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East Clandon Parish Council - for the Annual Village Meeting
ANNUAL REPORT 2016 – 2017

Welcome to our Annual Meeting where we review the year's activities and finances for 2016 – 17.

FINANCES

I wish to thank our Parish Clerk, Alyson Blackwell, who holds the reigns on our finances and guides us with verve. The Parish's finances are healthy with a reserve of £11,079 unaudited at March 31st.

Our income over the year was £15,101 and mainly arises from four on-going sources:

- Guildford Borough Council (GBC) precept of £7,565 and Concurrent Functions Grant £500
- Income directly from the parish – the tennis court subscriptions of £878 and £1,600 income from rental of Tunmore Fields
- Closed Churchyard grant of £260
- VAT refunds of £1,022
- Plus a one-off SCC Community Fund £1,200 and income from ticket sales of £646 for the Street Party to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday.

Our outgoings for the year total £14,528. and is a jump up on the previous year. In summary, this increase is mainly due to improvements to the playground safety matting and redecoration, the Parish Clerk's stipend, late payment for the previous Parish Clerk's stipend and hosting the Queen's 90th Birthday Street Party (with an offsetting income from ticket sales).

During the year, the ECPC also funded

- Various playground repairs and new gates, maintenance of grounds & equipment including Jim Bacon the village gardener's payments, verges and open spaces, insurances
- Cleaning and de-mossing the tennis court to improve its surfaces
- Maintenance and improvements of the village pond
- Stipend for the Parish Clerk
- Clandon Conversations – verbal history project

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND HIGHLIGHTS

East Clandon is an example of community spirit. Thank you to all who make it this wonderful close-knit village. Here follow the year's highlights.....

The Queen's 90th Birthday Street Party – May 15th 2016.



This great event, supported by the ECPC, took place on a perfect sunny day with food, dancing and a loyal toast. A wonderful video by Brian O'Connell, records the jollity and can be found on the village website. Many thanks go to the organising team led by Clare Goodall (with Gayle Leader, Elinor Hogarth, Murray Dudgeon, Bug Robertson & Carol Cook), the Queen's Head for providing the food at cost, to Chris Ross for designing the leaflet.

The Village Fete – June 2016

Our 'Queen of Clandon', Bug Robertson who with her husband, Neil, generously host this annual event at Home Farm and chair the organisation with their superb committee of villagers. The proceeds go to our village charities - Cherry Trees, PCC, Village Hall - and raised an astonishing £5,663. As ever it was a huge success.

Tennis/ Playground Clean – January 2017

Leaves covered our playground and tennis court and a terrific team of ‘more mature’ villagers cleared the grounds. Where are our younger Dads? It is their children who benefit from this more than most?

Thank you to Chris Ross, Ray Corstin, Skip McMullan with his tractor and all who were involved for getting stuck in.

Village’s Litterpick - April 2017

Villagers in hi-viz jackets, armed with litter-pick spears and special blue sacks, cleaned our highways and byways of litter resulting in bags of rubbish. All were rewarded with homemade cakes & coffee. Thanks to all for your unceasing energy.



The East Clandon Car Rally July 2016

This is an annual summer event organised by Paul Richardson and Roger Nickolds and which attracts some 30 vintage or near vintage cars. It starts and ends at the Queen’s Head and seems always to find the sunniest day of the year which adds hugely to its festiveness.

East Clandon Angling Club

This is run by villager, David Crockford, and with thanks to the NT, uses Hatchlands Lake. He reports “Weed and reed control has become a major problem over the last two or three years and a team has helped clear the lake. Also discussed was the making of a nature reserve at the top end of the lake where we are fortunately graced with the presence of King Fishers. We would also like to thank Dan our NT contact for all the help and advice that he gives.”



Shere Hill Climb – September 2016

In its fourth year, this exciting event with some 150 cars, has raised tens of thousands of pounds, some of which goes to our village’s main charity, Cherry Trees. Richard Duncan, a village resident-owner of the field in which this takes place donates his reward to our village projects. Thank you, Richard. Further, this year, the new tannoys caused a noise problem for the village and it is promised will not re-occur in 2017.

FROST’s Activities

Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury (FROST) have provided a series of fundraising communal events to engage and entertain; the Safari Supper, the ever-popular Quiz Night and latterly a series of laugh-inducing movie-nights in the village hall. They plan a Village in Bloom for June 2017 in which 15 village gardens will be open to the public and with a series of events organised around this.

