



PARISH NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2009

CHAIRMAN - CLL. ED SHEPPARD

CLERK - PETER HARRIS

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Join us on 30th April at our Annual Parish Meeting in Clent Village Hall at 7.30p.m.. It's your chance to have your say about what's happening in the Parish.

We have three guest speakers lined up for you :-

Emma Burton on Health Improvement Co-ordination

Mike Bell, head of Waste Management at Bromsgrove D.C.

PC Lord

Additionally, the Parish Councillors will be attending, including Margaret Sherrey (who also represents Bromsgrove D.C.) and Ed Moore (who also represents Worcs C.C.)

All will be available to answer your questions

Additionally, we will discuss the Finances of the Parish –

Audited Accounts for 2007/8

Draft (un-audited) Accounts for 2008/9

Budget 2009/10

Finance

	2007/8 Audited	2008/9 Unaudited	2009/10 Budget
INCOME			
Precept	49000	50500	52500
Bank Interest	6052	6371	2000
Charity Income etc	202	245	232
Grants	2180	2833	3000
TOTAL INCOME	57434	59949	57732

EXPENDITURE			
Administration	18748	29856	22650
Open Spaces	16834	19380	20990
Highways	3949	1818	5850
Public Lighting	10747	12316	13500
Grants	4478	5518	7000
Parish Plan			100
Equipment	1116		2550
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	55872	68888	72640
Surplus/Deficiency	1562	(8939)	(14908)

Chairman's Remarks

What a difference a year makes. This time last year almost everyone in the country was still enjoying relative prosperity (until the wheels fell off the banking industry) and I was also thanking Pat Harris our much loved clerk for all her hard work in that year and how without her we could not function. With regards to the latter I can only speak with admiration for the way Peter has not only dealt with his sad loss but also sprung to aide of the council in carrying on the role of clerk. As chairman I cannot thank him enough. We have in the course of the year managed, despite these problems, to carry out all the every day tasks in running the Parish Council.

The finishing of the cricket pitch has again been delayed during the year for reasons beyond our control but as you will have noticed we have grass on the square and as I write the contractors are ready to apply the seed to the outfield which will then give Clent Cricket Club on completion of the leasing agreement the rest of the year to prepare the pitch for play to commence in 2010.

Affordable housing has also met with delays, mostly on planning which is outside the control of the Parish Council but again with the very professional help from West Mercia Housing a conclusion hopefully is in sight.

The floods last summer were the worst the older ones in the Parish could remember for many years and caused much damage especially in Bromsgrove Road /Belbroughton Road and Vine Lane. A drainage works programme is to be carried out this year by the County Council which will go along way towards alleviating the problem. The Parish Council is also working with residents in Newfield Road and Millpool Close to stop the overflow from the brook in land at the rear of these properties.

Several street lamps in the Parish have been damaged by motor vehicles this year which along with the price of electricity have caused an over spend of the budget for 2008/9. It is ratepayers money that has to pay for this damage, so please if you see the accident please report it to the clerk and if possible take a registration number so we can recover the costs. In most cases the driver will need to make a claim on their insurance anyway so recovering the money for your street lights will make little difference to their premium.

I must thank again all who served on the Council whether they are Parish, District, or County each one makes a huge contribution throughout the year and I look forward to a brighter year for us all

Ed Sheppard

Chairman Clent Parish Council

WHY NOT PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY. YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME