

Datchet Parish Office
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Datchet Parish Council Newsletter Summer 2008

COUNCIL MATTERS

The Parish Council year 2007/2008

Having just completed a year as Chair of the Parish Council I am reflecting on this years achievements.

This has been a period of consolidation for the Parish Council, with no new major financial projects. We have spent the year reviewing and improving the Council's systems and operating procedures, to ensure that the Council and the Parish Council's Office, are 'fit for purpose' for the Parish in the years ahead.

We have been tackling issues that have been in the background over many years. These include – proving ownership of Parish Lands and registering them with the Land Registry, establishing the legal position over Trusts that the Council is involved in and generally getting the Parish in a fit state for the future.

The Council finished its year with the Annual Parish meeting at the Village Hall on 12th May 2008. This was an opportunity for residents and businesses to hear the Council report on its year and raise matters of concern. Unfortunately this meeting was poorly attended and we will make more effort to raise its profile for next year to encourage more residents to attend.

2008/2009

The Council has started this New Year by officially appointing Graham Leaver (its Locum Clerk) as its Permanent Clerk, after a 2-year transition period. We thank Graham for his hard work during this transition and welcome him to his new role.

At the Statutory Meeting on 19th May 2008 the Council reformed with the members taking on the following roles:-

Chair	David Cannon
Vice Chair	Paul Dickson

Lead Members and Deputy for :-

Finance	Paul Dickson Tim O'Flynn
Grounds	Don Lyons-Davis Sheila Drummond
Planning	Linda O'Flynn Denny Loveridge
Properties	Patrick Symonds Ewan Larcombe
General Purpose	Adrian Needham Tim O'Flynn
Village Flooding	Harry Clasper

Parish Councillor Vacancy

We currently have two vacancies on the Council, due to Stuart Toll moving away

Parish web-site address: www.datchetparishcouncil.org.uk

from the village and the recent resignation of Vicki Gregorowski

This offers village residents (or businesses) an opportunity to take a more active part in village life, by seeking co-option onto the Parish Council.

We are looking for individuals who may be interested in putting themselves forward for co-option.

If you or anybody you know, is interested in this opportunity (the current term ends in April 2011) please contact the Clerk, at the Parish Office in Allen Way, e-mail clerk@datchetparishcouncil.org.uk, or telephone 01753-773499. Please contact either Graham or myself if you wish to find out what being a Parish Councillor involves and how the co-option process works.

Grounds man

It is with great pleasure, that I am able to report that Don Baron (our Grounds man) is on the mend, following his recent illness and we look forward to seeing him back around the village in the foreseeable future.

Projects

For the year ahead the Parish Council has several projects it wishes to progress, these include the refurbishment of the Parish Yard in Green Lane, refurbishment of the Tennis Courts on the Recreation Ground, maintenance of the riverfront and taking some decisions about the future use of the Cemetery Chapel.

Borough planning enforcement.

Since the enforcement of unauthorised development and planning breaches is an extremely slow process and does not appear to be high on the agenda of the Borough Council, the Parish Council have recently decided to become more proactive in this area. We are monitoring properties currently subject to enforcement and identifying those which need to be. These matters are being raised with Borough Officers, as well as our Ward Councillors and will be a subject of ongoing Parish Council involvement. It seems unfair to those who comply with the planning process to allow those who disregard it, to be ignored.

If you have any opinions on planning matters, please feel free to raise them with

the Clerk or attend the Parish Council meetings where the plans are being discussed.

A reminder about Advantage Cards.

The Borough will apparently re issue you with a new 'chip' Advantage Card, if you take yours for replacement - stating that it is not working in the parking machines.

This can be done at either the Windsor Leisure Centre or at the Council Offices in York Street, Windsor.

Finally - an invitation

Datchet Parish Council normally meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month (the definitive list is on all the Parish Notice Boards and datchetparishcouncil.org.uk).

We meet in the Village Hall at 8pm and provide an opportunity for Public Questions at both the beginning and the end of each meeting.

I would like to invite you to pop in, if you have any issues you wish to raise with us, or if you are just interested in seeing who we are and what we do.

If you are unable to attend, please feel free to raise matters through myself or the Clerk who is normally available in the Parish Office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 9.30am to 12.30pm.

David Cannon

Chairman

Datchet Parish Council

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