

YEOVIL WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL - ANNUAL REPORTS 2013-2014

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2013 -2014

The major emphasis of the Parish Council during the past year has been the efforts to ensure improved facilities for the residents of Wyndham Park, in co-operation with Somerset County Council, South Somerset District Council, and the many other organisations which are involved.

The Wyndham Park Partnership has been formed to co-ordinate the activities of those various organisations, including the Community Association, the Church, the housing associations, MOD, as well as the local councils.

Plans are being prepared by SCC and SSDC for the opening of the Primary School by September 2016, with community facilities following soon thereafter.

The land for one play space and the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) will be handed over by the developer within the next year and the play/sports equipment will then be installed by SSDC and YWPC - with future maintenance probably being undertaken by the Parish Council.

Another major consideration for the Parish Council during the past year has been the proposal by the District Council to develop a further estate of 765 houses at Primrose Lane in the neighbouring parish of Mudford - immediately adjacent to Wyndham Park - as part of the South Somerset Local Plan.

The northern parishes of Brympton, Chilthorne Domer, Mudford, Tintinhull and Yeovil Without joined forces to prepare a detailed objection to this scheme, and our objection is due to be considered by the Government appointed Planning Inspector during the next round of Hearings in June 2014.

These two activities, together with the employment of a Parish Ranger and other responsibilities being passed down by the Government, the County Council and the District Council, have resulted in a greater workload for the Parish Council, and will certainly have a major effect upon the future expenditure of the Parish Council.

Finally I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Barbara Appleby, our Parish Clerk, for the enthusiasm and effort which she has contributed to deal with the increased workload and the new challenges of the past year. Next year promises to be ever more active and challenging.

Maurice Lamb. Chairman. May 2014

SSDC AREA SOUTH COMMITTEE

(Maurice Lamb and Robin Wilding)

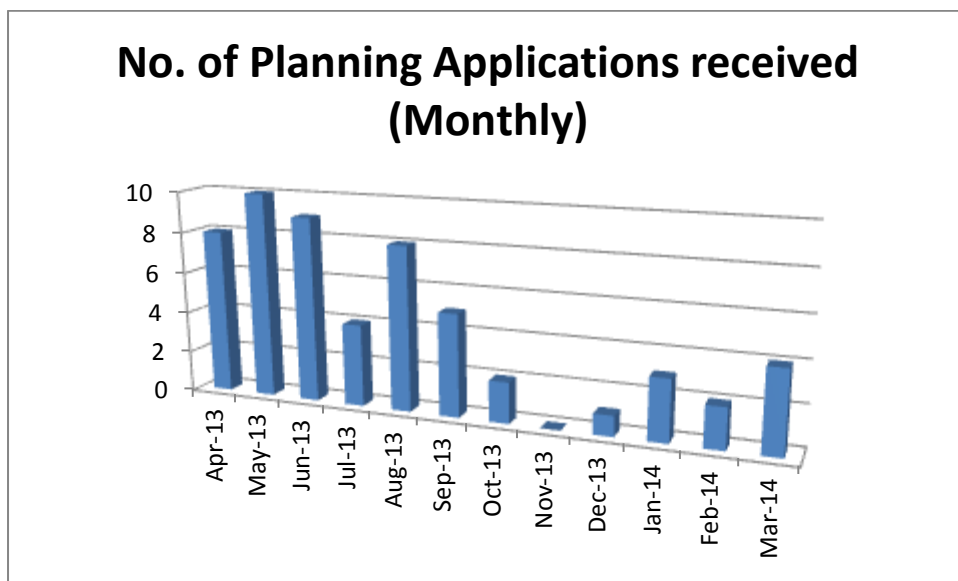
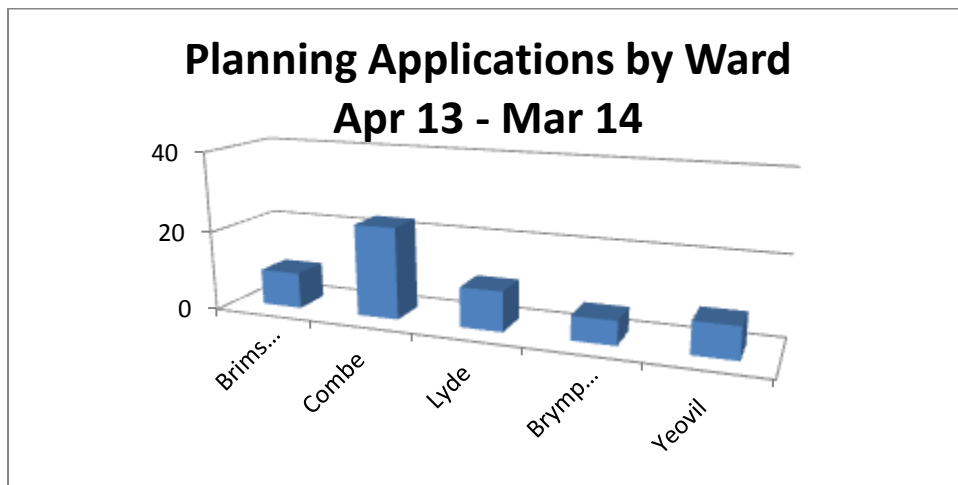
Various Area South Committee meetings have been attended over the year. Information published from these meetings have lead to the following matters being followed up;-

