

STEETON WITH EASTBURN PARISH COUNCIL
CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT to the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
2nd April 2014. STEETON COMMUNITY HUB

This is the report on the Council's work for 2013/14. The last Parish meeting was held on 10th April 2013.

Two Councillors have resigned this year, Cllr Karen Pickard and Cllr Stuart Ebdon. I would like to thank them for their support throughout their time with the Council. We have a replacement for Cllr Pickard in Cllr Sharon Younger. We are now looking for a replacement for Cllr Ebdon.

There have been 12 full council meetings this year and also 11 meetings of the HUB management committee.

This year there has been 2 major projects. After consultation with user groups a design was finalised for the children's play area at the side of the HUB. Three companies were invited to tender for the project and from this a preferred contractor was appointed. We are now in the process of securing grant funding to allow the project to proceed. One conditional offer has been received and we await the results of our other application. We should know by July if we have been successful. We have received some funding from local businesses and also the Mother and Toddler group held a sponsored toddle where over £400 was raised towards the project.

We are also in the process of getting plans produced to allow the area around the HUB to be landscaped. We have worked with KIVCA on this, and have also had discussions with the Hospital, they are very keen to work with us and provide the shrubs needed to allow the project to proceed.

The HUB has now been in use for just over 12 months and is proving to be a popular venue for groups and children's parties.

FINANCE

Full accounts for the year 2013/2014 will be available on the Councils website in due course.

After much deliberation the council decided not to increase the precept this financial year. We were able to do this in part because BMDC decided to pass on the full amount of the rate support grant they received from central government.

The Budget for 2014/15 is £ 39,155

CRIME

Crime levels in Steeton and Eastburn have remained quite low, however, this is no reason for residents to become complacent.

Inconsiderate parking on Thornhill Road and other parts of the village continues to be a major problem. We are trying to get measures put in place to sort out the problem at the top of Thornhill Road.

The Parish Council has successfully worked with the Highways Department to have Traffic Regulation orders and yellow lines put in place on the bad bends at the back of the hospital, although not everyone was happy with this measure, the vast majority of residents have been supportive.

YOUTH

There is a small but growing group of young people accessing the sessions provided at the HUB. We are still waiting to see what impact the BMDC

budget cuts will have on the Youth Service provision in Steeton and Eastburn. The Parish council has set aside funds within the budget to support youth activities.

WEBSITE and NEWSLETTER

Publication has now resumed and delivery of our newsletter.

We are also hoping to give the website a makeover.

The HUB is now on Facebook thanks to Cllr Younger, and we are discussing setting up a Facebook page for the Parish Council.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

Late in 2013 the Parish Council entered into talks with Silsden Town Council to investigate the potential for producing a joint Neighbourhood Plan. This was because Silsden and Steeton with Eastburn have a large co-terminus boundary. We have transport issues in common, and are to be the recipients of a large number of new build houses and therefore it was felt that by working together we could better represent the views and wishes of residents.

I would like to thank Cllrs for their support throughout the year and special thanks must go to Rosie Sanderson for the work she has done and for fitting in so well following her appointment.

Cllr David Mullen