

Chart Sutton Parish Council

Report for the year to 31st March 2011

This was the third year of the four-year term of the Council. Chart Sutton Councillors have all undertaken to act in accordance with a Code of Conduct based on a national model. Mr Paul Ward and Mr Chris Webb joined the Council in June 2010 & January 2011 respectively. In November last year the Council was saddened by the loss of the previous Clerk, Vikki Stancombe, who had served the Council for 4 years.

Activities of the Council are regularly reported in the bi-monthly Village News, which is distributed free to all households in the parish. Fortunately, one or two local businesses have taken advertising space, although more would be welcome. The income from the advertisements helps to cover the cost of producing the Newsletter. In addition, the Council has a web site at www.chartsuttonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk where Minutes are published and a lot of useful information is displayed. The Council is grateful to KCC for providing the web site free of charge. The Council also has a Publication Scheme required under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, whereby copies of particular Council documentation are available upon request.

The following are brief comments on some Council activities:-

The Council was mainly financed in two ways. Firstly, a precept of £14,750 was raised on local householders, collected with the Council Tax. This amounted to £35.73 for a Band "D" property. Then, the Borough Council provide an allowance to assist with such matters as maintenance of the Memorial Playing Field and grass cutting around the village, as well as maintenance of our one streetlight. The draft Receipts and Payments Accounts for 2009/10 were reproduced with the June 2010 edition of Village News and these were subsequently audited unchanged. A first draft of the figures for 2010/11 is given overleaf. Copies of audited Annual Returns are available under the Publication Scheme.

There was no major expenditure during the year. Pavilion:- Fund raising for the new Pavilion is on hold and we are now looking into updating the existing Pavilion. Revenue from the Textile Bank at the Village Hall currently goes to the Pavilion Fund. The Council made some small donations during the year to a number of charities including the Three Suttons Help Line, Age Concern, Victim Support and Kenward Trust. The Community Shop has now been open for 17 months and has been vital to the local community especially during the heavy snow during the last two winters. The shop is entirely run by volunteers and new volunteers are always much appreciated, should you have any spare time & wish to volunteer, please contact Mrs Anne Howden on 01622 843497. We also have an outreach Post Office in the shop on Tuesdays and Fridays 10am – 2pm.

During the year the Council was consulted on around fourteen planning applications. Details of planning developments are given in each edition of Village News. The Council's Planning Committee usually meets prior to the full Council meeting each month when new applications are considered and decisions made. Details of these meetings can be found on the Council website, on the noticeboards, or by contacting the clerk. In considering its views on planning applications, the Council continues to put forward recommendations that it feels best represent the interests of local parishioners, but the Borough Council does not always agree with us!

The Council meets regularly at the Village Hall at 7.45pm on the second Monday monthly (with the exceptions of January which is held on the fourth Monday and February and August when there is no meeting) and parishioners are welcome to attend. Parishioners are given an opportunity to raise matters at the start of every meeting. Councillors or the Clerk can be contacted direct when more urgent issues arise. Their contact details appear on the village noticeboards, on the website and in the Village News.

CHART SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Receipts and Payments Summary for the Year to 31st March 2011

2009/10	RECEIPTS	2010/11
£		£
13,200	Parish Precept	14,750
6,420	MBC - Concurrent Functions	6,521
1,250	MBC - Additional Grants	500
1,000	KCC - Grants	---
1,939	Playing Fields - Lettings	1,540
17	Wayleaves/Licences	---
270	Advertising - Village News	135
75	Inland Revenue - Online Reporting Grant	---
220	Other Income	95
100	Key Deposit	
24	Bank Interest	28
385	VAT - Reimbursement	2,056
24,900	TOTAL RECEIPTS	25,625

2009/10	PAYMENTS	2010/11
£		£
	General Administration	
6,566	Salaries	7,597
1,695	Running Expenses	1,647
195	Audit Fees	195
732	Insurance	627
	Concurrent Functions	
4,240	Playing Field	3,480
936	Open Spaces	2,306
110	Street Lighting	165
80	Training	240
1,474	Village News	1,565
---	Neighbourhood Watch	---
800	Donations	250
200	Contingencies	---
1,050	Street Sweeping	940
1,902	Pavilion	575
1,206	VAT - to be reimbursed	129
21,186	TOTAL PAYMENTS	19,186