- Bus Stop Contribution of £1000 to be paid to YWPC under planning permission 12/02534/FUL -
- Contribution of £8,225.25 for the play area at Cavalier Way under planning permission 11/04443/FUL

PLANNING

WARD LEADERS - BRISMORE (Maurice Lamb), **COMBE** (Mike Lock) and **LYDE** (Robin Wilding)

During the year (Apr 13 – Mar 14) 56 planning applications have been referred to the parish council by SSDC, the local planning authority, for initial consideration by the parish council, this is an increase of 10 applications on the previous year. However it is noted that applications towards the end of this year seem to be on the decrease and change in planning legislation may mean the parish council will receive less planning applications in the future.



STAFFING WORKING GROUP

(Alf Hill, Graham Oakes and Linda Keyworth with Pauline Lock in reserve May 13)

No meetings of the Staffing Working Group have taken place this year.

FINANCIAL SCRUTINY GROUP

(Robin Wilding and Geoff Bugler with Iris Coton in reserve)

The financial scrutiny group check all the invoices and payments monthly prior to the monthly council meeting. Since the resignation of Geoff Bugler, Iris Coton has taken over this responsibility. The members of this group ensure that the council has excellent internal controls complying with Financial Regulations.

ALLOTMENT WORKING GROUP

(Maurice Lamb, Alf Hill, John Snell, the Clerk, plus 3 allotment holders)

The following meetings have taken place during the past year.

- 4th April 2013 – Working Group Meeting
- 11th August 2013 – BBQ Event held at the allotments – Election of working group allotment holder members
- 14th November 2014 - Working Group Meeting
- 11th March 2014 – Working Group members and all allotment holders

A successful BBQ Event was held on 11 August 2013, with over 40 allotment holders and their families attending. This event proved to be very successful and it was decided at the meeting on 11th March 2014 to repeat this type of event on Sunday 17th August 2014. The working group meetings deal with issues that arise from the allotments and in general works well. The majority of allotment plots are being cultivated with the exception of plot 3a – this has been designated a communal area for the time being whilst the possibility of providing an allotment area for partially disabled people is looked into.

The parish ranger had been looking after this area and all communal areas within the allotments, in general it has improved the overall appearance of the allotments.

