

Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

March/April 2015



Spring at last

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

? Do you think the Parish Council needs a change of face, and maybe a change of pace?

? Have you considered becoming a Parish Councillor and putting your skills and talents to work for your local community?

As a new Councillor you will bring to the Council fresh enthusiasm and new ideas, a care for your community and a willingness to learn.

Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council has 5 councillors – and they are elected just like a District Councillor, or a Member of Parliament.

But if 5 or fewer people put themselves forward, there won't be a parish council election and people will not get to choose who is on their Parish Council.

All you have to do is be yourself and work effectively with others as part of a team, for the best interests of the whole community. The Parish Council normally meets 6 times a year on the second Tuesday of every other month. Special meetings may be called as the need arises, for example to discuss planning issues. There is also an annual Parish meeting, usually in May.

REMEMBER – Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council needs a wide range of experience and skills. PLAY YOUR PART in the change that could happen on 7 May this year.

If you're interested in standing as a candidate please either contact the Louise Aston (Clerk) 07810 441682 or email elections@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk for a nomination pack.

Nomination forms must be **physically handed in at Bodicote House by 4.00 pm on 9th April**. (It is advisable to make an appointment, rather than be made to queue). Louise has offered to perform an informal check on the forms if required.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council Meeting on 10th March was attended by District Councillor Ken Attack. The following items were discussed:

PLANNING

Manor Farm Buildings now known as 'The Barnhouse'

The application to extend the Lawful Development Certificate within the barn to incorporate a 3 to 4 bedroom house with windows to the outside has been granted.

At the Planning Meeting the vote was split, 8 for and 8 against, giving the Chairman, Councillor Rose Stratford the deciding vote. Confusingly, the granting of the application gives the planning officers more power to prevent the demolition of the barn, which they apparently did not have prior to this decision.

LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS

The Claydon History Society has agreed to submit applications for 6 village properties to the Design and Conservation Team at Cherwell District Council. Further submissions will be guided by the response received.

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Maintenance

The collapsed kerbing in Church Lane and the bollard removed at The Leys have been reported.

Clattercote Road Works

Councillor Reynolds was thanked in absentia for his assistance to improve the situation when motorists were driving over the lawn at Bookside.

CLAYDON PHONE BOX

BT has confirmed that it has no plans to remove the phone box. An engineer found a fault with the power supply as a cable had been broken. This has now been repaired but it was reported that the phone is still not working.

BUS SHELTER

Councillor Jones reported that he would contact further suppliers and bring a proposal to the next meeting.

The Chairman declared that positive action was needed soon and a wooden design may be acceptable. He added that the new Parish Council would have the right to overturn the decision to purchase a bus shelter and the £3,000 earmarked could be used elsewhere. Councillor Hoggins declared that a cheaper model would suffice.

There was a strong objection to a wooden design from the floor.

VILLAGE GREEN

Councillor Jones was concerned that cars had been driving on the Village Green en route to Claydon House or Manor Farm. He suggested that some type of barrier be erected to discourage this activity. The Chairman pointed out that if any obstacles were erected, the Parish Council would be obliged to pay for the maintenance of the area, rather than rely on the goodwill of Manor Farm. Councillor Mutch insisted that it was the time of

year when many verges were eroded and the Parish Council would be liable if the placement of rockery stones resulted in damage to a vehicle.

The state of the grass under the horse chestnut tree was also a cause for concern and it was suggested that quotes be obtained for the pruning and for the complete removal of the tree.

ALLOTMENTS

There is currently one vacant plot. Permission has been granted for the keeping of chickens on 2 further plots, and for the planting of fruit trees and the erection of a small shed on another.

INSURANCE CLAIM

The claim for the loss of the generator and other items from the container in the Playing Field has now been settled. It was suggested that it may be in the interests of all parties concerned to not replace the generator.

CONFUSION

Concern was expressed that we now appear to have two Leys Farms in the village. Vital minutes could be lost should an ambulance be called to either.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 12th May at 7.00 pm in the Church Room.

