

Broxton & District Parish Council 2012/13 ANNUAL REPORT



Chairman's Report

Once again, it's my pleasure to bring you up to date with what Broxton & District Parish Council has been involved in on your behalf during the last twelve months.

This year much of our work has involved assessing how the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan might help in tackling the issues and challenges raised by the Localism Act.

The Localism Act is essentially strongly in favour of supporting all development in both urban and rural areas unless there is an overriding planning reason not to authorise any such development. This is of great concern to people in rural communities as a massive influx of residents would strain the already stretched local services.

We cannot stop development, but with a Neighbourhood Plan we could shape the way we would like to see our villages grow. Achieving a balance between

some growth and the managed provision of some affordable homes without spoiling the natural environment is a considerable challenge.

Against this background, the Parish Meeting, held in July 2012, was called to give local residents a brief outline of our area's Core Strategy regarding Neighbourhood Planning. This was presented by Councillor Mike Jones, our ward councillor and Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC).

CWAC is suggesting some 1050 houses per year in its Core Strategy. This Core Strategy is an over-arching plan, which allows for 5-10% growth in the community - the details of which will sit in Neighbourhood Plans. The Core Strategy will not be finalised until 2014. Unlike surrounding villages, to date, Broxton parish is not under immediate pressure from developers so we can afford to take a measured approach to the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

This background briefing was followed by a thought-provoking question/answer session, and then an interactive session in which residents were invited to use maps and 'post-its' focusing on

- What do you like about living in the parish?
- Could any of these factors be improved?
- Is there anything the parish lacks or that you dislike?
- How would you like to see the parish develop over the next 10 years?
- What benefits to the community would you like to see from any developments?

The meeting concluded that it would like to see a Neighbourhood Plan developed and a number of volunteers came forward to assist the Parish Council in this task.

Following the July meeting which gave the mandate to go ahead, the Parish Council has

- Created a Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group (NDPWG) under the auspices of the Parish Council. The group consists of a mix of Parish Councillors and volunteers, altogether about 10 people.
- Commented on the Cheshire West and Chester Council's Local Plan Preferred Policy Directions Consultation document
- Created drafts of several required documents. These will be circulated to the community for comment before inclusion in a draft Neighbourhood Plan

[Community profile](#)

[Physical appraisal of the community](#)

[Vision for the future](#)

Devised a [Roadmap for the process](#)

- Registered with CWAC in order to have access to expert planning guidance
- Registered with CWAC to enable them to undertake a sustainability report for the parish

The NDPWG has worked closely with adjacent parish councils and in particular with the larger Tattenhall and No Man's Heath parishes to learn from their experiences.

The next stage will be to seek further views and ideas from you about the scale and type of development you want at the Parish meeting to be held in **Brown Knowl chapel at 7.30 pm on Monday 20th May**. The output from this consultation will then be compiled with existing feedback information to form part of a survey form to be distributed to all households in the parish for comment. The survey results will be collected/reviewed at a social event – open to all residents - in June.

If you would like more details on Neighbourhood Planning or any other matters dealt with by the parish council, please see the new Broxton & District Parish Council web site at

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

The Parish Council is represented on the management board of Bickerton Village Hall and various members make regular contributions to the running of the Hall for the benefit of all. In 2012 Council secured a grant from Cheshire West which was given to the Village Hall for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations – much enjoyed by all attendees despite the weather.

Finally, I should like to thank all my fellow parish councillors and our ward councillor for their support and hard work on behalf of the community, with special thanks to our clerk for keeping the parish council on track and in line 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 2012/13

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

2013/14 Meeting Dates

2013

July 22nd.

September 16th.

November 25th.

2014

January 27th

March 24th

May 19th

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.

Council Meeting Attendance Record

	PC Meeting 28/05/12	Bickerton JBC 07/05/12 *	Bolesworth Rural 12/07/12	Parish Meeting 23/07/12	Rural Transport 25/07/12	PC Meeting 16/09/12	NDP 01/11/12	NDP 15/11/12	NDP 19/11/12	PC Meeting 25/11/12	Bickerton JBC 25/11/12 *	NDP 21/01/13	PC Meeting 28/01/13	NDP 04/03/13	NDP 08/04/13
Ian Bowyer	A					✓				✓			A		
Barbara Clutton	A			✓		✓				A			A		
Rebecca Dakin	✓			✓		✓			✓	A	✓	✓	✓		
Glyn Davies	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	A	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Paul Heffer	✓		✓	✓		✓				A			✓		
Gill Kendall	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
John Owen	A			✓		✓				A			✓		
John Siddorn	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				A	✓		✓		
David Walker	A			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Steve Wild	A	✓		✓		✓				✓	✓		✓		
Mike Jones				✓		✓							A		
Others						1	2	4	5			7	1	4	
Public				3 6		1									
Clerk	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓

* Nominated councillors only

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