



Steeton-with-Eastburn Parish Council

CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT to the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 20th APRIL 2011. STEETON BOWLING PAVILION.

This is the report of Parish Council's work for 2010/11. The last Parish meeting was held on 21st of April 2010. Natalie Henson and William Mitchell resigned due to work commitments. We were able to recruit two new Councillors, Dorothy Marriot and Derek Callon. After 38 years service to the community of Cllr John Hargreaves retired. I would like to thank him for all the help and support he gave me and also that he gave to the rest of the community. There have been 13 full council meetings and 4 extraordinary meetings. There has also been many sub group meetings including Community Hub Steering Group and Eastburn Playing Fields Steering Group. Special meetings have been called to allow developers to present their plans allowing Councillors to comment before they are submitted. The Steering Group has continued to work on plans for the development of a new community facility. An architect has been appointed and there have been many meetings between him and the group. An outline plan was presented to Council at the March meeting, following which a public consultation drop in session was held, 12 members of the public attended to express their views which were, in the main, supportive. 2010 saw the official opening by Freddie Cougar of Eastburn Playing Field. It was a well supported event with about 250 residents having an enjoyable afternoon. We have listened to comments from residents and have responded by adding more equipment for both toddlers and adults. Funding has been secured to allow fitness workshops to be run for all sections of the community. There will be a 1st anniversary event on the 14th of May and once again we have managed to secure the services of the mascot and players from Keighley Cougars. The Council has also responded to resident's comments regarding the Christmas lights in Steeton. A new set was purchased and there have been many positive comments about these. In the Memorial Garden removal of all the ivy on the Skipton Road frontage has been completed. How much better this now looks.

FINANCE

The full accounts for 2009/10 are available on the website and the accounts for 2010/11 were agreed at the meeting held in April 2011. The council has been prudent and the precept for each household in 2011/12 is the same as 2010/11. This means that the precept for a band D property remains at £17.88 this year. The Budget for 2011/12 is £25,675 We have made provision within the budget for youth activities, play provision, and to continue the implementation of projects identified in the Parish Plan. The reserves at 31st of March are approximately £21,000 and these will be carried forward to 2011/12. The level of

Chairman.....

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reserves recommended by the National Association of Local Councils is 50% of the precept but as the council owns many pieces of land that bring with them liabilities it was felt prudent to increase our reserves. From 2012 Bradford Council will no longer fund by elections and these will also have to be paid for by the Parish Council from our reserves.

CRIME

Once again speeding and inconsiderate parking are the main issues. The Police are continuing the speed watch initiative and are still catching quite a number of speeding motorists.

Inconsiderate parking is still causing many problems. The Police are monitoring this and issuing tickets where appropriate. Councillors have had meetings with senior management at Airedale Hospital on this issue. They have agreed to include an article in the staff magazine reminding staff to be considerate to neighbours. The information sent to patients asking them to be considerate will amended.

YOUTH

There has been a lot of positive engagement this year. Youth Services are providing activity sessions outside during the summer months and indoor sessions over the winter months which are held in the community room. This has proved to be very successful and will continue again this year.

NEWSLETTER and WEBSITE

Newsletters continue to be delivered with The Advertiser in Steeton and by hand in Eastburn. The website continues to be used to advertise activities and two local groups now include their information on it.

OTHER ISSUES

As part of the planting scheme at Eastburn Playing Field Councillors this year agreed to take part in the Great British Elm Experiment. This is a national project the aim of which is to reintroduce elm trees across the whole country. The trees used are from stock that has survived Dutch Elm disease. We agreed to purchase 10 trees. These were divided between Eastburn Playing Field and Keighley Road Recreation Ground at Steeton. The trees will be monitored and the results will be entered on the Great British Elm Tree website for all to see.

FINALLY

Special thanks must be given to the members of the community and the other people who became involved with the Steering Groups. I would like to thank Councillors for all their hard work and a special thanks must go to the clerk Cheryl Brown.

David Mullen
Chairman

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