



Yatton Parish Council

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OUR MISSION: To ensure the provision of high quality services in our communities of Yatton and Claverham

Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2010 (approved by the Parish Council on 14 June 2010)

Chairman's overview

Yatton Parish Council has been active in a number of areas this year. The Council expressed its concern over the plans by National Grid to erect 150 foot high pylons near Yatton. The Parish Council welcomes the decision by the Infrastructure Planning Commission to ask National Grid to undertake further pre-application consultation and hopes that this time all options, including undersea and underground options, will be part of the consultation.

The Parish Council expressed its opposition to plans to cut the 351 peak hour bus services through Yatton and Claverham and welcomed the decision by First Bus on a partial replacement by diverting some X1 services. The Parish Council is still concerned about bus services in Yatton and Claverham and the issue will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting on 26 May 2010.

The Parish Council has worked closely with North Somerset Council on proposals for road safety in High Street, Yatton, and looks forward to the works being carried out this year.

The Parish Council continues to be concerned about facilities for young people in Yatton and Claverham, and the risk of anti-social behaviour. The Council has worked closely with the police, and continues to fund a youth worker and to contribute towards Yatton Youth Club. The Parish Council welcomes the allocation of £45,000 from the national Playbuilder project towards new play equipment at Hangstones and will take the opportunity to provide new equipment elsewhere.

As well as carrying out work at Hangstones and Broadcroft the Parish Council has (jointly with Congresbury Parish Council) paid for work clearing scrub on Cadbury Hill and (jointly with North Somerset Council) paid for improvements to the footpath between Stowey Road, Yatton, to Claverham, including the replacement of stiles by kissing gates.

The Parish Council looks forward to discussions with Dignity Funeral Services, North Somerset Council's new contractor for bereavement services, on the development of a new burial ground in or close to Yatton.

I should like to end by thanking my fellow councillors, North Somerset councillors Jill Iles and Tony Moulin for their invaluable input and the Parish Council's staff for their hard work.

David Crossman
Chairman of the Council

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Amenities and Properties Committee

Chair: Graham Humphreys
Vice-Chair: Trevor Bidwell-Ford

Against a background in which the last year seems to have passed very quickly and with fewer Committee meetings, we have achieved our identified projects and dealt with issues as they have emerged.

Hangstones has had its fair amount of late night anti-social issues with young people not necessarily from Yatton. However liaising with local residents and Community Police we have acted by developing an action plan to try and contain the revellers, with some success. The continual upkeep of the existing pavilion has seen remedial work carried out on its roof to prevent flooding. More positively the grounds have benefitted from having new and re-fencing work carried out plus hedge laying, cutting back long grass, removing mounds and overdue maintenance on the BMX track. Returned goal areas, a mini goalpost and ball stop netting have all been provided. The skatepark path is soon to be extended towards the car park and will herald the first part of a longer term plan to put a path right around the playing field. For additional comfort we have also purchased new pavilion chairs and are trialling a portable hearing loop.

At Broadcroft we met with local residents concerned over various matters and we have re positioned the ball play area to reduce noise, supplied a mini goalpost and put up ball stop netting. A new safety surface around some playing equipment is also being provided.

At Rock Road playing field we finally released £23,000, ring fenced for some while, so new car parking could be put into place to complement the wonderful all weather play area built by Yatton Junior Football Club.

Generally we have continued to maintain all the public areas we are responsible for such as the War Memorial and Glebelands, to name but a few, put up a new noticeboard in Claverham village and likewise supplied more dog bins around the

Parish. To assist in ground maintenance we have purchased a grass harrow and aerator along with purchasing a 40ft container for storage of equipment.

We have finished the year within budget and I would like to thank all Council staff for ensuring that all our plans have succeeded, fellow Councillors for being as one in wishing to provide the best of amenities for the Parish and all those parishioners who been involved in any manner of participation.

Christmas lights

The Parish Council wishes to thank businesses and residents for their kind donations to the Christmas Lights display and Cadbury Garden Centre for the donation of the tree. The Christmas Lights Switch on took place on 5 December with carol singing led by Congresbury Brass band. The Parish Council also thank the Yeo Valley Lions for providing their musical sleigh.

This year saw the addition of “falling snow” on the day the lights were switched on, much to the delight of all the children!! and thank you to Bill Shears of WRS Alarms for providing this timely change in the weather.

