

# North Waltham Parish Council

1 Burydown Mead  
North Waltham  
RG25 2SX  
Tel: 01256 397720  
Email: kbleazard@tiscali.co.uk



## ANNUAL REPORT 2011

### Chairman's Letter

In my Christmas Letter I said that there had been a great deal of work from members of the community in updating the Village Plan. The 2010 Village Plan was launched in June 2010 with a successful evening organised by the Steering Group – during this evening the results of the Village Plan were presented and several organisations had been invited to the event following on from what you, the community, had said you would like to see in the village. As a result we now have a Garden Club and Art Appreciation Club holding regular meetings in the village and going from strength to strength.

One of the overwhelming outcomes of the Village Plan is that you wish to keep the rural and village nature of North Waltham with the majority saying “no” to Basingstoke expanding closer to North Waltham. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council sees Village Plans as being key documents in understanding the needs of the local community, for all sorts of issues including housing. Recently the Borough Council launched a questionnaire “New Homes for Your Area – the Big Questions” and I hope many of you took the time to complete the questionnaire as it will be used to decide the housing needs of the borough for the next 20 years. I am sure many of you have heard or read about the Localism Bill in the media over the past few months – once this comes into effect, towards the end of 2011, the current South East Plan will be abolished – this included housing targets for each region that had been set centrally. The Localism Bill will allow regions to make decisions on their own housing requirements.

Continuing with the theme of the 2010 Village Plan  
....

The area around the pond came under the category of “could do better”. Certainly it was a bit tatty around the edges with the black liner visible most if not all of the way around. However, I hope you agree it is now looking a lot better – wild flower turf has been added to the edge – so hopefully there will not only be a lot of colour during the summer months, but it should also be beneficial to insects, bees and butterflies. Staying around the pond, the new North Waltham Parish Council notice board has

been put up on the green by the bus stop – the agenda and minutes of the Parish Council Meetings can be found here as well as other information as to what is going on in North Waltham. In order to keep, not only the pond area, but the whole village looking good, litter picks have been organised throughout the year – thank you to Alan Purkiss for co-ordinating this and providing the tools and for everyone who has helped to tidy up our village.

Noise was also another issue that came out of the Village Plan – the main ones being the noise from the M3 and low-flying military aircraft. We have written to our MP Sir George Young but unfortunately there are no plans to re-surface the M3 between Junctions 7 and 8. Regarding low-flying military aircraft we contacted Flight Lieutenant Katie Sheppeck who kindly agreed to attend our annual meeting and explain the tasks the military need to perform in order to train for their missions all around the world, including at the current time, Afghanistan.

Speeding traffic was another area of concern – I'm sure many of you noticed that there was a Speed Limit Reminder installed in Popham Lane for a couple of weeks recently. This was for a trial period to assess the level of speeding – the results have been received and during the 2 week period there were 1,279 activations for speeding. We are now looking into installing a Speed Limit Reminder for two 2-week periods each year and are consulting on the best location for this device.

I am very pleased to say that North Waltham won the Fullers Hampshire Village of the Year 2010 Competition – the Parish Council have agreed to donate the £500.00 prize money to sponsor the Patriotic Picnic in the Park which was held during the weekend following the Royal Wedding in the Meadow. I hope everyone went along and enjoyed your winnings at what was a great community event. We also received a plaque which has been placed on the bus shelter close to the one North Waltham received in 2007 for the Best Village in the borough.

At last years Annual Parish Meeting it was reported that we reviewed 37 applications which was an increase of 19% from the previous year. This year

we have reviewed only 23 applications, and 9 applications for work to trees in the Conservation Area. Because of the time limits for the review of applications the Planning Committee meet every two weeks as required – for applications relating to properties we encourage the applicant to attend the relevant Planning Meeting to answer any questions we may have.

Inspector Payne, our new rural inspector and PCSO Melissa Rowell gave us a crime update for North Waltham over the past year at the Annual Meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to urge you all to communicate anything suspicious immediately to the police on 0845-045 45 45. The sooner the police are informed of any suspicious/unusual events that happen in the village the quicker they can respond. Obviously in the event of an emergency you must dial 999.

For the 4<sup>th</sup> successive year we have not increased the precept – that's the amount of money levied for the Parish Council affairs through the Council Tax you pay. However, if the Parish Council consider that there is work that should have a higher priority than that given by the County or Borough Council then perhaps it will in future have to consider funding such work more directly, which then may of course prompt an increase in the precept.

I would now like to take this opportunity of congratulating Karen on receiving the Certificate in Local Council Administration – this is a great achievement that has taken more than 50 hours of work, over and above her normal duties as our Clerk, and confirms what we already know and that is that Karen really “knows her stuff”.

Thank you Karen for your commitment, support and hard work over the past year and thank you to all the Councillors who give up their time, completely voluntarily, to serve the residents of North Waltham

Carolyn Brown  
Chairman, North Waltham Parish Council

April 2011

## Summary Receipts and Payments 2010-2011

	<b>This year 2010/2011</b>	<b>Last year 2009/2010</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Precept	£ 9,785.00	£ 9,785.00
VAT refund	£ -	£ 335.44
Interest from bank	£ 1.78	£ 0.93
Interest from loan to BDBC	£ -	£ -
Grants	£ 3,170.00	£ 6,381.00
Inland Revenue - online filing of tax return	£ -	£ 150.00
Miscellaneous receipt	£ 500.00	£ -
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£13,456.78</b>	<b>£16,652.37</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
Clerk's wages and expenses	£ 3,903.04	£ 3,488.68
Inland Revenue	£ 278.80	£ -
Clerk's telephone expenses	£ 357.34	£ 353.00
Petty cash	£ -	£ 16.79
St Michael's PCC	£ 70.73	£ 65.45
Village Trust grass cutting	£ 1,202.00	£ 1,173.00
Village Trust s137	£ 1,720.00	£ 1,720.00
Insurance	£ 1,937.00	£ 1,890.00
Internal audit fees	£ -	£ -
External audit fees	£ 371.77	£ 379.39
Subscriptions	£ 150.00	£ 205.00
Rathbone Pavilion hire	£ 135.00	£ 155.25
Garden competition	£ 317.50	£ 13.50
Pond	£ 187.19	£ 194.76
Bus shelter	£ 80.16	£ 63.34
St Michael's Green	£ 2,384.00	£ 50.00
Training	£ -	£ -
Office equipment	£ -	£ -
Travel expenses	£ 110.19	£ 154.06
Stationery	£ 127.32	£ 129.59
Miscellaneous	£ 1,123.24	£ 4,418.29
VAT	£ 594.30	£ 292.08
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£15,159.58</b>	<b>£14,902.18</b>

### **You can contact any of your Councillors:**

Carolyn Brown – Chairman – Tel: 01256 397164  
Alan Purkiss – Vice-Chairman – Tel: 01256 397697  
Robert Cooper – Tel: 01256 397905  
Sara Thomas – Tel: 01256 398593  
Peter Waggett – Tel: 01256 398830

### **Or the Parish Clerk:**

Karen Bleazard  
1 Burydown Mead  
North Waltham  
Hampshire  
RG25 2SX  
Tel: 01256 397720  
Email: kbleazard@tiscali.co.uk