect. Reform ECC have announced a £170M budget deficit for next year, rising to £500M pa in 4 years time!

Pylons
NGET have now submitted planning applications for (enabling works) temporary compounds in advance of the decision on the DCO.:
26/01209/FUL – Land north of Beaumont Otes Chignal Road Chelmsford
26/01210/FUL – Land north of Brittons Hall Farm, Mashbury Road, Chignal St James
26/01194/FUL – Centre of pond 183m from Wits End, Bishops Stortford Road, Roxwell
26/01225/FUL – Land south east of Lowley Farm, Goodmans Lane, Gt Leighs

26/01193/FUL – Land south of Windmill House, Chelmsford Road, Gt Waltham
26/01227/FUL – Land south west of Little Stonage Farm, Essex Regiment Way, Gt Waltham (sic)

The City Council planning system is notoriously slow for viewing documents so I arranged some direct download links for the associated documents. These are still live, but the closing date for comments has passed. I have objected to them all as follows:
I object to the enabling works application on the basis that until the DCO is determined, there is no reason for such works other than National Grid are working in advance, and at risk, in order to meet Govt timescales (and avoid financial penalties). Until the DCO is determined, there is always the chance that the enabling works will not be required, and any associated damage to the environment will not be necessary. My understanding is that timescale and financial consequences to NG) are not planning issues and should not be considered.

I have submitted a case to Chelmsford City Council Planning dept that these applications should be considered by Planning Committee rather than delegated to officers. I have had to do this under the new **National Scheme of Delegation for Planning Applications** which come into force on 31 October 2026. The Government's intention is that most planning applications should be determined by planning officers, with Planning Committees focusing only on the most significant proposals.

Planning Applications will be dealt with as 2 Categories
Schedule 1: Always Delegated to Officers
These applications cannot be referred to Planning Committee and must be decided by officers. Examples include:
Householder applications (extensions, fences, etc.)

- Minor commercial developments
- Minor residential schemes (fewer than 9 dwellings or under 0.5ha)
- Permission in Principle applications
- Non-material amendments
- Certificates of Lawfulness
- Discharge of Conditions
- Prior Approval applications
- Most Reserved Matters applications (except very large schemes)

Schedule 2: Presumed Delegated, but May Go to Committee

- Listed Building Consents
- Applications linked to Listed Buildings
- Larger planning applications
- Retrospective applications
- Large Reserved Matters applications (500+ dwellings)
- Advertisement consents
- Tree Preservation Order (TPO) works
- Variations of conditions on Schedule 2 permissions

If the enabling works are deemed as Scheule 1, then my request will be declined.
If deemed as Schedule 2, the request will go to Gateway process which is determined jointly by the Head of Planning, and the Cabinet Member for Planning.
I have not had a decision yet.
Should I be informed that City Council Planning Officers will decline the applications, I will withdraw my "call-In" request.

Bridge, Shuttle and Roadworks
I am pleased that we managed to get ECC to put on a shuttle bus (Mon to Sat) to compensate for the bridge closure for 20 weeks.
Whilst the bridge is closed to all traffic, there will be a temp footbridge in place, so pedestrians (and dismounted cyclists, but not horses) will be able to cross for the duration of the works.
Myself and members of Roxwell PC met up with the Highway' team 23rd Oct, to discuss this, and also hear about the work on the bridge. It has to be replaced to meet modern standards, but will have some tailoring to the rural area. More info can be found on the website Roxwell Bridge Stonehill Road - Reconstruction Works | Essex County Council

I was devastated that ECC Highways then agreed a 3 week November permit for closures of The Street, Vicarage Road, and Stonehill Road, for resurfacing work. As soon as I knew, I challenged it, and managed to get at least the week closures halted. Consequently, they decided they would do the resurfacing work on Sundays only (15th and 22nd November) to avoid disrupting their own shuttle bus. I tried to get the Sunday resurfacing changed to a later date, but they won't budge on that as the resurfacing works were undertaken earlier in the summer, and it is now necessary to return to raise the ironworks to the new road surface level. They have stated that whilst a full closure

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will be in place they will endeavour to facilitate resident access wherever possible. As operatives and vehicles will be working within the carriageway, residents may occasionally be required to wait for a short period while the working area is made safe and access can be facilitated.
It may be that as they are raising ironworks, they can work on one side or the other at a time?
It's the best I can do, but I have "called in" the Highways Permit dept for Scrutiny, as there are too many incidents where a bit of logic could avoid such clashes.

