

**Batheaston Parish Council**  
**Annual Report 2007-2008**

Bulletin No 19 March 2008

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***From the Chairman – Cllr David Lavington.....***

In spite of the weather, we hope you will have at least had a restful Easter weekend. This bulletin includes our annual report for the financial year 2007/2008. Accordingly the annual village meeting will be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008 (See advert). This meeting is an open meeting for villagers to question the Council and we therefore cordially invite you to attend. Apart from the annual report there are two other interesting presentations, one on Youth, the other on village recreational facilities and Village Hall.

We realized early in 2007 that there may be some potentially large expenditures looming and we therefore prudently cut back expenditure on some projects in order to preserve the Council's reserves. This is the main reason why the accounts show a savings to budget of (£32,740). During the year we held 37 Council meetings, and will have dealt with some 5700 individual written transactions in addition to numerous verbal

communications and meetings, with B&NES and others. It's been another busy year

Turning now to the new financial year 2008/2009 you will note that we have increased the Precept (Parish Council tax) to ensure that we have sufficient funds available to pump prime possible major projects such as, for example: recreational facilities (field in the Coalpit road) and village hall. Such projects would require substantial funding from various external bodies, which would not be available unless the village shows its commitment by supplying at least some of the initial finance. However to put the increase into perspective the average Band D property will pay an extra £6.81 per annum in the Year 2008/2009. This seems modest for a village the size of Batheaston (3<sup>rd</sup> largest in B&NES) where voluntary groups have ambitions to try and develop more modern facilities.

We look forward to seeing you on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April.

***From GPC Chairman – Cllr Sydney Fremantle.....***

***Budget and expenditure***

It is useful at the end of the financial year to compare what has been spent with the budget provision. The big changes have been on the highways side a much lower spend on the planning application for a park-and-ride on Charmy Down and no need yet to fight in the Courts against a Lambridge park and ride – though that remains a possibility. On planning we had made provision for a slipway to the river but for now B&NES has perceived too much danger for that to go ahead.

Most of the other reductions have been occasioned by delays in such matters as the setting up of a Youth Council or dealing with the trees on the stream side of the football field – deferred because of the settlement problems with the field itself. That problem looms large in our budget forecast for the next 3 years and is joined by the very probable need to provide, at least *seed-corn*, finance for a new village hall, and possibly a significant sum, if shown to be a prudent investment..

During the year, the village held its first and very productive PACT meeting with the police, though results need a bit more time to feed through.

The Children's Society gave a very revealing presentation to a few, too few, of us; but more of that at the Village Meeting.

A mountain bike course has been installed by the BLA and the Youth Shelter now has a floor.

We brought the Council's Standing Orders up to date but Government runs faster with new directives than we with updatings.

**FINANCES – UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS 2007 – 2008**

**INCOME** Actual **£54,760** (Vs Budget £53,550)  
(Increase of **£1210** mainly due to increased Bank Interest of £1020)

**EXPENSES** Actual **£42,590** (Vs Budget £77,310)

	<b>Actual £</b>	<b>Budget £</b>	<b>Savings £</b>
Wages	27360	27710	-350
Administration	4860	6550	-1890
Highways	3800	12220	-8400
Planning	930	7550	-6620
Resources	880	1900	-1020
Recreation	1960	7430	-5470
Projects	2800	13950	-11150
<b>Totals</b>	<b>44570</b>	<b>77310</b>	<b>-32740</b>

**“Savings” Explanations**

Wages	<b>-350</b>	Reduced holiday payments to the Clerk
Administration	<b>-1890</b>	-280 Copying; -240 Training; -110 Subscriptions; -100 Election; -500 no Website/Loyalty; -130 Chairs
Highways	<b>-8400</b>	-250 Less Street light costs; -2780 Less P&R costs; -5000 no Meadows Legal costs; -240 Clearing
Planning	<b>-6620</b>	-370 Less Plants costs; -700 Reduced toilet costs; -1400 no Hanging Baskets; -900 Less Garden Seats; -3000 no 'slipway' costs; -200 Village Plan Grant
Resources	<b>-1020</b>	-470 Less bulletin costs; -550 Reduced local Organisation support
Recreation	<b>-5470</b>	-5000 no Vill Hall costs; -500 reduced Play Area needs
Projects	<b>-11150</b>	-1800 Reduced Mountain Bike costs; -700 youth council costs; -450 Pavilion Refurbishment; -3000 Reduced CCTV costs. -5000 No Trees treatment

<b>The Budget for 2008 –2009</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>£62,810</b>	(Vs £53,550 last year)
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£72,440</b>	(Vs £77,310 last year)

**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS - March 2008**

**Councillors**

David Lavington	Chairman	1 Wayfield Gardens	BA1 7ED	858744
David Robins	Vice-Ch & Ch-PEC	'Woodsome', Bannerdown Road	BA1 8EG	858036
Jane Abbatt	PEC/GPC	155 Catherine Way	BA1 7PB	859083
Judith Beresford-Smith	PEC	"The Chase" 30 high Bannerdown	BA1 7JZ	859270
Lawrence Brass	PEC	198 High Street	BA1 7RA	852222
Pam Blanking	HFL	'Summerhill', 45 Morris Lane	BA1 7PS	858728
Alison Creed	PEC	1 Coronation Cottages	BA1 7DZ	0797 034809
Peter Davis	Ch-HFL	'Batheaston House', 290 High St	BA1 7RA	852232
Kathryn Eardley	HFL	106 Northend	BA1 7HA	859055
Sydney Fremantle	Ch-GPC	'Hill Lodge' Northend	BA1 8EN	852847
Margaret Johns	HFL	3 Catherine Way	BA1 7NY	859515
Liz Kingsley	HFL	12 Stonehouse Lane, Bath	BA2 5DW	830802
Don Nokes	GPC	"The Old Exchange", Penthouse Hill	BA1 7HA	851088
Alan Wright	GPC	15 Warleigh Drive	BA1 7DR	858817
Christopher Routh	Co-PEC	"Fairhaven Coach House" Northend	BA1 8ES	858900
Vito Pecchia	Co-PEC	104 Northend	BA1 7HA	852226

GPC = General Purposes Committee; HFLK = Highways, Footpaths & Lighting Committee;  
PEC = Planning & Environment Committee

**Part-time Employees**

Mike Townley	Clerk	'Bailrigg', 9 Eagle Park	BA1 7HS	852593
Marc Plenty	Handyman	37 Morris Lane	BA1 7PR	855446
Cyril Coxson	Handyman	18 Catherine Way	BA1 7NY	859630
Colin Spicer	Handyman	36 Avoncourt	BA1 7NT	858743
Penny Mimmack	Warden	14 Seven Acres Lane	BA1 7HE	859708

**District Councillors**

Gabriel Batt	Dist Cllr	210 high Street	BA1 7QZ	859419
Ian Dewey	Dist Cllr	'Kennet Court', Bathampton	BA2 6ST	460658
Martin Veal	Dist Cllr	'Victory Gardens', B'down Drive	BA1 7JW	858285

