

Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

May/June 2016

BT TO BRING FASTER BROADBAND TO THE VILLAGE



The site of the proposed cabinet

As part of the rollout of Superfast Broadband, BT Openreach has requested permission to install another cabinet at the junction of Manor Park and Mollington Road. The new cabinet will be larger than the existing one shown above (160 cm high, 120 cm wide and 45 cm deep). BT has proposed that it is sited within 50 cm of the existing cabinet. At the Parish Council Meeting on 10th May an objection was made to the suggestion that the cabinet should be sited behind the wall, thereby obstructing the only feasible site for the erection of a bus shelter if the project is revived at some time in the future. Installation is expected by October.

277 BUS SERVICE TO CEASE ON 4th JUNE

Although it had been expected that the Stagecoach 277 service would continue until 20th July, in line with the subsidy from Oxfordshire County Council, the loss of the contract with Warwickshire County Council by Stagecoach for the connecting 77 service has brought the loss of the service forward to 4th June.

The village is fortunate that Warwickshire County Council and Catterall's are changing the 503 service to include Claydon from 9th June. This service will run on Thursdays only and will be running on a commercial basis. If there is insufficient usage it may not continue for long. It will leave Claydon at 10.18 and leave Banbury Bus Station at 13.35 for the return journey. The full timetable is printed later in this issue.

It is expected that the County Connect service will continue until at least 20th July.

The Banbury Dial-a-Ride service is now in operation. The service is for people with mobility problems and also those who have little or no bus service to their village. The cost of a return trip from Claydon to Banbury is £5. Passengers must be registered before using the service. Contact Co-ordinator Kevyn Powell on 01295 257715 or 07798 922712.

The cheapest known minicab fare at the time of publication is £10 for a single journey with 007 Cars on 01295 700 007.

There is also the possibility of the Claydon Car Service (see Annual Parish Meeting reports).

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council Meeting on 8th March was attended by County Councillor George Reynolds and District Councillor Ken Attack. The following further items were discussed:

Parish Council Administration for 2016/2017

Cllr Hill agreed to continue as Chair at present, but requested that a Chair elect should be chosen by the July meeting.

Kirsty Buttle has been appointed as Parish Clerk. She is very experienced, already performing this function for several villages and also being secretary for several primary schools in the area. These contacts may prove very useful with the legislation as the HS2 project progresses. Unfortunately Kirsty is unable to attend a Parish Council meeting until September.

The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration

The village grant from Cherwell District Council towards the cost of hiring equipment or providing entertainment for an event to mark the Queen's 90th birthday has been increased to £250. Following a suggestion from a member of the public, it was explained that it was outside the remit of the grant for it to be used to automate the church clock.

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

Restructuring local government offers the opportunity to consider how to bring real power and influence to local areas, including through parish and town councils. Last year the county council launched its 'Oxfordshire Together' programme, which is designed to give greater control of local services to communities. Cllr Reynolds indicated that so far there had been little enthusiasm from parishes to take on any further responsibilities other than mowing. There were complaints from the public that road signs are becoming obscured due to overgrown hedges.

Cherwell District Council (CDC)

The Chairman thanked Cllrs Reynolds and Attack for their help during the last year. Following the recent reorganisation of the wards in the district, the Cropredy, Sibfords and Wroxton Ward now has 3 District Councillors. In practice Cllr Attack will still operate as District Councillor for the village, with Cllr Reynolds as substitute if necessary.

Planning

The application for a Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Development for no. 1 Bignolds Close has been granted. It specifies the erection of a rear garage extension, the demolition of a conservatory and erection of a single story extension to serve as a garden room.

Thanks to Cllr Attack, a meeting has been set up with the Chairman and an officer to view the empty properties in Claydon (the Old School House, 12 Manor Park and the Barnhouse), in order to ascertain the Council Tax implications.

Claydon Allotments

Only 4 rents have been paid for the current year. It was agreed that letters would be sent to the tenants in arrears indicating that the agreement would be terminated if rent was not received within 2 weeks. A suggestion that tenants should be required to sign a direct debit was worth considering, but it could still leave the problem of tenants paying but failing to cultivate their plot. There was an issue regarding any property left after an allotment has been vacated. Cllr Millward suggested that as there was a lack of demand, the number of allotments could be reduced.

