

# STEETON-WITH-EASTBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Working for the community

## Your Councillors

- Eastburn
- Steeton

Gladys Emmott  
653112

Vacancy

Karen Pickard  
631015

Chairman  
David Mullen  
654634

Vice-Chairman  
Su Thompson  
653070

Pam Blagden  
652974

John Hargreaves  
654409

Vacancy

Roger Lambert  
657060

Hilda Townend  
654407

John Weller  
0798 4633587

## Ward Councillors

Michael Kelly  
07531 031657

Andrew Mallinson  
07971 274785

Adrian Naylor  
07803 503643

## Eastburn Playing Field Redevelopment



Opening Event April 24 2010



As the photographs above show, the redevelopment of Eastburn Playing Field is almost complete. The grass on the field has now had its first cut and as soon as it is well established the parish council will consider installing some junior goalposts.

Artwork produced by children from Eastburn School was put up at the play area but, due to vandalism, had to be removed. The parish council is looking in to ways of displaying the resin discs at the site but in a way that will protect them from further damage. The parish council and police would ask all local residents, young and old, to look after this fantastic new facility which has been provided after years of hard work by many members of the community.

**JAPANESE KNOTWEED.....an expensive pest which is invading Steeton**

Japanese Knotweed is a handsome but damaging plant which is overwhelming native UK plant species and it is in the process of wrecking our established plant and animal ecological balance. It grows very successfully even on very poor soils, and it readily breaks through tarmac, masonry walls and even through weak concrete! It is amazingly difficult (and expensive) to kill!

Since 1981 legislation has been in place (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) in an attempt to restrict its spread. Mismanagement of infestation can lead to prosecution. It has appeared at several sites in Steeton.



It is not an offence to find JK growing on your land, but it is an offence to allow it to spread from your land. Containing the weed and killing it is difficult, and while you are dealing with it all cut or broken plant material is classified as “controlled hazardous waste” under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. A piece of stem or root no bigger than your little fingernail, even if buried 2m underground for 20 years, can still produce a new plant. In the photograph above right, the weed can be seen to be growing beyond the original site, and it is being hit by passing vehicles. The broken plant material will lead to other infestations down the road.

If time allows, the plant can be killed with annually repeated application of a powerful weed-killer every year for up to 5 years. If time does not allow, then the cost of eradication can be very high and infestation therefore leads to a significant reduction in the value of infected land and property.

Councillor Roger Lambert

For further information go to <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=19740>

**Audited Accounts 2009/10**

The full annual return, auditors’ reports and detailed cash flow summary can be downloaded from the parish council website or hard copies are available from the Clerk, priced £1 to cover the cost of copying.

Statement of Accounts 31 March 2010			
	31 March 2009	31 March 2010	
1. Balances brought forward	£34,091	£55,192	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year
2. + Annual Precept	£22,861	£23,660	Precept received in the year
3. + Total other receipts	£19,052	£134,455	Total other receipts or income as recorded in the cash book
4. - Staff costs	£7,776	£8,388	Total expenditure to all employees including Employers N.I. contributions.
5. - Loan Interest	Nil	Nil	Expenditure on borrowings
6. -Total other payments	£13,036	£148,346	Total expenditure as recorded in the cash book less staff costs.
7. Balances carried forward	£55,192	£56,573	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year.
8. Total cash and short term investments	£55,192	£56,573	Sum of all current and deposit bank accounts to agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets	£71,132	£153,125	Recorded book value of all fixed assets and longer term investments.
10. Total borrowings	Nil	Nil	
11. Trust Funds disclosure note	Yes	Yes	The council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust funds or assets.

# Annual Report 2009/10

Presented at the Annual Parish Meeting, 21 April 2010

There have been 13 full council meetings this year and also many sub-group meetings including, the Eastburn Playing Fields Group, the Joint Transport Working Group and the Community Facility Working Group.

Councillors have also undertaken additional training to help improve the way we operate.

2009/10 has seen two major projects come to fruition. We heard on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December that we had been awarded a grant of £10,000, this was the final amount of money needed to enable us proceed with the construction of the additional footpath on Station Road. This has now been completed and there have been many positive comments about this footpath. Its construction has greatly improved safety access for wheelchair and pushchair users.