WYNDHAM PARK COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND FIVE YEAR PLAN WORKING GROUP

(Maurice Lamb, Robin Wilding, Stephen Hawker, Mike Lock, Linda Keyworth and the Clerk)

The following meetings have taken place over the last year;-

- **26TH June 2013** meeting held at SSDC Offices between SSDC Officers and Wyndham Park Working Group (Maurice Lamb, Robin Wilding, Steve Hawker, Barbara Appleby – Main discussion – YWPC submitted questions
- **23rd July 2013** on-site pre-handover of play areas meeting between SSDC and developer (YWPC working group (Maurice Lamb, Robin Wilding, Linda Keyworth, Steve Hawker and Barbara Appleby - observation only)
- **9th August 2013** meeting held at SSDC Offices between SSDC Officers, DC Pauline Lock and Wyndham Park Working Group (Maurice Lamb, Linda Keyworth, Mick Lock, and Barbara Appleby Main discussion – Birchfield Disused Landfill Site
- **11th October 2013** on-site meeting – SSDC Officer and Wyndham Park Working Group (Maurice Lamb, Steve Hawker, Robin Wilding, and Barbara Appleby - Main discussion – planting of bund area and LEAP at entrance to site.
- **21st November 2013 – Working group meeting only (Maurice Lamb, Steve Hawker, Robin Wilding, Mike Lock and Barbara Appleby-** Main discussion responses to questions submitted
- **29th January 2014** meeting held at SSDC Offices between SSDC Officers and Wyndham Park Working Group (Maurice Lamb, Steve Hawker, Mick Lock and Barbara Appleby) - Main discussion – project plan required to take the MUGA and LEAP forward.
- **25th February 2014** meeting held at SSDC Offices between SSDC Officers and Wyndham Park Working Group (Maurice Lamb, Steve Hawker and Barbara Appleby) - Main discussion – MUGA and LEAP project plan and smaller working group (3) to enable the project going forward
- **5th March 2014** – Site visit of MUGAs and Play Spaces in the local area – SSDC Officers and Wyndham Park working group (Maurice Lamb, Steve Hawker and Barbara Appleby)

- **26th March 2014** - meeting held at SSDC Offices between SSDC Officers and Wyndham Park Working Group (Maurice Lamb, Steve Hawker and Barbara Appleby) - Main discussion – Consultation for MUGA and LEAP to be held on 16th April 2014.

Progress has been slow and the handover of land for the MUGA and LEAP appears to be no further forward - SSDC Legal Team and Barrett's Solicitors have established communication but that appears to be all that has happened.

It is hoped to be able to present to the parish council in June 2014 a design for the MUGA along with equipment and maintenance costs.

WYNDHAM PARK PARTNERSHIP

(Maurice Lamb, Robin Wilding, Pat Hamaton and Barbara Appleby)

It was resolved at the parish council meeting held on 30th July 2014 to form the Wyndham Park Partnership. Its concept was join all the organisation involved with Wyndham Park under one umbrella for the benefit of Wyndham Park residents.

The first meeting of the Partnership took place on 5th December 2013, since then two further meetings have taken place on 20th January 2014 and 17th March 2014. At its first meeting it was decided that the terms of reference of the group were "A joint venture to deliver the necessary facilities that enable Wyndham Park to develop as a community, for the benefit of all its residents." Reverend David Keen was nominated as Chairman of the group. The meetings have proved to be very productive, with the last meeting having Scott Gill of Barratts and Ric Pallister, Leader of SSDC attending. Having these key people attend has helped to resolve to some of the issues being raised. It is hoped that this partnership will continue to flourish for the benefit of the residents of Wyndham Park.

JOHN NOWES EXHIBITION FOUNDATION

(Iris Coton)

Two meetings held in October/November 2013 - There were 3 grants made and two did not meet criteria. New applications can be made in autumn 2014 for consideration in late October. This will be advertised in Western Gazette, anyone interested should contact Iris Coton on 01935 479233 or Battens Solicitors in Princes Street

Iris Coton – May 2014

WYNDHAM PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

(Robin Wilding and Linda Keyworth)

Linda Keyworth left the Wyndham Park Site during September 2013 and has relocated in Sheffield; she was a very active member of this association. She organised outdoor play session for the children of the estate during the summer holidays and welcomed new residents to the estate. Currently no play areas are completed on the estate and these play sessions were well attended and were of a benefit to the families on Wyndham Park during the summer holidays. The Wyndham Park Community Association has struggled recently to gain new members and the recent resignation of the Chairman and some members have left the continuation of the association slightly in flux at present.

YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

(Mike Lock)

The Yeovil Town Team main sponsors are ;
Quedam Centre, Marks and Spencer, South Somerset District Council, Western Gazette Media,
Yeovil Without Parish Council, Yeovil Town Council, Yeovil Chamber, Augusta Westland, Porter Dodson
Old Mill Group

Sourcing New Offers for the Loyalty Card

YTT keeps in constant contact with retailers and companies making offers via the YTT Loyalty Card. We have introduced several new offers over the last few months such as Another Little World, Animal, Ice Maiden Cakes and Oswald Bailey. These have also formed our deal of the day offers on the social network.

The Yeovil Town Guide App for mobile phones

The Yeovil Town Guide App has been continuously updated with new offers, it is our intention to develop this further.

The team continue to work on the development of the social media marketing and using this to market the town, events and retailers. The Yeovil Town Team Facebook and Twitter followers are steadily increasing (221 likes on Facebook and 642 followers on Twitter) all posts are scheduled and are particularly useful for weekends and evenings. Yeovil Town Team members' events can be posted on Facebook/Twitter for them.

Nostalgic photographs seem to get the most engagement with our followers.

The Yeovil Vintage Market was recently launched and within a week the followers went up to 277.

Attracting New Members

Olivia the Marketing Intern has spent the last month meeting with current members and also meeting with new potential members. This has resulted in The Manor Hotel joining the Board and also Chicago Rock are confirming with head office and it is hoped they will also be joining in the near future.

A member's pack has also been produced to distribute to new members. This includes a copy of the newsletter and also the Board member benefits hand out.

Sadly, Olivia has now left the organisation; she has been offered her dream job in Wedding planning. We are currently advertising for a new intern and hope to fill the position shortly.

Fashion Festival

Yeovil Town Team are currently very busy organising this years' Fashion Festival, which is to be held on Wednesday 25th June 2014 at Chicago Rock, the event will be free entry with a pay bar. Doors - 7.00pm. The Fashion show will start at 7.30pm. We have received confirmation of attendance from various retailers and Antonia is currently talking with Yeovil College re possible participation from their fashion and textiles, hairdressing, and music and media students.

Summary by Yeovil Town Team Chairman, David Mills

The progress over the last two years (since the Yeovil Town Team was radically overhauled) has been significant with the Town Team now being an active force to help generate trade and help improve Yeovil Town Centre for all visitors and residents in the area.

One of the most striking aspects of this success is that it is achieved via an effective and genuine partnership of public/private sectors organisations. None of these partners have to contribute to the Town Team's work but all do because they have vision, community spirit and can see it is achieving great returns on the investment made.

What has been achieved to date is just the start and with the continued support of our Partners we can do even more. All the Board members can take a pride in what they have achieved to date and with their continued support we will be able to report even greater achievements in 2015.

Mike Lock – May 2014

YOUTH SERVICES REVIEW STEERING GROUP

(Pauline Lock)

Active Skills and Learning, the organisation who were awarded the contract to set up 2 pilot projects for young people in Yeovil, has 4 volunteers across the two sites, plus 2 casual helpers.

Both projects are well attended by various age groups. The project operating out of the Old Barn Club on Tuesday evenings is regularly attended by 10/15, 11-19 year olds.

The second project operates from the Yarlington Bus at Abbey Manor and has 19 regular attendees.

At the previous group meeting it had been felt that a permanent venue should be sought for the second project, and this has now been achieved with one evening a week (Thursday) becoming available at the Abbey Community Association.

