



Claydon & Whitton Parish Council – January 2017

From the last Parish Council Meeting.....

Members of the community are always welcome to attend Parish Council meetings and a Public Forum is held at the beginning to give them an opportunity to raise issues, either on the agenda, or which they are concerned about at the time. At the last meeting these included:

Parking at Claydon Primary School – Concern was expressed about inconsiderate parking by parents and carers dropping their children off at the primary school. This was considered not only to be a danger to pedestrians, but could also delay emergency vehicles responding to 999 calls. Also instances were highlighted where cars had been parked across residents' driveways preventing them from leaving or getting back into their homes. In response the Parish Council contacted the Head Teacher of the primary school and we thank her for the considerable effort that she has made over recent months to give advice about parking in order to try and alleviate these problems which included:

- Reminding parents/carers about considerate parking in newsletters and highlighting the option of using the Recreation Ground car park, and also circulating a letter from Claydon High School regarding car parking on their site and requesting that parents/carers do not park inappropriately in the vicinity of their school entrance.
- Encouraging parents/carers to report issues to the police and/or county councillor, John Field.
- Speaking to individual parents/carers who are parking inconsiderately on our site and advising all parents/carers of new children to the school of the availability of the Recreation Ground car park and the footpath route to walk to school.

The Parish Council realises that many children attending local schools do not live in Claydon but asks that the parents/carers of those that do to please follow the advice given and if at all possible consider walking with their children to school in future.

Planning Applications – During 2016 there was an unusually high number of planning applications and also prospective development of properties and land situated in the parish of Claydon & Whitton Rural and surrounding parishes. Comments were made that the community was not receiving regular information regarding the progress of all these applications. It was explained that Claydon & Whitton Rural Parish Council only has a statutory right to comment when planning applications are actually submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council, and then only those relating to its parish although it can, and does, submit comments relating to applications relating to surrounding parishes that will impact on the village e.g. schools or increased traffic volumes. Members of the community were assured that progress is closely monitored and there is often considerable discussions between potential developers and parish councils prior to planning applications being submitted, often at meetings from which the public are excluded at the developers request. However, members of the public are entitled to attend Parish Council Planning Committee meetings where new applications, updates on former applications and other planning matters are discussed.

Future Policing in the Village – This was also discussed in the meeting which was told that there was little prospect of the village having a dedicated PCSO before April 2017 and if one became available the parish councils in the area would have to provide 100% funding rather than share the costs with Suffolk Constabulary as in the past. As this was not considered financially feasible it was decided to explore alternative methods to ensure the safety and security of the local community. One proposal which was agreed at the meeting was to have all street lights kept switched on all night. As a result street lamps owned by the Parish Council in Newell Rise, Drury Road, Church Lane, Paper Mill Lane and Hereford Drive were switched on at the end of November. A request would be made to Suffolk County Council, who own all the other street lamps in the village, to leave these switched on overnight also in future.

Meetings in January - The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 16th January 2017 at 7.30 p.m. at the offices of the Suffolk Association of Local Councils, Hill View Business Park, Old Norwich Road. Members of the community are very welcome to attend and opportunity will be given at the beginning of the meeting for them to speak on items included on the agenda or other issues about which they have concerns. Agendas will be available prior to the meeting from our 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.

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