

**In this issue:** The New Parish Council; Welcome to our new Clerk RFO and start of the 5 Year Local Plan consultation

### ***The Parish Council Newsletter***

Welcome to the May 2019 edition of the Parish Council Newsletter. This two page version of the Newsletter is available on the Council's website. Paper copies of this version are also available from the Bartley Post Office, Woodington Feeds and the Courtesy Filling Station shop, Romsey Road.

### ***The New Parish Council***

As readers will know, the end of April marked the last week of the operation of the current 4 year term of the Parish Council. As was commented on in the Chairman's report at the **Annual Parish Meeting**, the past four years have seen a number of developments for the Parish Council and many more are planned. More on this later in this Newsletter.

By the time of reading, elections will have taken place (May 2<sup>nd</sup>), and the newly elected Parish Councillors will assemble for their first meeting on **14<sup>th</sup> May 2019**, at the Parish Hall.

This first meeting is the **Annual Parish Council Meeting**, at which a new Chairman and Vice Chairman are elected and a raft of Parish Council 'technical business' takes place to set the Parish Council up for its operations into the future.

We welcome members of the public to join us for our meetings and see how the Parish Council operates. However, at this particular meeting, the normal 'Public' slot is not usually on the agenda, which is focussed on the establishment of Parish Council committees and working groups, finances and governance matters.

**You are very welcome to join us at the Annual Parish Council Meeting!!**

### ***A New Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) for Copythorne Parish Council!!***

We are really pleased to announce the appointment of our **new Clerk and RFO, David Rigby**, following the resignation in March, of Suzanne Middleton, our previous Clerk and RFO.

Suzanne undertook sterling work for us and created a several new processes to help us be more efficient in our work and made a clear mark in the time she was with us. We wish Suzanne well into the future.

David joins us as an ex banking professional with a wealth of experience in the commercial sector, as well as being the voluntary treasurer of St Matthews Parish Church in Netley Marsh and being a member of the Group Executive for a local Scout Group; the manager of a National Cup winning Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI hockey team and an England Hockey National League match official!!

David lives in West Totton and has already started with us on 15<sup>th</sup> April. His contact information is shown at the bottom of the page.

**A very warm welcome to David!**



### ***Planning the Future – Start of 5 Year Plan Consultation***

Members of the community joining us at the Annual Parish Meeting in March will have heard the presentation regarding the commencement of consultation on a **Parish Council 5 Year Local Plan**.

This is an innovation for the Parish Council, as it has not operated such a Plan in the past, but increasingly it has become clear that such a Plan will help with forward identification of **local needs and aspirations** for our community.

The 5 Year Local Plan is a **Community Plan**. It is critical that all members of our community have the opportunity to participate in a consultation, helping to determine the priorities for the Parish Council, working on behalf of the community.



Ultimately, the Parish Council has to prioritise plans against the available budget, but where there are clearly identified requirements and the community support their development, the Parish Council will consider their inclusion in the Plan.

This is a significant mechanism for ensuring we manage our available resources, as well as any new funds achieved through grants or awards, as carefully as possible to achieve the required outcome and create 'best value' for the community.

The consultation documents are now on the web site, accessible via the link on the home page. Please take the time to have a look and let us know your views. If you are not an internet user, you can obtain a copy from the Clerk, contact details below. (Non-internet users can also submit

their thoughts to the Clerk in writing, by post).

**The consultation closes on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 and we really want to hear your views!**

### **Parish Council – Remaining Meetings for 2019**

The Parish Council normally operates a meeting schedule which runs in line with the calendar year. The schedule is usually updated for the following year at the meeting in December.

The remaining dates for meetings in this calendar year are:

<b>Tuesday 14th May –</b>	<b>Annual Parish Council Meeting (First Meeting of the Parish Council Year &amp; newly elected Parish Council)</b>
<b>Tuesday 11th June –</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday 9th July –</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
<b>August –</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday 10th September –</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday 8th October –</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday 12th November –</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday 10th December –</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>

### **Community Speedwatch – Further Call For Volunteers**

Regular readers will know that we occasionally publish a note in this Newsletter requesting new volunteers to help with what is now a very successful **Community Speedwatch Scheme (CSW)**. The work of the team is expanding, as was noted in the last Newsletter, as there is now approval for roads with 40 mph speed limits to be monitored as well as those with 30 mph speed limits.

This is a very valuable local voluntary service which has proved what an issue speeding (sometimes excessive speeding), is in our area. The CSW Team are helping to ensure safer roads in ur community.

It's a great way to get out in the fresh air, meet new people and '**make a difference**'!

Interested in helping or want to know more? Contact the team leaders on: [cke8163@gmail.com](mailto:cke8163@gmail.com).

The **Clerk to the Council, David Rigby**, can be contacted by post at: **9, The Cleaves, West Totton, Southampton, SO40 8WL** or by telephone: **02381120150** or by email at: [parishclerk@copythorne.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@copythorne.org.uk); website: [www.copythorne.org.uk](http://www.copythorne.org.uk). Details of individual Parish Councillors, and information on District and County Councillors, can also be found on the Parish Council Website and on community notice boards.

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF ADDRESS DETAILS FOR THE CLERK**