

# BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the Parish Council  
**Bruce Poole**  
BA (Hons);; Fellow ILCM; CMC



2004&2009

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2012**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Precept I know concerns each and every one of us and again has had to be re-adjusted. A full explanation was given at the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Coronation Hall of which we are all so proud has been completely re-painted inside and the original entrance at the front has new doors. Some of you I feel sure assume the Hall takes its name from the Queen's Coronation but it was built in the 1930's and celebrates a 75<sup>th</sup> birthday at the end of the year. The hall was the centre of the Royal wedding celebrations in June last year and will again be the hub for this year's Diamond Jubilee weekend with the same resounding success.

After to years of monthly markets they are part of the fabric of our village life. The Coronation Hall and Jubilee Room continue to thrive with a well managed committee and a team of volunteers.

I thank the Youth Club's active and vibrant management committee for their commitment to the young of the village and the surrounding areas. I now automatically think of the Play Park. The new equipment installed has been an aspiration for the Parish Council for a long time. Although safe the age of the old swings together with past RoSPA Annual Inspections the time had come for replacements. After consulting families and more importantly the children the equipment was chosen with safety at a premium, the age group that used the Park and the fitting in with the surrounding environment. All has been planned carefully so there is more for other games and play.

After a great deal of consultation with Church authorities the decision was made to rebuild part of the old church wall. The dangerous section was demolished as is in the process of being re-built. Tree stumps had to be removed but the Yew Tree remains so the integrity of the church yard stays in tact. This has been a major project for the Parish Council.

All Planning issues may be seen by the public and with the designated Planning Committee and discussions at the Planning Committee twice monthly (generally) plus the site meetings you can deduce that all planning applications are thoroughly scrutinised.

I understand why so many of you have grave concerns with the proposals for the Marshalls site. Due to the current economic climate and financial restraints the future plans are on hold. Marshalls and North Somerset District Council will keep the Parish Council up to date with any developments in the forward thinking and this we will convey to you.

Another long and protracted issue for the Parish Council has been the Golf Club on Roman Road. The more recent application with the insistence of the parish council has been called in to the full North Somerset Planning and Regulatory Committee and the written views of the council will then be further considered.

The Allotments are all occupied and well cared for. The waiting list has been somewhat reduced by the splitting in to smaller units of some of the larger plots.

I thank the Village Ranger Mr Tony Derrick for his sterling work for the village. We are all aware keeping our village looking its very best. The words "Quality Status" need not only apply to the Parish Council.

Thank you to our two Community Police Officers PC Steve Church and PCSO Emma Wright for their service to the village and their endorsement of the police priorities we have laid out. Long may they continue with their Thursday afternoon surgeries.

Roads and Transport – but what can I say about pot holes!! Except that they always need fixing so we will go on asking and filling up forms. Nor can I give you a definite answer to the Bus Route/Timetable problems we are still waiting and I fear there will be no quick solutions.

After the boundary review when Hillcote became officially part of Bleadon Village we agreed to more village signs and install a notice board. We will endeavour to have this work done this oncoming financial year.

The annual "plant up" is on Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am – we always ask for helpers on the day, you don't have to be a gardener and you have probably guessed the colour scheme is Red White and Blue.

The Parish Council took up North Somerset's offer of IT Equipment in order in future to project plans and reports at public meetings. This part of North Somerset's move towards paperless working that will help to reduce costs. The equipment is now installed and is in great demand.

The members of the Parish Council work hard on your behalf and the welfare of the village is paramount to us. We are proud of our achievements in the past year. Over the past two years 75% of "103 Village Plans" wishes and aims have been completed.

Do please come and see us at work on the second Monday of each month with a months stand down in August. May I finish this report by thanking all of you for your continuing support and encouragement for YOUR Parish Council.

Penny Skelley

## **ROADS & TRANSPORT**

Last summer some of our roads were resurfaced and repaired and we are grateful to North Somerset Council. We continue to report pot holes as they occur and if anyone had a favourite. Please let me know and I will report it to the relevant authorities.

We are fortunate that the daily bus service into Weston has survived the cuts! The parish Council continues to battle with the bus operators and North Somerset to have The Veale service resumed but our pleas seem to fall on deaf ears and Webber seem determined not to restart this service. It is unfortunate that the Coomb's once a week service from the Veale will disappear in April as a result of cuts North Somerset feel necessary.