The two pilot projects are due to end late March, which coincides with the date Somerset County Council will withdraw their funding. To help support the transition SCC has offered to make a one off contribution of £40000.00 to the Town Council to help develop and sustain a strategic approach to the future provision of Youth services in the Town. The offer has been accepted and the funds will be placed in a separate Town Council budget, to be used for the future delivery of youth services in the Yeovil area.

It was discussed and agreed that part of the £40000.00 could be put towards extending the 2 pilot projects for a further 6 months and exploring the possibility of providing a third project, as the opportunity had risen to use St Peters Hall in Coronation Avenue on a Tuesdays or Wednesday. This would be a good location for young people in the Brimsmore and Combe Wards of Yeovil Without to attend. A review is planned after the first 3 months to allow time for commissioning of a youth services provider to take place and ensure continuity after the 6 month period ends

The cost of providing 3 sessions is expected to be £15000.00, which will allocated from the £40000.00 contribution.

This 6 month extension of the pilot project will give all participating authorities, including Yeovil Without time to consider and evaluate the benefit of the initiative to the young people in their respective areas. It will also help everyone to decide whether they wish to invest their provisional allocations in the future delivery of youth services.

The three 3 sessions are now being delivered out of three separate venues. one from the Old Barn Club on Tuesdays, one from St Peters Hall on Wednesdays, and one from the Abbey Community Centre on Thursdays. The cost of running these sessions will be funded from the allocation in the transitional grant.

Pauline Lock – May 2014

WESTFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

(Maurice Lamb)

The Parish Council has been represented on a regular basis at the meetings of Westfield Community Association. The major topic of concern has been the provision of Youth Club Facilities in the area, especially following the withdrawal of funding of Youth Services by Somerset County Council. A pilot scheme is currently in operation which will probably be extended if successful and if sufficient funding is forthcoming. The parish council has already made a provision in the budget for 2014/2015 for youth services.

After much campaigning, the Westfield Post Office has now re-opened within the premises of the Co-op Supermarket,

A donation of £ 500 was made by the parish council to support the administrative costs of the Association.

Maurice Lamb – May 2014

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

(Mike Lock, Roger Brown and Stephen Hawker)

The winter of 2013/14, saw prolonged periods of heavy, constant rainfall and was recorded as being the wettest winter since records began in 1910,

Flooding was experienced in many parts of the Parish, some areas due to blocked gullies other areas where fields had become saturated and not able to cope with the heavy rain, had overflowed into roads.

Yeovil Marsh appeared to suffer the worst of the flooding, with several areas being under water for long periods.

On the 18th December 2013 I met with the Assistant Highway Service Manager , Neil McWilliams. We looked at the various issues in our ward, and in particular two locations in Yeovil Marsh village, and one just outside of the village near the T-junction at the bottom of Stone Lane.

Following the meeting it was confirmed that Highway drainage improvement works are planned at two locations in Yeovil Marsh, and are scheduled to be carried out in the 2014/15 financial year. The drainage system will be upgraded between Orchard Close and Brook Cottage, and on the corner of Yeovil marsh road, near the junction with Stone Lane.

Following the wet winter it was noticeable how many potholes had appeared throughout the ward. Greenwood Road, Wessex Road, Lower Fairmead Road, Bucklers Mead Road, Lyde Road and Stone Lane were particularly bad. These were reported to Somerset County Council in February 2014 and temporary repairs were carried out.

Fly tipping is still occurring in Stone Lane, and is monitored by South Somerset District Council.

The circular walk, through Yeovil Marsh village, into Marsh Lane, along Coombe Street Lane and down the A37, or vica versa, is still a popular walk for dogs and their owners. There is a need for an additional dog litter bin along this route, as there is only one bin located near the church in Yeovil Marsh, and dog owners are throwing their bags into the hedges and neighbouring fields.

Yeovil Marsh and Stone Lane are also popular routes for Horse riding, the amount of Horse and Riders has increased significantly over the last few months. Following a request from the parish Council the County Council have agreed to erect warning signs at two points on the route to warn drivers of the danger.

