

The Tower

Churchill Parish Council newsletter

Annual Report 2016



Issue 37
Spring
2016

Report By the **Chair of the Parish Council 2016**

As I sit at the computer and think about the events that have happened over the last year, it struck me that sadly most of our time and energy has been taken up with planning matters.

As you are all very much aware of North Somerset's shortfall in housing supply I won't bore you again with those details, what you will also know, unless you've been in hibernation for some considerable time, is that this situation has meant that planning applications of some considerable size and on sites which sit outside of the settlement boundary that previously would not have seen the light of day, have been flooding in to lots of small villages. As a service

village we have been hit with three large applications to date.

In my report I will try and bring you up to date on where we stand at the present time.

The site at Pudding Pie Lane, Stock Lane and Jubilee Lane which is land owned by Bristol University, has been granted outline planning permission for 141 houses by North Somerset Council despite some very strong valid reasons and objections being put forward by the Parish Council and many local residents. We have since met with the agents and North Somerset Council and have voiced our concerns and given them suggestions for 106 projects. The next step for this site once all the necessary procedures are in place will be the marketing of the land and then the subsequent

sale to developers. They will then draw up their own plans and put in a Reserved Matters application. We will continue to work with all the relevant parties to ensure as much as possible the best outcome for our parish. You will then have the chance to put your comments in on the Reserved Matters application which will give the full and final details of the development on the site.

The second site at the A38 and Says Lane junction has also been granted outline planning permission for 43 new houses by North Somerset Council. Many concerns were raised about the dangers of this site in relation to such a busy trunk road and also the close proximity to the AONB. Again we have given suggestions for 106 and will do our best to work with the agents to get the best outcomes.

Age UK Drop In Sessions

Age UK Somerset hold free confidential Information and Advice 'drop-in' sessions in Wrington Vale Medical Practice on the third Tuesday of each month from 10am-12 noon, for people over the age of 60, their families, friends or

carers on a variety of subjects including:

Welfare benefits, housing issues, care assessments, moving into a care home finding someone to help at home, how to set up POA and much more.

If you have any questions, queries, or need information or advice on any topic, how feel free to call in to discuss.

For more details call Angela at Age UK Somerset on **01823 345613**.

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Annual report from the Comm

Finance and Personnel

The key items this year have been the installation of water supply to the allotments which we are sure will be welcomed by allotment tenants. Secondly the setting up of auto-enrolment, the new government legislation for staff pensions. This has taken a lot of the Finance & Personnel Committees time and also that of our Clerk Aleana.

There have been no issues raised on our finances or procedures by either our internal or external auditors. The system set up whereby members of the Committee conduct their own internal audits is functioning well.

The new Parish Council website has been implemented successfully and the Parish Council are also now on Facebook.

There have been substantial improvements to play areas, Football Club and Cricket Club.

The precept for 2016/17 has increased by the 1% to £57,718.

The total of all bank accounts is currently £53,438.

The Finance & Personnel Committee will sorely miss the unstinting support of our Clerk Aleana Baird whose guiding influence has kept our standards high.

Dev Clutterbuck
Chair of Finance & Personnel
Committee.



Leisure Committee

Over the past year the Leisure Committee has continued to maintain and grow the facilities within the Parish. In September our hard work was recognised when we attended the AGM of the Somerset Playing Fields Association, where we were presented with a Bronze award for the best large recreation field in Somerset.

Work that has been carried out over the past twelve months has included the removal of the old lorry trailer from the side of the community club. In its place we have provided a storage container, giving more secure and suitable storage for the football club. This also included levelling and resurfacing of the area prior to the installation. In addition we have installed a new basket swing in the children's play area suitable for disabled and able bodied children, brought 3 phase electrical supply on to the cricket field as part of future plans to improve and upgrade the cricket pavilion, repair and painted the cricket ball stop nets and ear marked the funds for a new patio area to the front of the pavilion. There were a number of small maintenance and repair works that have been carried out in

all the areas the Committee has responsibility for

I would like to thank all members of the committee and the football and cricket clubs representatives for their hard work and support over the past twelve months.

Open Spaces and Allotments

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May 2015 we agreed to combine the Open Spaces and Allotment Committee and use the skills of councillors who had previously worked on the two separate committees and amalgamate them into one.

The main project for the Allotments this year has been the provision of water to the fields which has been as a result of the survey in the previous year. All of the troughs and pipework are installed with the mains connection scheduled for the beginning of April. There are a few plots remaining so if you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk.