Quarry Application - ESS/49/26/CHL

I have asked for this to go to committee rather than be decided by officers. I have been informed that it will,
At this time no specific committee meeting has been identified, as additional information has been requested by the Highway Authority and our noise and air quality consultants – so it depends on when this is submitted and if that submitted is satisfactory or potentially further information is needed. There is potential that the application could be considered at December's D&R. However, I would suggest January or February's meetings are more likely.

I have registered objections, so I get to speak at the meeting, and as the divisional ECC Cllr. I may also be a member of the Planning Committee (Development and Regulation – I am a nominated sub) and will need to take advice on whether I speak and vote as a member.
In terms of a resident registering to speak at D&R - they need to contact the Council's Democratic Services Officer at democratic.services@essex.gov.uk. If they cannot email then you can also telephone 03330136601 or 03330139825, between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday.
They can register to speak pursuant to the application now; they do not need to wait for it to be scheduled on a specific committee agenda. The Democratic Services Officer, in the event that someone registers early, will simply notify when the application is scheduled in due course.

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I have had further conversations with ECC Highways Casualty Reduction Manager. He is looking at potential speed limit reductions using the International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP) process which is a global standard for road infrastructure safety assessments, dedicated to eliminating high-risk roads and saving lives.
Speed survey data has all been collected, and potential designs are being discussed with iRAP.
I have brought to his attention that the Quarry application, and Pylons application, will add truck movements and access to the A1060, and this needs to be addressed with regard to entering/leaving a road where speed limit reductions would aid safety.

Flooding

I have been communicating with your Roxwell Flood Prevention Group.
Your group has been struggling to get the Environmental Agency and ECC to lead on prevention measures. After some investigation, I have found out that the requirement in undertaking a Flood Investigation is **Internal** property flooding. ECC are reliant on residents reporting flooding incidents to the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA).
ECC have received very few reports of internal flooding in Roxwell, and no formal flood investigation have been undertaken. I have passed this on to your group, and it seems that there is a difference of view between the amount of internal flooding in Roxwell.
To rectify this, residents may report internal flooding at :
https://essex-self.achieveservice.com/service/Report_an_issue_with_surface_water__groundwater_or_an_ordinary_watercourse?accept=yes&consentMessageIds[]=4
This can be shared this with residents. It appears that, in the past ECC have had feedback that residents are concerned about property blight and the impact on insurance premiums, which has limited the number of reports they receive.

Boynton Cros 40mph VAS/SID.

I was asked to investigate this as you (the PC) stated that Essex Highways informed (by phone) a PC councillor that this is owned by Roxwell PC. You state that no purchase/funding contribution traced in RPC records from 1996.
I have checked with the LHP manager (Jon Simmons) and he states that it was there in 2009 (earliest Google maps record) which pre-dates LHPs, which started around 2012 – so it wasn't the LHP that put it in.
I also spoken to the Casualty Reduction Manager who is not able to add any further clarity other than it is a historic/legacy VAS put in years ago.
Jon did add that it may be an old Solagen unit, and as Solagen are no longer in business it may not be possible to repair but may need replacement. (I assume it needs repair?)
I would suggest starting by reporting on Tell-Us (I note it doesn't already show as a defect on Track-It)
If the PC want to take it over, and/or replace with a new one, they would need to write to parishrequests@essexhighways.org – but my experience would be that Highways will want the PC to first apply for a licence.

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