Claydon Playing Field Update

The fundraising for the basket swing is well underway and so far we have raised £1000 towards the cost. Our next fundraising events are an afternoon of tea and games on Saturday 9th May in the Church rooms. A jumble sale on Saturday 6th June and a village fete and dog show on Saturday 4th July. We are always looking for helpers for events, please contact Pamela on 693941 or Pamela.putt@yahoo.co.uk if you are interested in helping in any way.

Claydon Playing Field Management Committee

Well Done Arron

Since returning from Afghanistan, Captain Arron Broughton RM has been based at the Commando Training Centre at Lympstone in Devon. In addition to his normal duties he has had time to pursue other interests, one of which is boxing. He recently took part in the Royal Marine Corps Boxing Championships after training hard with much assistance from his trainer Sgt. Chris Last and sparring partners from across the South West, organised by Lympstone Amateur Boxing Club.

The tournament took place on 26th February, with the elimination bouts in the preceding week. Arron gained 4 wins from 4 fights, two of which were knockouts (one after 12 seconds in the first round). He is now Royal Marines Heavyweight Champion and in addition to this trophy he also received trophies for Best Unit Fighter of the Tournament and Best Fight of the Championships.

We send him our congratulations.



Arron receiving one of the trophies from Camp Commandant Col. Oliver

Obituary

MARY MARTIN

On Tuesday 10th March, family and friends gathered at St James' Church for the funeral of Mary Martin.

Edith Mary Martin was born in 1935, the youngest of 5 children to Jessie and Bertha (Peg) Gilkes. She attended St John's Priory School and was a member of the Guides and the St John's Ambulance Brigade. At this time there was a nursing school at the Horton General Hospital and from the age of 16 Mary studied there, eventually qualifying as a State Registered Nurse.

Although Tony also worked at the Horton, in the finance offices, their paths did not cross until he had returned after completing his National Service. When they did meet, Tony discovered that she had a boyfriend, but undaunted, he asked her out and she accepted. Tony had learned to dance while on National Service, so he took Mary to the Mayor's Ball, accompanied by her sister and brother-in-law. Mary's mother was not very taken with Tony and would often declare in his presence that there were plenty more fish in the sea.

Mary and Tony were married in 1957. Ten days after their wedding, they followed Mary's brother, Geoff 's example, and emigrated to Calgary, Alberta. For seven years before the children were born, they had the freedom to enjoy the Canadian country and culture. Jeremy was born in 1964, Janice in 1966 and Rachel in 1967. In 1963, Mary had practised for the arrival of her own children by fostering children before they were adopted.

In 1969 Mary decided that the children needed to be closer to their grandparents, and so the family moved back to England and to Claydon. Mary stayed at home until all of the children were at school and during that time she helped run the Village Playgroup. She then went to work part time for Dr Yassin at Cropredy Surgery, first of all as a nurse and latterly as his dispenser, ordering all of the drugs and making up the prescriptions.

She was very happy in her job and amazed Tony by asking for a motorbike on which to travel to and from work.

Mary retired in 1995, at the same time as Tony retired after 26 years from his accounting management job at General Foods. Mary and Tony then travelled extensively in Europe, to the former Yugoslavia, Portugal, Spain, France and Cyprus. They also travelled further afield to Florida, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and back to Western Canada to see Geoff and his family. They also played golf both separately and together before Mary was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease in 2007.

For some time Tony looked after Mary at home. During this period she was able to attend the Cluster Care Group in Cropredy which was good for her and gave Tony some free time. Eventually Mary developed other illnesses and had to be admitted to the Horton, and following that to be cared for by The Order Of St John Care Trust, first at Chipping Norton and then at Larkrise Care Home in Banbury, where she was very well looked after for the last 15 months of her life.

Mary was a seemingly quiet, unassuming person but that was deceiving, as she could be decisive and had a very good sense of humour.

Tony and family would like to thank all of the villagers who attended the funeral and for their donations to the Alzheimer's Society.



