

About the Parish Council

The Parish Council consists of 17 elected members who serve for a term of 4 years. The next election of Parish Councillors will take place in May 2011

The Council employs 6 part time members of staff:

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Lesley Reader | Parish Clerk |
| Yvonne Rix | Responsible Financial Officer |
| Debbie Cawley | Key holder/Caretaker |
| Roger Logan | Handyman |
| Paul Hawes | Handyman |
| Stuart Wright | Handyman |

Full Council meetings (which include consideration of planning applications) are held as follows :

The second and last Tuesday of every month except in December when only one meeting is held on the second Tuesday.

Agendas can be viewed in the Council office, the village library and on the web site.

Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings and have the opportunity to address the Council on any village issues during the Public Forum at the beginning of Full Council Meetings. (3 minutes per issue with a maximum of 15 minutes allowed for the Public Forum.)

You are able to visit the Council office for help and advice from the Clerk on local matters or make a request to view council records. Copies of all current planning applications for Burwell can also be viewed at the office.

What does the Parish Council do?

The Council's main activities are as follows :-

1. Management and maintenance of the following :

- The Gardiner Memorial Hall
- Green Lane Allotments
- Jubilee Green and the play area
- Jubilee Reading Room and surrounds
- Margaret Field and the play area
- Mingay Park
- Ness Road Cemetery and Chapel
- Pauline's Swamp
- Priory Meadow
- The Recreation Ground, skate park, pavilion and play area
- Spring Close
- Village Lock up
- Westhorpe play area and surrounds
- Tan House Lane premises

2. Grass cutting at Pound Hill, Mill Close, Poplars Close, Tunbridge Close and Hatley Drive – other grassed areas in the village are maintained by East Cambridgeshire District Council.

3. The Parish Council also undertakes grass cutting on behalf of the County Council, in general this is the verges throughout the village and The Causeway. Due to budget restraints the County Council will only pay for 3 cuts per year to these areas. The additional cuts necessary to keep the grass in check are funded by the parish and last year this cost was £3307.70.

4. Street furniture – village seats, bus shelters, notice boards etc.

5. Council also debates local planning applications and passes their comments to East Cambridgeshire District Council to aid their decision making process.

6. Liaise with both the County and District Councils to maintain and improve their standards of service.



Heath Road, Burwell

Letter from the Chairman



In these pages you will find the Annual Report of Burwell Parish Council. It is an account of what the council has been doing over the year and how it has been using the money paid by local householders in Council Tax.

It has been an interesting and challenging year. It started out in controversy when a housing association consulted on an idea to build low cost housing on land behind Appletree Grove. Almost at the same time a new Local Development Framework was put forward by the District Council which highlighted matters of concern about services and infrastructure in the village. The development framework is now under review again and the consultation process will begin at our Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 17th May in the Gardiner Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. If you would like to know more about this please come along.

At last the plans for the former David S Smith building on the cricket pitch were finally approved and restoration work has now begun. A major achievement for the working group that has managed to get this project moving after so many years.

The Council will be looking for help and ideas on several plans for the village this year, including youth projects, pavement gritting in the winter and local transport services - please come to the Annual Parish Meeting and let us know what you think.

Finally, my thanks to Staff and Councillors for all their hard work, support and encouragement during the year. Those Councillors who decided not to stand again at the elections in May, will be greatly missed.

