



*Chidham & Hambrook
Parish Council*

**Chidham & Hambrook
Parish Council**

Spring Newsletter 2016

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Chidham & Hambrook Village Hall

Thursday 28th April 2016

7.00 for 7.30 pm

Under the Chairmanship of Cliff Archer,
Chairman of the Parish Council

**COME AND HEAR WHAT YOUR
PARISH COUNCIL HAS BEEN DOING**

+

**The Leader of West Sussex
County Council**

Louise Goldsmith

QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

(Free Light Refreshments will be served from 7.00 pm)

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE PARISH?

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Memorial Bench for Arthur Cooper

After much deliberation and discussion it has been decided to erect an 8ft bench in the bus shelter at the top of Chidham Lane. It was felt that this would be a fitting memorial to Arthur's long and loyal service as a Chidham & Hambrook Parish Councillor as well as providing seating in the bus shelter. The bench will be made of oak by New Dawn Furniture of Westbourne. It should be completed and in position very shortly.



Jane Towers

Parish Council

Chairman: Cliff Archer (572839)

Vice Chairman: Andy Collins (572976)

Councillors:

Linda Wilkinson (576701), Ina Littlefield (573832)

Barry Leighton (573371), Jacky Sheppard (573467),

Stephanie Cecil (573782), Jane Towers (576580),

Philip MacDougall (573782), Geoffrey Hyde (575133).

Parish Clerk: David Siggs (790402)

Chairman's Review

Maybush Drive

Everyone in the Parish was stunned by the events last month in Maybush Drive. First, we heard about the fire and then learned that the Police had launched a murder enquiry. Later, it was announced that a potential suspect had died of burns. Our hearts go out to the families of those who have died and to those residents of Maybush Drive who have been affected by the tragedy. The Parish Council would like to place on record its gratitude to the personnel of the several authorities involved in dealing so well with the situation - including those offering counselling to anyone who wished to receive such help.

Play Area, Broad Road

The Parish Council now owns the Play Area in Broad Road – both the land itself and the play equipment and fixtures and fittings. The Play Area will be maintained by volunteers in conjunction with HDRA. The Parish Council will organise the necessary training of volunteers to undertake the formal safety inspections required by the Parish Council's insurers. RoSPA, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, will continue to carry out the annual inspection.

We thank HDRA for its initiative in setting up the Play Area in the first place and for providing and maintaining the equipment, etc., up to now.

New Parish Clerk

We are very sorry that David Siggs, our current Parish Clerk, will be leaving us at the end of April, due to ill health. He took over the Clerk's post following Barry Mann's death last year, first as a Locum Clerk and then as our substantive Clerk. David is very experienced in local government affairs and has been a superb Clerk. The Parish Council thanks him for his strenuous efforts in serving the Parish and the Parish Council and wishes him well for the future.

An advertisement for a replacement Clerk is on Page 8.

Hawthorne Meadow Open Space - Update

The development of the Taylor Wimpey site off Broad Road is proceeding apace. As reported previously, the Parish Council has been negotiating to acquire the Open Space that will form the northern part of the development, just south of Midway Cottages.

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Chairman's Review - continued from page 3

I am pleased to report that the exchange of contracts has now taken place and completion will occur once the land is in the condition required under the Planning Permission.

The Parish Council is discussing with Taylor Wimpey details of the shrubs, hedges and fencing of the Open Space, which will be a useful addition to the amenities of the Parish.

Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon Lighting Event at Cobnor Thursday 21 April

Throughout the country, Beacons will be lit to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday (her formal Birthday is in June). The Parish Council is working towards holding a very simple Event to commemorate this important event at Cobnor, by courtesy of Diana Beale.

The Beacon will be lit early evening at a time to be announced by the Royal Pageant master. There will be more details later, but why not make a note in your diary, now?

Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 28 April

The Meeting this year will be held in the Village Hall at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Our keynote speaker is Louise Goldsmith, Chairman of the County Council, who will run a Question & Answer Session. This is your chance to ask the burning questions you have always wanted to ask!

In addition, you will hear about the work that your Parish, District and County Councillors have been doing on your behalf.

Again, more details later, but put a note in your diary, now!

Drainage

The continuing drainage maintenance and improvement work of the Parish Council and others over many years is now showing real benefits. We are particularly pleased at the performance of the twin-barrel culverts installed in 2014 by WSCC under the Chidham Lane Tidebank to drain the Catchpond between tides. Some of the other work has been funded through the County Council's Operation Watershed grant schemes. The more recent of these schemes is Operation Watershed 2 and grants were obtained for work at the following locations:

Continued on page 5

Drainage - continued from page 4

1. East side of Broad Road, between Halt Villas and the Main Road.
2. Footpath from Flatt Road to Railway – ditch on west side.
3. A259 North side, east from Broad Road
4. West of Maybush Drive
5. Chidham Lane, south of North Barn Track

Some of the above work has been completed and the remainder will be done as soon as the land involved has dried out sufficiently.

It now seems that Operation Watershed 3 grant scheme will start in April this year and the Parish Council is assessing and prioritising needs so as to submit projects for consideration by the County Council.

