

LAYER DE LA HAYE PARISH COUNCIL 2017 NEWSLETTER



THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors

Brian Turner *Chairman*, Ian Moore *Vice Chairman*

Peter Bunting, Tom Harris, Mark Jones,

Anne Hughes MBE, David Lennox, Richard Marriage, Mike Strain

Parish Clerk: Sarah Hughes

(Oaklands, 153 High Road, Layer de la Haye CO2 OEB)

Tel: 01206 738056 E-mail: layerclerk@hotmail.com

Website: www.essexinfo.net/layerdelahayepc

The Parish Council will hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday, 9th May at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Regular Parish Council meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month in the Committee Room at the Village Hall at 8 p.m. The schedule and the Agenda are published on the Parish Council Notice Board at the Cross and on the Parish Council website. All are welcome to attend.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

The Parish Council website has information about the village and Minutes of Parish Council meetings. There is also an Events Diary. If you would like an event included, please notify the Parish Clerk.

Jo Jones runs the 'Parish Network', which keeps residents up-to-date with village news and information by e mail. This is a completely free service; if you would like to join please contact Jo on 734258 or jojn@hotmai.com. Another good source of village information is the Secret Layer Facebook page.

The Parish Gazette is produced by the Church for residents of Layer. As well as Church news, it is a great source of local information. For a fee you can advertise your business. Priced at 80p, the magazine is on sale at the village shop, The Fox and The Donkey; alternatively, it can be delivered to your home for an annual charge of £8 - contact Martin Piper on 734369 for details.

Contact Sarah Hughes, the Parish Clerk, for more details on any of the items in this newsletter.

THIS YEAR'S HOT TOPICS

Housing Needs Survey & CBC Local Plan Review

The Parish Council has submitted its response opposing CBC's proposal to build up to 50 houses on the field behind the existing estate. But if the proposal goes ahead the Parish Council have stressed that we should be fully involved in any discussions about the most appropriate housing for the site, access etc. As part of this we will shortly be undertaking a Housing Needs Survey in conjunction with the Rural Community Council of Essex. A survey will be sent to every house in the village requesting information about future housing needs and we would encourage you to respond – it will help ensure that the village gets the housing it needs for the future should the proposed development go ahead.

Village Litter Picks and PALs (People Against Litter)

The Parish Council litter picks twice a year in Spring and Autumn. If you have time and would be interested in litter picking more regularly, you could become a PAL. PALs aim to litter pick specific roads in the village on a monthly basis. Details from Liz Appleby on 734493 or elizabeth.appleby@hotmail.co.uk.

Dog Fouling

Dogs should be kept on a lead on the Playing Field at all times, including after dark. If your dog fouls please pick up after it. Dog waste bins are sited at either end of New Cut, on the High Road on Malting Green and near the Church. CBC Community Zone Wardens are empowered to issue fines to anyone who does not clear up after their dogs.

Community Speedwatch

We now have a group of trained volunteers who mount speedchecks on a regular basis. Any speeding vehicles are reported to Essex Police, who then take the appropriate action. If you are interested in joining the volunteers, please e-mail the Parish Clerk on layerclerk@hotmail.com.

Parking

Parked cars, particularly at school drop off and pick up times, are a real problem around our school, the Village Hall, New Cut and Heather Close. To ensure that the Emergency Services and residents can always gain access to properties, it is very important that roads and driveways are not obstructed at any time. Your co-operation in parking considerately and safely would be much appreciated.

LEISURE FACILITIES

Allotments

All six Parish Council allotments on Church Road are up and running but if you are interested in putting your name on the waiting list for any future availability please let the Parish Clerk know (01206 738056).

Sports

In addition to the play area and basketball court on the playing field, the village has excellent tennis courts on Church Road, available for hire at a cost of £4.00 per court for adults & mixed groups or £3.00 for children. To book the courts ring Ian & Marilyn Moore on 734267.

Heatherfields

Heatherfields is rented by the Parish Council for the enjoyment of village residents. The paths through the woods must not be used by horses or cyclists. Your co-operation in respecting these rules ensures that the woods remain a safe and pleasant environment for all our residents. Bonfires must not be lit and timber should not be cut or removed.

AROUND THE VILLAGE

The Parish Council is manager of the Recreation Field, Malting Green, the Cross and War Memorial, the Multisport Courts and Allotments on Church Road, the Village Hall Car Park, Heatherfields and the Play Area at Millfields.

Village Hall

The QE Hall has recently had a facelift and both halls are very popular venues for social events. The village hall has its own website where you can make bookings: <http://www.layervillagehall.org/> or contact Marilyn Moore on 734267.

Layer De La Haye Primary School

It has been another busy year at our school, which remains as popular as ever. A highlight was the unveiling of felted panels made by the children and staff which depict Compassion & Hope, Courage & Respect, Responsibility & Fairness and Wisdom & Integrity. For further information on the school visit the website at <http://www.layer-de-la-haye.essex.sch.uk/>

St John the Baptist Church

We are delighted to welcome The Reverend Lydia Smith, our new Vicar, and her family to the village. Building work on the new entrance, toilet & kitchen facilities at the Church is now complete. For information on Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals contact Rev. Smith on 738759.

Policing and Community Zone Wardens

The contact phone number for reporting non-urgent matters to the Police is 101. Our Zone Wardens are Tim Pickard-Smith (tim.pickard@colchester.gov.uk) Gary Cole and Tony Francis. They are at the village hall between 9.00 and 11.00am on the last Tuesday of every month with replacement recycling boxes, clear sacks and food caddies (large & small). The Zone Wardens can also offer help and advice with CBC online services.

Housing Associations

The flats at The Buntings, bungalows at Heather Close, both for the over 55s, and houses at Millfields are all run by Housing Associations to rent and for shared ownership. The Parish Council has fought for the right for people with village connections to be housed in them. To register your interest, please contact Anne Hughes on 734168.

Refuse Freighters

There will be attended refuse freighters in the Village Hall Car Park for the disposal of garden rubbish and bulky domestic rubbish between 9.30 'til 10.45am on 3rd June and 29th July. Fridges, freezers, commercial refuse or hazardous waste will not be accepted.

TRANSPORT and ROADS

Chariot Parish Shopping Bus

The Chariot Community Bus goes to Sainsbury's supermarket every other Monday. The bus is open to all and delivers passengers and their shopping door-to-door for a fare of £4. This is made possible by a substantial Parish Council subsidy. Our thanks to Martin Friend for organising this service and to the volunteer drivers for their time and commitment. Info: Martin Friend on 734555.

Buses

The village benefits from a regular bus service into Colchester. Some services are subsidised by ECC and rely on passenger numbers & overall usage to retain this support. So please consider using the bus for your trips into town. Information on times/stops/fares etc. can be obtained from Heddinghams 01206 769778 or the Traveline website.

Potholes & Other Highways Problems

Can be reported direct to Essex County Council via their website or by phoning 0345 603 7631.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Kevin Bentley: Willoughby End, 32 Willoughby Avenue, West Mersea CO5 8AU
Tel: 01206 841933 (work), 01206 382405 (home), 07740 123753 (mobile)
Email: kevin@birchandwintree.com

Andrew Ellis: Ransomes, Wigborough Road, Peldon, Colchester CO5 7RA
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