

# PARISH NEWS



Clare  
Parish Council

ISSUE TWO - JUNE 2008

## Progress in battle for a Clare Car Park.

The ongoing battle to solve the issue of parking in Clare for residents, businesses and visitors alike continues.

On 14th June, 4th July and 4th August the Parish Council, assisted by the Clare Business Association and Clare Society, will be carrying out a survey hourly to determine the need and actually availability of parking spaces at a given point in time. The survey is part of the joint Parish Council and Borough Council initiative to try and resolve the parking problems in Clare.

The Parish Council will also be sending a questionnaire in July to every town centre resident and business seeking their views on parking issues.

Cllr June Smith who is managing the survey said 'The Borough Council has ask us to



determine through a survey the current demand and supply for car parking in central Clare. We are very aware of the impact of parking problems for the business in the town, the residents who live there and shoppers trying to support local traders. For the shops to remain viable, access is needed. It is vital that a solution is found, that is why the Parish Council has agreed to take on the survey'.

Cllr Smith would like to appeal to residents and businesses in the centre of Clare to complete and return their questionnaires as everybody's experience is vital evidence for the survey. Residents can comment by contacting the parish clerk via website [www.clare-uk.com](http://www.clare-uk.com) or by leaving a letter at the parish office..

## Changes in the Parish Council.

A Huge thank you to Mrs Olive Smith. After 14 years of outstanding service to the Clare Community, Olive Smith has decided to step down from the Parish Council.

She became a Councillor in 1994 and has served on many community groups ensuring that the best interests of parishioners were achieved; always generous with her unstinting hard work, advice and experience.

Olive was the inspiration behind the 'Clare Open Days', where all the societies and clubs in Clare come together to promote their activities, meet old friends and seek new members. The 'Open Days' are now a firm fixture in the Clare calendar.

Cllr Smith served as both Chair and Vice Chairman for a number of years during which her colleagues benefited from her very professional counsel.

New Chairman, Cllr Keith Haisman said, 'Olive will be sorely missed; Clare owes her huge vote of thanks. We all wish her well for the future'.

However Olive is not disappearing from public life altogether, she will continue to contribute to the Cemetery Committee as a lay member and will continue her work with CHOC.

## Clare Priory CRAFT FAIR

**12th & 13th July**

Sat 10am - 6pm : Sun 11am - 5pm

**FREE PARK & RIDE**

**CLARE, SUFFOLK, off A1092**

Adults £3.50 • Seniors £2.50 • Accompanied Under 14's FREE

NO DOGS EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS

**WWW.CLAREPRIORY.ORG.UK**

## Your Life – in their hands.

Cardiac failure is survivable in most cases provided cardiac pulmonary massage and resuscitation commence almost immediately according to recent medical research. CPR maintains the heart rhythm and the supply of oxygen to the brain and vital organs through blood circulation. To ensure that anyone unfortunate enough to suffer a heart attack in the parish has immediate assistance a team of volunteers have come forward to be Clare First Responders.

The team are about to start training with the East of England Ambulance Service and when operational, will provide 24/7 cover for the parish.

Despatched by Ambulance control, the First Responders will be trained to recognise the basic signs and symptoms of cardiac problems. They will start CPR with the aid of a Defibrillator and manual depression of the chest. They will also be able to maintain an airway, give oxygen and deal with any life threatening bleeding. Their swift intervention will provide that vital basis for professional treatment by paramedics and hospital staff.

Providing cover everyday of the year will be challenging and the team will need more help. If you think you might be able to help this vital service by volunteering please contact Matt Lovejoy on 01787 278223 for further details.

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## New Challenges / New Leadership.

At the May meeting the Council elected Cllr Keith Haisman as the new Chairman and Cllr Alan Parsley as Vice Chairman.

Cllr Haisman in accepting the nomination said, 'The Parish Council has a difficult year ahead with a number of challenges that will require the full attention of the PC as they will seriously impact upon the Parish. Therefore my leadership will focus upon meeting the demands of those challenges and I shall be seeking to direct the council's resources primarily to that end.'

Possible unitary council changes, the district authority strategy for Clare, the Parish Plan, car parking and traffic management and the schools crisis are just some of the major challenges ahead for the PC in the forthcoming year.

A stalwart of Clare public life returns to the Parish Council with Cllr Les Warmington being co-opted on to the Parish Council.

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## Record Attendance at Parish AGM.

More than 30 people attended this year's Parish Annual Meeting. The Parish Council hopes that the new format with visual presentations appealed to parishioners who attended and they will spread the word encouraging others to attend.

The coming year is likely to see significant changes in how local government is managed in the west of the County. The St Edmundsbury Borough Council local plan contains proposals for consideration that Clare becomes a Key Rural Service Centre and would therefore have to provide a standard of services that could attract significant investment into the parish.

The District Council may be included in a new unitary authority as part of reforms being considered by the Boundary Commission due to report in early 2009.

The Parish Council has the opportunity to consider and contribute to the debate upon how these issues will impact upon the parish. Therefore if you have a view or would like to find out more, then come to the monthly Parish Council meeting held every third Thursday in month in the Old School Community Centre at 7.00pm. Parishioners can ask questions and have their views recorded in the process.



## Clare Open Gardens

Clare Open Gardens will take place on Sunday 29th June from 12pm to 6pm, in support of Clare in Bloom. Fifteen people have offered to open their gardens, enough to make a really good afternoon out. Tea and cakes will be served in two gardens, and plants will be on sale. Tickets can be purchased at any garden and cost £3.50 each, children are free. Look out for the sunflower signs!

Fingers crossed for a fine summer's afternoon.

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## Deliver Service for PC News Agreed.

The proprietors of Clare Focus have kindly agreed to undertake the delivery of the Parish News along with the ever popular Focus magazine. The delivery service will mean that parishioners will get all their local and Parish Council news together each quarter.



**Clare**  
Parish Council

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**Don't forget to visit the Clare website at [www.clare-uk.com](http://www.clare-uk.com)**