

Welcome to this year's annual report.

Another busy year has gone by for the Parish Council in which we have been working hard to improve services in the village and put the interests of our community forward in many issues that directly affect this village. We notify you of all of these through our monthly meetings, notices on the village noticeboards, on our website and in the Meridian Magazine. There is a public forum at the start of every Parish Council meeting so please come along and put your views forward.

The Parish Council receives its funding from the Parish Precept, which is a small percentage of the Council Tax each household pays. In this current economic climate the Council considered its 2011/12 budget very carefully but was unable to avoid a small increase as two major maintenance projects are required this coming year – to repair the brick walls around the Carters Way/Priory Ave play area and replace the bus shelter next to the Memorial Hall. However the small increase of 2% has not altered the Parish Council element of the Council Tax on a Band D property.

Topics of discussion over the past year have included:

- The Big Society and **Localism**. With many cuts by major authorities, Parish Councils will be looked upon more and more to provide services to local residents. Partnership working with District & County Councils will become more important and Parish Councils may well take over some of the services previously provided by these authorities. The Parish Council will be renewing its Quality Council status this year, which will help confirm its ability to partner other authorities in service delivery.
- Continuing discussions with the Environment Agency about **flood risk concerns** and proposals relating to Northstowe and Uttons Drove Sewage Treatment Works.
- Discussions with Cambridgeshire ACRE about land within the village for **affordable housing**. One potential site, between Gibraltar Lane, Fen Drayton Road and the Village College, is currently being consulted on with local residents and the planning authority. Further meetings will take place during this year.
- **Parking issues** in and around Market St are still being reviewed. A request has been submitted to the County Council for double-yellow lines along the south side of Market Street. Consultation will follow later this year.
- The Parish Council raised objections to the recent cuts by the County Council to the **local bus service** subsidies. Swavesey now has no evening bus service. We are talking to local groups about community transport projects and have already provided a start up grant for a local community car share scheme.

Our thanks also to the many volunteers in our community who help organise social and leisure activities and keep our village a safe and enjoyable place in which to live.

Martin Johnston
Chairman – Swavesey Parish Council

Some of the village projects supported by the Parish Council



Youth Activities

Swavesey Action for Youth (**SAY**) continues to receive core funding from the Parish Council. Together with Bethel Baptist Church, SAY helps to manage the successful new Friday evening Youth Café. Open to young people from 11 years of age to meet, chat, use the computers and play music. Drinks and snacks are also available.

Swavesey Community Sports Pavilion



The Parish Council has supported this community project by way of a large capital grant. Work should be underway now and by the autumn will provide a modern, purpose-built sports pavilion on the recreation green.

Memorial Hall – Main Hall Refurbishment

The Parish Council provided a large capital grant towards the refurbishment work and together with funding from South Cambs District Council, WREN and Donarbon work was completed during the past year. An Open Morning to show the new facilities will take place in September – look out for posters advertising the date during the summer.

Christmas Lights in Market Street



Additional lights were purchased in 2010 and an electricity supply on Market St green was provided. Further lights will be also be purchased this year to provide a substantial display at Christmas time.

Community Transport

Funding support has been given to a new voluntary group to set up a community car share scheme, in association with neighbouring villages.

