



Whatton Village News

February 2013

Volume 6

Issue 1

Budget and Precept for 2013-2014

The Parish Council agreed the Budget for 2013-2014 at the Meeting on the 7th January 2013.

The Council has held the precept at broadly the same level for three years. Unfortunately, the Council can no longer absorb inflationary pressures and the precept is set to increase by £666 per annum, the increase is offset by a one-off grant from Rushcliffe Borough Council of £566, producing a net increase of £110.

The one-off grant from Rushcliffe Borough Council is the result of Central Government changes on how Council Tax and Housing Benefit relief is handled. The changes also mean that the 'Tax Base' (the number of properties on which the precept collection is based) has fallen from 369 in 2012-13 to 360 in 2013-2014.

The impact of all the changes mean that the Precept for Band D properties has increased from £29.50 in 2012-2013 to £30.54 per annum in 2013-2014 an increase of £1.04 per property per annum.

The Council has managed to keep the increase so low because Councillors have volunteered to undertake maintenance on some of our Public Rights of Way and other areas accessible by residents. Our contractors will continue to maintain the grass verges, the Village Green and the newly acquired land at the end of Azimghur Road (see Page 4).

Full details of the 2013-2014 Budget and Precept are shown on Page 2.

Exchange Library

If you are new to the parish you may like to know that there is an Exchange Library in the former Telephone Box on the junction of Church Street and School Lane. The project is very successful and new shelves have been added to increase the capacity.

Make use of the project by exchanging a book you have read for a new one from the shelves.

Volunteers maintain the Library on an ad-hoc basis, please help us by keeping it tidy.

BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2013-2014

	Total	Revenue Costs	Reserves and Accruals	<i>Budget 2012-13</i>
Audit Fee	250.00	250.00		250.00
Office Administration	3,531.00	3,531.00		3,375.00
Salary of Clerk	275.00	275.00		
Postage/Telephone	130.00	130.00		130.00
Printing	110.00	110.00		110.00
Subscriptions	340.00	340.00		240.00
Meeting Expenses	200.00	200.00		200.00
Insurance	400.00	400.00		400.00
Chairman's Fund	25.00	25.00		25.00
Misc. Expenses	200.00	200.00		200.00
Newsletter/Website	100.00	100.00		150.00
Grass Cutting Costs	4,200.00	4,200.00		3,000.00
Playing Field Costs	900.00	900.00		900.00
Grants and awards	500.00	500.00		500.00
Diamond Jubilee	0.00	0.00		1,000.00
Election Cost Reserve	200.00		200.00	200.00
Playing Field Reserve	0.00		0.00	0.00
Capital Projects	0.00		0.00	0.00
General Reserve	200.00		200.00	215.00
Total Costs & Reserves	11,561.00	11,161.00	400.00	10,895.00
Reduction in General Reserve				0.00
Bank Interest Received	-10.00	-10.00		-10.00
Grant	-566.00	-566.00		
Precept required	10,985.00	10,585.00	400.00	10,885.00

Flood Defence maintenance

Representatives of the Environment Agency outlined the proposed maintenance to the Flood Defences to members of the Parish Councillors and interested residents prior to the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 7th January 2013.

Councillors and residents who attended the meeting were told that it was the intention to remove vegetation from along the flood banks and defences.

It was explained that the maintenance was required in order that the defences could be examined to ensure that they were adequate.

The work is expected to take place in February and March.

Annual Parish Meeting

Residents are reminded that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Monday 13th May 2013 at 7:30 pm in the Jubilee Hall, Church Street, Whatton-in-the-Vale.

The meeting is for registered electors of Whatton-in-the-Vale parish to raise issues of concern.

This is your meeting, please attend and contribute to your community.

Whatton Bus Services

Residents expressed concern about the effect of the demise of Premier Travel on Whatton bus services.

Premier Travel, who operated the 55 and 56b services ceased business at 5 pm on the 25th January 2012.

Nottinghamshire County Council were quick to find alternative operators, with the minimum of disruption to the services.

Stagecoach now operate the 55 Service and Sharpes the 56b.

Both the services will operate on the current timetables.

For more information and timetables for bus services in Nottinghamshire visit:

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/buses>

Azimghur Road Land

The Parish Council has secured a lease to the Old Playground at the end of Azimghur Road from Rushcliffe Borough Council.

The 15 year lease will be subject to a ‘Peppercorn’ rent of £100 per annum.

Despite living in a rural area, access by residents to open areas is very difficult and the Parish Council believe that it is very important to secure as much resident access to open spaces as possible.

The Council are currently looking at the proposal of clearing the edge of the area, removing the concrete areas, planting native trees in the south-west corner and looking at other planting schemes. The idea being to create a ‘Breathing Space’ that all residents can enjoy. In the meantime, the area will be included in the Parish Councils Grass Cutting scheme on a monthly basis during the cutting season.

