

## EAST CLAYDON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall at 8pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017

**Present:** Councillors Peter Wright (Chair), Clive Preston, Martin Paul, Brian Cable, Esther Turnbull,  
In attendance: District Councillor John Chilvers, C Jackman (Clerk) and three members of the public

**1. Apologies:** Cllr Paul Lupton, CC Angela Macpherson

**2. Minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19 May 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**3. Chairman's Report**

Cllr Peter Wright presented his report (**Attachment 1**).

**4. County Council Report**

County Councillor Angela Macpherson's report, which she had circulated prior to the meeting, is at **Attachment 2**.

**5. District Councillor Report**

District Councillor John Chilver presented his report which included the following topics:

- Timelines and process for the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan
- Oxford to Cambridge Express Way
- Verney Garden Village
- East-West Rail
- HS2
- Unitary Council decision postponed by general election
- Road repairs

Councillors congratulated him on his re-election to the CC representing the Winslow Ward.

**6. Financial Report**

A copy of the Clerk's Account Statement for year ending 3 March 2017 was available for inspection and is at **Attachment 3**.

**7. Any Other Business**

- a. It was noted that some quotes had been received for village hall improvement works and that potentially £12,000 would be available from the Parish Council by next autumn.

**8. Close**

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

Chairman's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chairman's Report: East Claydon

The highlights of the past year include:

- Completion of the high speed broadband fibre by Gigaclear has given East and Botolph Claydon the benefit of the highest quality and speed for broadband users. The company has done the engineering work and left the village in very tidy condition.
- We have welcomed a new Parish Clerk, Carole Jackman this year and we thank her for all her hard work.
- The second year of the Devolved services where the Parish Council manages the grass cutting and other services has proved to be extremely successful and the quality of the work has significantly improved the appearance of the village. Thanks to Councillor Turnbull for managing the contractors.
- Roads and paths managed by TfB continue to be unsatisfactory despite constant pressure on Bucks CC.
- The announcement by developers of a proposal to build 10,000 houses in a Garden Village at Verney Junction, which would significantly impact on the Claydons. We met with the developers but at present it appears that it is outside the timescale of the AVDC local plan. We have had to maintain a watch on the proposal.
- The Play Area has been maintained.
- The expansion of the village school has been a constant item on our Agenda.
- The Parish Council continues to support the Village Hall Committee in its plans for maintaining and improving the Hall. This will be an ongoing item requiring substantial fund raising efforts in the coming years.
- We have had to maintain an ongoing review of the alternative changes in Local Government proposed by the Bucks CC and the District Council. This is not likely to be finalised until well into the summer.
- We have also reviewed the details of the proposed HS2 HGV routes. We have negotiated that no HGV's will be routed through the village.
- The problem of speeding through the village is still being monitored by the Speed Watch team led by Bill Hughes and Ray Kite. We thank them for their unstinting efforts.
- The only Planning application is the development on New Farm, and the recent secondary application for an additional 4 houses.
- We have entered the Best Kept Village again this year.

## **Buckinghamshire County Councillor's Annual Report**

Challenging times continue for local government with significant reductions in budgets from central government of well over 40% in last 5 years.

This impacts all services commissioned and provided by the County Council from domiciliary care for the elderly, child protection for our most vulnerable youngsters, through to home to school transport, SEN provision, libraries, roads and footpaths and much more.

Road repairs and maintenance continue to be main focus for parishes in my division which has a large network of mainly rural class C and unclassified roads. There is no getting away from the fact that many of these roads are in very poor condition and have been underfunded for many years. The Leader of BCC with other local authority leaders continue to lobby central government with some success. Authorities nationally were awarded a pothole fund but frankly it is a drop in the ocean and for the whole county is very thinly spread.

