

Report of the Hessay Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2011 to the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 11 May 2011.

Meetings

Parish Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months. Extra Parish meetings are called if there is a planning application to consider. Last year the Parish Council met seven times to discuss various issues including eleven planning applications.

The Parish Council met on the following dates:

2010 - 12 May, 14 July, 8 September and 10 November.

2011 - 12 January, 8 February and 9 March.

Local Elections 2011

The local elections were held on 5 May 2011. As only four nominations were received for Hessay Parish Council all four people have been elected unopposed. The new Parish Council will consist of Councillors Mark Barrett, Andrew Hardcastle, Roger Hildreth and Penny Taylor. Councillors Nick Booth and Phil Wood did not stand in the election. We are currently one Councillor short of our quota and will be looking to co-opt a fifth member as soon as practical.

Accounts

The unaudited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 are attached to this report. They show that the Parish Council spent £98.68 more than it received.

The year-end balance is £8,946.39. Council funds are held in the HSBC. Most of the funds are kept in a Business Money Manager Account. Interest is still a paltry 0.01%.

PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS

Potholes

The 2010-11 winter was even more severe than the previous year's so the incidence of potholes was worse. The Parish Council reports new potholes to the City Council's Highways Department. Most have been filled in. We keep pushing the City Council to fill in potholes.

Registration of Parish Land

The Parish Council is trying to register all the land that it owns. This has been tried previously and like previously is proving to be a very difficult thing to do.

Parish Council-owned land in Shirbutt Lane

The Parish Council received a grant from the City Council's Ward Committee for a new fence on the boundary of the land along Shirbutt Lane. The fencing was erected in March 2011. The Parish Councillors met representatives from the BTCV who agreed to draw up a schedule of work that could be carried out on the land behind the fence to make it tidier and more friendly to flora and fauna.

Communications

Newsletters

A number of Newsletters have been circulated to all households in the village. Councillors have also delivered the City Council's Ward Newsletters for which the Parish Council has received the princely sum of £36.10.

Website

The Councillors considered having a Parish Council website but after a long discussion it was agreed that this was not good value for money and the subject has been dropped.

Owl & Bird Boxes

Two owl boxes have been installed in Thief Lane, one owl box and one bird box in the pond area and one owl box in the area on the opposite side of the road of Shirbutt Lane to the pond. The cost of the boxes was covered by a grant from the City Council.

Allotments

At the time of writing this report there is one allotment available for rent.

Christmas Tree and Lights

The Parish Council paid £123.56 for a Christmas tree and solar powered lights. The tree was erected in the children's play area in Main Street. The lights can be used each Christmas.

James Mackman

Clerk to the Parish Council

11 May 2011