

2017/18 got off to an excellent start when the Neighbourhood Plan, which had been widely acclaimed both within and without our Parish, received an overwhelming vote of confidence in the Referendum of 88% (?) The Chair of the NPWP, former Cllr Stan Roberts, has subsequently spearheaded the Village Plan which is needed for considering Planning applications.

Drain clearance in East Budleigh and Yettington has been ongoing throughout the past twelve months by Peter Barnard who has completed his Chapter 8 training. The ancient horse chestnut tree on the Pound was felled. A replacement will be planted at a yet-to-be-determined future date.

Cllr Cantlon spearheaded the proposal for a replacement of Yettington Recreation Room. Grants for this were being researched, but the resignation of Cllr Canton has possibly set this project back temporarily.

Council agreed to support and contribute funding for proposals to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Sir Walter Raleigh's death and the 100th anniversary of the ending of WW1 during 2018.

A project was negotiated with Bicton College whereby Young Adults with Learning Difficulties, who are studying on a course to prepare them for employment, engage with the community through several projects which to date have included footpath maintenance, clearing our car park of weeds etc. and assisting with the maintenance of All Saints grounds.

Council agreed action to ensure that the telephone box by the Village Hall car park will continue in working use in and will be maintained by BT.

Negotiations to acquire a defibrillator for East Budleigh in conjunction with other parish councils continue. The Football Club arranged for a defibrillator to be installed outside the changing room at the Recreation Ground.

Following the resignation of the Parish's P3 co-ordinator at the end of March, a new co-ordinator was appointed – Jon Roseway.

An open Flood Resilience meeting was held in the Village Hall in October, primarily a view to preparing Flood Resilience Plan No.3. Cllr Cantlon was leading on this, a role which Cllr Quant has taken over.

After much campaigning by Cllr White, the B3178 30mph speed limit will be officially changed by DCC. EBPC have paid £3000 towards this. Also on the B3178, Council were offered the ownership of the lay-by, which had become a regular location for a group of travellers. Council agreed not to take on this responsibility and the lay-by has now been blocked at both ends.

Council have made donations to Little Otters Playgroup, East Budleigh in Bloom, and for the Village Green play equipment which now provides an excellent and safe amenity.

PCSO Chantal Majors resigned and Justin Willis has taken over. Reports from this source have been infrequent, but we hope PCSO Willis will rectify this.

Council considered papers produced by the OCA and by CDE regarding the latter's planning application regarding the Blackhill Quarry site. Council's decision was to object to the application in its present form.

Sadly, local parishioner Roger Bushell passed away earlier this year. Roger took an active interest in Council's business and frequently attended our meetings. He

made a very generous financial contribution to the purchase and installation of the flood warning gauge which is located near the allotments.

Following a complaint submitted to Council by the East Budleigh Football Club regarding dog fouling, a proposal to erect a fence around the football pitch at the recreation ground met with considerable objection from sections of the community. Council established a Working Party that included representation of the Council, the Friends of East Budleigh Recreation Ground, The Tennis Club, Drakes' School, and the P3 scheme, to try to reach a solution acceptable to all parties. Eventually, Council approved a proposal to run a scheme for a trial period of twelve months. This allows for unrestricted access to the whole of the Recreation Ground for owners and their dogs, with the Friends of East Budleigh accepting responsibility to monitor and remove all dog fouling throughout the year. Cllr Smith, who represents the Dog-owners' Forum, will be actively engaged with this and will report back to Council. Anyone ignoring the laws on dog-fouling will be reported.

Once again, Council has enjoyed the invaluable support and advice given us by County Councillor Christine Channon, and District Councillors Tom Wright, Alan Dent, Geoff Jung and Steve Hall, who have consistently taken a real interest in our business.

Finally, the proposals being considered by EDDC to introduce charges for all its car parks highlight the wisdom of Council in taking over responsibility for our village car park and public toilets.

Councillor David Buss (Acting Chair) and Judith Lumsden (Clerk). April 2018

2. **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday, 25 April, 2017 were received and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
3. **QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS** by Public and Press: There was none.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Signed Chairman

Date