

## **Chart Sutton Parish Council Report for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

This was the first year of the four-year term of the Council. At the Annual Meeting in May 2012 the Council re-elected Mr Peter Forknall as Chairman. Chart Sutton Councillors have all undertaken to act in accordance with the Kent Secretary's Group Model Code of Conduct. Following the departure of Cathryn Draper last year, a vacancy was created which has yet to be filled; further information can be obtained from the Clerk or any of the current Councillors.

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](http://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 £17,000 was raised on local householders, collected with the Council Tax. This amounted to £39.80 for a Band "D" property. Then, the Borough Council provided 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 2011/12 were reproduced with the June 2012 edition of Village News and these were subsequently audited unchanged. A first draft of the figures for 2012/13 is given overleaf. Copies of audited Annual Returns are available under the Publication Scheme.

The most significant expenditure during the year was for a CCTV system overlooking the Shop on The Green and surrounding area, at a cost of £4,525. Additionally, £2,375 was spent on the internal and external re-decoration of the Pavilion, together with some plumbing work. Further expenditure of £850 was spent on the removal of the concrete base at the original site of the Shop on the Green. 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 several 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. 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 sixteen 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 2013

2011/12	RECEIPTS	2012/13
£		£
16,000	Parish Precept	17,000
4,500	MBC - Concurrent Functions	4,560
0	MBC - Additional Grants	0
0	KCC - Grants	1,000
2120	Playing Fields - Lettings	1,597
35	Wayleaves/Licences	18
710	Advertising - Village News	570
324	Other Income	665
29	Bank Interest	28
<u>2156</u>	VAT – Reimbursement received from HMRC	<u>2,549</u>
<u><u>25,874</u></u>	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u><u>27,987</u></u>
2011/12	PAYMENTS	2012/13
£		£
	General Administration	
6,237	Salaries	6,289
2,668	Running Expenses (excl.donations see below)	2,207
345	Audit Fees	345
584	Insurance	608
	Concurrent Functions	
3,452	Playing Field	2,275
1,551	Open Spaces	815
71	Street Lighting	72
0	Training	0
1,123	Village News	2,215
0	Neighbourhood Watch	0
250	Donations	250
50	Contingencies	900
840	Street Sweeping	1,223
5,518	Pavilion	8,368
<u>2,262</u>	VAT (on payments)	<u>2,369</u>
<u><u>24,952</u></u>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<u><u>27,936</u></u>