

Parish Council Chair's Report

Suzanne Hales – 7th January 2025

Happy New year and I hope you had a lovely Christmas.

Forging ahead with the New Year Clyst Honiton Parish Council will do all it can to keep our Parish a pleasant place to live.

It was agreed at the November meeting to streamline the meetings and the minutes so we can concentrate on what matters most.

We will have set times for each item and the public will be able to speak in the public session at the beginning of the meeting. For a maximum of five minutes.

After nearly nine years, I will be standing down in February 2025 as Chairman.

When I first came to Clyst Honiton it was still very rural, now we are surrounded by roads, employment parks and Cranbrook is advancing East with another new town to the west. As Chairman I have been involved in trying to make Clyst Honiton a better place to live.

I am sad as a resident to see all our farmland and green spaces are being taken up by unnecessary amounts of housing.

We as a Parish council spent many hours with other local parishes protecting an area in Rockbeare to ensure a green wedge so that

Whimble, Rockbeare and Cranbrook were never joined, EDDC agreed with this but now it all seems to have been forgotten.

The pressure on land in our Parish for housing and development is high. The Parish Council has to respond to planning applications from porches to entire towns and the process needs to balance necessity and desirability.

I think that our children will ask us in the future why we let all the best farmland in East Devon be built on when we should be supporting farmers to grow food and pay them well to keep food sustainable.

I have been passionate about the river Clyst and the sewage that gets put into it from our pump station. The whole country is now concerned about our waterways and coasts.

During my time as Chair, gradually the whole country has realised the scale of the problem for our waterways and coasts. Conversations around small parish council tables have contributed to the snowballing of knowledge and protests demanding something is done.

It's fair to say that being on a Parish Council is a very challenging job, you can't please all of the people all of the time, nonetheless I have enjoyed the role.

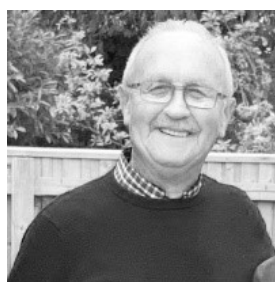
I would like to thank my fellow Councillors and the Clerk for all their help and support.

Suzanne

Cllr Mike's Village Maintenance

Firstly, a big thanks to Mike for sorting out the village Christmas tree at the bottom of St Michaels Hill. It makes a big difference when you can see public space is cared for.

On which subject, this from the man himself:



Happy new year.

Please continue to help with village maintenance.

A big thank you to all the support given in 2024 with the flower boxes they were brilliant. Any flower donations in the spring would be appreciated, but, if you would like to take ownership of a particular thing – flowerbed or whatever, let me know and I'll leave it to you.

Even just picking up odd pieces of litter all helps the village to look better.

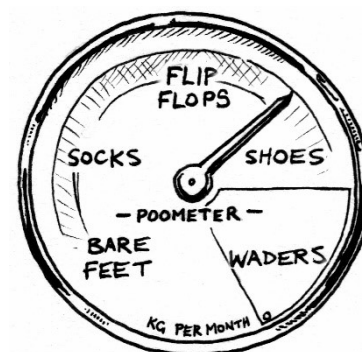
Sadly, there has been an increase in dog fouling on pavements please be responsible and use the bins provided. This only applies to the minority of dog walkers.

We can all contribute in many ways big or small.

A huge thank you all once again.

Regards Mike.

mikemuir@clysthoniton.org.uk



News South of the A30

Janvrin Edbrooke

Thank you for participating in voting on the Clyst Honiton Neighbourhood Plan.

By the time this message is read, the outcome regarding the support for the Community Made Plan to be used by East Devon District Council in deciding planning applications in our area will be known.

The land designated for the New Settlement, encompassing the entire Parish south of the A30, has recently been surveyed extensively by multiple teams of professionals. The purpose of this work has been to evaluate the land and initiate the mapping process for the proposed roads into and out of this new East Devon Town.