Planning

The application for 120 homes north of Scant Road West by Sunley Estates has been looming over the Parish for quite some time now. The Parish Council objected strongly to the application and I spoke against it on behalf of the Council at the Public Inquiry. We were patiently waiting for the Inspector's verdict, when we heard that the Appeal had been 'called in' by the Minister. We then received an invitation to make a further (!) response in the light of the fact that our Neighbourhood Plan had been published by the District Council and that the S106 scheme for developers' contributions to the community as some recompense for the effect developments have on the infrastructure was being changed to a CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy). The Parish Council submitted a detailed response to the Minister in which we maintained our firm objection to the Application. At the time of writing, the Minister's decision is still awaited.

The Mildren Homes development on Wakeford's Field off Broad Road, just north of Midway Cottages, is well under way and. The Parish Council is about to start discussions with Mildren Homes to fine-tune the details of the Open Space, Community Orchard and Allotments which we will take over when they are in an appropriate condition. There have been more than a few enquiries about the allotments, in particular.

The Chidham Place development on the site of the former Chidham Garage on the Main Road is well advanced and we wait with bated breath to hear which company will take over the retail outlet on the site. No betting, please!

Cliff Archer

Parish Council Chairman

Boundary Review

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is reviewing the Ward Boundaries and the number of District Councillors per ward. Chichester District Council is recommending reducing the number of District Councillors from 48 to 36. We in Chidham & Hambrook Parish come under the Bosham Ward and currently have two District Councillors representing us (Myles Cullen and Penny Plant). As you are aware the Chidham & Hambrook Parish grew when our local boundary was changed to include Nutbourne East. However, this has thrown up an anomaly in that the residents of Nutbourne East vote in the Chidham & Hambrook Parish Council elections but for Southbourne District Councillors.

Chichester District Council's preferred option is for the residents of Nutbourne East to be included in the Bosham Ward for District Council Elections and representation at District level. Chidham & Hambrook Parish Council support this option. For more on this and to comment go to the Chichester District Council website www.chichester.gov.uk and search 'Public invited to have their say on Ward Boundaries as part of review'. All comments on warding arrangements to be submitted by 4th April 2016 and on LGBC recommendations by the 2nd August 2016.

Andy Collins

Neighbourhood Plan

We have now received the Draft version of the Chichester District Council Planning Authority's Decision Statement on the Chidham & Hambrook Neighbourhood Plan 2014 – 2029 which we are reviewing. Once we have agreed all the modifications proposed by the examiner which are set out formally in the Decision Statement, it will be included in the appendix to a report to Cabinet with the recommendation to agree to publish the Decision Statement and thus agree that the NP should move on to referendum subject to the plan being amended in line with the modifications set out.

This will be submitted to Cabinet in April which will unfortunately be too late for a May referendum. There are to be no elections or local referendums in June as a result of the EU referendum. The following two months have also been ruled out due to summer holidays leaving the earliest referendum date for the NP the 8th September. The good news is that once it has been through Cabinet it will have a lot more weight behind it with regard to planning matters.

Andy Collins

Parking in Chidham Lane



Do you do drop offs and pick ups at Chidham School? Do you have a busy life ?

If so you could save time by parking in the Village Hall car park and walking to the school.

The closer to the school you want to park, the earlier you have to be there to get a space. And the later you can leave as you will be in a queue of traffic crawling up Chidham Lane.

By parking in the car park you could arrive at 3.10, walk to school and be back to the car park by 3.25, probably saving 20 minutes a day. That's 100 minutes a week over 39 weeks = 65 hours.

And that's just in the afternoon! Not only will it save time but there are health benefits for you and your children. By walking/scooting/cycling even that short distance it will improve your fitness levels, well being and reduce the risk of medical conditions. Also you will not be contributing to the traffic congestion or the parking chaos, which is causing considerable damage to the grass verges making them impassable for pedestrians.

The only times the Village Hall car park is not available is the first two Tuesday afternoons in the month and Wednesday afternoon. It is ALWAYS free in the morning. There is also the option of using the car park at The Bosham Inn in the morning and Monday and Tuesday afternoons when they are quiet. I'm sure you will agree that it is everyone's responsibility to ensure the safety of the children going to and from school. Sadly, that does not always seem to be the case and there have been several near misses with cars mounting the pavement forcing pedestrians into the road, obscuring visibility by parking on the pavement and driving too fast in a 30mph zone.

So please think about safety, the environment, the residents and above all the pupils when you are dropping off or picking up from school.

Jane Towers



Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon 21st April, Cobnor.

**CHIDHAM AND HAMBROOK PARISH COUNCIL
(Chichester area)**

Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

**Salary LC1/2 SCPs 23-27 currently £10.84 - £12.32 per hour
depending on experience, 12 hours per week, including
attendance at evening meetings, working from home**

To view the full advert and download an application pack including a Person Specification, Job Description & Application Form to apply, please visit <http://www.sussexalc.org.uk/vacancies.asp> Please note that CVs will not be accepted, applicants must complete and return an application form to apply.

Closing date for all applications: 18th March 2016