Brian Gamble

## **PLANNING**

I should remind you that all planning applications are open to the public and that any member of the public may speak either for or against such an application immediately prior to a full Parish Council Meeting or a Planning Committee Meeting. The time and place and the full agenda of these meeting are fully advertised on the village web site and all of the village notice boards. Please approach the Chairman or a Councillor or indeed the Parish Clerk if you have any views on a particular application.

Mary Sheppard

## **ALLOTMENTS**

The waiting list for allotments has been significantly reduced and the allotment holders are very dedicated and competitive. Good luck for the coming year

Mary Sheppard

## **CHURCHYARD**

I am happy to report that work has started on the Churchyard wall, all the hacking out has been completed; the dangerous section of wall has been demolished and is in the process of being rebuilt. The trees in the churchyard are also in the process of being dealt with, one has been removed and I am awaiting a price on the rest being dealt with. I fully expect for all the work to be completed by the beginning of May.

## **YOUTH CLUB**

Both Keith and I have spent the past year fighting the corner for the youth club I am sure that Keith will provide a full account, but I am happy to report the youth club is safe for the near future, we have secured some interim funding and we are both now Bleadon representatives in the south west rural hub. I expect our involvement to give us the opportunity to secure more funding and increase the activities for all the young people of Bleadon and the surrounding areas.

Miles Orme

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

The last year has been very eventful with some notable issues – of which some have been very contentious. Overall the last year has been unquestionably probably one of the most important, by virtue of the fact it has gone some way in modelling the future of Bleadon Village and the impact it will have on the community.

The main events that that encaptured the heart of the village community were the proposals put forward for the development of the field adjacent Bridge Road and the inevitable departure of Marshalls from the Quarry and its planned future development.

The field development was rejected by an overwhelming majority and the Parish council are still pursuing negotiations with Marshalls to ensure that we will all benefit from a scheme that is best suited for Bleadon.

These two major issues culminated in several of our Parish Council meetings having a considerable number of residents in attendance. This inevitably proves that anything that is at all contentious and affects residents directly, people will let their feelings be known.

We, as Councillors are wholly committed to Bleadon and strive to achieve what is best for our village. There were some tough decisions that were made that may not have been to everybody's liking. Rest assured, we endeavour to seek a common sense approach to all aspects that affect village well being and no decisions are taken without detailed consultation.

The Publication of the colourful Bleadon Village News is a very enjoyable read and is undoubtedly a success story in communicating with our residents over issues discussed at our meetings, together with interesting articles from the contributing Public. There are some very interesting people in our village.

I would personally like to thank Keith Pyke for the extremely hard work he has devoted to it and the editorial content and presentation must be the envy of other Parish Councils.

I have recently become a member of the Coronation Hall Management Committee and listened with interest with the issues involved in the maintaining the hall and the successful running of it with the hiring to social clubs and table hire, which has proved to be a considerable success of the last 12 months, and producing encouraging results. The Coronation Hall and the Jubilee Hall are in indeed very worthwhile assets and continue to be the main focal meeting point in the village.

Remember – we care about Bleadon, as I hope does everybody who lives here and we will strive to keep it that way in the forthcoming years.

Trevor Marshall

## **CORONATION HALL**

I am pleased to report that the Independent Examiner, Shirley Campbell, has examined the accounts for the year ended 29 February 2012 and she has confirmed that these have been correctly maintained and there is no matter which gives her cause for concern.

The salient points from the accounts are as follows:

(Figures in brackets are those of the previous year for comparative purposes)

	2011/2012	2010/2011
	£	£
Total Income	18,447	16,205
Total Expenditure	10,626	13,870
Net Surplus	7,821	2,335
Net Current Assets	48,158	40,337

The main income has been from hiring the Coronation Hall and Jubilee Room with income up some 16% compared with last year although income from table hire was slightly down on last year. We have seen another year of successful Village Markets for which credit must again go to the many volunteers who assist on these occasions.

