

Bishop's
Cleeve
Parish
Council

Annual Report

March 2008

Community Building

The Community Building continues to be a valuable asset to the local community. The Breakfast Club, After School Club and Holiday Play schemes remain the main users of the Building during the week. Other regular activities include Super Strikers, Monkey Music, K&L Fitness, Jo Jingles, GKR Karate, Machine Knitting, Post Natal Group, Art, Yoga and a local political party. Weekend use continues to be mainly for private parties and for sales activities. Our hire charges, which are available on the Parish Council website, remain extremely competitive. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to make either a regular or a casual booking or for contact details for any of the above activities.

I am particularly pleased to report that the Community Building is self-financing and does not represent an on-going cost to the community. Thanks go to our caretaker Jerry, who keeps the building clean and tidy, and our Clerk Belinda and her assistant Lisa, who manage the booking system and chase-up late payments. May I also say a big thank you to all of you who have made use of the Building since it originally opened in 1998.

Cllr Pete Lightfoot

Chair

Allotments Committee Report

The committee has carried out regular site inspections of the Nortenham allotments (off the Evesham Road) throughout the past year.

The council's policy is that the allotments are self financing and therefore it has been necessary to increase allotments rents during 2008/9 to pay for the continuing investment in the allotments.

We are attempting to engage with the Allotment holders and have had some success, partially measurable by the attendance figures of the monthly committee meetings. The council is in the process of improving it's register of all allotment holders with their contact details in order for us to administer the site more effectively

There are approximately **seventy** plus allotment holders with plots of varying sizes. We currently have a waiting list of 20+ but are working hard to reduce this. We are committed to the continuation of the allotments and look forward to their continuing enlargement and improvement.

Cllr J Habgood

Chair of Allotments Committee

Traffic Committee

Throughout the past year the traffic committee has continued working together with County, Borough Councillors and officers in order to maintain and improve services for Bishops Cleeve. We think this has seen some success and we thank all concerned for their help.

We have also sought opinions, views and help from many parishioners which we have taken onboard, as with:

- The School Safety Zone at Grangefield School
- Access and egress at the Sports field on Cheltenham Road and at the new play area on Finlay Way.

We have also renewed our contract for the cleaning of the Parish Council owned bus shelters, also keeping them clear of litter. (please remember to use the litter bins provided).

We are hoping that now the Borough Council has now taken over Civil Parking Enforcement we will see some improvement in illegal and inconsiderate parking. (Many of Bishops Cleeve residents are at fault)

My thanks are due to the members of the Traffic Committee and the Parish Clerk- Mrs Belinda Holder. We always welcome comments from members of the public regarding Traffic and Highway matters.

Councillor P A Rawlings
Chair of Traffic and Highways Committee

Planning Committee Report

The committee meets every second and fourth Tuesday of each month and during the year has considered 155 planning applications. The scale of these varies from a conservatory to that of large scale housing developments.

The final decision on these matters lies with Tewkesbury Borough Council but we are able to make observations. Local knowledge often helps to give us a clearer picture of the impact of proposals.

We continue to be concerned about large scale developments in and around the village. Developments on Homelands Farm, Deans Lea and along Stoke Orchard Road will we believe, put considerable pressure on already busy roads and the infrastructure of the village.

The committee has made representation on licence applications which we feel would have a detrimental effect on the quality of village life. We are also keenly aware of the need to keep signs, advertisements and shop design to an appropriate scale.

As in past years we are conscious of the use of smaller plots of land for building and feel it is a shame that we are losing green areas in and around the village.

We acknowledge the need to maintain a good working relationship with both borough and County Councils. We have been able to feed into the planning gain process, by which, if developments progress, the village may receive some benefit in the way of community facilities.

The Committee has sought villagers views through a public meeting on Homelands and a questionnaire concerning a proposed waste site.

Parishioners are always welcome to attend our meetings and local planning applications can be viewed in the Parish Office. We would urge anyone with concerns about individual planning applications to contact both us and Tewkesbury Borough Council.

Ann Lightfoot

Chair, Planning Committee

Playing Fields and Playgrounds

The Playing Fields and Playgrounds Committee manages four play areas in Finlay Way, Nottingham Road, Pecked Lane and Millham Road and the Sportsfield on Cheltenham Road.

The main addition to the playground facilities has been the new play area at Finlay Way. It includes a fenced infant playground, with a rope slide, pyramid and tyre swing for the more adventurous. There is also a large grassed area for free play and a specially seeded grassed area with two football goals. The facility has only been operational for a few days but initial indications are that it is proving extremely popular. Thanks to all who participated in the extensive consultation exercise.

In the coming year we hope to construct a new play area (South Park) on the southern side of Bishops Cleeve on our Cheltenham Road Sportsfield. If you have any ideas as to what equipment should be provided then please contact the Parish Office. Your Council also recognises that the needs of teenagers are significantly under-provided for within Bishops Cleeve. The Youth Club is far too small and not all teenagers want to participate in organised activities. We are proposing to address this issue by providing a Skate Park at the Cheltenham Road Sportsfield. We have already been in touch with the local schools, but this project is still at the early stages of consultation. Our aim is to involve potential users from the outset in order to encourage ownership. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to get involved.

The Cheltenham Road Sports field is being extensively used for football by a wide range of clubs including Bishops Cleeve, Cleeve Colts, Gotherington, Newton Heath, Star, AC Olympia, Lakeside and Kraft. There is also a Rugby pitch which is used by Cheltenham North and a fitness centre in the Pavilion which is run by Andy Tucker. In addition, we have a floodlit all weather surface which is available for hire at reasonable rates. At the beginning of June we appointed Dave Walker and Dave Lewis as Grounds men. The condition of the pitches has improved significantly over the last year due to their efforts.

