

Chart Sutton Parish Council Report for the year to 31st March 2012

This was the final year of the four-year term of the Council. Mr Mike Brown joined the Council in March 2012.

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 £16,000 was raised on local householders, collected with the Council Tax. This amounted to £37.97 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 2010/11 were reproduced with the June 2011 edition of Village News and these were subsequently audited unchanged. A first draft of the figures for 2011/12 is given overleaf. Copies of audited Annual Returns are available under the Publication Scheme.

The most significant expenditure during the year was for a new roof on the Pavilion together with the purchase/installation of new showers and related plumbing/electrical work at a total cost of £5476. A new desktop computer, printer, scanner and software were also purchased at a total cost of £515.04 and a total of £571.80 was spent on the very successful party for the Royal Wedding in April.

The Council made some small donations during the year to a number of charities including the Three Suttons Help Line, Age Concern, Royal British Legion and Kenward Trust. The Community Shop has now been open for over two years and has been vital to the local community especially during the heavy snow in previous 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 twenty three 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 2012

2010/11	RECEIPTS	2011/12
£		£
14,750	Parish Precept	16,000
6,521	MBC - Concurrent Functions	4,500
500	MBC - Additional Grants	0
---	KCC - Grants	0
1,540	Playing Fields - Lettings	2120
---	Wayleaves/Licences	35
135	Advertising - Village News	710
95	Other Income	324
28	Bank Interest	29
2,056	VAT – Reimbursement received from HMRC	2156
25,625	TOTAL RECEIPTS	25,874
2010/11	PAYMENTS	2011/12
£		£
	General Administration	
7,597	Salaries	6,237
1,647	Running Expenses (excl.donations see below)	2,668
195	Audit Fees	345
627	Insurance	584
	Concurrent Functions	
3,480	Playing Field	3,452
2,306	Open Spaces	1,551
165	Street Lighting	71
240	Training	0
1,565	Village News	1,123
---	Neighbourhood Watch	0
250	Donations	250
---	Contingencies	50
940	Street Sweeping	840
575	Pavilion	5,518
129	VAT (on payments)	2,262
19,186	TOTAL PAYMENTS	24,952