SUMMARY RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2011

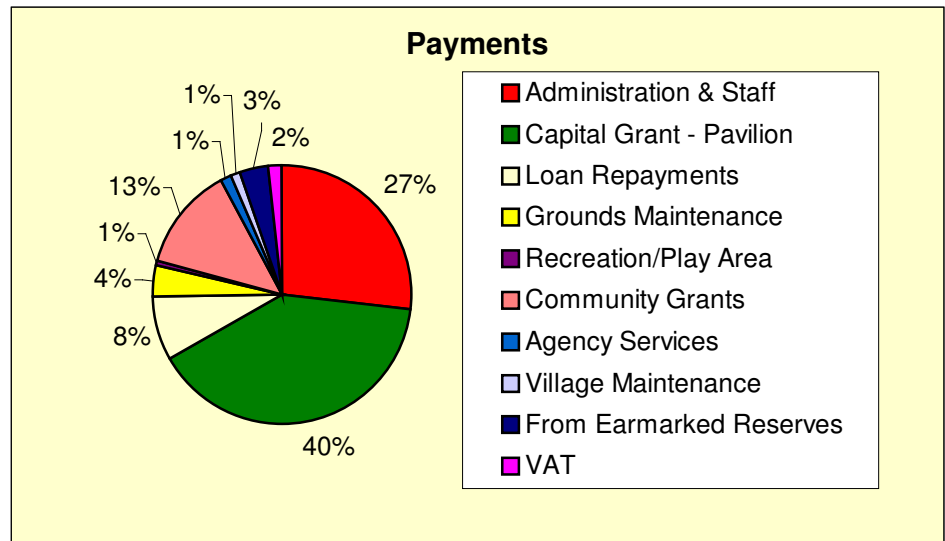
Year ended 31 March 2010		Year ended 31 March 2011		
£	RECEIPTS	£		
48,300.00	Precept	49,000.00		
648.22	Interest on Investments	195.10		
Nil	Loan/ Capital receipts	39,975.00		
1,525.03	Agency Serv's Reimbursed (Verge cutting, P3 Scheme)	1,525.03		
Nil	Sale of Assets	Nil		
56.35	Rents & Donations	158.14		
Nil	Capital Grants	Nil		
132.85	Village Maintenance	Nil		
30.00	Admin – Salary, website	512.60		
24,310.27	S.106 Commuted Sum	3,628.31		
630.18	Memorial Hall (electricity bill reimbursed)	Nil		
2,133.59	VAT Recovered	1,830.14		
77,766.49	TOTAL RECEIPTS	96,824.32		
	PAYMENTS			
31,088.23	Gen Admin, Insurances, staff	27,076.95		
Nil	Capital spending (asset purchase)	40,000.00		
1,140.00	Agency Services	1,140.06		
6,147.68	Loan Repayments	7,998.20		
133.25	Advertising/publicity	Nil		
630.18	Memorial Hall (electricity bill)			
19,240.65	Memorial Hall Grants (refurb' funds transfer, running costs)			
	Grounds Maintenance	3,995.01		
6,904.04	Recreation Green, Play area	560.06		
2,615.54	Village Maintenance Work	1,274.34		
2,922.00	Grants – Cemetery, Churchyard, Festival, NHW, SAY and Memorial Hall	13,230.00		
Nil	Earmarked Reserves	3,467.06		
Nil	Provision for doubtful debts	Nil		
2,008.91	VAT on Payments	1,813.17		
72,830.48	TOTAL PAYMENTS	100,554.85		
60,816.20		Balance as at 1 April 2010 >	65,752.21	
77,766.49	Add Receipts		96,824.32	
138,582.69			162,576.53	
72,830.48	Deduct Payments		100,554.85	
65,752.21		Balance as at 31 March 2011 >	62,021.68	
	These cumulative funds are represented by:			
14,081.30	Current Account		2,093.56	
	30 day notice account:			
	13,178.66	Earmarked Reserves	27,177.18	
51,670.91	38,492.25	General Funds	32,314.54	59,491.72
65,752.21		TOTAL:	62,021.68	

HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT

The Parish Council's main source of income is the Precept, which is collected through the Council Tax by South Cambridgeshire District Council. Swavesey's 2010/11 Precept of £49,000 represented just 49p per elector per week.

The Council has two part-time employees: the Clerk who carries out all of the administration, legal and advisory work for the Council, and the Village Handyman who helps to maintain the public open spaces and carries out village maintenance work throughout the village.

Administration costs include annual subscriptions, insurances, legal fees, training costs and general office admin costs.



