

**STEETON WITH EASTBURN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT to the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**10<sup>th</sup> April 2013. STEETON COMMUNITY HUB**

This is the report of the Council's work for 2012/13. The last Parish meeting was held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

We have had one Councillor resign this year, Cllr Dorothy Marriot , who I would like to thank for her support throughout her time with the Council. We are now looking for a replacement councillor.

There have been 15 full council meetings this year and also many meetings of the community facility committee and staffing committee.

There have been two major undertakings this year:-

1. Recruitment of a replacement clerk. This time last year we had just appointed a new clerk but, unfortunately, she only stayed with us for a short time, so we had to repeat the process. The first round was unsuccessful so we decided to wait for three months to allow for the Hub project to be nearer completion. In the interim we employed a temporary clerk who stepped in at short notice and stayed with us for 8 months to allow us to undertake a full recruitment process. We had a large number of applicants for the post and after careful consideration and interview we were able to offer the post to Rosie Sanderson. She happily accepted our offer and is now settling into her new role.

2. Construction of our fantastic new community facility. The opening was performed by Cllr Mike Gibbons, Deputy Lord Mayor of Bradford on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of April. The event was well attended and I hope everybody enjoyed themselves.

**FINANCE**

Full accounts for the year 2012/13 will be available on the Parish Council website in due course.

This year the Council had to make the decision to increase the precept from £17.88 for a Band D property to £27.85

This has been brought about by a number of factors outside our control such as the need to have funds to cover election costs. The cost of a Parish election process is approximately £9,000.

This year our Council Tax base was reduced by 10% and although the rate support grant received by Bradford Council from Central government was passed on to us this year, there is no certainty that this will happen in future years, so we now need to prepare for this eventuality.

As residents will have seen, the frequency with which Bradford upkeep the recreation areas is decreasing. We need to make sure we have funds in place to cover these services if they are reduced even further.

Therefore, as a result of the above factors, and the very real possibility of a cap on the precept next year, we reluctantly increased the precept this year.

The Budget for 2013/14 is £ 40,137

### **CRIME**

Speeding and inconsiderate parking are still the main issues. Speeding on the main road is hopefully decreasing with the introduction of flashing speed signs.

The inconsiderate parking within the Thornhill Road estate is being looked at by Bradford Council Highways Department. They are currently researching a series of proposals to introduce parking restrictions. Funds are already in place for these to be implemented.

### **YOUTH**

There is still positive engagement with local youngsters by Youth Services. Starting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April there will be 2 youth sessions held in the Hub on Thursday evenings, one for yr 7 and one for yr 8 and above. One of these sessions will be funded by the Parish Council and the other by Bradford Council.

### **WEBSITE and NEWSLETTER**

We have not produced a newsletter for 18 months. This is now being addressed and we hope one will be produced within the next month.

We are also going to look at updating and revamping the website.

### **OTHER ISSUES**

Two of the Hornbeam trees we planted to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee have been vandalised. We hope to replace these in the near future.

I must say a big thank you to my fellow Councillors for all their hard work over the last year.

Finally, in welcoming Rosie to join us, I must offer a tremendous vote of thanks to Glyn Broomhead for helping us through a very difficult period.