Early December also saw the last grants we had applied for towards the refurbishment of Eastburn Playing Field awarded. This meant we were able to proceed with our plans, and contractors moved to site on the 4<sup>th</sup> January, probably the worst day that could have been chosen. The contractors have worked through all the worst of the winter weather and have managed to complete the project. The official opening will be held on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> of April. We have managed to secure the services of Freddie Cougar to perform the opening

## Finance.

The full accounts for 2009/10 are available on the website.

The precept for 2010/11 is £25,246 and has increased by 6.2%, this means that the precept for a Band D property has risen from £16.84 in 2009/10 to £17.88 in 2010/11. The Council has been prudent and tried to keep this rise to a minimum.

The Budget for 2010/11 is £32,135.

We have budgeted for Youth and play provision and also to continue the implementation of projects identified in the Parish Plan.

The reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 are approximately £13,000 and these will be carried forward to 2010/11. This is the level of reserves recommended by the National Association of Local Councils, i.e. approximately 50% of precept.

The levels of reserves have been hit by the poor interest rates that Banks are currently paying.

Savings made by the council and the award of some grants from Bradford Council in 2009/10 have enabled the council keep the precept down below the predicted spending level.

Councillors have continued to work closely with members of other organisations including the Ward Councillors, Silsden Town Councillors, Officers from Highways, Metro, Northern Rail and the Area Co-ordinators Office. The dropped kerbs and informal crossing on Steeton Grove and Station Road were installed in early summer. The Transport Working group has undertaken 3 surveys of Station users. These surveys were conducted to gather quantifiable evidence of what was known anecdotally. The information is being compiled into a report for presentation to Keighley Area Committee and also the Airedale Partnership, this is the overarching group with responsibility for the Aire Valley development.

## Visitors

A number of invited guests have attended meetings during this year including, Police Officers, representatives from Keighley Voluntary Services, Primary Care Trust and Bradford Community Environment Project.

## Crime

Once again speeding and inconsiderate parking have been the main issues. Highways have installed speed monitoring equipment at both ends of the Parish. Data gathered from these will determine the next actions. We also have two Councillors who with the police undertake community speed watch initiatives. Councillor Pam Blagden is the Parish Council representative on the Police Tasking Group. Over the last year the neighbourhood policing team has held regular surgeries as well as Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings.

## Youth

This year there has been more engagement between local youths and Bradford Council youth workers. Since October regular youth activity sessions have been held in the community room. This has proved very successful and will continue again this year.

## Newsletter and Website.

Newsletters continue to be delivered via the Target newspaper in Steeton and by hand in Eastburn. The website has been upgraded and now has the facility for the community to put information on it. One group has already started to do this.

## Other Issues.

Following the positive comments received after the installation of the planters in the Rose Garden the Parish Council decided to convert another bed into a raised planter.

We have also been experimenting with removing the ivy on the rocks at the entrance to the Memorial Garden. It is felt that the Ivy needs to be removed to tidy up the roadside aspect of the Memorial Garden.

Finally, I would like to thank Councillors for all their hard work and special thanks must go to the clerk Cheryl Brown.

David Mullen, Chairman

## **Parish Council Vacancies**

At the time of going to press there are two casual vacancies for parish councillors. There is a vacancy for Eastburn Ward, due to the resignation of Councillor William Mitchell, and a vacancy for Steeton Ward, due to the resignation of Councillor Natalie Henson. To date there have been two applications to fill the Eastburn Ward vacancy and a member will be co-opted at the September parish council meeting.

There has been one application for the Steeton Ward vacancy which will be filled by co-option at the October parish council meeting. The closing date for applications is 31 August 2010. The cycle of parish council elections will see an election in May 2011. If there are more than 11 nominations for the seats there will be an election but if there are less than 11 nominations then the nominees will be elected unopposed.

