

Brockworth Parish Council

Annual Report 2010/2011

Welcome to the Annual Report 2010/11 on the activities of the Council. You will find details of how the Council spent its money in 2010/11 and how the Council funds this expenditure.

During the past year, Godfrey Browning sadly died and we welcomed Mrs Fiona Miles onto the Parish Council in December.

The Parish Council consists of 17 councillors who represent an electorate of approximately 6,500. Elections are held once in every four years, the latest one was in May 2011. Details of the new councillors can be found on the last page of the report. Elected councillors received an allowance of £150 each during the year; the allowance covers the cost of printing council papers at home, making phone calls on council business and travel expenses within the area.

The Parish Council employs 3 part-time members of staff to manage Council matters:

Mrs Julie Shirley – Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

Mrs Fay Bennett – Assistant Parish Clerk

Ms Louise Scott – Handyperson

The Parish Council runs the Community Centre on Court Road and employs 1 full time and 4 part-time members of staff to manage the Community Centre:

Mrs Lorraine Price – Building Administrator

Mrs Jane Hibberd – Conference and Catering Assistant

Ms Louise Scott – Cleaner

Mr Derek Tierney – Cleaner

Mrs Rose Deveson – Kitchen Assistant

The Council meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the Community Centre at Brockworth. Agendas are displayed on notice boards throughout the village and on the website – www.brockworth-pc.gov.uk

The public are welcome to attend these meetings and raise questions during the 15 minute public forum at the start of the meeting.

Brockworth Magazine and Website

The Parish Council writes a number of pages for the bi-monthly Parish Magazine which is printed by The Copy Shop. The 29th Gloucester (Brockworth) Scout Group deliver the magazines to every household in Brockworth on our behalf. The pages that the Parish Council writes are available on our new website – www.brockworth-pc.gov.uk.

Regular Commitments

The Parish Council has a number of responsibilities in the village:

Playing fields and play areas

Burial ground

Notice Boards

Bus Shelters

Litter bins and dog bins

Grass cutting of the parish owned open spaces (Rowan Gardens, Cross Hands Meadow, and various verges and roundabouts on behalf of Gloucestershire Highways)

Annual Fete

Summer play scheme

Community Centre

Parish Plan

During the last year, a small group of parish councillors and residents have worked on the Parish Plan. With the help of volunteers, a survey was delivered to all households in Brockworth. The survey had a 25% response and from the completed surveys we are able to see how residents would like Brockworth shaped over the coming five years. The full results will be published during the summer of 2011.

Message from the Chairman – Councillor Jim Hunt

I would like to thank all the Councillors who give a lot of their time in helping to run the Community Centre and serve on the Parish Council during their term of office for the past four years. I also thank the staff for all their hard work. We have had a very active past 12 months, and hope that you can see the results of our activity around the village.

New dog waste and litter bins have been installed

Four new notice boards (Coopers Edge, Abbotswood Road shops, Castle Hill and Chandos Fields)

New perch bars at two bus shelters (Shurdington Road and Ermin Street)

Bi-monthly Parish Magazine delivered to every household

New Parish Website

Extended burial ground

Parish Plan

The local elections taking place in May 2011 will see a number of new councillors serving on the Parish Council, and gives us an opportunity to apply for “Quality Parish Status”.

Contact

Mrs Julie Shirley (Parish Clerk)

Brockworth Community Centre, Court Road, Brockworth, GL3 4ET

Tel: 01452 863123 Email: clerk@brockworth-pc.gov.uk

Parish Councillors as at 1st June 2011

Maureen Rowcliffe-Quarry, 531223

Sonia Lefeuvre-Wellard, 863544

Carol Green, 863428

Fiona Miles, 864345

Ron Furolo, 864042

Carole Neal, 862257

Ibraheem Aruna, 611648

Iris German, 863207

Ben Evans, 07825 113 835

Jude Perez, 863070

Frank Green, 863428

John Shellswell, 863574

Vince Perez, 863070

Jim Hunt, 863705

Tommy Lyons, 07597 490114

Edward Buxton, 863548

John Clarke, 862767

Donations for local groups

The Parish Council has a small donations budget and has been able to support other groups and initiatives during the past year.

These include:

Brockworth Mothers Club
Brockworth Free Church (URC)
The Welcome Club
Leckhampton Court Hospice
Golden Age Club
Gloucestershire Chest Fund
Royal British Legion
Senior Citizens Summer Day Trip
Brockworth Swimming Club
Brockworth Enterprise School
Brockworth Sports Centre
Brockworth Allotment Association
Coopers Hill & Brockworth WI
Castle Hill Primary School

Good Citizen Award

In December, Kelly Noble was awarded the Good Citizen Award for her contribution to the community.

Community Centre and Coffee Shop

The building has been open for just over five years and bookings for the main hall and other rooms have increased.

The Coffee Shop in the foyer of the Community Centre is now open Mondays to Fridays 10am to 1.30pm and serves light lunches, refreshments and there is a weekly lunch club for our senior citizens. We are also able to provide all the catering for conferences booked at the Community Centre.