Do you have any ideas about how to use the land?

The Parish Council would like to hear from you, if you have any alternative proposals for the use of the land. Please bear in mind that any proposals should maximise the benefit to the greatest number of residents.

Please send you ideas to:

Mike Elliott – Parish Clerk,
Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council,
19/21 Main Street
Keyworth, Nottinghamshire
NG12 5AA

Parish Council Meetings

Time is set aside (15 minutes) at every Parish Council meeting to allow registered electors of the parish to raise issues of concern. The Parish Council encourages residents to attend the meeting to see at first hand the work of the council.

Future meeting dates are:

11th. March 2013; 13th May 2013, 8th July 2013, 9th September 2013 and 11th November 2013. Meeting typically start at 7:30 pm and are held at the Jubilee Hall.



The Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field Trust intend to host the 2013 Village Gala.

The event will be held on Saturday 13th July 2013 on the Playing Field, Dark Lane, Whatton-in-the-Vale.

Building on the success of previous Village Galas and last year's Jubilee Event, it is hoped that the Gala will provide a wide range of activities and entertainment for residents of the two parishes.

Further information will be published as soon as it becomes available.

Information will be published on:

- Notice boards,
- Whatton Village News,
- Aslockton Voice,
- <http://www.whatton.org>
- <http://www.wapft.org.uk>
- <http://www.aslockton.org>

NOTE THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY

Dog Fouling

The vast majority of dog-owners in the parish take their responsibilities seriously and ‘pick-up’ after their animals. There are however, a few owners who allow their dogs to foul green spaces, pavements and footpaths.

At the moment situation is particular concern on Beverley’s Avenue, Green Walk and the ‘Green’ on Green Walk, but is also in evidence in other parts of the parish.

The law requires that you must clean-up after you dog at all times (Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 & the Control of Dogs Order 1992). Failure to do so may result in a fixed-penalty fine of £50 or upon prosecution a fine of up to £5,000.

The Parish Council provides Dog Bins in the following places:

- Land at the end of Azimghur Road,
- The ‘Green’ on Green Walk,
- Whatton Bridge, Grantham Road,
- Conery Lane (South side of the A52),
- The Village Green (Grantham Road) and
- Main Street (at the start of the Blackberry Hill Public Right of Way).

We are a ‘dog-loving’ parish but the activities of a few irresponsible owners are unacceptable and the Parish Council will be working with Rushcliffe Borough Council to identify the culprits and ensure that appropriate action is taken.

TO THE VAST NUMBER OF DOG-OWNERS WHO KEEP OUR PUBLIC PLACES CLEAN – THANK YOU.

TO THOSE WHO DON’T – START NOW!!!

Bits and Bobs

A REQUEST has been made to Rushcliffe Borough Council by the parish council for Main Street between Sunbeam, Street and Manor Farm to be included in its sweeping schedule.

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DISCUSSIONS are taking place between the parish council and Notts County Council on the subject of the parish council taking over the responsibility for road side verge cutting.

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IT is likely there will be a public inquiry into plans for a Modification order on Whatton Footpath No. 19. The Order has currently been referred to the Secretary of State for the Environment.

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RUSHCLIFFE Borough Council has given planning permission to Mr and Mrs A Smith for a proposed extension and conversion of an existing garage into living accommodation at Fox Vane on School Lane.

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NOTTS County Council highways has been asked by the parish council to carry out resurfacing work on Cottage and Beverley Avenues in the village.

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THE defibrillator which the parish council are organising for positioning at the village hall is due to delivery and fixing this month.

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PARISH councillors have approved a new Code of Conduct by which they work while conducting parish council business.

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Residents who have access to the internet are reminded that the Parish Council now has its own website <<http://www.whatton.org>>.

The website is intended to complement *Whatton News* and is updated on a regular basis.

Minutes and agendas are available for download starting from the October 2008 meeting.

The site also includes a simple 'contact us' form where residents can bring matters of concern to the attention of the Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairman

Greg Redford
01949 851 597
17 Burton Lane

Vice-Chair

Barbara Harris
01949 850 117
18, Cottage Avenue

Ray Dawson
01949 850 493
19 Conery Gardens

Jan Ayres
01949 850 630
61 Beverleys Avenue

Graham Linney
01949 859 348
Conery Gardens

Carol Key
01949 850 087
41 Cottage Avenue

Malcolm Seagrave
01949 851 067
5 Riverside

WHATTON-IN-THE-VALE

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mike Elliott

19/21 Main Street

Keyworth, Nottinghamshire

NG12 5AA

Telephone

01159 376 506

elliottnews@btconnect.com

Whatton Village News is published on a quarterly basis by Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council and is delivered free to all households in the parish.

Comments and suggestions about Whatton Village News should be sent to:

The Clerk,
Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council,
19/21 Main Street,
Keyworth, Nottinghamshire.
NG13 5AA