WHAT WE DID IN 2010/11 AND WILL DO 2011/12

- Grants to the following organisations:
 - Swavesey Action For Youth
 - Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
 - Swavesey Festival
 - Swavesey Non-Conformist Cemetery – towards annual maintenance costs
 - St Andrew's Parochial Church Council – towards churchyard maintenance costs
 - Community Sports Pavilion Charity
 - Swavesey Memorial Hall Charity
- Support for the Community Car Share Scheme project which will be established during 2011
- In 2010/11 we consulted on 34 local planning applications as well as commented on planning consultations relating to Gypsy & Traveller sites & Minerals and Waste site options
- Removal of the Leylandii trees at Chantry Close/Blackhorse Lane corner
- During 2011 the Parish Council together with local residents will work to improve the planting on the open space area in Chantry Close
- The brick walls surrounding the central open space in Carters Way/Priory Avenue will be repaired
- The bus shelter in High Street, next to the Memorial Hall is to be replaced
- Grass cutting to all parish land including the recreation green, Market Street Green, Swan Pond green, Moat Way play area and other smaller grassed areas as well as hedge cutting around the recreation green and grass cutting to the highway verges
- Continue discussions with the Environment Agency and South Cambs District Council regarding flood risk concerns, riverbank and drain maintenance and proposals relating to Northstowe and Uttons Drove Sewage Treatment Works
- Continue to support the voluntary groups who help to maintain Moat Way, Swan and School ponds
- Support for the volunteers maintaining Constable's Rood
- As part of the Parish Paths Partnership, maintenance work to Rights of Way
- Support for Swavesey Action for Youth and the Youth Café
- Support of the Community Pavilion project to provide a new purpose built community pavilion on the recreation green
- Liaison with Cambridgeshire ACRE and South Cambs District Council to investigate Affordable Housing Development within the village
- Allotments – we will be investigating renting approximately 3 acres of land along Hale Road in order to set up an allotment society who will be able to manage community allotments for local residents

SWAVESEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council consists of 11 Councillors who are elected for 4 years and represent an electorate of 1,918.

Councillors:

Martin Johnston - Chairman	200605	martin.johnston1@ntlworld.com
John Pook – Vice Chairman	230978	pookjhn@aol.com
Lisa Boyes	232603	windmillkennels@oneservice.co.uk
Steve Boylan	231188	
Nick Dennis	201423	NDennis@driver-surveyors.co.uk
James Dodson	230560	jamesdodson.highfieldfarm@virgin.net
John Jullien	202251	john.jullien@ntlworld.com
Hannah Parish	231375	hannah.parish@niab.com
David Whiter	201840	david.whiter@ntlworld.com
Keith Wilderspin	230083	keith.wilderspin@btinternet.com
Will Wright	232470	

Clerk: Linda Miller, 21 Thistle Green, Swavesey, Cambs, CB24 4RJ Tel: 01954 202982 Email: clerk@swavesey.org.uk

Other contacts: **District Councillor:** Sue Ellington 202923 sue.ellington@virgin.net **County Councillor:** Mandy Smith 0780 1825 402 mandysmith310@btinternet.com



Council Agendas, Minutes and information on current topics can all be found on the Parish Council Webpage at: www.swavesey.org.uk

WORK AND ROLE OF SWAVESEY PARISH COUNCIL

The primary role is to represent you on issues affecting the community to District, County and Central Government. In addition, we carry out the following work within the parish:

- Maintenance of public open spaces at:
 - The Recreation Green
 - Market Street Green
 - Children's play area
 - Moat Way
 - Three village ponds
 - Constable's Rood
 - Carters Way/Priory Avenue
- On behalf of the County Council:
 - Rights of Way maintenance
 - Verge cutting
- Supports the work and management of the Memorial Hall
- Provides and maintains bus shelters, seats, plants tubs, parish noticeboards
- Works with the District Council to provide and maintain dog-waste bins and litter bins around the village
- Nominates representatives and trustees on the following village bodies:
 - Swavesey Fire Relief Charity (Frere Cottages)
 - The Thomas Galon Charity
 - The Swavesey Byways Committee
 - Meridian Magazine Committee
 - Swavesey Community Pavilion Committee
 - Festival Steering Group
 - The Memorial Hall Charity
 - Swavesey Action for Youth Committee
 - Community Management Committee - Village College Performance Hall
- Supports the work of charitable groups and organisations within the village
- Comments on, but not decides on, all planning applications within the parish
- Implementation of the Parish Plan Action Plan

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



We would very much appreciate your feedback on the information provided within this report and our Meridian Magazine reports, we will do our best act on it and take up issues with the relevant authorities. We would also be delighted to hear from you on any other topics raised, or other matters of concern.

Do remember also that all Parish Council meetings are open to the public