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Brian Lewis	672212	
Geoffrey Jackson	674146	
(vice chair)		
Ann Lightfoot	676682	
Pete Lightfoot (chair)	676682	
Tony Mackinnon	672534	
Geoff Matthews	676746	
Kate Peake	677315	
John Peake	677315	
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More detailed information and copies of all the documents mentioned in this Update are available on the Parish Council website or from the Parish Office

Profit and Loss Account	for 2011/12
Income generated	53146
Misc income	308
Grant income	15500
Precept income	235924
Total income	304878
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Recreational	27787
Community building	25368
Parish Office	17651
Allotments	4386
Planning	90
Public Open Spaces	8319
Water courses	4035
Amenities	2744
Vandalism	60
Emergency response	727
Youth engagement	15576
Community wellbeing	4023
Sports field	32791
Astro	5980
Pavilion	10737
Council running costs	11076
S137 expenditure	1600
Grants	19705
Employment costs	77857
Administration costs	11933
Bank Charges	503
Total expenditure	282950
Balance to reserves	£ 21928

Annual Report 2012



Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council

Chair of Council's Annual Report

The entire Council stood for election in May 2011 and will serve for a four year term. The number of Council seats was increased at these elections from 15 to 20 in response to the substantial increase in the population of Bishop's Cleeve over recent years and the increased level of activity within the Council. Unfortunately, only 13 candidates stood for election. We have been able to subsequently co-opt 7 additional Councillors.

Following the complete withdrawal of Glos County Council youth provision within Bishop's Cleeve, the Parish Council is now funding four evenings of youth activities covering the age range from 8 to 19. The activities are based in the Community Building, the Sports field Pavilion and Finlay Way play area (known as the New Park) and soon to be extended to 5 nights with some school holiday day time sessions also planned. This is in excess of what was previously provided by GCC. The Parish Council have taken over responsibility for the whole of the Community Building. This has provided us with additional rooms which we can rent out for community activities.

In addition to managing the youth provision, the Community Engagement Committee has also launched the Cleeve Caterpillar Community Led Plan. We are now launching a final questionnaire Our main priority for the next 12 months will be to work with other organisations to develop the Community Led Plan into an Action Plan to improve the quality of life for Villagers.

The Parish Council organised a Sport Relief Mile event on its

Sports field in Cheltenham Road on 25th March. Over 90 people took part in what turned out to



be a highly successful and enjoyable occasion for all concerned and raised £1155.30 through donations and sponsorship.

The Precept for next year has not been increased which will provide us with challenges in maintaining and further developing our current range of services.

Pete Lightfoot

(Chair of The Council)

The Planning Committee continues to meet on the second and fourth Thursday each month and I am pleased to say that on a number of occasions we have had representations from members of the public on issues of concern to them. We always welcome input on planning matters. We have dealt with 122 planning applications since last April. They vary in size and scale. Although we can, as a Parish, influence matters, the Borough makes the decisions.

Large housing development applications are still on the agenda and we have continued to make contributions to the Appeal process both by written submission and in person at Hearings. We remain opposed to unsustainable development and the impact such projects would have on the infrastructure and traffic in the village. We are conscious of the need for affordable housing to meet local need and welcome such initiatives but not at any cost.

We also made representation both written and in person to the Waste Site development plans at Wingmoor Farm. The Council opposes any extension of the licences for the life of the site.

The Planning Authorities of Tewkesbury, Cheltenham & Gloucester have for some time been formulating a Joint Core Strategy for planning and we have fed into that Consultation. It is important to us that the village retains its distinct character and does now become a "dormitory" suburb, that green space is maintained and that we are not swamped by large scale housing developments which will impact on the infrastructure.

The Amenities Committee regularly meets with County Councillor Jones and Officers from Gloucestershire County Council to raise matters of concern relating to Highways. Inconsiderate parking continues to be an issue in the village. After an extensive period of consultation, restrictions have been placed on several roads in the area and it is hoped this will reduce problems. Other matters raised have included building works and pavement access, identifying the need for dropped kerbs, debris on road during building developments and road signage.

Also of concern to the committee was possible changes to the bus services. With this in mind we fed into the consultations process stressing the need for all members of the community to have good access to services.

Repairs were undertaken to the War Memorial Site and we are pleased to report that this has met with approval.

Following requests, several more dog and litter bins have been installed, where appropriate. Despite a large number of dog litter bags being purchased from the Parish Office, (29,700) dog fouling continues to be a problem.

The Committee also looked at the request to take on the management of the Cemetery from Tewkesbury Borough Council. Following the Committees report it was felt by the whole Council that it was not appropriate at this time, having implications for resources both financial and practical.

Allotment Committee

The Parish Council manages nearly 180 allotments at the Nortenham site on the A435 at the North West extremity of Bishop's Cleeve. We currently have only a very small waiting list but have no room to create further plots. The policy of the Council is that the allotments should be self-financing. Management of the allotments is undertaken by our staff. Councillors set the policies and rental charges and can also act as an independent appeals panel should a plot holder feel that their eviction notice is unfair.

It has unfortunately been necessary to increase average rents by 15% for 2012/13 in order to cover caretaking and administrative costs which were not previously charged. We have also changed from a banded charge to a per square metre charge which, whilst leading to winners and losers, will be more equitable to all plot holders.

Some funding for infrastructure improvements is being provided by the developers of Homelands 1. This money will be used to improve the car parks and roadways, in accordance with the wishes of the plot holders. We have also requested that additional allotment land be provided in the event of any future large scale housing development within Bishops Cleeve.

Playgrounds Committee

The Parish Council owns five play areas in Finlay Way, Nottingham Road, Pecked Lane, Millham Road and on the Sports field complex at Cheltenham Road. Youth facilities are concentrated on the Sports field where we currently have a Skate Park, Bike Track and Youth Shelter. We have not invested in new play equipment this year as new facilities will be installed by the Homelands 1 developer. The developer is also required to provide some funding for the merging of our Millham Road and Nottingham Road fields with their new play areas and for the provision of additional play equipment within the Parish of Bishops Cleeve.

The Cheltenham Road Sports Field is being extensively used for football by a wide range of clubs. There is also a Rugby pitch which is used by Cheltenham North. The condition of the pitches has continued to improve due to the efforts of our grounds men, with the uncultivated areas being brought under control as funding permits. In addition, we have a floodlit all weather surface which is available for hire at reasonable rates. The Bowling Green and the associated Clubhouse are owned by the Council but managed independently by the local Bowls Club.

The biggest problem for our Sports Field users is that dog owners still persist in walking their dogs even though this is prohibited. Many do not clear up after their dog, but even those that do will inevitably leave residues. Dog waste can result in blindness due to Toxicara Canis, with young children being most susceptible. Signage is persistently vandalised or removed