



'Oyez' - Clapham Parish Council Quarterly Newsletter - July 2023

A Message from the Chair, Terry Gale

The Annual Meeting of the Parish was an opportunity to reflect on the achievements, and even a few of the challenges, of the past year.

- ✓ We received just under £10000 in National Lottery funding to commemorate royal events!
- ✓ In celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022, we marked the occasion with -
 - A free event on the Recreation Ground, combined with the official playground opening by the MP and representatives of Clapham Playground Restoration.
 - A new circular seat was installed on the Recreation Ground.
 - Two new noticeboards, one for the Recreation Ground and one by the Common were purchased.
- ✓ Marigold Somerset planted the walnut tree on the Recreation Ground as part of the Queen's Green Canopy and the ceremony was recorded on the official map.
- ✓ We celebrated the King's Coronation in May with a free cream tea for residents and two new commemorative benches are on order to replace the existing ones.
- ✓ We continued to support our litter picking team, who keep the village free of rubbish, with particular thanks to Boaz Cornford who has gone above and beyond in his efforts and won appreciation across the parish. We are lucky to have you Boaz – thank you for all you do!
- ✓ Those volunteers who help maintain the Recreation Ground – mowing, helping with the play equipment upkeep and replenishing the dog bags. Thank you to all who help us!
- ✓ The South Downs National Park Authority adopted the Parish Design Statement and was full of praise and admiration for those who worked on it. Special thanks to Sally Morris as lead and to everyone involved as part of the Working Party.
- ✓ Residents came together to share their concerns over plans for the site of the Old Gravel Pit and our Clerk represented the Parish Council to speak on behalf of the residents at the Planning Committee in December. The application was refused.
- ✓ Smart new fencing and gates on the boundary with The Street.

For several months the Parish Council had insufficient members to meet and make decisions although work continued behind the scenes and the good news is that all member positions are now filled. And finally, we bid a fond farewell to Councillor Emily Dodd who continued to support the Council during this time, balancing her many commitments with the needs of the Council. Emily decided not to stand for election on this occasion and we wish her and her family well for the future.

Please Join Us!

Parish Council Meetings usually take place every other month and are held on the last Thursday of that month. They are **held at Clapham and Patching Village Hall, commencing at 7.30 p.m.** The remaining **dates for 2023 are Thursday 31/8/23, Thursday 26/10/23 and Thursday 14/12/23.** There is an opportunity to speak at the start in the public session so do please come along.

South Downs National Park - Parish Priority Statement

As part of the Local Plan Review which is underway there is an opportunity for those who live, work and visit the parish to create a Parish Priority Statement. This will summarise the principal needs and prevailing views of the local community focussing on the next 10 -15 years and the South Downs National Park Authority is advocating this as an alternative to reviewing Clapham's Neighbourhood Plan. You can find out more by visiting both our own website and the South Downs National Park Authority's. We are running a survey, the link <https://forms.office.com/e/auDH84w49r> is also on the Parish Council Facebook Group and our website too and the survey is in paper format at The Junction. The final version must be completed by October 2023 so, to allow time for collating and analysing the results, **the survey will need to be completed by Friday August 11th**. This is an important document so do please take part, and you can share your views by responding to either some or all of the questions.

Celebrating the King's Coronation

The two new seats for the Recreation Ground are due to be delivered and will be installed shortly, made possible through National Lottery funding.

Please Support The Junction

The Junction will be opening several days a week over the summer with Olly and Hamish helping during their holidays, so please look out for dates and times of opening on the village Facebook group and noticeboards.

A Message from Clapham and Patching C of E Primary School

We have had a very busy summer term here at Clapham and Patching C of E Primary School. We recently had a week of exciting events to celebrate the school's 150th Anniversary. There has been a school on the site since 1814, but this school has existed in its current building since 1873. We were thrilled to be visited by Joan Standford Hogan and John Inglefield who were both pupils over 50 years ago. John explained that during the second world war, the requisition soldiers actually slept in our school building at night!

We finished our week of celebrations with a service at St Mary's led by Rt Rev Ruth Bushyager the Bishop of Horsham, and attended by many other VIPs including Andrew Griffith MP. Following this we held an open afternoon for past staff and pupils who came to reminisce about their school days. This was a great success and we made many, many new friends!

Consultations

The Boundary Commission for England

Its final recommendation for new parliamentary constituency boundaries has been published and will see Clapham Parish move into Worthing West Constituency (from Arundel and South Downs) along with Angmering, Patching and Findon. The Government now has four months to bring forward an Order to give effect to the final recommendations which can be viewed on the Commission's website.

<https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/>

Rampion 2 - Route Announced June 2023

Rampion 2 has consulted on four occasions over a two-year period, during which a number of onshore cable route options have been considered. The route will take power from the landfall at Climping Beach to the connection point at Bolney National Grid Substation.

The longest section of the route where alternatives were consulted upon ran from Lyminster to Sullington Hill. The Eastern Route, also known as 'Longer Alternative Cable Route 1' has been selected.

At the northern end of the Eastern Route on the approach to Sullington Hill, option, '1d', consulted on in February and March this year, has been selected to reconnect to the original route at Sullington Hill. This option is described as having "less impact on business, affects fewer hedgerows and is a more direct route".

[Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm: Onshore cable route selected - Rampion 2](#)