Other work that has been carried out is the refurbishment of the various signs around the parish. The work has been undertaken by Michelle our Parish Orderly, who has done a fantastic job.



We have also carried out improvements to the burial ground carpark and its entrance, repaired the burial ground gates ready for painting by Michele. There have been improvements to the gravel and paving at the War Memorial in Langford, tree works, grass reseeding and bulb planting at the Hand area by the lights and tree work at the memorial garden area at the top of Ladymead Lane. Students from Churchill Academy Sixth Form gave the bus shelter interior at the traffic lights a bright and innovative repainting on a 'run for a bus' theme. The Committee thank them very much for all the thought and time they put into working on the project

We have also renegotiated the three year grass cutting contract to ensure that it provides both value for money and high quality cuts.

In August the Somerset Finger Post at the end of Hilliers Lane was knocked over resulting in the fingers being broken. Replacement ones have been ordered and once the post has been repaired it is hope that the finger post will be reinstated.

I would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work and support over the past year.

**Brenden Hill
Chair**

Churchill PC 2015/16

Summary Receipts and Payments for Year Ended

31 March 2016

Last Year Ended 31 March 2015		Current Year Ended 31 March 2016
56,451.72	Receipts	
56,451.72	Precept	57,146.56
	Sub Total	57,146.56
	Operating Income	
8,640.01	Income	8,769.47
3,037.75	Allotments	3,000.00
5,005.59	VAT Data	3,036.93
73,135.07	Total Receipts	71,952.96
	Running Costs	
19,694.92	Administration – Salaries	20,809.69
6,809.31	Administration – running costs	8,712.49
3,460.75	Staff Expenses	4,089.31
1,367.89	Communications	2,614.15
10,031.02	Open Spaces	15,077.04
15,947.32	Recreation	9,803.30
3,230.36	Allotments	7,605.49
5,005.59	VAT Data	6,670.84
65,547.16	Total Payments	75,382.31
	Receipts and Payments Summary	
45,534.17	Opening Balance	53,122.08
73,135.07	Add Total Receipts(As Above)	71,952.96
118,669.24		125,075.04
65,547.16	Less Total Payments(As Above)	75,382.31
53,122.08	Closing Balance	49,692.73
	These cumulative funds are represented by:	
42,240.32	Income	47,525.82
8,415.50	Expenditure	1,576.68
2,466.26	Loan Account	590.23
53,122.08	Closing Balance	49,692.73
	Reserve Balances are represented by:	
7,587.91	Current Year Fund	-3,429.35
34,134.17	General Reserves	40,738.08
2,200.00	EMR Election	2,200.00
5,000.00	EMR Pud Pie Lane path	5,000.00
1,200.00	EMR The Hand Project	1,200.00
1,000.00	EMR Cricket Club Patio	2,484.00
2,000.00	EMR Allotment water supply	0.00
0.00	EMR Fitness Equipment	1,500.00
53,122.08		49,692.73

VAT refund due £3,633.91



Welcome to a new Clerk

Parish Clerk Aleana Baird is leaving after four and half years with the parish. She hands over to Martin Dolton at the beginning of April to take up the role of Clerk to Yatton Parish Council.

She has really enjoyed her time in the parish, working with all the Councillors past and present has been a pleasure and as a team they had achieved a lot, she wished to thank all of them for the help and support but also all the parishioners she had got to know over her time working for their lovely Parish.

Martin would be joining at a time of change in Churchill and Langford but his experience working with Parish Councils across the country will bring lots of fresh ideas to the Parish. PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR THE CLERK. Tel 07399 523 961. The 824 801 number will still be operational in the short term.

Tree planting

Sir Winston Churchill died in 1965 and so 2015 is the 50th year since his demise and it was thought that to plant 50 oak trees throughout the land would be a fitting tribute to his memory. John Churchill who became the 1st Duke of Marlborough [b1650–d1722] married Sarah Jennings from the village of Churchill, who lived in Churchill Court and so it was decided that one of the oaks should be planted in this beautiful North Somerset village. That was done on Saturday 21 November with Bill Nicholson the Secretary of the South West Association of Churchill Fellows holding the tree and Master Edward Hill, the son of Brenden Hill the Chairman of the local Open Spaces Committee, shovelling the soil into the hole. The tree is planted in Rowan Way just off Broadoak Road, Churchill.

The tree has been planted on the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Field, which was designated a 'Field in Trust' in 2012 for the use of local residents in perpetuity.



www.churchillpc.org.uk

Your councillors

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Mrs Elizabeth Wells
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Vacancy

Other contacts

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Tree Wardens:
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Police: Emergency 999

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