Village Maintenance

Parish Councillors had met on the Village Green and decided that all of the trees on the Top and Bottom Green would be pruned. Cllr Millward is obtaining a quotation following confirmation that there are no Tree Preservation Orders and the Village Green is not in a Conservation Area. Dan Whitehead has volunteered to provide and spread compost under the horse chestnut tree. Robert Adams has suggested that the area should be planted with aconites.

It was recognised that the leaves being placed against the wall of the Top Green were a problem and need to be moved.

A quotation of £102.96 plus VAT had been obtained for a grit bin to be placed near the entrance to Bignolds Close but it was agreed not to go ahead.

Cllr R Jones reported that the blue brick path has become very overgrown near the phone box, but OCC were unwilling to maintain it. Suggestions were made that the work could be included in a volunteering village maintenance day, or a local community service scheme could be employed. The Chairman will investigate possibilities with the Parish Clerk.

Finance

The Chairman reported that at the end of the financial year the balance was £7398 plus £457.48 reserve.

As at 10th May 2016:

Current bank balance £10944

Authority was given to pay :-

Local Council Review magazine subs. £ 17

Community First Oxfordshire subscription £ 55

OALC subscription	£ 133.07
Parish Clerk's Salary for May	£ 115 (£92 plus £23 PAYE)
Cluster Care Grant	£ 100
PFMC Grant	£1455
Claydon Website Grant	£ 40.05
Parish Council Insurance	£ 711.06 fixed for 3 years
Grass cutting	£ 276(verges £150 plus VAT) (churchyard £80 plus VAT)
Internal Audit	£ 40
New Dog Bags for the PFMC	£ 148.80 to be repaid
Parish Clerk's Salary for June	£ 115 (£92 plus £23 PAYE)

Parish Member's Allowances:

Claydon has always elected not to take allowances other than for extensive travel.

AOB

There is significant dog fouling on the Playing Field. It was suggested that this may be due to the absence of bags in the dispenser.

The tree in Dog Lane is leaning against a residential fence.

Pot holes continue to be a problem in the surrounding roads. Cllr Reynolds urged the public to keep reporting them.

It was also agreed to follow up the non-working BT telephone and the requested 'Road Narrows ' sign to be placed where leaving the village on the Mollington Road.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 12th July at 7.00 pm.

MOBILE LIBRARY TO CEASE

The last visit of the Mobile Library to the village will be on Wednesday 14th September.

Congratulations

to Lara and Chris Hardy of Bignolds Close on the celebration of their marriage on 21st May in Ravenglass, Cumbria.



Guests enjoyed a full day of festivities, including a trip on the Ravenglass & Eskdale Steam Railway which climbs from the Ravenglass estuary to the foothills of the Scafell range of mountains.

CROPREDY POST OFFICE

As the poor internet connection made the location of the Chapel schoolrooms infeasible, the Post Office has now been moved to the Church Rooms in Church Lane.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on 10th May, immediately preceding the Parish Council Meeting. The following summary contains details of the main points included in the reports for 2015/16 submitted by the village organisations and any questions raised.

Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council

The Council ended the 2015-16 financial year with a bank balance of £7,398 plus £457 in a reserve account. For the financial year 2016-17 the expenditure budget is set at £10,505 incl. VAT, with a predicted income of £8,387 incl. VAT. The village precept, forming part of the Council Tax, was increased by £1,000 to £6,907 and the Council again received a grant of £93 from Cherwell District Council, resulting in a total precept of £7,000. Therefore the annual village precept for Council Tax payers in Band D equates to £50.75 per annum.

Claydon Playing Field Management Committee (PFMC)

There are currently 4 active members of the PFMC: Pamela Putt (Chair), Emma Gallagher (Secretary), Garry Putt, and Mike Smith (Treasurer).

Fundraising events during the year have included the Summer Fete & Dog Show, Afternoon Tea and Games, a Raffle, the Kids' Christmas Party, the Halloween Event, The Basket Swing Opening Event and an Italian Night. Unfortunately the annual bonfire event did not take place due to a lack of volunteers. The events are aimed at the whole village and the PFMC would like to see more village participation, otherwise there is a risk of fewer events in the future. The fundraising enabled the purchase of the basket swing. The opening event was well attended and the PFMC wish to thank everyone involved.

