

TANGMERE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2011

Chairman's Report

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2011 annual report of the council. This year has seen the first contested elections to the parish council for many years, which in its own right is a testimony to the progress the council has made. However, it has also resulted in two valued members not being re-elected, and I would like to thank them for their contribution and efforts over the years. Roger Birkett has worked tirelessly for the Village Centre, and has helped put the centre onto a sound footing for the future. John Perry has always added his wisdom to discussions, and along with Roger will be missed by all members. We welcome new members to the council, and look forward to working closely as a new council over the next four years.

Our clerk has successfully achieved her CiLCA qualification, which along with having a full set of elected councillor, allows the council to apply for Quality Status. This accreditation recognises the achievements of the council, and sets a standard for future members to follow.

In the last year the council has applied for and been granted financial assistance with the construction of the under-6 play area, and for the Multi Use Games Area. These grants have totalled £35,000 and have made both projects possible. We thank the Big Lottery Fund and Veolia Environmental Trust for approving our applications.

Work is under way to plan for the refurbishment the Village Centre, in order to bring the Centre up to the standards required to attract new groups to book the facilities. This will ensure the future for the facility, and enhance the centre for the benefit of all residents. This will be made possible by spending the S106 funds that have been allocated for community facilities arising from the Blenheim Park housing development.

The council continues to support the development of the Community Garden and the recently planted Community Orchard through TAG.

The 18th June will see the fifth Village Fête; this year raising funds to allow a village wide “street party” to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in 2012. Over the years this event has raised funding that has directly helped the community. The Parish Council thanks and supports the village fête committee in all their efforts.

The Parish Council continues to strive to deliver the “Tangmere Top 10” objectives which were set by the residents in the 2004 questionnaire. Our attention will be focussed on protecting the village from unwanted excessive housing development and making the roads safer for the community by delivering traffic calming measures. The resolution of the dangerous traffic around the One Stop shop completes the three remaining challenges for the new council.

Our most ambitious project is still being pursued, in conjunction with Oving and Boxgrove, which is to resolve the appalling broadband reception that most residents receive. Our application for a £60,000 grant to bring an adequate service to the village was not successful but such setbacks will not deter us from our plans.

This year the council reduced its call on the financial support from our residents, reversing a previous increase in the charge. At less than £1 per week per house, I feel the council provides good value for money to the local community.

Training and meetings

Councillors and the Clerk attended a number of training courses during the year. Many Councillors attended meetings as representatives of the Council, including: Community Action Pilot, Neighbourhood Watch Steering committee, Lavant Valley Partnership, and South Chichester County Local Council.

PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES

Movements within the Parish Council Accounts including reserves during the financial year were as follows:

DESCRIPTION	Opening Balance 01/04/2010	Payments as of 31/03/11	Receipts as of 31/03/11	Balance as at 31/03/11
	£	£	£	£
Parish Council Accounts including Capital Reserves	8,693.66	72,730.86	75,496.46	11,459.26
EARMARKED RESERVES:				
Bus shelters	10,264.66	1,812.50	1,562.50	10,014.66
Space Net	316.00			316.00
Play Equipment	5,000.00	24,798.25	20,000.00	201.75
BOB: Big Lottery Fund	112.21			112.21
Spitfire Court	22.78			22.78
Spitfire Court Path Re-grade	-2,230.90		2,230.90	0.00
Allotments (including water)	892.19	882.22	1,102.48	1,112.45
Planning Consultant		492.64	10,000.00	9,507.36
Asset Replacement Reserves:				
Tennis Courts	1,395.33			1,395.33
Village Centre Car Park	6,740.77	4,093.87	64.00	2,710.90
Village Centre Accounts	8,569.37	25,167.00	21,804.69	5,207.06
TOTAL	39,776.07	129,977.34	132,261.03	42,059.76

Section 137 Payments: the limit for spending under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, for this Council in the year to 31 March 2011 was £11,801.85 based on a registered electorate of 1,919. One payment of £33 was made under this legislation for the purchase of two poppy wreaths from the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Grants:

St Andrews Church: £500 for the upkeep of the churchyard.
Tangmere Village Day 2010: £500 towards expenses incurred.
Chichester Community Transport's Dial-a-Ride: £509.
Tangmere Youth Club: £200
Arun & Chichester Citizens Advice Bureau: £50

Section 106 Monies: the Council used £10,000 of Section 106 Leisure monies arising from the development of the former Fire Depot to purchase the new toddler play equipment for the recreation field.

Allowances for Councillors: No allowance was paid to the Chairman of the Council. Expenses for Councillors consisted of minor reimbursements covering stationery or mileage or for items purchased on behalf of the Parish Council..

Allowances for Employees: there was an allowance paid to the Clerk for using her own home for the Parish office of £200 in 2010-11. Expenses reimbursed to the Clerk consisted of items purchased on behalf of the Parish Council.

LAST, BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, A VERY BIG THANK YOU.....

John and Betty Rudkin (Newsletter Editors) and all those who deliver the Newsletter in rain or shine, Julia Grice and Elaine Emery (Village Centre Cleaning Staff), Dave Strotton (Allotment Steward) and Mike Hathaway (Assistant Allotment Steward), John Rudkin (with his Litter Warden hat on), all members of TAG, the Community Wardens, the Police Community Support Officers, PC Stanley and all residents who contribute in any way to make Tangmere a better place to live in.



Andrew Irwin
Chairman

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Andrew Irwin	01243 776823
Brian Wood	01243 539980
Roy Anscombe	01243 773619
Kate Beach	01243532505
Andrew Grice	01243 776819
Simon Oakley	01243 538394
Anne Poulter	01243 528730
Chris Punnett	01243 774169
Beverley Smith	01243 783428
Phil Thomas	01243 532914
Moya Monachan – Parish Clerk & RFO	01243 532426

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