Cllr Pete Lightfoot

Chair

Statement of Accounts

6TH MARCH 2008 YEAR TO DATE

2007/08

| | RECEIPTS | PAYMENTS |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Opening Balances: | | |
| Balance at Bank | | 249,808.38 |
| Cash in Hand | | 150.00 |
| Precept receipts | 133,000.00 | |
| Rent receipts | 2,265.75 | 89.00 |
| MEB Allots Wayleave | 6.53 | |
| Allot rent payments | | 1,550.00 |
| Allotment ground main | | 2,355.22 |
| Interest - Chq A/c | 321.20 | |
| Interest, Precept A/c | 7,236.11 | |
| Flood Donations | 50.00 | |
| Employment costs | | 21915.45 |
| Sports field capital projects | | 5,500.00 |
| grass cut | | 1,400.00 |
| insurance/legal fees | | 100.00 |
| ditch/boundaries/hedg | | 3,802.15 |
| Equip repairs/inspect | | 2,149.00 |
| Vandalism | 412.13 | 1,758.77 |
| Audit fees | | 1,035.00 |
| Gen Admin Expenses | | 702.81 |
| Insurance | | 5,025.07 |
| Post / phone / fax | | 1,462.42 |
| Meeting room hire | | 118.80 |
| Stat'y/print/copying | | 2,178.07 |
| Subscriptions | | 1,800.35 |
| Bank charges etc | | 241.06 |
| Office rent and rates | | 4,769.01 |
| Office equipment | | 130.85 |
| Misc Office costs | | 835.67 |
| adv/pub | | 255.34 |
| Chairman's Allowance | | 39.01 |
| Miscellaneous electio | 80.00 | |
| Misc.Exp. Handyman | 176.00 | 364.47 |
| Litter bins | | 1,654.00 |
| Dog waste bins | | 1,020.00 |
| Noticeboards | | 590.00 |
| Misc Public Amenities | | 350.00 |
| Donations | | 2,550.00 |
| Comm - Salaries | | 4,275.38 |
| Comm - Tax and NIC | | 608.17 |
| Comm - Utilities | 600.85 | 3,043.70 |
| Comm - Rent & Rates | | 1,395.55 |
| Comm - Cleaning | | 2,654.11 |
| Comm- Repairs & Repl. | | 166.75 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|------------|------------|
| Comm - Deposits | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Comm-Block Hire Chges | 9,526.68 | | |
| Comm-Casual Hire Char | 2,297.93 | 30.00 | |
| Comm - Insurance | 228.05 | 232.47 | |
| Comm - Booking Fees | 223.40 | | |
| Comm Late Payment Fee | 31.40 | | |
| Comm Equipt Purchased | | 108.00 | |
| Comm Service Contract | | 192.01 | |
| Comm - Miscellaneous | | 42.57 | |
| New Parish Office | 6,966.18 | 6,822.79 | |
| Grass - Block Income | 4,500.41 | | |
| Grass-Casual Income | 25.53 | | |
| 5 a Side-Block Inc | 7,487.43 | | |
| 5 a Side-Casual Inc | 506.03 | 28.00 | |
| Sportsfield Utilities | | 5,647.12 | |
| Sportsfield Cleaning | | 1,241.50 | |
| Sportsfield Rates | | 2,486.40 | |
| Sportsfield Repairs | | 55.00 | |
| Sportsfield Insce | 17.00 | | |
| SF - Miscellaneous | | 820.89 | |
| SF-Ground Upkeep | | 14,529.34 | |
| Insce Fees Collected | 6.80 | | |
| Pavilion Hire | 1,867.03 | | |
| Loan interest | | 22,529.38 | |
| cleaning bus shelter | | 652.27 | |
| repairs and renewals | | 48.00 | |
| bus shelters capital | 3,080.00 | | |
| capital - traffic oth | | 148.00 | |
| maintenance work | | 211.01 | |
| newsletter | | 999.99 | |
| finlay way capital | 6,760.00 | 1,100.00 | |
| pecked lane capital | | 1,068.00 | |
| skate park capital | | 56.00 | |
| millham road capital | | 2,126.00 | |
| office handyman | | 407.01 | |
| office utilities | | 475.43 | |
| computer costs | | 480.11 | |
| staff training costs | | 340.00 | |
| sports centre grant | | 2,781.00 | |
| tithe barn grant | | 23,000.00 | |
| youth club grant | | 4,000.00 | |
| other donations | | 115.00 | |
| materials for grounds | | 1,063.62 | |
| contingency | | 3,312.00 | |
| south park capital | | 56.00 | |
| Handyman wkly noticeboard | | 58.33 | |
| rural renaissance | | 9,808.22 | |
| VAT | 6,268.16 | 6,125.99 | |
| | | 193,960.60 | 191,102.63 |
| Closing Balances: | | | |
| Balances in Bank Account | | | 252,666.35 |
| Cash in Hand | | | 150.00 |
| TOTAL | | 443,918.98 | 443,918.98 |

Councillors also support other Working Groups and outside bodies for example:

- Best Value
- Emergency Planning
- Sports Fields User Groups
- New Barn Working Group
- Orchard House
- Newsletter Working Group
- Fair Trade Village
- Police Liaison Group
- Cleeve Hill Conservators
- Tewkesbury area sports
- Tithe Barn Village Hall Management Committee
- Wingmoor Farm
- JMC Sports Hall Management