We wish to thank the Parish Council for their continuing support and for their donation in connection with the Asbestos Survey undertaken in January 2012. The Parish Council has also been instrumental in arranging for free public access to the internet through a BT Wi-Fi hotspot which will provide additional facilities for all hall users. In conjunction with North Somerset Council, the Parish Council has been able to provide a portable projector and screen for use in the Jubilee Room which will supplement the fixed projector that has been available for some time to users of the Coronation Hall.

The Total Expenditure of £10,626 (£13,870) covers all aspects of maintaining and running the Coronation Hall and Jubilee Room which includes heating and lighting, water and sewerage, insurance, licences, cleaning, general repairs and improvements. Rising energy costs remain a concern but the additional insulation installed last year is helping to control these factors.

Major items of expenditure were:

- Gas/Electricity                      £1953 (£2,037)
- Cleaning                                £2598 (£2576)
- Insurance                                £472 (£434)
- General Maintenance                £489 (£428)
- Hall Improvements                    £486 (£5106)

The Coronation Hall and Jubilee Room continue to be popular village venues that are now used by a wide range of people in the community for family events, group meetings, craft meetings, exercise classes, dancing and so on. This all demands continuing investment and I am pleased to report that we have again been able to increase our overall assets to £50,272 (£42,110). After taking into account our current liabilities, the Net Current Assets amount to £48,158 (£40,337).

I should point out that we are maintaining an apparent high level of reserves because we have a medium term plan to improve the central area facilities which would include re-arranging the toilets in both halls. This will be an expensive exercise and, although we will attempt to secure grant aid, the present economic climate indicates that this will be very limited.

This has been another successful year for the Coronation Hall and I would like to thank all members of the Management Committee for their help and support.

C Morris

Treasurer

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Year End - 31-03-12

Summary Receipts and Payments for Year Ended 31st March 2012

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Last Year Ended 31st March 2011		Current Year Ended 31st March 2012
	<b>Receipts</b>	
35,500.00	Precept	37,500.00
35.72	Interest Received	35.87
<u>35,535.72</u>	Sub Total	<u>37,535.87</u>
	<b>Operating Income</b>	
1,433.06	Other Income	1,666.12
232.50	Rents	333.26
0.00	VAT Data	1,092.46
<u>37,201.28</u>	Total Receipts	<u>40,627.71</u>
	<b>Running Costs</b>	
16,005.52	Staff Costs	15,899.01
8,134.44	Administration	12,497.69
1,300.00	Grants	700.00
7,288.46	Open Spaces	9,655.08
1,095.05	VAT Data	1,681.53
<u>33,823.47</u>	Total Payments	<u>40,433.31</u>
	<b>Receipts and Payments Summary</b>	
<b>80,908.40</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>84,286.21</b>
37,201.28	Add Total Receipts(As Above)	40,627.71
<u>118,109.68</u>		<u>124,913.92</u>
33,823.47	Less Total Payments(As Above)	40,433.31
<u>84,286.21</u>	<b>Closing Balance</b>	<u>84,480.61</u>
	<b>These cumulative funds are represented by :</b>	
8,629.28	Current Account	8,787.81
70,631.75	Business Account	70,667.17
5,025.18	Nationwide	5,025.63
<u>84,286.21</u>		<u>84,480.61</u>
	<b>Reserve Balances are represented by :</b>	
3,377.81	Current Year Fund	194.40
23,687.11	General Reserves	27,064.92
3,000.00	EMR - Staff Contingencies	3,000.00
5,000.00	EMR - Pensions	5,000.00
600.00	EMR - Election	600.00
48,621.29	EMR - Special	48,621.29

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Year End - 31-03-12

Summary Receipts and Payments for Year Ended 31st March 2012

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Last Year Ended 31st March 2011	Current Year Ended 31st March 2012
<u>84,286.21</u>	<u>84,480.61</u>

Signed : \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman) \_\_\_\_\_ (RFO)

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ATTENDANCE 2012-13

	May	Jun	Jul	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
Gamble B	1	1	1	A	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	10
House R	A	1	1	1	A	0	1	1	1	1	7	10
Marshall T	A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			7	8
Morris C	1	A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	A	8	10
Orme M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10
Pyke K	1	A	1	1	1	1	1	A	1	1	8	10
Sheppard M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10
Skelley P	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10
Trevitt P	1	1	1	1	1	1	A	1	1	A	8	10
	7	7	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	6	77	88