

SHALFLEET PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Written by John Whitney.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Shalfleet CE Primary School on Wednesday 12th May 2010, this year 13 members of the public attended. The meeting commenced with the election of Cllr Colin Hedgley & Cllr Mrs Brenda Baxandall to be Chairman & Vice Chairman respectively. All other council appointees to committees and outside bodies remain unchanged. The Chairman's annual report (herewith) was received and adopted.

CHAIRMANS REPORT 2010

Introduction

The past working year of the Parish Council has seen profound change taking place in terms of increased services to the community, increased profile, and the establishment of a formal office/help centre open to the public 3 mornings per week. Shalfleet Parish Council obtained EC grant aid from the IOW Economic Partnership and working in partnership with the Newbridge Community Association the Council was able to establish its new Office/Help Centre without resort to precept monies.

Projects and Achievements

Since last years Annual Meeting the Council has:-

1. Supervised the construction of and opened a public Office/Help Centre.
2. Obtained funding and sponsorship for and opened a public internet access facility.
3. Obtained funding and ran a 6 week free public course “ *Introduction to computing* ”
4. Changed employment arrangements to staff the new office without greatly increasing wages and other associated costs .
5. Taken part in important consultation on the future of local primary schools.
6. Took part in negotiations with Southern Vectis over bus timetable changes.
7. Managed large areas of public access land including two playgrounds largely without the subsidies previously extended by the Isle of Wight Council.
8. Carried out extensive resurfacing and renovations to the Ningwood Recycling facility.
9. Received and commented on **34** town & country planning applications within the parish.
10. Worked in partnership with SW Housing Association to provide two mini football goals on the Bouldnor Field.
11. Worked with the RCC to carry out a study into the provision of “affordable housing”
12. Set up a steering group to revisit the subject of writing a formal Parish/Community Plan.
13. Submitted a successful application to NALC/DCLG to re-accredit as a “Quality Council”.

Future Projects

1. Revise and modernise the parish website.
2. Obtain funding and run a second computer course.
3. Support the production of a Parish/Community Plan.
4. Replace failed tree planting at Bouldnor.
5. Undertake extensive grass cutting and land management without IWC aid.
6. Develop further rural services at the Office/Help Centre.

Council Members and Staff.

I sincerely thank all Councillors for freely giving of their valuable time to work for the Council and assisting me in the conduct of meetings that truly reflect a unity of purpose serving the best interests of the electorate, for some members facing personal adversity this was a difficult year. Staff wise Mrs Susannah Jennings joined us this year as an Assistant Clerk and is currently studying for her Certificate of Local Council Administration, welcome aboard Susannah I am also pleased to advise that last October our Clerk John Whitney was elected as President of the

National Society of Parish & Town Clerks which brings reflected credit to both Shalfleet Parish Council and the Isle of Wight. John is the first President to come from a very small council.

Audited Accounts for 2008-09

The Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer presented details of the latest audited accounts which showed the following key details:

Total Income Received = £48151	Balance C/F from previous year=£6371
Staff Costs = £6272	expenditure less staff costs =£33164
<u>C/F Balance = £15086</u>	

The meeting concluded with the usual Councillors reports.