

The Parish Council of Tidbury Green

Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2014

As part of the budget setting process for each financial year, your Council adopts an “Objectives Statement”, which sets out what the Council wish to achieve and the actions required for delivery. Having been custodians of the Parish Council since its inception on 1 April 2009, high on our priority list for 2013/14 was to establish whether your five Parish Councillors’ had a mandate, to continue to raise and spend money in the pattern established. A priority objective was therefore agreed to “Carry out a survey of resident’s views on the relevance of the activities of the Parish Council to their needs”.

Your replies to this Survey showed an overwhelming approval for the Council, and the activities we carry out or sponsor. We are very encouraged by your response. The results of this survey have been summarised in a newsletter, and the full results are available on the Parish website. There are a significant number of recommendations resulting from our analysis of the responses, and your Council are working through these in a methodical and measured fashion. Please bear with us that we will deal with each and every matter, even though this may take some time to fully complete.

Unsurprisingly, significant concern was expressed about the major planning developments proposed in our area. As I reported last year, your Council gave Solihull MBC unqualified backing to their, then, Draft Local Plan, which has now been adopted. We continue to believe that local voices do have a significant impact on outcomes. We therefore sought independent advice, which we believe has helped us to make solid cases against these major developments. Until now, all of the decisions have been against development, but the final outcome still remains uncertain.

It is with great pleasure that we thank the thirty eight people from the Survey, who offered to help out with various Council activities. Please do not feel disappointed if you have not been contacted yet, Charlotte, our Parish Clerk, has your name on her list. Finally, we acknowledge all those who help to make our Parish a community through their own unsung efforts, and we list John and Joan Kane for organising the Over 60’s lunch, Elaine Atter and her hardworking team for organising a sold-out Quiz night and Barn Dance, as well as an inaugural Scarecrow competition, and Agnes Thomas with her ever-growing “Speedwatch” team. In addition, thanks go to Earlswood Nurseries for maintaining the notice board planting stations, to Woods Farm for providing the Christmas tree at the bottom of Lowbrook Lane, to Mr. and Mrs. Ballard for the ”Red” Christmas tree, and to all those who participated in the photography competition, who carried out “litter picks”, and who planted bulbs or delivered newsletters.

We are very grateful for your continued support.

P. Seddon – Chairman,
16 April 2014

The Parish Council of Tidbury Green
Receipts and Payments Account
For the year ended 31 March 2014

<i>Receipts</i>	Note	2014	2013
		£	£
Precept	2	11,777	12,000
Grants received	3	323	200
VAT refund		433	241
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Total receipts		12,533	12,441
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<i>Payments</i>			
Salaries and expenses		7,260	5,645
Consultancy		1,891	-
Printing, postage, telephone and stationery		1,420	726
Contribution to social events and competitions		1,179	1,596
Subscriptions and training		977	576
Miscellaneous expenses	4	757	346
Insurance		313	368
Internal and external audit		250	285
Office equipment		189	-
Donation to Earlswood Wildlife Partnership		150	-
Bulb planting		53	57
Christmas trees and lights		37	688
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Total payments		14,476	10,287
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<i>(Deficit)/surplus of receipts over payments for the year</i>	5	(1,943)	2,154
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Approved at a meeting of The Parish Council of Tidbury Green held on 16 April 2014 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 2014

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 5. 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 2013/14 was set at £25.88 (2012/13 £25.64) per Category D band household, an increase of 0.9% over 2012/13.

3. *Grants received*

	2014	2013
	£	£
Training bursary	100	-
SMBC – Precept support grant	223	-
SMBC - for bulbs and the production of newsletters	-	200
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	323	200
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4. *Miscellaneous expenses*

This heading includes recoverable Value Added Tax.

5. *Reserves*

Following a deficit of receipts over payments for the year of £1,943 (2013 – surplus of £2,154), at 31 March 2014, the total reserves of the Parish Council amounted to £20,518 (2013 - £22,461), of which £9,750 (2013 - £12,250) 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 2014 of £10,768 (2013 - £10,211). These reserves were represented wholly by cash.