



# Holmes Chapel Parish Council

## Chairman's Report 2016 -17



It has been my pleasure to have been Chairman of the Parish Council during one of its most successful years in modern times. A few highlights include:

We began the Civic year by being awarded the highest Quality status (Gold) for a Council, recognising that we conduct ourselves to the highest standards and attempt to do the best for our community.

This was followed by the formal opening of the Community Centre on the site of the old AP Social Club. To date this centre is providing valuable community space and leisure facilities.

Over the last two years the Council has been promoting the development of a Neighbourhood Plan designed to ensure that future development within Holmes Chapel meets the needs of the community. A Steering group was set up to manage this process and just recently was rewarded with a resounding 97% YES vote in favour of the plan. This would not have been possible without recognising the tremendous amount of work put in by volunteers, over 100 of them, and we hope they continue to give their support in the future.

The Parish Council does not operate alone and we are always very grateful for the work carried out by our colleagues at the Holmes Chapel Partnership. In just a couple of weeks' time a joint project to build a skate park for our young (and old) members of the community to enjoy will open on the site of the Community Centre.

After the successful works carried out at the Dane Meadow the Council is working on a project to open up more walking routes to be enjoyed by the community. The path along the River Croco is in dire need of repair and phase 1 will be completed by April 2017. The remaining stretch will be completed when funding permits.

Recognition that the Council is doing a worthwhile job is always welcome and this year we achieved this in various ways. Firstly, we came second in the Community Initiative Awards hosted by Cheshire Community Action; one of our Councillors was runner-up for Councillor of the Year and another was awarded a British Empire Medal for his work in the community. These awards reflect on the dedication and effort that all Councillors put into supporting the community and I must offer my sincere thanks to all of them and our Officers for the sterling work they have done over the last year in the knowledge that they will continue to do so in the future.

There are other projects being carried out by councillors and volunteers worthy of note – the Speedwatch team helping to keep our roads safe, the Swimming Pool group considering the feasibility of a much-requested facility are examples. We also installed a defibrillator in an unwanted telephone kiosk and are looking to utilise another redundant kiosk this year. We continue to monitor road usage, HGV traffic, speeding and the parking situation which we know are issues that are high on the list of residents' concerns. We are also in constant contact with the Police, Health & Education Services, Railway Authority and many others to assist in supporting you.

I could add more but I hope you can recognise that whilst we do not always get it right we do try, to the best of our ability, to make Holmes Chapel a desirable place to live. We have many pressures to come with the increase in housing and the influx of new people to the village. We will welcome them all and do our very best to ensure they are accommodated within the community and infrastructure that we existing residents enjoy.

Cllr David Savage  
Chairman of the Council  
March 2017

## Holmes Chapel Parish Council 16/17

### Income and Expenditure Account for Year up to 23rd March 2017

31st March 2016		23rd March 2017
	<b>Operating Income</b>	
148,587	Council Income	188,425
1,640	Grants & Donations	5,389
855,483	Capital Projects	0
0	Dane Meadow Project	485
0	HC Community Centre Project	129,955
0	Youth Facilities Project	23,960
0	Neighbourhood Plan Project	3,200
<b>1,005,710</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>351,413</b>
	<b>Running Costs</b>	
29,291	Employees	35,200
6,402	Premises	3,541
2,628	Office Services	3,575
1,065	Communications	1,967
1,077	Members	756
10,371	Professional Services	11,136
11,800	PCSO	0
1,380	Subscriptions	1,563
2,600	Grants & Donations	2,850
10,825	Village Services	11,366
2,901	Village Maintenance	7,996
897,713	Capital Projects	0
297	Dane Meadow Project	8,925
53,605	HC Community Centre Project	232,467
0	Youth Facilities Project	31,306
493	Neighbourhood Plan Project	3,986
0	Boundary Signs Project	5,148
357	Village Volunteers	0
0	Village Centre Improvements	840
0	Play Area Elm Drive Project	1,059
<b>1,032,805</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>363,681</b>
	<b>General Fund Analysis</b>	
132,688	Opening Balance	105,593
1,005,710	Plus : Income for Year	351,413
1,138,398		457,006
1,032,805	Less : Expenditure for Year	363,681
105,593		93,325
0	Transfers TO / FROM Reserves	55,000
<b>105,593</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>38,325*</b>

\* Note: £31,000 of the closing balance is already earmarked for projects currently underway