

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Parish Council operates a controlled system for recording and presenting financial information. The Parish Council accounts are subject to Internal Audit each year by a suitably qualified person. The information which the Parish Council has to make available to the public is placed on the website. The audit for the year ended March 2019 was concluded successfully with no major 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 information is provided by the required deadlines.

Summary of 2019-20 Finances (Not yet Audited)

Balance/Reserves B/F 1 April 2019	£21853.02
Receipts	
Precept	12666
Top up Grant	414
VAT Rebate	480.94
Investment Income	57.15
Donations/Grants	500
Total	35971.11
Payments	
Administration	860.92
Audit	260.00
Best Kept Village Competition	20.00
Bowling Club Grant	1220.00
Employees	2157.00
Grounds Maintenance	3671.30
Insurance	626.02
Room Hire	300.00
Publications	355.83
Subscriptions	151.08
Wreath	27.00
Website	140.00
Play Area	2332.50
Misc	1822.27
VAT	1821.16
Total Payments	16007.51
Balance/Reserves C/F	19963.60

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Bretherton Parish Council



ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

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CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

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CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

Hello Everyone - I trust everybody is keeping well.

It is difficult to know where to start in my overview of the past 12 months. The country has experienced, two very traumatic situations and I hope the suffering we are all feeling at this time, will ease and the stress of separation from our families and friends might be relaxed to a certain extent in the not too distant future. However we must all continue to be vigilant and as much as possible, listen to the guidelines being provided.

Returning to matters closer to home, the Village had great success in the "Best Kept Village" competition, including winning the "Small Village" section. Huge efforts are made by many villagers and thanks go to all.

The Sporting efforts, of the various teams and clubs, provided differing levels of success and the curtailment of the current season for many meant they were deprived of the recognition that would surely have come their way, had the early conclusion not occurred. We can only hope their desire for success, is not diminished in the coming season, whenever they are permitted to start.

When I took over as Chair last year my vision was to maintain the momentum started by my predecessor to reduce speed limits in the village and despite continued pressure by the Council. With the assistance of the Children of Bretherton School, a small alteration has been achieved to a portion of North Road and Marl Cop. Continued collection of Accident data within the Village can only help in our future discussions with the County Council and Police.

Finally on a sad note for the Council and many villagers who knew them, Bob Bertram and Tony Rigby passed away, both having served on the Parish Council for a period of time in the recent past, Tony particularly for over three decades. They will be missed.

Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you around the village (social distancing) applying.

Best wishes

Kevin Wigley

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

Parish Council Elections May 2019.

The six places on the Parish Council were filled by Barbara Farbon, Wayne Jackson, Gwyneth Lloyd, Karen Wait and Kevin Wigley and David Devany was welcomed as a new Parish Councillor.

Council Meetings and Membership

Bretherton Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2019 when Councillor Kevin Wigley was appointed as Chairman and Councillor Karen Wait as Vice Chairman.

Nine ordinary parish council meetings and three Extraordinary meeting were held along with one budget meeting. Two Extraordinary Meetings considered Planning Applications and the Extraordinary Meeting in January 2020 was held as the result of concerns from residents about the draft Chorley Local Plan, which proposed the building of 32 houses in Bretherton. The Local Plan Team, Cllr Sloan, who represent the Bretherton area on Chorley Council and the MP were all informed of the views of residents. Which included;

- Over development of the village
- Increase in traffic
- Flooding being a problem in some parts of the village.
- Impact of local health services
- Impact on local schools.

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 sets a Parish Precept to finance its activities and administration which is collected by Chorley Borough Council as part of the Council Tax. The Precept for 2020-21 is £13258. This is a slight increase of £61p per Band D property from the 2019-20 financial year. Whilst the Reserves at the end of the financial year were £19953-60 the majority 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.

Recreation Ground

The play area continues to be very popular with local and visiting families, 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

County Councillor Keith Iddon and Ridwan Musa from the Highways Department, attended the May meeting to hear the concern of residents about the speed of traffic going through the village and the number of accidents and as a result it is hoped that the speed limit on North Road will be reduced to 40mph. However accidents are continuing to be monitored and the Parish Council would urge all residents to report these to Parish Councillors as well as to the Police.

The Parish Council has reported several issues regarding road surfaces and pavement width due to encroachment of vegetation.

Thank you;

The Parish Council is grateful to R and E Bamford Ltd 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 and operate the SPID. 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.