

chair

Mrs Sibylla Tindale
Clandon Downs
High Clandon
East Clandon
Surrey GU4 7RP
01483 225660
sibylla.tindale@tecrec.net



parish clerk

Mrs Mary Leech
Huggins Cottage
Back Lane
East Clandon GU4 7SD
01483 225595
parishclerk@eastclandon.org.uk

East Clandon Parish Council - for the Annual Village Meeting Annual Report 2013 – 2014

I have pleasure in welcoming you to our village's Annual Meeting and to review our activities and finances for 2013 - 2014 operating year.

Finances

The Parish Council's finances remain in good health reporting a total reserve of £5,370 at March 31st 2014.

Our income for the year was £14,216 and comprises four major on-going sources:

- the Guildford Borough Council (GBC) precept of £6,848
- GBC Concurrent Functions Grant of £437
- two forms of income directly from the parish – the tennis court subscriptions of £890 and the rental of Tunmore Fields at £3,200 (£1,600 per annum).

And other income

- the Closed Churchyard grant of £200
- SCC Community Pride Award £1500 (supported by SCC Cllr Barker)

Our outgoings for the year total £13,043. In the year 2013/14 the ECPC funded

- various playground repairs, maintenance of grounds & equipment including Jim Bacon's payments, verges and open spaces, insurances
- purchase of a new lawn mower
- improving the fences on the Tunmore Field and hedgerow planting
- cleaning and painting the tennis court surface to improve its surfaces
- maintenance and improvements of the village pond
- stipend for the Parish Clerk.

Village Highlights

East Clandon remains an example of community spirit and achievement, even though this year has been quieter than those preceding.

Advent of our new Rector

We welcome Barnaby Perkins and his wife, Caroline, who joined our village community in December and have already endeared themselves with a series of innovations and events to involve younger members with Christmas and Easter craft workshops and a village first, a real, live donkey to lead the Palm Sunday procession. Thanks to Beth Cooper and family for their help with Conan the donkey and his transport.

The Village Fete Our annual village fete was another great success and is as ever, generously hosted and organised by Bug & Neil Robertson who are beacons of village spirit and generosity.



The new Rector, Barnaby Perkins at the reading in the pub carpark at the start of the Palm Sunday procession

SFBB - Superfast Broadband

Surrey County Council with BT has rolled out the SFBB network with East Clandon being one of the earliest on stream. Some premises are getting 60-80 Mbps speed and others further way are at a vastly improved, but in comparison disappointing, 10 – 15Mbps speeds.

Our Open Spaces & Maintenance

We remain blessed in having Jim Bacon, a long-time village resident who does a superb job of tending our open spaces, through all weather conditions and despite his recent illness. Ray Corstin, a village resident, also plays a major role in helping to maintain our village playground and in his support for Jim. We thank them both for their energy and example of community spirit.

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

Pix Pickering has taken over the duties of coordinator from Simon & Caz Wood who moved to Australia last year. Thank you Pix for helping to guard our village.

FROST's Activities

The Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury (FROST) have provided a series of communal events which engage and entertain our villagers and the wider surrounding community – the Village in Bloom which opened our lovely gardens to the wider public, the Safari Supper, the ever-popular Quiz Night and recently, a series of talks.

Village Projects

- **The new Common Path:** New surfacing has been completed on our village Common path which means it will be easier for disabled access and baby buggies to traverse the Common in poor weather. Thanks to both Bill Barker, our SCC Councillor, for his welcome funding and to Paul Richardson for masterminding this project.
- **Clandon Conversations: Village Archives & History**
Roger Nickolds with Ian Peacock and Jane Thorold are leading this lovely project to capture oral history recordings from older and long-term residents. Congratulations to Roger for securing a generous Heritage Lottery Grant for this project. It will also include digitizing ECPC minutes going back to the late 1800's and which are held at the Surrey History Society.
- **Tennis Court:** Further work to improve the surface of our tennis court has involved cleaning and re-painting of the tennis court surface. This has helped the court to remain largely moss free and in far better condition than in previous years. We had hoped to receive funding for this from the SITA Trust, but due to an annoying and irreconcilable clerical error, we lost our funding. We thank Liz Ross for her energy in keeping the village court spic & span and in managing the membership and its important income.
- **Road Safety:** To reduce the speed at which traffic comes through our village, the newly installed 'gate-style sign' at the north end of the Ripley Road appears to create a visible reminder. Welcome road and pothole repairs and repainted lines have also improved our access roads. Further, Arthur Hunking as the new Speed Watch coordinator has started running a new village team with speed watch monitoring.
- **Village Litter-pick:** During March, over 30 villagers helped to clean our highways & byways of bags of litter. Thank you to all for your energy on a sunny spring morning.
- **Angling Club:** Chaired by David Crockford, it has 15 villagers as members and wishes to encourage more of our young villagers to join. It continues to thrive using the Hatchlands Sheepdip. To quote David, "I have been closely involved with the NT and would like to thank them for all the improvements that have been made to the sheep wash and its surroundings, turning it into beautiful area for both visitors and locals alike"



- **Snow Clearing:** Skip McMullan as the village snow warden is thanked for his support.

Planning Applications

The rate of planning applications is remains fairly low. A major concern, however, for our village is the development of the new GBC Local Plan and the impact that these important decisions will have on our surrounding villages and the infra-structure requirements. Though our village appears to have no direct threat as it has been re-affirmed as a Conservation village within the Green Belt and with no extra housing requirements being made of it, we remain vigilant, and in touch with both GBC and our neighbouring parishes to help ensure a sensible outcome.

Looking Ahead

- **Surrey Hills AONB extension:** In conjunction with the CPRE (Campaign for Rural England), the possible extension of the AONB is now being deliberated by Natural England and we hope to hear a positive outcome in the next six months. The plan is to extend the AONB to the north of the A246 to incorporate all land currently designated AGLV (Area of Great Landscape Value), our village, Hatchlands and Clandon Park.
- **Commemorating the Centenary of the Great War, WW1:** GBC have asked us to provide information on the story of Captain Francis Grenfell VC who was the first awardee of the Victoria Cross in WW1 and who was born with his twin brother at Hatchlands. There will be a commemorative ceremony at which a special paving stone will be placed in the Tunmore Arch during September 2014.



A painting of Captain Grenfell securing the guns at the Battle of Mons, now in the National Army Museum

Meeting Attendance

The ECPC has met 9 times during the past year and Councillors' attendance is good.

Thanks

We wish to record our grateful thanks to the Parish Clerk, Mary Leech, who includes in her role that of Responsible Financial Officer. We also thank Graham Leech for his support in preparing our financial statements

Further thanks go to Arthur Hunking for acting as our internal auditor and Adrian Thompson for arranging & distributing the Village Welcome Packs to new villagers.

We also much appreciate the support of our SCC Councillor, Bill Barker, and GBC Councillors, Jenny Wicks and Jen Powell.

Finally, I would like to thank my ECPC colleagues, Ray Corstin (Vice Chairman), Paul Richardson, Al Mundy & Ian Peacock for their support and advice and their energetic roles in attacking all the tasks they undertake for our village. They (and all other villagers who play roles and whom I have not mentioned by name) are examples of people with great community spirit. Thank you all.

Sibylla Tindale

Chairman East Clandon Parish Council



Design of special paving stone marking WW1 Centenary VC