This area still faces issues like fly tipping, potholes, and increased traffic when the Sidmouth Road is congested, but we continue to enjoy the rural scenery and walking, running and horse riding in our lanes.

See Janvrin's photos at the end of the Online Chatter

The ACTUAL A30

The A30 that runs through the parish is part of a section owned and maintained by Connect A30/A35 Limited, financed by the Bank of America.

In 2000, Tony Blair promised as prime minister to end the longstanding noise problem although no specific date was ever given for resurfacing. A Highways Agency spokesperson told BBC News: "The road will be resurfaced when this is necessary for the safety of road users or to maintain the integrity of the road.

At the end of this year, its ownership is being handed over to National Highways who are worried that they will inherit a load of maintenance bills and so there may be quite a lot of partial closures as work is done and the condition of the road is assessed.

We have to hope that it is deemed OK, handed over, and then needs resurfacing (with tarmac) almost immediately. So don't go breaking it now or they'll repair it with concrete and Highways will sign it off for another 40 years!

Tarmac for St Michaels Hill!

The Parish Council have been told that St Michaels will its tarmac sorted out. The contractors are going to try and get this done before the end of the financial year, March 31st. Expect requests to remove cars.

The Parish Council met with someone from Highways about three years ago and they told us then it was on a to-do list and would be about three years, so it does feel like there is a system working, albeit under extreme financial constraints.

Allotments – can you dig it?

Within the village of Clyst Honiton there is a plot of church-owned land just up behind the Duke of York with seven individual allotments. Six are being worked by allotment holders and one which will become available to rent from April 2025.

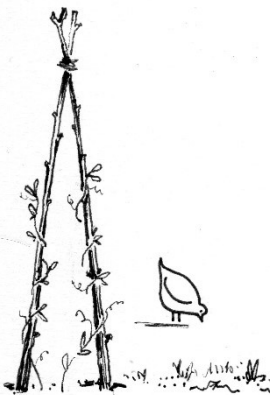
Agreements run for a year and the rents are very reasonable. It can be hard work getting the land weeded, sown or planted, and watered from collected rainwater in summer, but it is so rewarding when you can pop along and pull up some carrots or dig up potatoes, gather some strawberries ready for your enjoyment.

The rules are fairly relaxed; each allotment holder is responsible for keeping their own boundaries in tidy order and no permanent structures are permitted. The current allotment holders are friendly and often share tips and gluts of produce – sharing with other friends and neighbours too!

After several years of acting as the lead allotment holder – a role which involves liaising with the Diocese who set the rent and any official agreements – collecting the rents and paying them over – Margaret Quaintance (who has done a brilliant job thank you Margaret!) has handed over to Debbie Stewart.

We would love to have someone from the village take over the allotment which will become available shortly – and if this interests you please get in touch with Debbie via email at **debs0106@gmail.com** it may be that you want to share the responsibility with a friend or neighbour if you think it's too much to take on the whole plot, which has been done before.

Just drop Debbie a message.



Church Chatter

News from St Michael and All angel Church Clyst Honiton - Rev Gudrun Thomas

Hello Clyst Honiton

It is great to get this chance to say hello to the community of Clyst Honiton. My name is Rev. Gudrun Thomas, and I have been the Team Vicar of your parish since April 2023. As well as responsibility for the parish of Clyst Honiton I also have responsibility

for the parishes of Broadclyst, Rockbeare and Sowton. It has been lovely getting to know some of you over the last 18 months but there are still plenty of people I have not met, and I would love to at some point.

Please do consider coming along to our services on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. I take the service on the 4th Sunday, and it would be lovely to meet with you.



Do not forget that you are always welcome to come along to the monthly bingo night held in the Duke of York generally on the first Saturday of the month.

A bit about myself.

