

The Parish Council of Tidbury Green

Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2015

This has been a very busy year for your Parish Council. Foremost were concerns about major planning applications within the Parish, being Lowbrook Farm and Tidbury Green Farm. With the support of professional advice that was both solid and substantial, we had put forward detailed objections to Solihull MBC, in 2012 for Lowbrook Farm and in 2014 for Tidbury Green Farm, which were based on the National Planning Policy Framework and on issues of sustainability. For their own reasons, which have yet to be explained, Solihull MBC chose not to include these bases for objection when refusing these applications.

We presented a submission to the Lowbrook Farm Inquiry in 2013 and have recently submitted further representations to the Inspector. At the time of writing, your Councillors continue to present the Parish Council's views at the relevant Inspector's Hearing or Inquiry for these applications, and have sought professional advice on other applications, as the issues become increasingly complex. More detail will be given at the Annual Meeting of the Parish to be held on 22 April, which I hope you will attend.

As a result, we have spent more than the Precept receipt for the second year running, and are therefore delving into designated reserves. Nevertheless, we have set a Precept for 2015/16 similar to the previous year, which we consider will be adequate for our projected needs.

On a more positive note, we congratulate the Social Committee, led by Elaine Atter, for delivering a brilliantly successful array of events during the year. Significantly, funds were raised from the Scarecrow Competition day, which directly contributed a total of £140 which was split between two charities supporting our wounded soldiers, as well as a donation from the competition prize winner.

The Over 60's Christmas lunch attendance broke all records, thanks to Jo Hudson's efforts. We also thank Agnes Thomas for continued vigilance of "Speedwatch" activities, Woods Farm for providing the Christmas tree at the bottom of Lowbrook Lane, Mr and Mrs Ballard for the "Red" Christmas tree, and Earlswood Nurseries for maintaining the notice board planting stations. Then, there are all of the unnamed contributors who carry out litter picks, plant bulbs, and deliver newsletters. Our Parish would be much poorer without this steadfast contribution from these volunteers, all of which is much appreciated.

Finally, with Parish Council elections due on 7 May, both I and Elizabeth Child have decided not to stand for re-election. We have enjoyed many years in making a contribution to our local Community, and are now content that our successors will take up the baton.

Your Parish Council are very grateful for your continued support.

P. Seddon – Chairman,
15 April 2015

The Parish Council of Tidbury Green
Receipts and Payments Account
For the year ended 31 March 2015

<i>Receipts</i>	Note	2015	2014
		£	£
Precept	2	11,803	11,777
Grants received	3	197	323
VAT refund		822	433
		-----	-----
Total receipts		12,822	12,533
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<i>Payments</i>			
Salaries and expenses		6,604	7,260
Consultancy		3,374	1,891
Printing, postage, telephone and stationery		1,172	1,420
Miscellaneous expenses	4	1,148	705
Contribution to social events and competitions		1,130	1,179
Tree assessment and lopping – TG allotments		990	-
Subscriptions and training		764	977
Insurance		316	313
Internal and external audit		260	250
Bank charges		122	52
Christmas trees and lights		86	37
Bulb planting		53	53
Donations	5	25	150
Office equipment		-	189
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Total payments		16,044	14,476
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<i>Deficit of receipts over payments for the year</i>	6	(3,222)	(1,943)
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Approved at a meeting of The Parish Council of Tidbury Green held on 15 April 2015 and signed on its behalf by:

P. Seddon – Chairman

G. A. Thomas – Responsible Financial Officer

The Parish Council of Tidbury Green

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2015

1. *Basis of preparation*

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis, so do not take account of accrued income and expenditure at the beginning and end of any financial year, except for the allocation of reserves as set out in note 6. These accounts are unaudited. Your Parish Council is required to submit a Statutory Annual Return, which includes both internal and external auditors' reports. When published, this will be available from the Parish Clerk on request.

2. *Precept*

The precept is an amount set each year by the Parish Council and collected as part of the Council Tax charges issued by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council ("SMBC"). The precept for 2014/15 was set at £25.77 (2013/14 £25.88) per Category D band household, a decrease of 0.4% over 2013/14.

3. *Grants received*

	2015	2014
	£	£
Training bursary	-	100
SMBC – Precept support grant	197	223
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	197	323
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4. *Miscellaneous expenses*

This includes recoverable VAT of £1,097 (2014 – £633)

5. *Donations*

This was made to Campaign to Protect Rural England (2014 – Earlswood Wildlife Partnership)

6. *Reserves*

Following a deficit of receipts over payments for the year of £3,222 (2014 – deficit of £1,943), at 31 March 2015, the total reserves of the Parish Council amounted to £17,296 (2014 - £20,518), of which £11,850 (2014 - £9,750) was specifically allocated against liabilities incurred but not paid, approved projects or other potential, but unbudgeted, expenditure. This left a general reserve at 31 March 2015 of £5,446 (2014 - £10,768). These reserves were represented wholly by cash.