Events for 2016/17 are still under review. There will be less fundraising activity as the major investment priority has been achieved. The PFMC would like to work with other village groups to support them with their ideas for events.

After the break-in last year the container has been repaired and the smaller items replaced.

In the last 12 months the Playing Field has continued to be in good condition with the grass cut regularly. The basket swing is being monitored to see if it suffers from birds roosting on it – so far this has not been a problem. The largest expense during the period was grass cutting. Regular cuts will be continued in 2016, but the number may be reduced slightly to save money which can be put aside for other maintenance.

If anyone is interested in running or helping out at events and wants to be included in PFMC communications, please contact Pamela Putt on 07946 509174 or Pamela.Putt@yahoo.co.uk.

Claydon Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Rev Hilary Campbell informed the meeting that there are currently no churchwardens and the PCC itself consists of only 5 members. (It could be up to 6 elected members plus 2 churchwardens plus the treasurer and secretary if they are not part of the elected PCC).

There are partnerships which are happening in terms of care of the churchyard and the Church Room; the History Society producing a plan of the churchyard which will be put on display for reference by both villagers and visitors; the welcome given to the annual Napton Bike Ride and the participation in the Summer Dog Show and Fete. The church is building on these partnerships and recognising that a sustainable way of working together needs to be found.

Claydon Poor's Land Trust

Rent for the field plus building society interest resulted in a total income of £502.72. A total of £437 was paid out in benefits with £65.72 added to the Contingency Fund.

The Trust now holds reserves of £1153.52

Claydon Trust

At the end of the year the balance of the account was £1147.88.

There was one request for funding in November 2015 from the Church Room Committee, requesting a grant of £200 to match the Parish Council's grant in their efforts to improve the Church Room. The Trustees have stated that they will consider a grant when the work to be undertaken is estimated and any other sources of income are known.

Last year it was suggested that the Claydon Poor's Land Trust and the Claydon Trust should be merged. Neither party has yet taken this suggestion forward. Such a merger would be of benefit to all the inhabitants and organisations in the parish.

Neighbourhood Watch

The object of Neighbourhood Watch is to make residents more aware of the need to accept that criminals are constantly looking for opportunities to commit a crime. The last reported event in the village was the theft of valuable tools from a van. The theft was witnessed by a neighbour who thought that the owner was leaving early – around 4.00am. Just a call may have made the thief drop the tools and run.

We should all be suspicious of any activity that is unusual or involves someone you do not know.

Claydon Jubilee Group

The Jubilee Group has had another busy year – every month coffee and scones for £1 and a raffle prize (courtesy of members each bringing a prize and taking one home). A small amount of funds has been raised and a donation is given to a special cause when needed.

Everyone is welcome on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Claydon History Society

Events in the last year have included a talk by Stephen Wass on Farnborough Hall and its immediate surroundings, a talk on the Anglo Saxon period, a talk by Stephen Barker on the Battle of Cropredy Bridge and a talk by Professor Beat Kumin of Warwick University on a pre-history of public houses.

The balance of funds held by the society at 31st December was £568.

Claydon Village Website

ClaydonVillage.co.uk has been running since 14th February 2012. Statistics for the site during the past 12 months 3,092 total visits with 2,418 unique visitors and a 24.19% return visitor rate.

The 'Claydon Village Website – Latest Updates' mailshot has 700 subscribed members from Claydon and 51 surrounding villages. Some have attended Claydon events purely through being informed via the mailshot. One national estate agent chain has included a link to the website in its house sale literature.

There is a great deal of information that Claydon villagers have about Claydon and its history. It would be wonderful to capture and share this information (stories, photographs etc.) for future generations. ClaydonVillage.co.uk is the ideal place to host all of this valuable information.

Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch

The annual Claydon Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch was held for the first time at the Plough, Warmington on Tuesday 15th December, on the 31st anniversary of the event..

15 residents enjoyed a main course of traditional roast turkey with a choice of soups and puddings at a cost of £15. The meal was followed by tea and coffee and the usual raffle. Thanks go to Morrisons who contributed to the prizes.