## **Vehicle Speed Data Results**

The data from the flashing speed indicator machines in Steeton and Eastburn has been collated by Highways, Bradford Council:

### Main Road Eastburn, 70,645 recordings

- ♦ Average Speed 33mph,
- ♦ 70% vehicles travelled at 35mph or less

### Keighley Road, Steeton, 50,263 recordings

- ♦ Average speed 33.5mph,
- ♦ 56% vehicles travelled at 35mph or less

This data, along with traffic statistics from the police, demonstrate that there is a real problem with speeding traffic through the villages. An officer from Highways will attend the October parish council meeting to suggest ways in which the problem can be addressed.

## Neighbourhood Policing Team



PC Ian Shreeve



PCSO Jonathan Turnbull

Pc Ian Shreeve has joined the Craven Ward Neighbourhood Police Team to work alongside PC Peter Merifield. PCSO Turnbull has been assigned to patrols in Steeton and Eastburn now that PCSO Walton is patrolling in Ilkley. Jonathan will be organising police surgeries in the villages and details of the dates and venues will be available soon on the council website or on the NPT website, [www.westyorkshire.police.uk/npt](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/npt) Police officers regularly attend parish council meetings and local priorities have been identified as speeding traffic through the villages and inconsiderate parking on Thornhill Road. Speedwatch vehicle checks are carried out by police officers accompanied by volunteers from the local community. More volunteers are needed so that speedwatch can be deployed more frequently. If you are interested contact the NPT on 01274 475301 for more details.

### Walking For Health Group

On July 25th 2010 'Steeton Walking for Health' was 2 years old. To celebrate the occasion the arranged walk was postponed and 15 of us walked from Trawden to Wycoller. As it was somewhat damp we opted not to walk up to the panopticon but spent some time in a very interesting museum in the old barn round the ruined hall. After walking back to Wycoller we enjoyed lunch at a favourite 'eating place', The Old Rock Cafe.

#### Programme of future walks:

##### September

- ♦ 6th Farnhill Moor
- ♦ 13th Addingham/Silsden
- ♦ 20th Buck Stones (Ilkley)
- ♦ 27th Foulridge

##### October

- ♦ 4th A Local Walk
- ♦ 11th Eastburn/Silsden
- ♦ 18th Barden Moor
- ♦ 25th Winterburn Reservoir

For all the above walks meet at Steeton Methodist Church car park at 9:30am to car share.

**All walkers welcome.**

## Steeton-with-Eastburn Parish Council

### Important Diary Dates

#### Parish council meetings:

Wednesday 8 September 2010, 7.30p.m.,  
Eastburn School

Wednesday 13 October 2010, 7.30p.m.,  
Eastburn School

Wednesday 10 November 2010, 7.30p.m.,  
Bowling Pavilion, Steeton.

**Members of the public are always welcome to attend meetings. There is a public participation time before the start of the meeting when local residents can address the council on any issues of interest or concern.**

**Tuesday 26 October 2010, 7.00 p.m.**

### Steeton Methodist Church Neighbourhood Forum

In association with Bradford Council  
An opportunity to meet Ward Councillors and staff from  
the Keighley Area Co-Ordinator's Office  
Information available about Bradford Council Services

Keighley and Ilkley Voluntary and Community Action  
and  
Bradford Council's Advocacy Service for Older People

### Prepare for Later Life

16 September 2010  
10.00a.m. To 1.00p.m.

Buffet lunch  
Silsden Sports Club

Find out about:

- ♦ Finance and Benefits
  - ♦ Legal Issues
  - ♦ Housing
  - ♦ Well Being & Independence
- Free information pack available

#### Notice a problem?

Are there holes in the road, uneven pavements,  
lamp standards not working?

Ring Bradford Council  
01274 431000

or use their website: [www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk)  
to report it.

Newsletter Deliveries. Copies of the parish council newsletters are delivered with the Target newspaper in the Steeton area but as the Target is not delivered in Eastburn parish councillors deliver in Eastburn by hand. Copies are available in Steeton Post Office and it can be downloaded from the parish council website. If you do not receive your own copy of the newsletter contact the clerk to receive one in future.

**Contact the parish council: Clerk:** Cheryl Brown,  
Tel: 636682

6 The Fold, Lothersdale, Keighley BD20 8HD  
e-mail: [steeburnpc@btinternet.com](mailto:steeburnpc@btinternet.com)