# Broxton & District Parish Council 2013/14 ANNUAL REPORT



# Chairman's Report

Once again, it's time to bring everyone in the community up to date with what the Parish Council has been involved with during the last twelve months.

The main focus has been on assessing how a Neighbourhood Development Plan might help in tackling the issues and challenges raised by the national Localism Act. Our Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group (NDPWG), made up of some parish councillors and volunteers from the community, have

- held a number of well attended public meetings to ascertain what is important to local residents and then ranked the input
- had our neighbourhood designated as a Neighbourhood Plan area by CWaC,
- acquired assistance and on-going advice from a nominated CWaC planning officer and her colleagues in Spatial Planning,
- submitted comments on the CWaC draft Local Plan published in September,
- aligned our preliminary thoughts with the overarching CWaC plan and then drawn up and distributed a survey form in November
- arranged a successful social evening in November 2013 to collect in the completed survey forms
- consolidated, analysed and summarised the responses to the survey
- delivered a leaflet outlining the findings of the survey to all households in the parish in January 2014.

• consulted with other parish councils (Tattenhall, Malpas and No Man's Heath) to learn from them and to share experiences and thoughts.

There's still a long way to go before we have a legally binding document, but we have been making measured progress. Recently, we have received a grant to help with the costs of employing specialist planning consultants so that we can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan that will comply with the exacting demands of the planning authorities. We have now identified the consultants we wish to employ and will be starting the next phase of policy writing with them in the coming weeks.

The draft Broxton Neighbourhood Plan that the consultants will produce will be based upon the replies to the survey conducted in November and will be circulated to all households for further consultation by year-end.

Resources (expertise, time and money) are always a challenge - so if you feel you could help the NDPWG in any way at all, please contact Richard Salmon (richard@offroading.net).

Now to other news. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Norma Legat on to the Council in January as a replacement for Mrs Barbara Clutton.

Our web site (<u>www.broxtonanddistrict-pc.gov.org</u>) is now fully functional. It includes agendas and minutes of meetings, links to Highways - for example, to report potholes or to see where road works are planned; to other parish council web sites; to Bickerton Village Hall for timetable of events.

Representatives have attended a number of events during the year.

- In June, Broxton & District Parish Council organised a well-attended session on planning for all parish councils at CWaC HQ. The chief planning officer, Mrs Fiona Edwards, and several of her colleagues answered questions about the roles/responsibilities of parish councils in the planning process.
- In September, representatives attended a session at HQ on Community Governance. The results are not yet published but are expected shortly.
- For the first time Council laid a wreath at Bickerton Parish church to commemorate Remembrance Day.
- In January, councillors joined a guided walk on Bickerton Hill to hear about the National Trust's plans for the restoration of the heath land.
- In March, two parish councillors attended the Local Council Assembly, hosted by the Lord Mayor.

Finally, I should like to thank my fellow parish councillors and our CWaC ward councillor, Mike Jones, for their support and hard work on behalf of the community. Special thanks go to our clerk for ensuring we comply with all the rules and regulations governing parish councils.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at our meetings.

Gill Kendall - Chairman

# ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2013/14

Receipts	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Precept	4200.00	4200.00	4000.00	3800.00
Grants (Burial Grounds)	850.00	850.00	893.00	485.00
Grants (Jubilee)	0	500.00	0	0
New Homes Bonus	0	0	0	1216.00
Rent	0	250.00	250.00	250.00
Compensation	0	0	25.00	0
VAT Refund	0	107.64	0	0
Total Receipts	5050.00	5907.64	5168.00	6251.00
Payments				
Clerk's Pay	1501.36	1501.32	1861.08	1951.88
Clerk's Expenses	396.00	396.00	435.60	435.60
Office Expenses	287.14	61.78	27.78	0
Administration	316.48	384.71	317.09	364.04
Insurance	262.50	265.00	265.00	159.00
Subscriptions	145.69	0	0	0
Grants (Burial Grounds)	850.00	850.00	893.00	485.00
Neighbourhood Plan	0	0	45.00	430.84
Grants (Misc)	0	650.00	0	50.00
Path Clearing	0	0	60.00	0
Bickerton JBC (Levy)	0	0	350.00	0
VAT	71.65	37.26	37.73	47.94
Total Payments	3830.82	4146.07	4292.28	3924.30
Balance	1219.18	1761.57	875.72	2326.70
+ Balance b/f	507.77	1725.95	3487.52	4363.24
= Balance c/f	1725.95	3487.52	4363.24	6689.94

# 2014/15 Meeting Dates

2014

July 28<sup>th</sup> September 15<sup>th</sup> November 24<sup>th</sup>

2015

January 26<sup>th</sup> March 23<sup>rd</sup> May 18<sup>th</sup>

Meetings are usually held in Brown Knowl Methodist Chapel Hall at 7.30 pm. and are advertised on the notice boards at least 3 clear days before the meeting. Extraordinary meetings are called as required.

# **CONTACT DETAILS**

#### **BROXTON**

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### **DUCKINGTON**

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### CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCILLOR

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http://www.broxtonanddistrict-pc.gov.uk