I came to faith in later life after taking my children for Baptism, I had no church background but as I learnt more about Jesus from my church family I had a great sense that he was with me in my everyday life and that it was not too late to let him into my life. I pray that through my ministry I can offer that chance to others whatever stage of life they are at so they can meet with Jesus in the ordinary day to day parts of their lives.



When not involved in parish ministry I can be found pounding the streets training for half marathons or on the terraces cheering on my beloved Exeter City. Before training to be a vicar I was a primary school teacher and then was the children and families lead worker for St Michael's church in Alphington. Until 2023 I was in a trainee vicar post living in Uffculme mid Devon. I am married to Darryl and have two grown up sons.

I love being the vicar for Clyst Honiton

This year we brought back the Christmas Eve service which took place at 11.30pm in church and was a joyous occasion. Thank you to all who did attend.

As a church we are struggling a bit with an aging congregation and would relish the chance to have more people involved in supporting the church outside of the services. We would love people to help with maintenance of the church building and the grounds on a voluntary basis, to support our regular coffee mornings and bingo nights.

Clyst Honiton church is a beautiful building, and I pray that we can keep it going as a church for the generations to come. You may not be a regular church member, but you may love knowing that the church in your village will still always be there for Baptism, weddings, and funerals as well as the other ways people look to the church.

If there is any way that you feel you could support the church as a volunteer in any area at all I would love to hear from you.

We would welcome people who could donate their time as well as people who might contribute financially either regularly or as a one, off donation.

Many blessing to you all

Rev Gudrun.

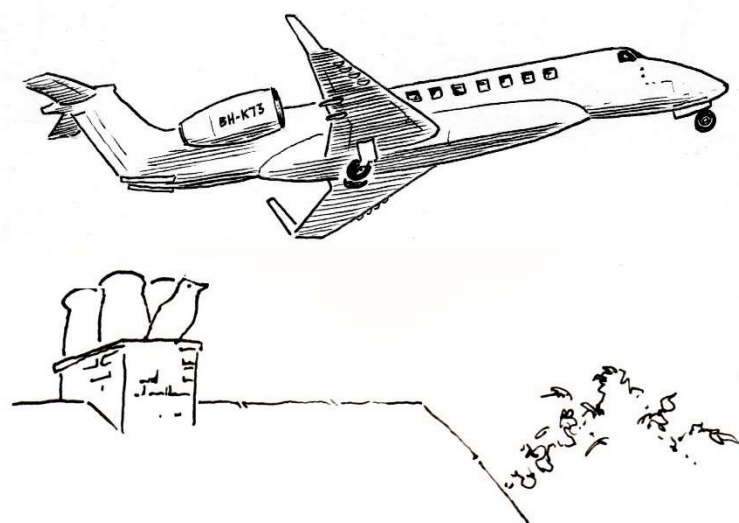
rev.gudrunthomas@eastclystchurches.org or 07785 268568

- **Communion services** are on the **2nd and 4th Sunday** of every month.

There will be a **service on Palm Sunday - 13 April** but there is NO service on Easter Day.

- **Bingo on first Saturdays** of the month - February 1st, March 1st, April 5th and May 3rd beginning at 7:30 at the Duke of York.
- **Coffee Get Together** every **Wednesday at 10am** for an hour of chat in great company, again at the Duke of York

Clyst Clatter



There is a small, twin engine jet that has a definite whistle to its racket when it takes off. This is a Masterjet Embraer Legacy 600 and its Rolls-Royce AE3007A1E engines are responsible.

It can be fast, and can go above 500 mph. But it uses over 1000 litres of fuel an hour and, although it can carry a

dozen passengers, I can't see someone who can afford to hire a jet bothering to phone round and jet-share with friends going the same direction.

It's ideal for short runways and its range is over 3,500 miles, so I could fly to Cairo from Exeter. And then plant some trees when I came home, maybe. What with the colossal carbon thingy and everything. Yes, I'd feel a bit bad about the climate and the polar bears, but Cairo is rather lovely at this time of the year I am told.

