

**Notes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
13 September 2017
Your Parish Council**

Barbara Reynolds (Clerk)	780479
Lynne Parsons (Chair)	780649
Malcolm Goldie (Vice-Chair)	788538
Athene Duffield	788332
Rose Hancock	780622
Andrew McEwan	788266
Helen Gibbs	07500937390

We welcomed one member of the public as well as Cllr. George Reynolds.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 8 November
2017 at 7.30p.m in the village hall.**

Councillor John Yeomans – Parish Councillors were very sad to hear of the death of Cllr. John Yeomans whilst on holiday in Canada visiting family with his wife, Ann. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Ann and to Barbara and George Reynolds. John worked tirelessly as a councillor for the village, particularly ensuring that the village assets and Dairy Ground were maintained, often carry out repair work himself. He will be greatly missed by his fellow councillors. In memory of John councillors have agreed to donate £25 to Cancer Research as requested by Ann. We will also be placing a park seat on the Dairy Ground in his memory.

A memorial service has been arranged for John on Friday 29 September 2017 at 2.00pm at the Natural Burial Ground.

SPEED CHECK: Most villagers will have noticed that the PC has purchased and fitted “Twentys Plenty” signs at the entrances/exits to the village. Many thanks to Cllrs. Goldie and McEwan for undertaking this work. Inevitably it will be difficult to monitor the effectiveness of these signs, and the council would be grateful if villagers can provide us with relevant feedback when possible. This is the start of our work in trying to ensure vehicles travelling through Shutford watch their speed. Next we will be inviting the safety and transport officer at OCC to come to the village and carry out a technical assessment.

HIGHWAYS: The PC is well aware of the frustration experienced by many villagers due to the various road closures in and around Shutford particularly on the Epwell Road. Hopefully, this is now at an end. However, this has left the road surface on the Epwell Road in a very unsatisfactory state. The clerk to the PC will be writing to the Highways Dept. at OCC to see what repairs can now be undertaken.

De-fib TRAINING: Thanks to Cllr. Gibbs for organising this very successful training. More is planned – see separate notice in the Shutford News.

ALLOTMENTS: After various conversations with allotment holders the PC are pleased to confirm that the waiting list is much reduced with the expectation that the waiting list might be cleared by the end of this month. Allotment rents are due at some time during this month, and the clerk will be sending out letters with details about the amount to be paid and when. **Allotment holders should note that at our next PC meeting in November all rents will be reviewed with a view to a rent increase from September 2018.** At this point allotment holders will be informed of the new rents to be paid from September 2018.

DAIRYGROUND: ROSPA has carried out an inspection of the play equipment on Dairy Ground and all is in a state that satisfies them. However, councillors feel that the time is right to start replacing some of the play equipment that has been in place for many years. We are still waiting for the see saw to be repaired – it is unclear why this has been delayed and the clerk is following up on this. Costs for replacing the baby swings will be made available for our next meeting for action. Councillors have also agreed to get the trees cut back and at the same time look at and sort the tree in Church Lane that may be impacting on the telephone wires.

VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL: After the sad death of John we have a vacancy on the Parish Council. The clerk to the PC will post a notice on the notice boards by 15 September. There is then 14 working days for 10 electors to apply for an election. If no election is called villagers will be asked to express an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor. At our November meeting councillors will hear statements from anyone wishing to become a councillor and a decision will be made to elect a new councillor. For information: the next Parish Council elections will be held in May 2018.

As chair of the PC I am delighted at how well councillors are at working together as a team, and making significant improvements to the environment.