**Pat Kilbey
Chairman**

Annual Parish Meeting

**Tuesday
17th May**

**Gardiner
Memorial Hall
High Street,
Burwell**

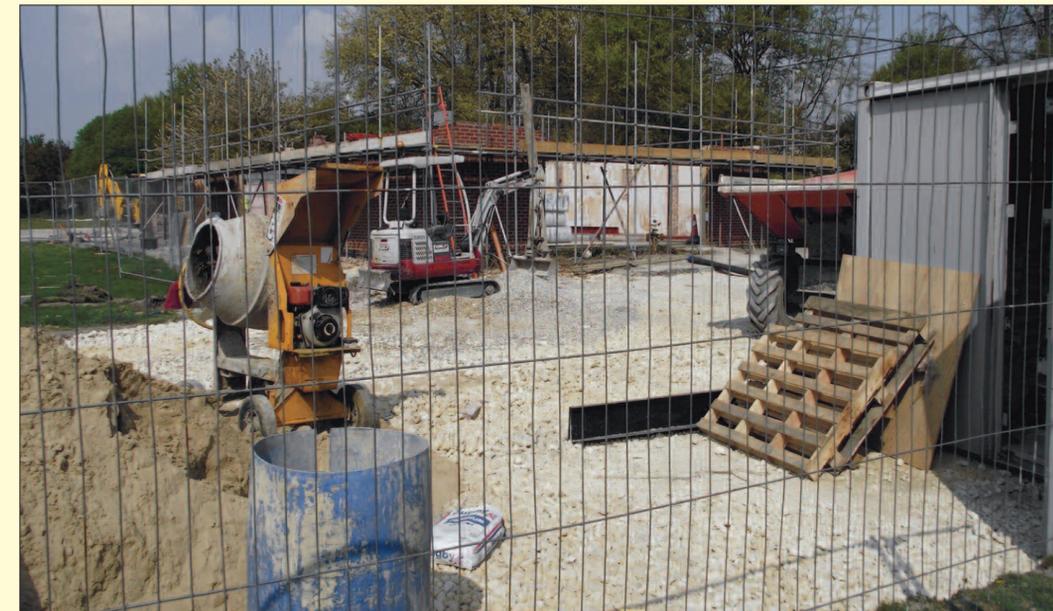
Call in from

7.30 - 9pm

Formal opening

7.30pm

Main Activities During 2010/2011



Work is underway on the Tan House Lane building

Planning :

This year the Council made recommendations on 109 planning applications, of which 10 were refused. These consisted of mainly general extensions and/or conservatory improvements to properties.

There were 9 applications granted for new dwellings. There were no major developments for consideration this year

Other Matters :

The village is currently served by PCSO Ian Hawkins, who is always pleased to hear your views and comments about issues that concern you in the village.

If you wish to receive regular updates we suggest that you subscribe to E cops which can be easily and freely done via the following link www.cambs.police.uk/signup/ecops.

In order to contact the police on non urgent issues please call 0345 456 456 4. Messages can always be left for the community policing team at the Council Office.

The Parish Council

continues to fund the illumination lighting at St. Mary's Church.

We were again pleased to be able to sponsor the very popular Summer Reading Scheme in conjunction with the Library, this is a wonderful way to encourage children to read a variety of books and hopefully continue reading throughout their lives.

Work is continuing on Pauline's Swamp, which was successfully grazed by sheep last year and will continue again this year. There have been some production problems with the interpretation boards, but we are working with the Wildlife Trust to try to resolve these issues and get the boards installed within the site.

Again we expect that the grant for the maintenance and cutting of parish footpaths will be cut due to the increasing number of parishes joining the scheme coupled with the financial cuts enforced on the County Council departments. This will mean that we will concentrate on the cutting of the most used footpaths i.e. those closest to the

village and will inevitably mean that the shortfall in funding will be met once again by the parish.

Speed Watch has now become established in the village and information provided by the team continues to result in a follow up by the Police in those areas highlighted. As always more volunteers are needed and information on how to become involved can be obtained from the Council Office.

We continue to support Youth provision in the village by helping to finance the Fenland Elite Youth Bus and jointly funding a dedicated youth worker for the village along with Burwell Youth Improvement Project. As always we are looking for new ways in which to support the development of Youth Services within the village but this will become more of a challenge as County Council Funding for Youth Work is scheduled to be severely cut in the coming year, with funding only being available for vulnerable youths.

The demand for allotment plots has almost been met

and there is currently a small waiting list for plots.

The Dial-a-Ride service to Ely on the first and third Thursday of the month is still supported by the Parish Council. The average usage is 7.2 people per journey but this appears to be gradually rising.

Plans have been drawn up and approved by the Local Planning Authority for improvements to the Jubilee Reading Room. It is hoped that when funding is available the project can be completed and much needed storage facilities and improved space for meetings and better access will be provided.

The trees on Pound Hill having become diseased were removed and replaced with more suitable varieties for the location.

This year also saw the return of the Christmas tree on Pound Hill and a very well attended Carol Concert around the tree. This was made more enjoyable by the surprise appearance of Father Christmas. We hope to repeat this again this year and having learned from our mistakes try to improve on the evening.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Mr Derek Reader
'Coquet House' Heath Road
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Mrs M Wilkins
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Mrs Hazel Williams
66 Mill Lane
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COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

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Mrs Hazel Williams
66 Mill Lane
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CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

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