

# Annual Parish Meeting 2025

## Clatworthy Parish Council Review of Year 2024-25

This year the Parish Council has been involved in lobbying for position within the proposed local boundary changes. Council members felt the best fit for Clatworthy's interests and concerns as a small rural farming area is with communities of similar size and interest, like the Brendon Hills parishes, rather than being subsumed into more urban areas such as Wiveliscombe and Wellington. Lobbying has been to that effect at meetings and in writing to the relevant authorities. It is hoped that Clatworthy will be included in the proposed East Exmoor grouping. Currently, a decision is awaited from the Boundary Commission.

The Parish Council has continued to lobby the Highways Authority for adequate maintenance of the roads, verges and refilling of grit bins. This has been done by attendance at the bi-monthly Exmoor and Dulverton Local Community Network (LCN) meetings and speaking directly to Highways Authorities staff.

Additionally, the Parish Council has fulfilled its duties by responding to various consultations by other authorities requesting opinions. The most recent was about the Fire and Rescue Service precept.

A village welfare meeting was held to discuss management of anti-social behaviour. Liaison with the local Police Community Support Officer has led to Clatworthy being included in their routine attendance at the village hall for residents to discuss any relevant concerns.

Both the telephone box and the automatic heart defibrillator remain in good repair and working order. The defibrillator's readiness for use is checked and reported regularly to the national database.

The Parish Council reviewed three planning applications. Two were for information only and one relating to a change to a wind turbine blade was supported as it would be less obtrusive.

Grants were given this year to support Clatworthy Village Hall, St Margaret's Somerset Hospice, Wivey Link and Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance.

The Parish Council thanked Stephen Branfield who stood down as a councillor and welcomed Sophie Macfarlane who joined the council this year. The Parish Council met four times in the year, the agenda for each meeting being posted on the village noticeboard one week before each meeting in February, May, August and November. The annual parish meeting (to which any member of the parish is welcome) was held in May prior to the Parish Council AGM.

The parish footpaths officer Peter Moran has stepped down from this role which is now open to a new volunteer to help ensure footpaths and bridle paths remain usable with adequate signage.

Thanks are given to Ben Cowling for looking after the church bells.

The parish clerk has worked with the council to produce clear governance documents which, together with parish council meeting minutes and other documents, can be accessed via the parish website: [www.clatworthy-parish.uk](http://www.clatworthy-parish.uk).

Sally Moran

Chair, Clatworthy Parish Council

*Written: 24th April 2025*