



## Claydon & Whitton Parish Council – May 2017

**Recent Changes to Parish Council Membership** – At our last meeting we were pleased to co-opt Caroline Barber as a Parish Councillor and we wish her well in her new role. However, at the same meeting we accepted the resignation of Councillor Gavin Wood, our Vice Chairman, and we thank Gavin for his contribution to the work of

the Council. Councillor Gail Cornish was elected as Vice Chairman until the Annual General Meeting in May.

**Dog Fouling on Claydon Recreation Ground** – The Parish Council is extremely disappointed to learn that dog fouling has once again become a major problem on the recreation ground. This is particularly so as there are two dog bins provided in which dog waste can be placed. Inexplicably, a minority of irresponsible owners, having cleaned up after their dog, seem to think it is acceptable to throw contaminated bags into the nearest hedgerow. The Parish Council wishes to make it absolutely clear that either not cleaning up after your dog or disposing of dog waste, other than in the bins provided or your black domestic wheelie bin, is totally unacceptable. Therefore, we are appealing to responsible dog owners who see someone failing to clean up after their dog on the recreation ground or in any other public place, to note down as much detail of the incident as possible, including the date, time and location, and the name and address of the offender if you know it. Where a vehicle is involved please note the make, colour and registration mark of the vehicle, together with a description of the person. Incidents of dog fouling can be reported either to the Parish Clerk or direct to Mid Suffolk District Council by completing the on-line form which can be found at <http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/dog-control/dog-fouling/>. The District Council has powers to issue 'on the spot' Fixed Penalty Notices of £50, or to prosecute in the criminal courts, which could lead to a fine of up to £1,000 and a criminal record for the dog owner.

**Update on Village Security Arrangements** – The Parish Council is continuing its review of existing and future arrangements for keeping the village environment safe following the withdrawal of a dedicated Police Community Support Officer. Unfortunately, as yet, we have not been able to get agreement from Suffolk County Council to keep all the street lights it owns, switched on throughout the night as its current policy is for lights to be switched off both to reduce energy costs and improve the environment. However, we believe that since this policy was made, a number of factors have changed e.g. the reduction in regular police patrols in the evenings, and it should now be reviewed. The costs and benefits of installing CCTV cameras in strategic village locations are also being considered and it is hoped that a decision will be made shortly.

**Parish Council Meetings in May** - The Annual General Meeting of Claydon & Whitton Rural Parish Council will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Claydon & Barham village hall. 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](mailto:claywhit@btinternet.com) or write to 7 Leicester Close, Ipswich, IP2 9EX.

Please see also our website: <http://claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net/> or visit our Twitter a/c: @claywhitpc for the very latest news and information about village life and other items of interest.