Mike Lock – May 2014

WOBORNS ALMSHOUSE TRUSTEES

(Maurice Lamb)

The Chairman of Yeovil Without Parish Council is an Ex-Officio Trustee of the Woborns Almshouse together with the Mayor of Yeovil and the vicars of St Johns, Yeovil, and Holy Trinity, Yeovil. The Trustees meet four times every year- normally at the Town House, Yeovil.

All homes within the Almshouse have been occupied throughout the year. The finances of the charity are in good health, as the investments have had a particularly good year.

During the year a bench was purchased and positioned in the courtyard of the Almshouse and dedicated to the memory of Mrs Marie Botham. The dedication ceremony was attended by members of her family, the Vicar of St. John's, The Mayor of Yeovil and the Chairman of YW Parish Council.

Maurice Lamb – May 2014

SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS SOUTH AREA COMMITTEE

(Maurice Lamb and Robin Wilding)

The Chairman and/or Vice Chairman attended all the SALC South Area meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

It has been a year of change in SALC following the untimely death of our County Secretary Peter Lacey and the earlier retirement of his assistant Pat Sollis. To temporarily stand in for Peter, Gloucestershire's County Secretary filled the vacuum (most ably). Since then Justin Robinson has been appointed with the title of County Executive Officer and the Taunton office is now up to strength.

Not a great deal has happened in the last year except for updates on the Localism Act 2011, which were greeted with a degree of scepticism by the members together with changes to audit, the Quality Council Scheme and Council Tax Support. All this information has been passed to our Council and circulated to councillors as appropriate.

One of the most noticeable changes has been the reduction in length of SALC Area Meetings. The last South Area meeting lasted only 55 minutes!

Robin Wilding – May 2014

TREE WARDEN

(Sue Pitman)

A tree planting took place at Old Kelways, Langport on the 4th April 2014. The following trees were planted - Winter flowering Cherry, in the play area, a Tulip tree and two Sycamores, it is hoped that they will provide a shaded area for children. Six heritage fruit trees were also planted to enhance the history of the site, local residents had offered to keep them watered.

A walk in Barton St David took place on May 1st around the New Jubilee Woods.

Sue Pitman – May 2014

PARISH PATH LIAISON OFFICERS

As a result of the parish newsletter we distributed in December 2013 we received two enquires from parishioners showing an interest in becoming parish path liaison officers for Yeovil Without Parish Council. Judy Tanner and Bernice Ancill became parish path liaison officers in January 2014. They have been invited to the Annual Parish meeting where it is hoped that they can attend and give members an overview of their role.

YEOVIL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION STEERING COMMITTEE

(Iris Coton with Sue Pitman in reserve)

Yeovil Without Parish Council were invited by Yeovil Town Council to take part in the Christmas lights competition. Unfortunately the timing of the competition did not lead to any entries by Yeovil Without parishioners. It is hoped that this year the date for entries to be received by will be extended and the completion more widely advertised.

AREA SOUTH COMMUNITY FORUM

(Sue Pitman)

The meeting was held at The Council Chamber on Monday 28th April 2014. Alice Knight gave a talk on how the Careline operates and that it is covered 24/7, approximately 2,000 residents have it installed, and how the social services will stopping the funding.

Steve Brewer gave a talk on how the ASBO will be changing the and the police officer in attendance had no idea that these changes were imposed, the changes were available to download if any person wishes to view them.

Local action groups the Larkhill group said they were being well attended and it noted that the Birchfield Association was holding its AGM on the 20th May. Also that a new youth group was being held in St Peters Hall, and it had welcomed the post office in the Co-op store on Stiby Road.

Local Communities said that they were always looking for volunteers to help. i.e Pathway.

Sue Pitman – May 2014

YEOVIL SPORTS CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND JOHNSON PARK PLAY AREA REPRESENTATIVES

(Alf Hill and John Snell)

In 1948 Mr Stanley Johnson purchased the land at what is now known as Johnson Park and put it in the control of a group of Trustees. The main condition of the Trust was that the land was to be made available for members of the community to join the Club and use the sports facilities.

