

Report to Annual Residents' Evening 15 April 2015

The last year has seen the parish council grow from 5 members to 7 following the election in May. 3 members were completely new to the council and instantly got involved with summer events and joined the newly formed committees. Some turnover is inevitable and there is currently one vacancy which will be filled by co-option at the council meeting in May.

Throughout the year work has continued to address various issues and to progress projects. Much of this will come to fruition in the forthcoming months:

- A steering group was set up with local parent volunteers for the redesign of the play area in the Key. A contractor was selected, designs approved and the work will start on 23rd April. Work should be completed by the end of May. It will include a safe toddler play area, a skate facility and a zip wire together with climbing equipment and slides. It is hoped to add an inclusive basket swing in the future and funding will be sought to facilitate this.
- After 2 years and several meetings, real progress was made on the maintenance of the highway verges and roundabouts. Hampshire County Council has agreed to issue the parish council a cultivation licence to carry out this work and whilst this has been signed by the parish we are waiting for Hampshire to complete the legal work so that our contractor can commence work in May.
- Meetings have continued with Hampshire County Council and the developer to try to speed up the road adoption process. Work will be carried out this summer to prove to the county that the culverts under Elvetham Heath Way are sound. Once the culverts are approved, the final remedial work should be carried out including some resurfacing and the road should finally be able to be adopted. Remedial work is currently nearing completion on the roads which are the responsibility of Kier Homes so roads such as Lyndhurst Road, Marwell Road and Twyford Close should be adopted in the near future.
- In February the council took over responsibility for the small area of open space in Harrow Road and is now in discussions with Taylor Wimpey to take over the open space and the woodland area in Hawkey Way.

Last year's fete in June was the most successful yet with the weather being extremely kind in the afternoon, although the volunteers had all been soaked setting up in the morning. This year's fete will take place on Saturday 6th June with some new attractions and hopefully more good weather.

July saw our first summer concert on the green. Although relatively low key it was a huge success and will be built upon this year. It takes place on Saturday July 18th and we already have a variety of acts lined up to perform.

The farmers' market in the Key was trialled for 3 months last summer and, as it was successful, has become a permanent fixture on the second Saturday of each month. An average of 12 stalls attends each month selling a variety of produce from meat & fish to plants and skincare. The council has a dedicated market manager who works to attract new stalls and to ensure the smooth running of each market.

The beginning of 2014 saw the opening of our allotment site at the open space off Tunworth Close. There are 20 plots with one allocated to the Minding the Garden charity. All plots are currently occupied and there is still a waiting list.

Your parish council will continue to work for the community and is always grateful for your feedback and ideas. The forthcoming year will see us concentrating mainly on improving the state of the roadside verges but we also have plans to carry out some refurbishment work in the Key Centre and will continue to pursue the adoption of the remaining roads.

Thank you for your continued support.

Financial Report

	Actual	Actual	Budget
	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
	31-Mar-14	31-Mar-15	31-Mar-16
	£		£
Income	223,685	236,329	245,064
Represented by			
Precept	106,656	106,820	117,097
Facilities (Key Centre & sports)	109,909	111,939	120,000
Allotments	627	944	988
Market & events	1,073	4,439	4,000
Other income (incl interest & grants)	5,420	4,387	2,979
Developer contribution	-	7,800	
Expenditure	255,045	205,734	377,505
Represented by			
Staff costs	82,535	82,777	88,870
Facilities & operations	48,990	42,811	48,950
Market & events	3,762	8,051	7,500
Grounds Maintenance & litter	49,779	41,389	77,300
Special Projects - play area, Key Centre refurb	49,763	8,827	125,000
Fees (insurance, audit, legal & elections)	10,686	9,027	16,350
Admin & office	6,025	8,581	10,535
Grants & contributions	3,505	406	3,000
Elections	-	3,865	
Surplus to Reserves	- 31,360	30,595	- 132,441

