

Chairperson's Report

This has been a busy year for Broughton Parish Council. We have said goodbye to Councillors Alan Wolstencroft and Hamish Gardiner and would like to thank them both very much for their contributions to the village. We would like to welcome two new councillors Dave Hands and Haden Mills who joined us in January 2019.

With the help of many volunteers from the village we have helped keep the area neat and tidy. We would like to say a huge thank you to them all.

Church footpath – It was noted that the footpath had got very narrow as you come up to the Main Road from the church. In April we were helped to widen this and it has made it easier for people with wheelchairs or buggies to get past. However it should be noted that the footpath is still uneven and the council would advise continued care when walking especially during wet weather.

Notice boards and bench- At the last Annual Parish Meeting members of the public noted that the Parish Council Notice Boards and the bench in Jubilee Gardens were looking tatty. These have now been varnished and look smart. This made us think about the notice board outside St Mary's House and the Councillors have agreed to pay for a new one to be fashioned like the Parish Council ones.

Car Park- As you will be aware we took over the car park from CDC last year and have been working to make it look better so that more people will use it. In the summer over 20 people came to help shift a huge pile of gravel and level the surface. It only took 40 minutes in the end. We had a car park sign made and Hamish very kindly put it up together with a one way sign as you leave. Thanks to Haden for painting the pole. We hope that everyone will encourage visitors to use the carpark and that people using St Mary's House will also use it.

Glass bins- Due to high demand two further glass bins have been located in the car park and we have had no reports of full bins recently.

Grass Maintenance – We would like to thank the team of volunteers who have used the strimmer that we bought last year to help keep the verges tidy. It has made a difference being able to do it when needed rather than wait for the Council. In addition we have cut back trees and discovered a wall in the Main Road that we didn't know existed before.

The Parish Council continue to monitor the contract for grass cutting both in the churchyard and the Jubilee Tree site to ensure that the work is carried out to a high standard. This is important as grass maintenance accounts for a substantial part of our expenditure.

Main Road Clear up – Thank you to everyone who has again helped to keep the footpath along the Main Road clear, including sweeping up lots of leaves in the Autumn.

Litter- In general the village remains litter free and thanks are extended to all for helping to keep the village tidy. However 'fly tipping' does still occur and incidents of fly tipping should be reported to the Council who will remove it as soon as possible. You can do this through www.fixmystreet.com A recent village clean up collected 6 bags of rubbish from the surrounding roads. Thanks to everyone who helped.

Tree of Remembrance- The Parish Council accepted the offer of a Silver Birch sapling and commemorative plaque from the Woodland Trust to remember those fallen in the 1st World War. This was planted on Remembrance Sunday by Edward with Lord Saye in attendance.

Speeding- This continues to be a major concern. Together with Hornton, Swalcliffe and Tadmarton Parish Council's we have purchased "Speed Watch" equipment and during the week of 25th March we are pleased to say that a team of volunteers enabled us to cover the periods 8am to 9am and 5pm to 6pm to obtain data. We recorded 187 people doing over 34mph with the maximum speed recorded being 45 mph. In future our PCSO Peter Sanford will be able to send letters out to people. He is also concerned about the amount of speeding through our village and is looking for ways to help us.

PCSO- Peter is also keen to help with crime prevention advice and is happy to work within the community. If you have a non-urgent problem you can contact him through the 101 number or his email address is Peter.Sanford@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk For all urgent calls it is obviously 999.

Defibrillator and first aid- In January Broughton had its very own referendum as to whether to purchase a defibrillator or provide First Aid training for those who wanted it, paid for by the Parish Council. 68% were in favour of the defibrillator and 81% in favour of first Aid with some people voting for both. On 6th April 2019 14 villagers attended a basic First Aid course provided by Oxford College of First Aid. They found it very useful and it is hoped that they will let their neighbours know that they have done the training. The subject of purchasing a defibrillator remains on the Council's agenda due to the number of people who voted for one.

Village Website – This can be found at www.broughton-oxon.uk. You will find all Parish Council documents on there, and you will find information about the village on there. We would like to thank Nick Jesson who has taken on the job of keeping the website up to date. If there is anything you think should be on there but isn't please let us know.

Planning Applications - Applications submitted to CDC are passed onto the Parish Council who give careful consideration to the impact that the building would have on individuals and to the village as a whole. We wish to preserve the rural character of the village.

Highways – The Parish Council are in regular contact with the Highways Authority advising them of works required to ensure public safety. Any potholes can be reported to the Parish Council who will endeavour to have them repaired as soon as possible. However it is possible to report them yourself by going to www.fixmystreet.com and this is a very easy process. We are very aware that as soon as the council fill in one pothole another one appears.

Dogs - We would like to say a big thank you to the majority of dog owners who responsibly clean up after their dogs and use the 4 dog bins provided by the Parish Council. Please could we remind people to also clean up after their dogs in the fields around Broughton. Failure to do this could result in livestock catching parasites from dogs and parasites damage farm animals that are grazing. In view of the facilities that have been provided we feel that there should be no dog mess in the village and would not hesitate to report anyone who is seen. In fact there was a recent spate of fouling in the residential part of Wykham Lane. The Parish Council put up orange signs to point this out but it took signs warning of a £1000 fine, provided by the dog warden to send the message home

The Parish Council extend their thanks to Lord Saye and Sele for the continued facility to the village of access to the Castle Grounds. My thanks go to our Parish Clerk and to fellow Councillors for their continued help and support.

Unaudited Accounts for year ending 31 March 2019

Income

Precept	£5250.00
Grants	£788.37
Donation (Dog Bin Emptying)	£320.00
VAT	£293.87
Total	£6652.24

Expenditure

Employee Salary	£698.40	<u>Other</u>
Employee Costs	£54.95	£120.00 – Car park sign
Agency Services	£218.97	£266.00 – ‘20 is Plenty’ Signs
Public Works Loan – Capital	£287.14	£498.75 – Speedwatch Equipment contribution
PWL – Interest	£158.12	£486.00 – First Aid Training
Dog Bin Emptying	£576.57	
Printing	£12.00	
Administration	£684.53	
Mowing	£1750.00	
Website	£104.94	
Donations	£150.00	
General Maintenance	£839.28	
Other	£1370.75	
Total	£6905.65	

End of year balance **£4092.47**

Surplus (deficit) -£253.41

