



# DULLINGHAM Parish Council ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

## Chairman's Report

### **Your Parish Council.....**

Dullingham Parish Council consists of 7 elected or co-opted members who serve a term of 4 years. The Parish Council employs a part time clerk, Mrs Jayne Weaver who can be contacted on 01638 743566, by email [dullinghamparishcouncil@btinternet.com](mailto:dullinghamparishcouncil@btinternet.com) or by post at 16 Newmarket Road, Burwell, CB25 0AE.

### **What do we do.....**

The Council owns a number of assets around the village which we maintain and inspect twice a year. These include the village green and play area, village pond, sports field and some street lighting, and smaller equipment like benches and bins. The play area is regularly checked to ensure the safety of those using the equipment.

We are consulted on all planning applications by East Cambridgeshire District Council, with a hard copy of all plans being submitted to our clerk, these are then considered by the full council at the first available meeting of the Parish Council. These plans are available for inspection, by prior arrangement with the clerk. All planning applications can also be found on line on the East Cambridgeshire District Council website.

Your Council is here to represent the majority view of the village of Dullingham on such matters as highways concerns, including faulty road signs, street lights, speeding, winter gritting, and also fly tipping, footpaths and policing. We also consider and comment on District, County and Government policy. Your Council is a non political, unpaid committee.

### **The Year 2016/17**

At the start of this financial year, Tim Owen resigned as a Parish Councillor to devote more time to his many other community interests. Tim had been looking after our planning portfolio and brought to the role a wealth of knowledge and experience. He has kindly agreed to continue to help us, when possible, with advice on planning matters. We wish him all the best for the future. Cary Simpson replaced Tim on the Council and is helping Richard with the responsibility for the sports field and village green/playground. Cary works for a computer company and his I. T. experience has already helped us in a number of areas on the Parish Council. Cary's wife also helps in the village as caretaker of our village hall.

A total of 21 planning applications were received in the year, and a number of these we recommended for refusal or amendment. Regrettably, not all our recommendations were accepted. Your Council has listened to many representations from the village about development. East Cambridgeshire District Council has been allocated a number of houses to be built in the District in the year. Our view is that any growth in our village should be limited to a small development of up to a maximum of 10 to 12 houses, providing we have the infrastructure to cope. Plans have already been approved for a build of this size. In the year we have had complaints from residents about the overloading of the sewage system. We have had complaints that the trains are full, and passengers are being left stranded on the platform at Dullingham, and our school is up to capacity. There is correspondence on file of our attempts to resolve these issues, also involving our MP. Until these issues and others are addressed the village is full. A full display of sites for possible development in the village will be available at the Annual Parish Meeting for all to review.

After many years of trying we were finally successful in reducing the speed limit through the village. Speeding is the number one cause of accidents on our roads, and whilst we still see some vehicles exceeding the limit, it clearly is having an effect on making the main road safer. Movable speed signs are now in use in strategic places around the village, these will be moved every few weeks to maximise the effect. In Dullingham we have an unusually high level of street lights owned by the village, which are costly to maintain as they deteriorate. A contract is in force with Balfour Beatty to maintain and repair these lights. If you spot a faulty light please report it on the Cambridgeshire County Council website. Your Council has currently commissioned a full investigation into the state of our lights with a view to up grading them over the next few years. The new lights, if affordable, would give us a number of additional features, including the switching off of some lights late at night. We await the report before a final decision can be made.

During the financial year, we received a small grant from East Cambridgeshire District Council to spend in the rural community. This is being spent on improving the area around the Balsham Lane junction, the village green, with some additional benches in other areas around the village. Your Council continued to balance its finances and finished the year within budget, whilst continuing to fulfil all its services and duties. In 2016/17 your Parish Council has made good progress in looking after and developing our rural community. The year ahead will give us greater challenges than ever before, and we would ask for your support at every opportunity especially with planned developments, and our village infrastructure, to ensure we continue to enjoy the village and community of Dullingham.

I look forward to seeing you all at the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting in the village hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May.



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## Year End Accounts

Please contact the Parish Clerk if you wish to discuss or require further information relating to these accounts.

2015/16 £	<b>Income</b>	2016/17 £	2015/16 £	<b>Expenditure</b>	2016/17 £
15396.10	Precept	15717.74	1424.87	Streetlights- Power	1458.73
42.04	Bank Interest	36.56	0.00	Streetlights Maintenance	917.99
2359.92	VAT	664.06	1820.00	Footpaths	0.00
95.00	Fair/Village Green	160.00	192.06	Water Rates	100.90
0.00	Footpaths	0.00	1285.23	Grass Cut	1284.97
0.00	Sports Field Rent	0.00	0.00	Councillors expenses	49.94
161.41	Water contribution	0.00	105.00	Training	0.00
218.00	Other	4964.00	538.87	Insurance	562.23
0.00	Play Area	0.00	200.00	Audit Fee	200.00
<b>18,272.47</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>21,542.36</b>	337.62	C.A.L.C. & Memberships	246.64
			10.00	Other	
			3501.14	Clerks Salary	4200.72
			336.08	LHII	0.00
			60.00	Playground/youth amenities	370.00
			100.00	Election Costs	0.00
			650.55	Office Costs	938.26
			469.90	General Repairs	210.18
			0.00	Tree Works	750.00
			200.00	Grants	309.99
			0.00	Play Area earmarked	0.00
			664.06	VAT	619.96
			<b>11,895.38</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>12,220.51</b>

### Councillor Contact Details

Chairman	Keith Owen	15 Eagle Lane	01638 507455 or 01638 507114	<a href="mailto:keith@dullingham.org">keith@dullingham.org</a>
Vice Chair	Sarah Mardon	1 Cross Green	01638 508322	<a href="mailto:sarah@dullingham.org">sarah@dullingham.org</a>
	Rob Algar	10 Cross Green	01638 507997	<a href="mailto:rob@dullingham.org">rob@dullingham.org</a>
	Richard Morley	1 Elm Close	01638 507627	<a href="mailto:richard@dullingham.org">richard@dullingham.org</a>
	Gail Parkins	95 Stetchworth Road	07789 725889	<a href="mailto:gail@dullingham.org">gail@dullingham.org</a>
	Mark Robertson	39 Stetchworth Road	01638 507266	<a href="mailto:mark@dullingham.org">mark@dullingham.org</a>
	Cary Simpson	1 The Crescent	01638 508572	<a href="mailto:cary@dullingham.org">cary@dullingham.org</a>

## Village Funfair

Thurston's Fair will be visiting the village on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June from 6.00pm

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017 - 8 PM

TAYLOR HALL

ALL WELCOME



# **DULLINGHAM**

## **Parish Council**