

# Parish of Dennington in the County of East Suffolk.

## Chairman's Report 2016/2017 Annual Parish Meeting 15th May 2017



### THE VILLAGE CENTRE

*May I welcome you to the Dennington 2017 Annual Parish Meeting.*

*During the year, the Parish Council has held five Meetings of the Council and as a result has been engaged in a number of activities or projects over these past 12 months, some of the content I wish to share with you tonight.*

*Dennington Parish Council has nine elected members; these nine Councillors act independently of any political influences. They have a wealth of experience and skills which enables them to make sound democratic decisions.*

*I must thank each Councillor for placing their trust in me over the past year. I would also like to thank those Councillors who have taken on the various appointments on behalf on the Council.*

*I would also like to thank Katherine Whitbread, my Vice Chairman, who has supported me over the past year, Katherine has stepped in to chair planning in my absence.*

*This is the sixth year we have enjoyed the services of Ruth Hart our Parish Clerk she still continues to do a sterling job for us.*

*The Parish Clerk is the backbone of local Government, our Council is extremely lucky to have Ruth to manage the Council's business Ruth has to ensure that the Council Business is run in a strict and efficient manner, which incidentally has to comply with the law of the land, in particular the Law of Local Government.*

*I am again pleased to inform you that Ruth has completed and presented the 2016/2017 accounts and obtained approval from our internal auditor as well as the Local government auditor.*

*I am also pleased to report that this past year both these audit professionals have approved our books with complimentary comments. This again goes to show how lucky we are to have such a dedicated and efficient Parish clerk.*

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT HEALTH & SAFETY.**

*Risk is inherent in all our corporate and personal activities, and we, the Council are no different, we continuously managing these risks, a comprehensive set of risk assessments have been carried out to cover all Councils activities.*

*The Parish Council has updated its own Health & Safety Policy and believes that the adoption of a formal approach to risk management will improve decision-making, performance and accountability.*

#### **PLANNING.**

*The Clerk receives notice of all planning applications from SCDC following the clerk then calls a meeting of the Council, the Council normally has 21 days to meet and respond.*

*The Clerk then has to publicise notice of the meeting in the Parish in accordance with the local government act. The statutory requirement for notification for these meetings is three clear days' notice.*

*During the year, there were 8 planning meetings, one more than last year. Councillors considered 12 planning applications, 8 were supported and 2 were recommended for refusal.*

Severalls - installation of tennis court - re-submission - *approval.*  
Sunnyside - extension/modification to garage, new dropped kerb access, driveway and gates - *approval.*

Corner House willow tree - reduction of top by 4ms and lateral branches - *approval.*

Grange Farm - livestock building to house cattle and bedding on straw system - *Refusal.*

Tower Bungalow Owls Green - erection of new dwelling in garden - *Refusal.*

Barnsdale - erection of single cart-lodge - *approval.*

Barnsdale - erection of summerhouse - *approval.*

Wynneys Hall - erection of one and a half storey 4 bay cart-lodge - *approval.*

Wynneys Hall - change to application process re permitted development - *noted.*

Wynneys Farmhouse - conversion of redundant barn for underground studio with decking - *approval.*

Wynneys Hall - creation of wildlife pond on land north of Saxtead Rd - *approval.*

Wynneys Hall - installation of 3 new front windows - *approval.*

## **HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHEN THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL CONSIDER A PLANNING APPLICATION?**

*The Parish Council must be consulted on all Planning applications and it has legal duty to give notice on all planning meetings.*

*An agenda is placed on the Parish Notice Boards. One situated on the West side of the Clothes Peg shop wall, one at Owls Green and the other on the wall of Fidos cottage, Laxfield Road.*

*The Council has a policy which allows residents to speak at planning meetings before planning applications are discussed. Members of the Council will consider the views of objectors and supporters before making a decision on the application.*

## **I NEED TO SPEAK AT THE PLANNING MEETING?**

*You can submit your views in writing well in advance of the meeting by e-mailing the clerk. If you wish you can telephone the Clerk, Mrs Ruth Hart (01728) 685622 at least 48 hours before the meeting starts if you wish to speak about the planning application.*

*Generally, each speaker will be given a maximum of 3 minutes in the case of more than one objector or supporter wishing to speak, 3 minutes for each relevant group.*



## **HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS.**

*A number of potholes notably Clay Hill, B1116 outside Brundish Lodge, Saxtead Rd/Badingham Rd - repaired*

*Overhanging branches from trees on bend at Owls Green*

*Overhanging branches and nettles impeding footpath 20 at Capons Green - removed*

*Missing fingerpost sign at bottom of Clay Hill - replaced*

*Blocked footpath linking Boxbush lane to A1120 (water tower) to C.C. S. Burroughes*

*The Council received several complaints regarding parking along Laxfield Rd, notably at beginning and end of school day. Wrote to school and requested they remind parents about safe and considerate parking.*

