



CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

Established 1894

Visit our website at: www.chappel.org

Looking back, looking forward: 2006 – 2007

from Susan Chamley, Chairman, Chappel Parish Council

First of all, Chappel Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish all the residents of Chappel and Wakes Colne, and readers of the *Village Reporter* a very Happy New Year.

As the New Year stretches before us, I thought it would be useful to remind ourselves what Chappel Parish Council achieved in 2006 as well as outline of some of the things which we hope will happen during 2007.

Village Green and Fencing

The Parish Council has purchased and had erected new fencing around the pond, the play area, the football field, as well as a new gate and extra strong padlock and hasp. Large tree trunks were used as an additional nature friendly barrier to vehicles.

The track over the village green was resurfaced and its pot holes filled in. This allows better access for both the residents who live next to the village green, as well as for those less able to walk to the Millennium Green and football field. A working party also began the process of clearing some of the undergrowth from beneath the Viaduct to restore the wonderful view through the arches.

Play Equipment

Chappel Parish Council was awarded just over £20,000 towards the replacement of the play equipment by Colchester Borough Council. Coupled with the fundraising that's been going on in the village, the Council has been able to purchase new play equipment for the juniors by an innovative play equipment company called Proludic. In fact, by the time the *Village Reporter* goes to press, we hope it will either be installed or underway. The new equipment will provide safe and entertaining activity for the younger children. Fundraising and application for grants are ongoing and we look forward to announcing the next phase in due course.

Football Field

Work was carried out on restoring the football field. Drainage pipes were laid and work on levelling the field was finished. The work was completed with rolling, de-stoning and reseeded. The field will be back in use for the Chappel & Wakes Colne Football Club for the 2008 season. The project to bring community football (and other sporting activities) back to the heart of the village has been ongoing since the field's purchase in July 2005. Chappel Parish Council purchased the field, and was able to restore it, thanks to capital grants by Colchester Borough Council and Essex County Council.

Chappel Website

Chappel Parish Council has now embraced the "information super highway" by launching its website: www.chappel.org. The comprehensive website has lots of information contained within its pages – history, events, news, bus and train timetables as well as the agenda and minutes for the Parish Council meetings. In fact, you can even see Chappel from space, via a link to some satellite pictures. So, if you know of events in the village, or things you'd like included, use the link to email our web coordinator and we'll see what we can do.

What's new for 2007

It is Chappel Parish Council's turn for a full election in May 2007, when all the Councillors will need to stand again for election. Please use this opportunity to have your say by voting. And if you want to get really involved, you could always stand for Councillor!

There are lots of things we hope to achieve during 2007. Some of the things we will be focussing on are (but not limited to) the allotments, the Parish Field, completion of the replacement play equipment, further work on keeping the village clean and ongoing work with the other village organisations.

So, from all of us at Chappel Parish Council, we hope you have a very happy new year.

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