Claydon Church Room

Further improvements have been made during the last year. Two windows have been replaced and the carpet has been cleaned. The next project is to replace the front door.

The Church Room was at one stage thought to be a liability on PCC funds but now it is not the case. The Committee would welcome more people to come forward and play a part in helping to improve such an important village asset.

Claydon Car service

The Claydon Car Service operates for the benefit of villagers who require transport to attend a medical appointment, collect a prescription or attend a social gathering, but are prohibited by the cost of a taxi service.

The service is free and can only operate if a volunteer is available. There are currently two volunteers and more are required who are willing to use their own vehicle to help meet future demand.

The Co-ordinator is Adele Broughton on 690378 or 07963 646123.

GOOD LUCK



to Paul Gallagher who has set a personal goal to run the Oxford Half Marathon on 9th October in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Donations can be made online via <https://www.justgiving.com/Paul-J-Gallagher> or by contacting him on 01295 298699. So far Paul has raised £915.

STOP PRESS – The battle to retain Consultant-led Maternity and Paediatrics, and the Special Care Baby Unit at the Horton begins again. The GPs are key in this battle. Please let your GP know how you feel.

503 LONG ITCHINGTON - SOUTHAM - BISHOPS ITCHINGTON - FENNY COMPTON - CROPREDY - BANBURY

THURSDAYS

MODEL VILLAGE LONG ITCHINGTON	09:00	BANBURY BUS STATION	13:35
Long Itchington Odingsel Drive	09:04	Little Bourton The Plough	13:44
Long Itchington Pond	09:06	Great Bourton The Bell	13:46
Long Itchington Layby	09:07	Cropredy Brazenose Arms	13:49
Stockton Square	09:12	Cropredy Marina	13:50
Napton Crown	09:24	Claydon Manor Park Bench	13:54
SOUTHAM BOWLING GREEN	09:34	Farnborough Haypool	14:01
Harbury B4452/Hall Lane	09:42	Farnborough Village Hall	14:02
Deppers Bridge Great Western	09:44	Farnborough Triangle	14:03
Bishops Itchington Church	09:47	Avon Dasset Bus Shelter	14:06
Knightcote opp Phone Box	09:52	Fenny Compton Bridge Street	14:10
Northend Top Shelter	09:57	Northend The Prebend	14:15
Northend The Prebend	09:59	Northend Top Shelter	14:17
Fenny Compton Bus Shelter	10:04	Knightcote	14:22
Avon Dasset Bus Shelter	10:08	Bishops Itchington Church	14:27
Farnborough Triangle	10:11	Deppers Bridge Great Western	14:30
Farnborough Village Hall	10:12	Harbury B4452/Hall Lane	14:32
Farnborough Haypool	10:13	SOUTHAM BOWLING GREEN	14:40
Claydon Manor Park Bench	10:18	Napton Crown	14:52R
Cropredy Marina	10:22	Stockton Square	15:04
Cropredy Bus Shelter	10:23	Long Itchington Layby	15:09R
Great Bourton The Bell	10:26	Long Itchington Pond	15:10R
Little Bourton Bus Shelter	10:28	Long Itchington Odingsel Drive	15:12R
BANBURY BUS STATION	10:37	MODEL VILLAGE LONG ITCHINGTON	15:16R

R Request stop for passengers already on the Bus

Starting 09/06/2016

OPERATED BY CATTERALL'S COACHES

for WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Diary Dates

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 15th June at 10.30 am in the Church Room

HISTORY SOCIETY ENTERTAINMENT EVENING

Friday 24th June

A talk by Stephen Wass on

The Latest Excavations at Hanwell Castle

at 7.30 pm in the Church Room. Refreshments included.
Contact 690510 for tickets. Members £3, non-members £5

OVER SIXTIES FILM

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

Friday 8th July

Helen Mirren and Om Puri starring in

The Hundred-Foot Journey

HISTORY SOCIETY MEETING

Monday 11th July at 7.30 pm in the Church Room.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 12th July at 7.00 pm in the Church Room

followed by

PLAYING FIELD TRUSTEE MEETING

Edited and produced by Jenny Jones

Contact: **tel. 690510**, e-mail clayclatnews@btinternet.com