

## 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 2017 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 2017-18 Finances (Not yet Audited)

Balance/Reserves B/F 1	£
<b>April 2017</b>	<b>20887.75</b>
<u>Receipts</u>	
Precept	<b>16486.00</b>
Top up Grant	<b>414</b>
VAT Rebate	<b>5688.47</b>
Investment Income	<b>7.08</b>
Donations	<b>18363.00</b>
Community Grant	<b>250.00</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>62095.83</b>
<u>Payments</u>	
Administration	779.47
Audit	150.00
Best Kept Village Competition	15
Bowling Club Grant	1220.00
Equipment Maintenance	139.80
Employees	2026.44
Election Expenses	18943.33
Grounds Maintenance	3228.04
Bowling Green	2990.00
Insurance	701.96
Room Hire	275.00
Training	20.00
Publications	428
Subscriptions	121.25
Wreath	26.00
Website	115.20
Play Area	1880.80
War Memorial	500.00
Cricket Club Grant	4000.00
Community Grant and Misc	284.64
VAT	5810.63
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>43020.58</b>
<b>Balance/Reserves C/F</b>	<b>19075.72</b>

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

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## CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

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**Published by Bretherton Parish Council**

# Bretherton Parish Council



## ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

**THIS REPORT IS PUBLISHED ANNUALLY AND  
DISTRIBUTED TO ALL HOUSEHOLDS IN THE PARISH.  
ISSUE DATE: MAY 2018**

## **CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW**

This year we saw the completion of the War memorial Refurbishment. The project, initiated by former Councillor Bertram and driven by Councillor Wait and her husband Charles and several hard working members of our community. It now makes a fitting memorial to those who died in conflicts.

Bretherton again tried to achieve Best Kept Village status but was unsuccessful, however thanks should go to the Tidy Village Group who made every effort to keep litter down and improve the environment. Part way through the season a small grant was obtained from Chorley BC for the purchase of materials and planters which are soon to be in use. Thanks go to the regular band of helpers and everyone in the village who steps up to 'do their bit'.

During the year we have kept the Transport survey in mind. We were hopeful to join forces with Croston regarding a local bus service however this proved not to be. Other avenues will be explored in the future. Thanks to pressure applied from various quarters it is now possible to walk from Bretherton to Croston. The highways department made good the pavement width in some areas of the village where the Tidy Village Group had been unable to work either due to safety issues or just lack of time. For that we are extremely grateful. There are a few remaining areas which need attention.

The Playground has an annual safety inspection and this makes recommendations that are acted upon provided that the budget allows. Very soon we will take delivery of some bark chippings to replenish the areas around the equipment following advice in the most recent report. My concerns for the future as your outgoing chair are to continue to push for speed restrictions on North Road and a public transport link for the village as well as signage at the entrance and egress of the village to appeal to drivers and cyclists to respect our village and refrain from littering. I would like to see a greater attendance of members of the village at monthly Parish Council meetings so that as a council we can fully represent the views and wishes of our community.

Barbara Farbon (Chair)

## **SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES**

### **Council Meetings and Membership**

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2017 when Councillor Barbara Farbon was appointed as Chairman and Councillor Gwyneth Lloyd as Vice Chairman.

Ten ordinary parish council meetings and one Extraordinary meeting along with one budget meeting. Cllr Bertram resigned in May 2017 and was replaced by Cllr Wigley who was co-opted onto the Parish Council. 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 2018-19; the Precept for 2018-19 is £13010. This is a decrease of £3890 from the 2017-18 financial year. Whilst the Reserves at the end of the financial year were £ 19075.72 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. There were some problems with the web site earlier in the year but these have now been resolved.

### **Transport.**

The Parish Council has tried a number of ways to provide a bus service, but unfortunately has not been successful.

### **Recreation Ground**

The play area continues to be very popular with local and visiting families, particularly on summer evenings after school and the Parish Councillors continue to monitor the safety of the site on a weekly basis to ensure a high standard is maintained.

### **Highways Issues**

Unfortunately the SPID has needed a number of repairs during this year and could not be used as much as planned. We hope that the technical difficulties have all now been solved. Accidents on North Road are being monitored and the Parish Council would urge all residents to report these to them as well as to the Police.

The Parish Council has reported several issues regarding road surface and pavement width due to encroachment of vegetation and is pursuing these with the council

### **Thank you;**

The Parish Council is grateful to R and E Bamford Ltd and the Velo Café Croston for their sponsorship of the newsletters this year and to all those who give of their time to deliver it. Thanks also go to those who gave their time and materials to help maintain the village and its amenities and to the volunteers who help on clean up days. We are also indebted to Brian Anderton, Thompson Dagnall and the Lilford estate for their assistance with the work on the War Memorial and to all those who donated so generously to help to raise enough money to pay for the work. We are very fortunate to have a very engaged community who help in many different ways too numerous to mention in this brief report but all valued and appreciated by the Parish Council.