

**STEETON WITH EASTBURN PARISH COUNCIL**

**CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT to the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**1st April 2015. STEETON COMMUNITY HUB**

This is the report on the Council's work for 2014/15. The last Parish meeting was held on 2nd April 2014

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

This year we have had three major projects in the pipeline,

1. Children's Play area at the HUB.

Although we have had plans in place for this to be done, we have had to wait for the grant awarders to come forward with the money. We were told towards the end of 2014 that we had been awarded the monies necessary for us to be able to undertake this project. This was in addition to the money that was provided by local businesses and the Mother and Toddler group. I am sure people will have seen how popular the playground has become in the few weeks since it was completed.

2. Improvement works to the car park area.

We were successful with another grant application that we made to Awards for All, this has enabled us to appoint a contractor to undertake the improvements to the car park area.

3. Landscaping to the area surrounding the HUB building.

Some of this Awards for All funding has also enabled us to award a contract to get the landscaping round the building done.

We have also applied for a grant to the Community Orchard Scheme. If successful this money will be used to plant a Community Orchard on land at Chapel Lane which is currently being used as an unauthorised car park.

Money has been provided by Councillors Atkinson and Naylor from their ward investment Fund to purchase and install an emergency defibrillator for use by First Responders. The Defibrillator is going to be located on the HUB building adjacent to the main door. They have also provided money to facilitate the installation of 4 litter bins in the Thornhill Road Area.

We have been working with Councillors Atkinson and Naylor to secure the release of the S106 money to come from the Thornhill Road development, this money is a contribution from the developer to go towards play provision in the Parish.

**FINANCE**

Full accounts for the year 2014/2015 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 £ 42,586

**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.

## **YOUTH**

Due to a number of factors there is no longer any Council run youth provision in Steeton and Eastburn. This was due to lack of participants wanting to use the service and the cuts in funding imposed by Bradford Council. This service will be kept under review, but in light of the numbers required to attend there is not much prospect of it restarting. To run a Youth Club in Steeton and Eastburn there has to be 2 qualified play leaders and 15 service users per play leader. When the service stopped in Steeton there were 4 service users.

## **WEBSITE and NEWSLETTER**

Publication of our newsletter has now resumed and delivery. I must apologise to those residents who didn't receive the last publication, this was due to a number of factors.

We have now put an advertisement on the Parish Council Website for a quotation from someone who lives locally to deliver the newsletters throughout Steeton and Eastburn.

The HUB is now on Facebook and we have also set up a Facebook page for the Parish Council as well as the Neighbourhood plan.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

Following our submission to Bradford Council to be recognised as the legal body allowed to produce a neighbourhood plan for Steeton with Eastburn and Silsden. We received notification in December that we had been granted that status. We have now appointed a consultant to help us with the production of the plan. We have had 2 initial drop in sessions to gauge the views of residents, and are now in the process of drawing up the first draft of the plan. We hope this will be ready for consultation in late May or early June

I would like to thank Cllrs for their support throughout the year and also to wish them well for those who are seeking re-election and say thanks to those who have decided to step down. I look forward to working with you all if we are elected in May.

Special thanks must go to Rosie Sanderson for the work she has done throughout the year.

Cllr David Mullen