To carry out this function the premises are run by the Sport and Social Club, as a members club. The bar and other functions are used to benefit sporting activities for residents in the local area.

In the past few years the club committee has made great progress in upgrading the club and now have many sporting organisations coming and going. The premises are open during the day, evening and night for meetings and other activities. The Parish Council has a small children's play area just inside the gate. No dogs are allowed on the site.

Due to the committee efforts the numbers of members have increased and other groups who have lost meeting facilities have now joined the club, which has increased the clubs reserves. They are spending £100,000 up grading the Tennis courts which should give the club a higher profile and use, they have applied for grants to cover this cost and look at reaching their target.

The only grey area I can see that needs improving is the use of depreciation charges to offset corporation taxes. Funds need to be built up for the maintenance and replacement of the club that will be required in the future.

Alf Hill – May 2014

YEOVIL CREMATORIUM AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE

(Maurice Lamb and Alf Hill)

The quarterly meeting was a quite event as mainly discussed with the Work Director the cost involved with Cemetery and Crematorium works plan. A report on the storm damage to the two sites was given along with the action taken and the replacement plans.

The installed solar panels are working well and generate a 99.3% surplus energy. The Risk Management Strategy was reviewed, which is managed by the SSDC in accordance with their adopted policy. It was noted that their policy needs to balance financial returns with appropriate risk avoidance. Approval was given to the adoption of the Draft Management Strategy for 2014/2015.

A Hill – May 2014

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2012/2013		2013/2014
£	RECEIPTS	£
730.99	ALLOTMENTS	722.79
26,400.00	GENERAL PRECEPT	25,650.00
24,331.68	BURIAL PRECEPT	24,876.00
0.00	SSDC GRANT	3,060.00
9,350.00	CREMATORIUM RENT	9,350.00
1,890.73	INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	1,952.16
623.06	VAT REPAYMENT	889.13
75.00	OTHER INCOME	50.00
63,401.46	TOTAL RECEIPTS	66,550.08
2012/2013		2013/2014
£	PAYMENTS	£
27,369.63	ADMINISTRATION - 41%	31,738.21
10,530.00	GRANTS - 16%	14,465.00
0.00	PROJECTS - 0%	1,155.12
27,719.09	SERVICES - 42%	33,141.24
889.13	VAT - 1%	1,901.45
66,507.85	TOTAL PAYMENTS	82,401.02
CULMULATIVE FUND BALANCE		
£		£
116,024.92	Balance brought forward at 1/4/13	112,918.53
63,401.46	Plus Total Receipts	66,550.08
<hr/>		<hr/>
179,426.38		179,468.61
66,507.85	Less Total Payments	82,401.02
<hr/>		<hr/>
112,918.53	Estimated Balance to be c/f 31/3/14	97,067.59

ATTENDANCE

NAME	ATTENDANCE
------	------------

Brimsmore Ward

Maurice Lamb (Chairman)	92% (11/12)
Alf Hill	92% (11/12)
Iris Coton	58% (7/12)
Graham Oakes	67% (8/12)
Linda Keyworth (Resigned February 2014)	18% (2/11)
Dan Marks (Co-opted March 2014)	100% (2/2)

Combe Ward

Roger Brown	50% 6/12
Stephen Hawker	100% 12/12
Mike Lock	67% 8/12
Sue Pitman	92% 11/12
John Snell	75% 9/12

Lyde Ward

Robin Wilding (Vice Chairman)	92% 11/12
Jon Gleeson	67% 8/12
Pat Hamaton (Co-opted July 13)	100% 10/10
Pauline Lock	42% 5/12
Stanley Jones (Co-opted April 14)	100% 1/1
Geoff Bugler (Resigned February 2014)	36% 4/11
Diane Bugler (Resigned June 13)	100% 1/1