

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 2011 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 2011/12 Finances (Unaudited)

	£
Balance/Reserves B/F 1 April 2011	31954-53

Receipts

Precept	9124-00
Grants for Playground Project	58000-00
VAT Rebate	14441-40
Investment Income	14-22
Donations to Gordon Gregg Memorial Fund	470-00

Total Receipts	82049-62
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Payments

Administration	526-00
Audit	335-00
Best Kept Village Competition	24-00
Bowling Club Donation	1300-00
Election Expenses	1330-94
Employees	2194-54
Equipment Maintenance	125-00
Grounds Maintenance	3022-13
Insurance	588-02
Newsletters and publications	282-00
Room Hire	65-00
Subscriptions	248-88
Training	95-00
Wreath for War Memorial	24-00
Website	100-00
Play Area	74776-18
VAT	14275-95

Total Payments	99312-64
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Balance/Reserves C/F 1 April 2012	14691-51
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Bretherton Parish Council



ANNUAL REPORT 2011-12

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THE PARISH COUNCIL IS VERY GRATEFUL TO CHRIS NAYLOR
OF ALL COLOURS PRINTERS, LEYLAND FOR KINDLY
PRODUCING THIS ANNUAL REPORT FREE OF CHARGE.

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

Following May 2011's elections we welcomed two new councillors, Robert Booth and Wayne Jackson, on to the parish council replacing Kris Jolley and Brian Monk who had stood down. Thanks go to both for their many years of devoted and sterling service to our village.

In June one of the first tasks for the newly formed council was to interview and appoint a new clerk to replace Jill Cavan. Glenys Southworth was duly appointed and began her duties in July bringing excellent administrative and communication skills to the role of keeping all the councillors up to date and well informed.

It was disappointing that the Community Police Officer Caroline Plummer was not replaced when she retired in the summer of 2011 due to budgetary cuts. The village lost its only direct contact with the police service through regular PACT meetings which were held before parish council meetings. However, Councillor Jackson has kindly agreed to attend future PACT meetings held monthly at Park Hall to keep us informed on all police matters pertaining to the village.

Earlier this year the council decided to adopt the BT kiosk located outside the Blue Anchor when the phone line was removed as it was felt it was an attractive part of the streetscape. When funding allows it is hoped that it can be used as an information centre.

Cllr Gwyneth Lloyd

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

Council Meetings and Membership

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2011 when Councillor Mrs Gwyneth Lloyd was appointed as Chairman and Simon Moulton as Vice Chairman. Nine ordinary parish council meetings were

held during the year; 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 2012/13; the Precept for 2012-13 is £9680 which for an average Band D property in the village is £32-70p per annum. This is a rise of £0.99 from the previous year.

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 and we currently have two situated on Pompian Brow and The Apiary, which are regularly updated.

Striving for Quality Council Status

The Parish Council is continuing to work towards the criteria which must be met to apply for Quality Council status. Achieving Quality Status provides us with a benchmark against which to measure our performance in delivering local services.

Recreation Ground

During the last twelve months, the new play area on the Recreation Ground has become a firm favourite, not only with local families but also for visitors from

surrounding villages as a picnic location. Children and parents are attracted, not only by the quality of the play equipment, but also by the respect other users have for the play area and particularly the low level of litter.

The Parish Councillors continue to personally monitor the safety of the site and empty the waste bins on a weekly basis to ensure a high standard is maintained.

The Parish Council have applied to Sport England for an Inspired Facilities grant of £50,000 to replace the existing Bowling Green Cabin with a new Clubhouse. The original building was erected in the early 1990's as a temporary facility and now urgently needs replacing. If successful, it is hoped that the new building will be open for the 2013 season and will provide a base for the further development of Crown Green Bowling as a major social and sporting activity within the village. As with the Bowling Green, the Parish Council propose to delegate responsibility for management and maintenance of the new clubhouse to the Bowling Club.

Road Safety

The Parish Council continue to give a high priority to the improvement of road safety in the village. During the last year there have been a number of serious accidents, particularly on North Road, with one fatality. We are continuing to press for an extension of the 30 mph speed limit between Carr House Lane and Canal Leach on North Road and are particularly concerned about safety at the junctions with Marl Cop and Pompian Brow.

We continue to deploy the "smiley face" Speed Indicator Device, not only to remind drivers of the speed limit, but to also record the speed of vehicles at various locations in the village and we would like to thank former Councillor Brian Monk for his help in this activity.