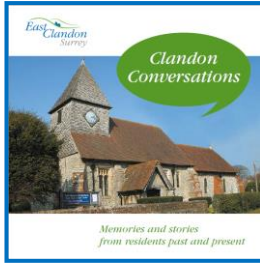
MAJOR VILLAGE PROJECTS

The Village Playground

This is a major new project underway to improve the playability and attractiveness of our lovely Rec. A taskforce of village mums is helping to guide the ECPC with a wish-list and apply for funding from various organisation. Already Cllr Bill Barker OBE of SCC has provided funding to re-paint the equipment and replace the roundabout matting. The improvements agreed are a new adventure trail and playhouse-climbing activity feature. Thank you to Francesca Lamont, Julie Eves and Monika Mundy for their role in getting this underway. A further special thanks goes to the Molvidson family, formerly of East Clandon, and who have donated £500 towards a new bench-table for the playground which replaces a previous bench recognising their happy years spent in East Clandon. Further donations from Richard Duncan will be held for the final finishing tasks.

Clandon Conversations – An Oral Village History.

This is an on-going project started by Roger Nickolds who obtained the funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This project captures the verbal history of life in the village through interviews and recordings from long-term residents (whether currently in the village or further afield). It is about



to complete its final stage with a celebratory launch and tea party in the Village Hall in May and at which the very entertaining recordings and some photos of remembered village history can be heard and seen by the contributors. This has been an immense task undertaken by Jane Thorold (Chief Interviewer) and Ian Peacock (Digital Recordings Editor). Many congratulations to all involved for their persistence and very hard work. When completed, the project will appear as a marvellous resource on the village website and also hopefully held at the Surrey History Society.

War Memorial :

Roger Nickolds has generously taken on this herculean task of getting the work done on this Grade 2 listed 'building', our village War Memorial. The goal is to make the commemorations legible. To date the lettering has been cleaned and advice and permissions will be obtained from various agencies – the War Memorials Trust, English Heritage GBC, the Diocese to re-incise the lettering. Funding for this work will be sought. Thank you Roger for your dogged persistence at going through all these interested agencies to get to where you have got to!



AED - Defibrillator:

Thank you to Cathy McMullan and Clare Goodall for organising the training for villagers in First Aid and the use of this device. The defibrillator was donated to Cherry Trees and will be sited at the Barn/office. This is another useful facility to help villagers in need.

Road Safety:

The Village Speed-Watch team has been active and we hope will encourage drivers through the village to observe the 30 mph speed limit! Thank you to Ian Peacock and his team.

OUR OPEN SPACES MAINTENANCE

This is done mainly by Jim Bacon, a long-time villager and with extra volunteer help from Ray Corstin and Skip McMullan who have taken on extra lawn mowing duties. Thank you both.

Tennis Club: Liz & Chris Ross run our village 'tennis club' facility on behalf of the ECPC and collect subscriptions. We are deeply grateful to you both.

PLANNING AND APPLICATIONS

The rate of planning applications shows an increase on 2016-17. The village remains concerned by the impact that the GBC Local Plan could have on our traffic, amenity and general threat to the surrounding Green Belt. The revised Plan will be available for comment again in June 2017.

LOOKING AHEAD

The key projects are to improve our Rec and playground, to refurbish further the War Memorial, and importantly to be involved in ensuring that the Local Plan for the GBC is one that meets the requirements for future housing, infrastructure and liveability of our beautiful Surrey Hills.

Another concern is the difficulty the Parish Council has in recruiting new Councillors. Having a vibrant and capable Parish Council is essential to our small village punching above its weight...and in ensuring we have the extra funds necessary to keep our village in great order. We need more villagers coming forward to play their role in it. **PLEASE APPLY.** I, as Chair, have had at least 6 years at the helm and a change would be good for all!

PARISH COUNCIL - MEETING ATTENDANCE & COUNCILLORS

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

We rely on our Councillors, all of whom are volunteers, to do so much for our village and we appeal to those who would be interested in joining the Parish Council (or even to help) to contact myself or the Parish Clerk. What you do to help, enables our village to thrive.

OUR THANKS

Parish Clerk. Our especial thanks go to Alyson Blackwell who took on the role last May and has been fabulous.

Further thanks go to

- Arthur Hunking for acting as our internal auditor
- Adrian Thompson for distributing the Village Welcome Packs to new villagers.
- Peter Smart's team for coordinating and watching over our village website / google group
- Pix Pickering acting as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator
- Bill Barker, our SCC Councillor, for his active support for our village, and we wish him well in his retirement from SCC.
- To our GBC Councillors, Jenny Wicks, David Reeve and Matthew Sarti for their service to us.

Finally, I would like to thank my ECPC colleagues, Ray Corstin (Vice Chairman), Clare Goodall for taking on the mantle of Planning guru, Al Mundy & Ian Peacock. To them, thank you for your support, advice and zest with which you attack the many tasks you undertake for our village. You (and all other villagers who play roles and whom I have not mentioned by name) are examples of our great community spirit.

Sibylla Tindale

Chairman: East Clandon Parish Council

28th April 2017