Mary with Tony at a tea dance

BUS SHELTER FUNDRAISING

Thanks to several villagers who followed the lead of the Jubilee Group (as reported in the January Newsletter) and donated sufficient funds to bring the total to £400 before the end of February.

The TOMBOLA event on 14th March was very well attended. The huge number of items donated filled three tables. Villagers were able to spend time over coffee and cake refreshments and then try their luck on the TOMBOLA and on the separate raffle for a food hamper, with a fruit hamper as second prize. They were also able to view photographs of the types of bus shelter that have been discussed at Parish Council meetings and to indicate their preferences.

As a result of the event, and the additional cash donations made on or immediately prior to the day, the total now stands at over £900. Thanks to everyone for their support.





The total does not yet include the donation that the Newsletter will make for villagers giving up their paper copies of the publication. 10 households signed up on the day and several more have signed up via ClaydonVillage. It is not too late to do so. Remember £5 will be donated to the fund for every household that signs up to receiving the Newsletter electronically.

Other fundraising at the planning stage includes a concert in the summer and a table at the Village Fete and Dog Show.

BUS SHELTER FEEDBACK

The following correspondence and comments have been received:

This village needs a bus shelter. As a villager who lives opposite the bus stop, when I walk out of my door I am ashamed to see elderly people and mothers with pushchairs standing in the rain and cold wind. It may be pleasant in summer but it is cruel in winter. We should show more respect for the vulnerable in our village.

I support the idea of a bus shelter, but I do not think that we should spend a great deal of money on one.

As a small village with no amenities, it is crucial that we do not miss out on a bus shelter too. The bus is the only means of travel that some villagers have. They should be comfortable and protected from the weather while they are waiting.

If we really must have a stone bus shelter, why don't we demolish the wall between the two village greens and reuse that stone? The added bonus would be a more usable village green, with steps from one part to the other.

The bus shelter should not have to be stone. A cheap alternative would be adequate.

CLAYDON FILM CLUB

Paul Gallagher will run the Film Club until the end of April, after which it will only continue if someone else is willing to take it on. In order to do this, it must be a viable proposition, so villagers are requested to commit to membership for another 12 months. If there is insufficient support it will be discontinued.

If you wish to commit to membership for the next year please contact Paul Gallagher on 298699.



Keep the Horton General is pleased to announce that all six candidates in the forthcoming General Election have confirmed their participation in the Hustings meeting arranged for Thursday 16 April 2015.

It will be held in St Mary's Church, Banbury between 6-9.30pm.

The only subjects for debate are the candidate's political party's plans for the NHS and how they would affect the Horton.

The participants are Dickie Bird UKIP, Ian Middleton Green Party, John Howson Liberal Democrats, Roseanne Edwards National Health Action Party, Sean Woodcock Labour and Victoria Prentis Conservative.

The format of the evening will be as follows:-

1. Every candidate has five minutes to address the meeting
2. Questions from the public
3. If time permits, further responses from the candidates

The evening will be chaired by Anita Higham, OBE.

Keith Strangwood, KTHG chairman, will welcome the candidates and public at 6pm when he looks forward to an evening of informative debate on the Horton General Hospital and the NHS.

For more details contact Chairman: Keith Strangwood tel: 077405 99736
email: nkarnia@aol.com

www.keepthehortongeneral.org

Diary Dates

OVER SIXTIES FILM

The next film showing will take place in the Church Room at 2.00 pm on

Friday 10th April

Saving Mr Banks

starring Emma Thompson and Tom Hanks

TEA and GAMES

Saturday 9th May in the Church Room in aid of the PFMC

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday 12th May at 7.00 pm in the Church Room

followed by

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

CLAYDON HISTORY SOCIETY MEETING

Monday 18th May at 7.30 pm in the Church Room, when subscriptions will be due.

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 6th June in aid of the PFMC

VILLAGE FETE and DOG SHOW

Saturday 4th July in the Playing Field

Written and produced by Jenny Jones

Thanks to all contributors

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