



Claydon & Whitton Parish Council – December 2016

Future Policing in the Village – For almost a year the Parish Council, together with the parishes of Barham, Great Blakenham and Henley have been in discussions with the Suffolk Constabulary regarding the provision of a dedicated Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) to patrol the four villages. Following a major reorganisation of policing in the county the number of PCSO posts were reduced, and we were told

that any future provision of a dedicated officer would have to be fully funded by the parishes instead of being shared with the Constabulary. This would have meant a substantial increase in the contribution from each parish. Also of concern was that future PCSO's shifts would finish at 6.00 p.m. instead of midnight which meant that there would be little, if any, police presence in the village when most instances of crime and antisocial behaviour occur. However in April, because of an unexpected increase in Government funding, the Constabulary offered an extension to shared funding arrangement for a further year to which all four parishes subscribed. Unfortunately because of recruitment problems a dedicated PCSO has not been provided as agreed and an officer, seconded from another area for a short period, was given much less time to patrol each village. More recently Suffolk Constabulary have said that they are now unable to consider providing a dedicated PCSO until April 2017 on the basis that the full costs would be met by the four parish councils. Until then it is intended that patrols will be provided by a Neighbourhood Team based in Hadleigh. Because the Parish Council consider this arrangement to be totally unsatisfactory, and because the number of complaints regarding vandalism and theft from vehicles and antisocial behaviour have increased considerably over recent months, other options to address these issues are being urgently considered. Any comments from members of the community by e-mail or in writing would be very welcome. For the time being, however, any residents who need to report a problem to the police should call 101.

Free Health Checks – The Parish Council have been asked to publicise the availability of free NHS health checks which can help to reduce the risks of serious illness and help you stay healthy. Please see our website, <http://claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net> for full details. Alternatively you can contact your GP practice or telephone One Life Suffolk on 01473 718193 to arrange a check for you.

Another Telephone Scam! – Most of us get agitated by cold calling telephone calls and do what we can to block or avoid them. One such way is to register with the Telephone Preference Service (TPS). However, some criminal elements are using that to defraud unsuspecting people. We have been made aware of people being contacted by telephone by those purporting to be from the TPS. They will either attempt to get you to 'sign up' to the service, for which you will be told there is a charge, or that your TPS agreement is about to expire and needs to be renewed. Both will require all your personal details and credit card details to be provided. **BEWARE - THIS IS A SCAM!** The TPS is a FREE service and anyone wishing to register can find more details on their website: www.tpsonline.org.uk The TPS will never contact you requiring payments or credit card details and once registered there is no further need to update it. If you suspect you have been contacted by a fraudulent organisation the advice is to report it to Action Fraud at <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk>

Parish Clerk, Mrs. S Eagle, telephone: 01473 687384 (answer machine available).
e-mail claywhit@btinternet.com or write to 7 Leicester Close, Ipswich, IP2 9EX.
website: <http://claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net/> or visit our Twitter a/c: @claywhitpc

The Members of Claydon & Whitton Rural Parish
Council wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