County councillors have some degree of choice locally as to which roads are resurfaced/microsurfaced (we have a choice of c. 2 roads a year) and I have tried to spread this across the twenty one villages and hamlets in my division and additionally push for improvements to the main east west road A41 which have been delivered through Kingswood. I will continue to fight hard for as much of the repairs budget as possible for our villages from the total £16m pot that covers the whole county.

HS2 and East West Rail (EWR) predominate in the north of the division. The County Council, alongside the district and parish councils and residents all played a major role in petitioning against this project but sadly Royal Assent has been granted and we are already seeing ground investigation works established around the maintenance depot area. Now it is all about mitigation and ensuring that local people have a voice and are able to hold the main contractors to account. Certainly HS2's engagement with the communities affected has been woefully lacking to this point.

EWR whilst generally agreed to be of benefit in terms of offering better connectivity and a boost to the local economy still presents issues locally during its construction phase not least with a proposed compound in Charndon literally half a mile from HS2's permanent infrastructure depot. Again we will be seeking the best mitigation for the villages and residents affected.

This year the County Council's strategic planning department has been very involved in supporting the District Councils who are forming their local plans. BCC has worked in partnership producing infrastructure and sustainability plans.

At the end of last year the County Council submitted its proposals for a new Unitary Authority to the Secretary of State. 'Modernising Local Government' would do away with all five councils within the current county council boundary; that is BCC, AVDC, Chiltern DC, South Bucks DC and Wycombe DC. It is proposed that would all these councils would be dissolved and a new single authority formed. The proposals seek to streamline services, avoid duplication and provide significant savings, much needed in the light of the cuts handed down from the centre. We await the decision from the SoS which we hoped would be this May but may now be deferred due to the general election.

As your local councillor I have a small Community Leader's Fund which I can use to support or kick start small community projects. I've been pleased to have been able to support the setting up of a youth club, defibrillators, lunch club for the elderly, local football teams and scout groups to name but a few. I'm always keen to hear about new community initiatives, and funds permitting, am happy to offer support.

It's been a busy and challenging year but hugely enjoyable. I am proud to be your County Councillor and make every effort to keep in touch with all the villages in my division. I attend parish meetings where I can, (as there of many of them!) and hold surgeries with my district council colleagues.

I am easily contacted by email: [angmacpherson@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:angmacpherson@buckscc.gov.uk) or phone 01296 738818

**County Councillor Angela Macpherson**

**Angela Macpherson**

**County Councillor Grendon Underwood Division**

**District Councillor Marsh Gibbon Ward**

**AVDC Cabinet Member Communities Leisure and Civic Amenities**

**East Claydon Parish Council**  
**Statement of Accounts as at 31 March 2017**

<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE (ex VAT)</b>		
	<b>31st March 2016</b>	<b>31st March 2017</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Precept	£16,000.00	£16,000.00
Other receipts	£15,625.00	£4,150.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£31,625.00</b>	<b>£20,150.13</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
VAT payments	£2,848.89	£1,273.32
Lighting	£63.76	£34.22
Clerk Salary	£1,207.50	£2,205.10
Insurance	£723.63	£717.25
Playground	£4.95	£2,618.07
Waste (dog bin)	£340.00	£345.76
Subscriptions	£588.40	£278.48
Grass cutting and ground services	£3,483.26	£3,799.92
Tree work and ground maintenance	£795.00	£595.00
Village hall clock refurbishment\repair	£4,937.00	£250.00
Village hall development expenses	£5,413.00	£0.00
Website development and hosting	£590.00	£180.00
Defibrillator	£0.00	£53.00
External audit	£100.00	£200.00
Election expenses	£125.00	£0.00
miscellaneous	£0.00	£23.43
Other	£556.95	£1,184.94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£21,777.34</b>	<b>£13,758.49</b>
Excess of income over expenditure	£9,847.66	£6,391.64
Brought forward	£6,040.00	£15,850.77
<b>Parish Council Funds</b>	<b>£15,887.66</b>	<b>£22,242.41</b>