Planning Committee

Chair: David Crossman

Vice-Chair: Brian Phillips

During the past year there have been a variety of planning applications in Yatton and Claverham of varying size and type. The large applications considered this year have been the Reserved Matters plans for the Oxford Instruments site which were approved and included details for the access, appearance, layout and scale for the erection of 66 houses including a number of live/work units and an affordable housing element. In addition to this the Parish Council received the outline application for the major development and expansion of Bristol Airport and the decision for this has not yet been reached.

There have been a number of planning applications that have allowed the Parish Council to support the extension and improvement of facilities within Yatton and Claverham. These include the renovation, repair and extension of St Barnabas church to provide disabled access and toilet facilities. There has been an extension to the Mendip Road doctor's surgery to provide a new pharmacy and training rooms and also an extension to Mendip Lodge Care home. The planning committee continue to work with the community to resolve problems such as planning enforcement complaints from parishioners and to progress affordable housing within Yatton.

An Affordable Housing Working Party has been formed to explore a process called “a sequential site search” which carries out a process of research on all possible sites that may be suitable, firstly within the settlement boundary. If none are found then the search is extended to land that may be a possibility outside the settlement boundary. These are called exception sites. There is provision for affordable housing within the Oxford Instruments approved planning application.

If the development were to take place in around two years this would fulfil most of the anticipated affordable housing need within the Parish and the search for exception sites would be unlikely to progress in the immediate future.

The Planning Committee wish to thank North Somerset Councillors Jill Iles and Tony Moulin for their hard work and valued support in liaising with North Somerset Council, planning applicants and parishioners.

Finance, Personnel & Administration Committee

Chair: (to October 2009) Wendy Griggs, (from October 2009) Rosey Knifton

Vice-Chair: (to October 2009) Rosey Knifton, (from October 2009) Lucy Perrott

The Council has again awarded grants to organisations in the community. These are

June 2009

£400 North Somerset Credit Union
£200 Yatton Music Society
£350 2nd Yatton Guides
£100 North Somerset Disability & Advice Line
£200 North Somerset Against Domestic Abuse
£950 Yatton Junior Football Club
£500 Avon Wildlife Trust

and a contribution of £4100 to the Methodist Church Youth Worker Group towards the cost of employing a youth worker.

November 2009

£100 Nailsea Festival of Music
£300 Vision North Somerset
£400 West of England MS Therapy Centre
£350 Community Drugs Misuse Forum
£1000 Strawberry Line Café Project

and a contribution of £6000 to enable North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau to provide a weekly service in Yatton.

A new Parish Council website went live during the year.

Members agreed that the Parish Council's staff should be made eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The Parish Council's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009 received an unqualified audit report.

Finally the Council was again able to set a zero rise in the precept for 2009/2010 by transferring money from reserves.

**Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010
(unaudited)**

	2009/10	2008/09
	£	£
Balances brought forward	499,517	469,719
(+)Annual precept	177,279	177,279
(+)Total other receipts	20,044 ¹	35,784
(-) Staff costs	(78,753) ²	(64,311)
(-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0
(-) Total other payments	(149,298) ³	(118,953)
(=) Balances carried forward	468,789	499,517
Total cash investments	480,485	510,409
Total fixed and long term assets	720,395	696,487
Total borrowings	0	0

¹ Includes interest received of £4,435 (2008/09 £17,464); 2008/09 also includes parish plan grant received of £2,500.

² Includes cost of additional part-time groundsman

³ Includes £23,000 contribution towards new car park at Rock Road playing field

Parish Councillors

Claverham Ward (Claverham to Hollowmead):

Trevor Bidwell-Ford	01934 834707
Rosey Knifton	01934 876886
Jean Watson	01934 838017

South Ward (roughly Frost Hill to Chescombe Road):

Graham Humphreys	01934 835469
Susan Morris	01934 832112
Ian Payne	07812 929273
Lucy Perrott	01934 832811
Brian Phillips	01934 834416
(1 vacancy)	

North Ward (roughly Chescombe Road to the railway line):

Maurice Blunsdon	01934 838223
Mike Cox	01934 833924
Wendy Griggs	01934 834143
Martyn Hooper	01934 838389
Robert Jenner	01934 834675
Viv Wathen	01934 876833
(1 vacancy)	

Horsecastle Ward (railway line to Kingston Bridge)

Jane Bollen	01934 838897
David Crossman	01934 832154
Jill Iles	01934 830430
Clare Bessant	01934 833275)
(1 vacancy)	

Clerk: Crispin Taylor

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