

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Parish Council operates a controlled system for recording and presenting financial information. The Parish Council accounts are subject to both an independent Internal and External audit each year and Annual Returns are prepared and submitted to the Audit Commission. The audit for the year ended March 2014 was concluded successfully with no matters arising. As part of an annual review of Parish Council activities, a risk assessment is undertaken annually in line with reviewing insurance arrangements together with a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. All financial and regulatory information is prepared and submitted in accordance with required deadlines.

### Summary of 2014-2015 Finances (Audited)

<b>Balance/Reserves B/F 1 April 2014</b>	<b>16465-44</b>
<u>Receipts</u>	
Precept	8956
Top up Grant	414-00
VAT Rebate	748-10
Investment Income	12-37
Other	340-00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>26935-91</b>
<u>Payments</u>	<b>629.19</b>
Administration	380-00
Audit	
Best Kept Village Competition	15-00
Bowling Club Donation	1219-17
Employees	1814-96
Equipment Maintenance	322-00
Grounds Maintenance	2295-00
Insurance	643-29
New Notice board	950-00
Room Hire	250-00
Publications	360-00
Subscriptions	152-75
Wreath	26-00
Website	48-00
Play Area	1155-00
Contribution to defibrillator	400-00
VAT	891-42
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>11543-78</b>
<b>Balance/Reserves C/F 1st April 2015</b>	<b>15392-13</b>

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

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# Bretherton Parish Council



## ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

THIS REPORT IS PUBLISHED ANNUALLY AND  
DISTRIBUTED TO ALL HOUSEHOLDS IN THE PARISH.

ISSUE DATE: MAY 2015

## SUMMARY OF THE

### CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

The year started with the eventual withdrawal of the planning application for a fertilizer lagoon off Eyes Lane which the Parish Council had opposed strenuously during the previous months.

Our annual entry in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition was again rewarded with the village achieving runner up in the Best Small Village, a second successive win for the Play Area as best in the County and Bretherton Congregational Church won the award for Best Place of Worship. We thank everybody who contributed to these successful outcomes.

Following a public meeting the village, the Parish Council have agreed to support a project to refurbish the War Memorial which will be on-going during 2015.

Over the two years various fundraising events have been held in the village to raise funds to purchase a defibrillator. The funding target was achieved in March this year with a grant from the British Heart Foundation and the unit will soon be purchased and located on the wall of the Village Institute where it will be available for all residents of the village and particularly the users of the Recreation Ground.

As Chairman I would like to thank everybody in the village who contribute to making Bretherton one of the best villages in Lancashire in which to live.

John Pigott

### COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

#### Council Meetings and Membership

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2014 when Councillor John Pigott was appointed as Chairman and as Councillor Robert Booth as Vice Chairman.

Ten ordinary parish council meetings and were held during the year; 2014-15 along with one budget meeting. Membership was constant with six members through most of the year. All statutory notices and agendas were posted on the Parish Council notice boards and on the Council's website.

#### Value for Money

The Parish Council annually set a Parish Precept to finance its activities and administration which is collected by Chorley Borough Council as part of the Council Tax. The Parish Council has now set its budget for 2015-16; the Precept for 2015-16 is £9720 which for an average Band D property in the village is £34-22 p. This is an increase OF 48p from the 2014-15 year. Whilst the Reserves at the end of the financial year were £15392 most of this amount relates to maintenance funds and special projects.

#### Engaging with Residents

Bretherton Parish Council has an active programme of engagement with residents by various modes of communication; such as its newsletter and website. The parish council notice boards also continue to be a vital source of community information. The notice board at the Apiary was unfortunately damaged by storms and

has now been replaced and the Parish Council is grateful for the contribution received from the County Councils Parish Champions Fund. The notice board on Pompian Brow has been refurbished.

#### Recreation Ground

The play area continues to be very popular with local and visiting families, particularly in summer evenings after school and the Parish Councillors continue to personally monitor the safety of the site on a weekly basis to ensure a high standard is maintained. For the second year in succession, the Play Area has received an award as "Best Kept Children's' Play Area" in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition.

The Parish Council and Bowling Club are continuing to investigate the provision of a Pavilion Roof on the front of the new Bowling Clubhouse to provide shelter for spectators in bad weather.

#### Road Safety

The Parish Council continue to give a high priority to the improvement of road safety in the village with the deployment of the "smiley face" Speed Indicator Device at various locations. Whilst, we continue to press for a 30 mph speed limit on the western end of North Road, the Parish Council continue to be disappointed at the lack of support and action from Lancashire County Council. We would like once again like to thank Brian Monk for his continued support in managing the deployment of the SpID.

**Thank You;** The Parish Council is grateful to the many people who give of their time and materials to help maintain the village and its amenities and those who have contributed to the fund to enable a defibrillator for the village to be purchased.