Community Bus

For the past 4 years, Tesco developer grant money paid for a community bus which has been well-used. That money ran out on 11th May 2011 and the Parish Council is looking into whether we can obtain some more money to continue the bus.

Library and Youth Centre

Gloucestershire County Council decided to withdraw permanent support to these services and to ensure that these are maintained, the Parish Council has partnered with Brockworth Community Project to take on the running of these two important services. The Parish Council has committed £25,000 to the first year's running costs, and has done so without increasing the Parish Council's portion of the council tax for 2011/12.

Citizens Advice Bureau Service

The Parish Council subsidises the weekly advice service that the Citizen Advice Bureau provide from the Community Centre on Tuesday afternoons. The service is very popular with local residents and appointments can be made through the Community Centre reception. We apologise, but due to the funding restrictions, only Brockworth residents can make use of this free service.

Public Rights of Way

The Parish Council is always looking to ensure Rights of Way are kept clear, notifying Gloucestershire Highways of potholes in roads and pavements and ensuring that litter and dog waste bins are kept emptied and in good condition. Doggie waste bags are available from the Community Centre, free of charge to Brockworth residents. Remember to take proof of address when you collect your doggie bags.

Residents are requested to help keep footpaths and pavements clear of vegetation by making sure your hedges and trees are regularly cut. Pavements should have a minimum 1m width and 2m height clear of vegetation at all times.

Parks and Open Spaces

Brockworth Parish Council has two playing fields – Mill Lane and Pound Farm. There has been some wilful damage to equipment at Mill Lane. If you witness any vandalism, please report the matter to the Police. The Council was fortunate to receive developer funding for the resurfacing of the play areas on Mill Lane. We hope to make improvements to the play area at Pound Farm during the coming year.

The land behind the Shell garage on the A46 has been re-named “Cross Hands Meadow” and a community tree planting event took place last year with 100 trees planted that had been donated by the Woodland Trust. The Parish Council has applied for a further 100 free trees for another community tree planting event later this year.

Planning

Brockworth Parish Council considered 64 planning applications during the past year. There are always difficulties and difference of opinion when considering planning applications, particularly in areas covered by Green Belt and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Parish Council is always considered about future housing developments impact on Brockworth roads and other services.

Burial Ground

The Parish Council has extended the burial ground with the purchase of an additional $\frac{1}{4}$ acre of land. The land has been grass-seeded and a new boundary fence installed. There is a new entrance-way leading from the existing burial ground into the extension. This area will be used for cremated remains in the future.

Finance

Income 2010-11

Precept	£153,562.00
Investment Income	£102.60
Burial Ground	£5,664.81
Hall and Other Lettings	£21,055.19
Office Hire	£27,080.26
Parish fete	£1,157.00
Catering Income	£3,046.81
Sec 106 Grants - Tesco Community Bus	£27,217.30
Other Grants	£16,325.38
Miscellaneous Income	£422.38
	<u>£255,633.73</u>

Expenditure 2010-11

PC Staff Costs	£46,685.51
CC Staff Costs	£37,370.20
General administration	£18,086.19
Sec.137 Grants and Sec. 106	£19,093.88
Citizens Advice Bureau Service	£1,786.21
Audit Fees	£1,125.00
Members Allowance	£1,521.51
Burial Ground General Maintenance	£3,957.65
Burial Ground Development Costs	£5,108.62
Parks & Open Spaces Various	£6,347.67
Rights of Way Various	£3,748.80
Community Bus	£22,722.70
Community Building	£33,331.52
Grass Cutting	£10,696.00
Parish Fete	£2,255.79
Insurance	£3,331.60
Training	£903.24
Advertising and Publicity	£250.82
Parish Plan	£2,658.84
	<u>£220,981.75</u>

USEFUL CONTACTS

Brockworth Community Project	01452 863681 or email brockworthcommunitycollege@hotmail.com
Brockworth Sports Centre	01452 863518 www.brockworthsports.co.uk
Brockworth Rugby Club	01452 862256 http://brockworthrugby.com/
Brockworth Albion Football Club	http://www.brockworthalbion.com/
Mid Glos Indoor Bowling Club	01452 619073 http://www.midglos.co.uk/
Brockworth Enterprise School	01452 863372 http://www.bes.gloucs.sch.uk/
Brockworth Primary School	01452 862809
Castle Hill Primary School	01452 863380 http://www.castlehill.gloucs.sch.uk/
Coopers Edge School	http://www.coopersedgeschool.co.uk/
St George's Church	01452 550554 http://www.st-george-brockworth.org.uk/
St Patrick's Church	01452 862709 http://brockworth.eu/
United Reform Church	01452 862621 http://www.gloucesterandbrockworthurc.org.uk/
Brockworth Library	01452 862730
Brockworth Doctors (Abbotswood)	0844 477 3589 http://www.brockworthsurgery.nhs.uk/
Royal British Legion	01452 864657
Report road and public right of way problems - Gloucestershire County Council - 08000 514 514 http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=20593	
Tewkesbury Borough Council - 01684 295010 http://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=167	