*Councillors and residents are still concerned about the increasing number of vehicles that have been parking on the highway verge abutting the A1120 on Saxtead Rd/Swainston Way. The Council asked SCC to deal with a lorry-cab which was being parked on the verge at Blyth Villas We have asked Suffolk County Council if they could write a letter to the residents, informing them, of the legal consequences about parking on highway verges.*

*A number of potholes have been located in Severalls Lane these potholes will be filled during SCC's routine maintenance programme.*

## **FLY-TIPPING.**

*Just before Christmas whilst walking along the Framlingham Road in the Lay-by I saw a number of cardboard boxes which had been dumped in the ditch, the boxes contained names and addresses, the council is currently in discussions with SCDC who are investigating with a view to prosecute.*

## **GENERAL.**

*Vehicles have damaged two oak posts again in village square I have repositioned these replaced the chain hooks and hopefully secured the posts by placing them in concrete.*

*Further damage to the posts around the pond site is being caused by motorists parking too close, it proposed to replace these ether with taller wooden posts with reflectors, or possibly new kerbs instead of posts.*



## **DEFIBRIILLATOR.**

*The Council received £1,500 from Dennington Consolidated Charities to purchase a defibrillator this is due to be installed in the Coronation Shelter in the Square. The Charities have also agreed to fund basic defibrillator/CPR first aid training for 24 people which will be held during the day provided by the Red Cross, scheduled for late Autumn, please let me know if you are interested.*

*The Litter pick was a success was undertaken on 19<sup>th</sup> April it was noticed that compared to previous years there was less rubbish which is encouraging.*

*The Council adopted the telephone kiosk at Owls Green.*

*The District Councillor was asked to investigate the Parish Councils local housing nomination rights for properties in Swainston Way, this is still outstanding.*

*The Council appointed Frances Boscawen as trustee to Dennington Consolidated Charities.*

### **NEW BENCHES.**

*During the year, the Parish Council purchased three benches which are made from recycled plastic bottles, replacing two on the Village Green and one on the old pond site in the Square.*



*The new bench placed on the village green*

### **DOG FOULING.**

*Following complaints from residents and the allotment society it has become apparent that dog fouling on the Village Green, round the allotments and the Playing field is continuing to be a problem.*

*There are plenty of doggy bins located around the village, The District Council will now allow the use of the standard waste bins for people to place their doggy waste in, providing it is placed in tied bags.*

*SCDC and the Parish Council will be monitoring the situation this is a criminal offence under the public space legislation SCDC will prosecute any offenders.*

### **BUDGET & PRECEPT.**

*Following discussions councillors agreed to raise the precept by 1% in line with inflation from £8,200 to £8,500 for 2016/17.*

*Councillors agreed that they should continue paying the SCDC community charge rate for the recreation field.*

*Councillors made the following donations: -*

*£300 village hall. Year 2015/16 £250*

*£300 Dennington Sports Club. Year 2015/16 £250*

*£450 external church lighting. Year 2015/16 £400*

*£55 CAB. Year 2015/16 £50*

*£55 Air Ambulance. Year 2015/16 £50*

*purchased 3 new picnic tables.*

*Lawn Mower Service.*



*Well-kept village allotment plots May.*

## [DENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE](http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/DenningtonPC/)

*<http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/DenningtonPC/> it will contain all of the relevant Parish Council information including minutes, agendas, reports, photographs and other useful village organisation contacts.*

*In addition, there are various links within the site which connect to the school, and church web sites.*

*Shirley Cunningham is the designated administrator manager of the site, any events or matters of local interest including other suitable Parish web links can be included on the site. e-mail [pc@dennington.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:pc@dennington.suffolk.gov.uk)*

*I must thank Shirley for continuing to be the web administrator and taking control of the site on behalf of the Council.*

## EMPLOYEES

*Finally, I must thank our employees; they do a sterling job in all weathers, keeping the village neat and tidy. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team.*

*Firstly, David Wright, David takes control of the weeds along the village footpaths.*

*My thanks to Framlingham Hall in particular Councillor Nick Watts who has kindly provided staff to cut the hedges around the Village Green and the Allotments.*

*Roy Steward who provides a substantial amount of diesel throughout the year, free of charge for the Council's Mower which is used to cut the Village Green and /recreational field.*

*I must thank Councillor Kathy Whitbread the Council's tree warden, looks after the trees which are placed all around the village. Kathy has also donated a number of hawthorn samplings to form a boundary between the village Hall and the playing field.*

*Lastly, I am extremely grateful to Ian Mann, he spends a lot of time cutting the grass in the centre of the village, stimming and also cutting the hedge on the green. this is being done at no cost to the Council, Ian has also rotovated and turfed the area around the Jubilee Seat in the square.*

***Robert C.T. Wardley May 15th 2017***



*On behalf of Councillors and residents of the Parish, I would like to thank Reverend Jonathan and Sue Olanczuk for their Pastoral care to the Parishioners of Dennington over the past 17 years we sincerely wish them both a happy and long retirement. Robert.*