Thanks

Obviously, a massive thank you to Suzanne who has been at the helm of the Parish Council for most of the decade! Well done!

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue and who have helped to distribute it. The next edition will be ready in May and if you have anything you would like to be considered for sharing with our readers all contributions should be received by **April 20th, 2025**.

The editor is Sean Wheeldon, Chippenham, Clyst Honiton EX5 2NG.

You can email your corrections, contributions and complaints to the editor at seanwheeldon@clystthoniton.org.uk

The Clyst Chatter is published by the Clyst Honiton Parish Council.

Virtual Chatter - Send your name **and your house address** (so we don't also deliver the paper one) from the email you want to receive the Chatter.

Please also include this: 'I am happy for my email and address details to be held by the Parish Council solely for the purpose of receiving the Clyst Chatter.'

Parish Council Meetings

12th February 2025

12th March 2025

9th April 2025

The Black Horse

The Black Horse

The Black Horse

Additional Planning Meetings may be called and advised on the Parish Notice Board and will be announced on the website **clystthoniton.org.uk**



We are spending your precept money like a sailor on shore leave, so please come along and see what we are up to.

Maybe you'd like to help us spend it, come to a meeting!

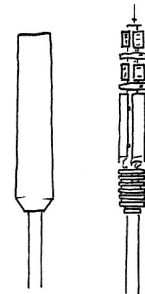
Please always check venue in case of necessary changes. Apologies for January – snow and then family crisis prevented the original and then the rescheduled meeting.

For those interested in keeping the place tidy:

eastdevon.gov.uk/environmental-maintenance/street-cleaning/request-street-cleaning/

Potholes: **devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/**

Spot the difference



Our mast seems to be naked!

Please contact via Rob Martin (Parish Clerk)
07444 780437
or email
clerk@clystthoniton.org.uk
Parish website www.clystthoniton.org.uk

Parish Council is:

Gary Collier

Suzanne Hales (Chairman)

Grant Harrison

Mike Muir

Sean Wheeldon

Keith's Wordsearch

Spring is on its way, (with luck!) and the topic for Wordsearch is daffodils. There are thousands of named varieties, and the Royal Horticultural Society maintains a full list. As you will see, we have not strayed from the letter A for our names – all genuine, but not in every Garden Centre!



As usual, words run vertically, horizontally and diagonally and in both directions.

There are just four letters left which form an anagram of another spring flower, but not beginning with an A!

Aachen	Aga Khan	Anzila
Aare	Aglaia	Apia
Aaron	Aimable	Araba
Abate	Aircasatle	Armada
Abigail	Akaroaa	Arran
Abinadab	Alana	Ascot
Acajou	Albaran	Asgard
Acca	Alcanar	Atilia
Adare	Andes	Atlanta
Adorna	Antje	Atom
		Aurum

A	E	R	A	A	R	M	A	D	A	N	A
R	E	A	I	A	E	N	R	S	B	E	D
R	A	L	B	J	Z	A	E	E	A	H	O
A	O	A	T	I	G	D	L	L	T	C	R
N	R	N	L	S	N	B	I	R	E	A	N
A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
C	K	C	S	M	G	C	D	P	R	I	H
L	A	C	I	I	A	A	R	A	L	A	K
A	O	A	B	J	R	I	B	I	B	L	A
T	I	A	O	E	C	L	T	S	A	G	G
O	M	U	R	U	A	A	N	O	R	A	A
M	A	I	P	A	A	T	N	A	L	T	A



The river just before it goes under the road. Hard to believe this floods the way it does.



Janvrin Edbrooke - towards Cats Copse and the Sidmouth road



Janvrin Edbrooke from the ridge road across towards Farringdon with the airport building in the far left. Plus dog.



Janvrin Edbrooke - Part of Holbrook Hill locally known as *Heart Hill* as it is a workout for walkers and cyclists