

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Parish Council operates a controlled system for recording and presenting financial information. The Parish Council accounts are subject to both an independent Internal and External audit each year and Annual Returns are prepared and submitted to the Audit Commission. The audit for the year ended March 2010 was concluded successfully with no matters arising.

As part of an annual review of Parish Council activities, a risk assessment is undertaken annually in line with reviewing insurance arrangements together with a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. All financial and regulatory information is prepared and submitted in accordance with required deadlines.

Summary of 2010/11 Finances (Unaudited)

Balance/Reserves B/F 1 April 2010 £ **6,045**

Receipts

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Precept | 9124 |
| Grants for Playground Project | 28000 |
| Sale of shared Spid | 300 |
| VAT Rebate | 406 |
| Investment Income | 8 |

Total Receipts **37838**

Payments

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Administration | 277 |
| Audit | 210 |
| Bowling Club Donation | 1300 |
| Employees | 3095 |
| Dog Bin Emptying | 144 |
| Equipment Maintenance | 70 |
| Erection of Best Kept Village Plaque | 350 |
| Grounds Maintenance | 1765 |
| Insurance | 663 |
| Newsletters and publications | 211 |
| Room Hire | 160 |
| SPiD Purchase | 2735 |
| Subscriptions | 47 |
| Training | 75 |
| War Memorial | 76 |
| Website | 100 |
| VAT | 650 |

Total Payments **11928**

Balance/Reserves C/F 1 April 2011 **31955**

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Bretherton Parish Council



ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

THIS REPORT IS PUBLISHED ANNUALLY AND
DISTRIBUTED TO ALL HOUSEHOLDS IN THE PARISH.

ISSUE DATE: MAY 2011

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

We are now approaching the last year of the present Parish Council and I would like to thank all the members for the hard work and dedication that they have applied to the well being of the Village.

This last year has been particularly successful in that the long awaited refurbishment of the Play Area on the Playing Field has been completed to a very high standard. We were delighted that the opening of the Play Area was carried out by two pupils of Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School in the presence of the Mayor of Chorley – Cllr. Ken Ball and his Mayoress Cllr. Nora Ball. We were blessed with very pleasant weather and I am sure everyone present enjoyed themselves.

Road safety in the Village has remained high on the business agenda of the Council; in particular on North Road where incidents continue on a regular basis, including a tragic fatality.

I am sure that your new Council will continue to put maximum pressure on the Highway Authorities for safety improvements.

Cllr Tony Rigby

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

Council Meetings and Membership

Your Parish Council met for its Annual Meeting in May 2010 when Councillor Tony Rigby was appointed as Chairman. Nine ordinary parish council meetings were also heard during the year; along with one extraordinary parish council meeting and one budget meeting. Membership was constant with six members throughout the year. All statutory notices and agendas were posted on the Parish Council notice boards and on the Council's website.

Value for Money

The Parish Council annually set a Parish Precept to finance its activities and administration which is collected by Chorley Borough Council as part of the Council Tax. The Parish Council has now set its budget for 2011/12; the Precept remains unchanged from the previous year. For an average Band D property in the village the annual precept for this year is £31.71. For 2011/12 the Council has arranged to consolidate all grounds maintenance and upkeep with one contractor; thus obtaining a significant saving for residents.

Engaging with Residents

Bretherton Parish Council has an active programme of engagement with residents by various modes of communication; such as its newsletter and website. The parish council notice boards also continue to be a vital source of community information and we currently have two situated on Pompian Brow and The Apiary.

Recreation Ground

As promised in last year's annual report, the Parish Council set up a sub-committee to replace and upgrade the play area on the Recreation Ground. Children from the village school were invited to submit their ideas for new play equipment. Based on the best submissions, a plan was drawn up and, with the help of LCC, developed into a detailed design with landscaping and natural features. Funding of £86,000 was obtained from LCC, Chorley BC and the Veolia Environmental Trust and work commenced in early February. It was completed for the official opening by the two children who submitted the best original designs on April 30th.

Road Safety

You will be aware of the recent tragic loss of a young cyclist's life on North Road. The Parish Council have been campaigning for many years for a reduction in the speed limit on this stretch of road which did result in a change from the National Speed Limit to a limit of 50 mph. However the Council

do not feel that a 50 mph limit is acceptable and are campaigning for a reduction to 30 mph.

A strong request has been made to Lancashire County Council to reduce the speed limit to 30 mph along North Road from its junction with Carr House Lane to a point east of Canal Leach; that the 30mph limit be extended along South Road to its junction with Carr House Lane; that mini roundabouts be introduced at the junctions of Pompian Brow and North Road and Carr House Lane and North Road. Cllr Keith Iddon and Lorraine Fullbrook, M.P. have indicated their support for this campaign. We will keep you updated on its progress.

Speed Indicator Device

Thanks to generous donations by Roger Bracewell of the Lilford Estate and Plocks Farm and the LCC Parish Council Champion, County Councillor Mike Otter, the Parish Council has now purchased their own Speed Indicator Device rather than sharing one with Heskin and Croston Parish Councils. Having our own device means that drivers are now warned if they are exceeding the speed limit almost continually at one of a number of locations around the village during every month of the year. We have been able to purchase an "Intelligent Spid" which records the speed of all passing traffic and this provides invaluable data that can be passed on to the police and Lancashire County Council. Brian Monk and John Pigott have been trained in the handling and maintenance of the Spid and have volunteered to re-locate it on different sites around the village on a regular basis.

Striving for Quality Council Status

The Parish Council is continuing to work towards the criteria which must be met to apply for Quality Council status.

Achieving Quality Status provides us with a benchmark against which to measure our performance in delivering local services. Our Clerk, Jill Cavan, has completed her Local Council Administration Certificate and it is hoped that Quality Parish Council Status can be applied for during the next twelve months.

