



# Heybridge Parish Council

## ANNUAL REPORT

**1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2011**

## Contact Details

### Parish Councillors

Anne Beale  
93 Hillary Close  
Heybridge

Michael Edwards  
8 Doubleday Drive  
Heybridge

John Harrison  
Pargeters  
Stock Chase  
Heybridge

Veronica Miller  
Swatchways  
19 Chestnut Avenue  
Heybridge

Lew Schnurr  
42 Basin Road  
Heybridge Basin

Laurie Wiebe  
42 Basin Road  
Heybridge Basin

Colin Dykes  
93 Hillary Close  
Heybridge

Clive Gifford  
2 Doubleday Drive  
Heybridge

Ron Mckay  
20 Fir Tree Walk  
Heybridge

Kay Ryder  
21 Creasen Butt Close  
Heybridge

Gill Tully  
1 Hall Cottages  
Hall Road  
Heybridge

### District Councillors

Anne Beale (Heybridge East)  
93 Hillary Close  
Heybridge

Alan Cheshire (Heybridge West)  
21 Wellands  
Wickham Bishops

Bryan Harker (Heybridge East)  
34 Mariners Way  
Maldon

Miriam Lewis (Heybridge West)  
24 Beeches Road  
Heybridge

### County Councillor

Rodney Bass  
Five Corners  
Maypole Road  
Wickham Bishops

# Chairmans Report 2010/11

## **1. Overview**

1.1 I was elected as Chairman of Heybridge Parish Council in May 2010.

1.2 The Parish Council has a variety of roles. It has direct responsibility for various land and property within Heybridge and is consulted on a wide variety of topics, where it will express views and exert influence whenever the interests of Heybridge and its residents are affected.

1.3 Over the last year, Councillor Schnurr has held the post of Vice Chairman to the Council and Councillor Edwards the post of Chairman of the Property Management Committee. The Parish Council presently has five vacant seats, but with two ex-councillors to be co-opted.

1.4 Councillor Ryder has continued in the role of Parish Tree Warden and Norma Hayward (not a councillor) remains as the Public Rights of Way Liaison Officer. John Williams acts for the Council as the Internal Auditor.

1.5 Anne Beale, Alan Cheshire, Bryan Harker, Miriam Lewis are the District Councillors for Heybridge. Rodney Bass is our County Councillor.

## **2. Planning, Highways and Environment**

2.1 The Parish Council is notified of all planning applications affecting Heybridge, and due consideration is given to the comments to be submitted to the District Council. Notices of the applications are displayed on the notice boards at Bentalls Centre and Plantation Hall, and on the Council website. Applications are also available for inspection thirty minutes prior to the Parish Council meetings at Plantation Hall.

2.2 The Parish Council has continued to oppose redevelopment proposals for Lock Hill, as has the District Council, and an appeal was dismissed on the 3rd. February 2011. Development of land beyond Everest Way, which generated considerable local concern, was allowed upon appeal on the 2nd. February 2011. The Council is well aware of local concerns with regard to flooding and loading on the local infrastructure when considering development proposals, and continues to urge the District Council to seek developer contributions towards the infrastructure where appropriate.

2.3 The Parish Council, through its representatives, continues to liaise regularly with the County Council on local highway matters. Through this, the speed limit on Heybridge Approach has been reduced this year to 50 mph from 60 mph, and the speed limit throughout the Elms Farm development is now 20mph instead of the mix of 20 mph and 30mph. Parking around the Hall Road junction has been the cause of complaint, and following incidents a request has been passed to the County Council to consider extending the 30 mph speed limits at Broad Street Green Road and Scraley Road.

2.4 The Parish Council is grateful to Norma Hayward for her liaison work with the County Council on public rights of way matters.

## **3. Finance**

3.1 For the Financial Year 2010/2011 the Parish Council have maintained a careful use of resources to remain within budget. Salaries and Pension contributions exceeded estimates due to a change of Parish Clerk and the period of overlap that ensued. General Office had a slight overspend due to the unexpected need to purchase a new copier. A surplus accumulated at year end of £5,450.62 which is carried forward into the next financial year 2011/2012. Major expenditure items have been put out to tender to ensure best value for money, and transparency in the way the Council works and awards contracts.

3.2 The precept for 2011/12, which is the element of Council Tax covering the Parish Council's budget requirement has been kept at £95,000.

## **4. Direct Responsibilities**

4.1 The Property Management Committee has responsibility for Plantation Hall, King George V Playing Field, Daisy Meadow Car Park at Heybridge Basin, various amenity and grassed areas and amenity lighting as its main functions. These have been managed effectively.

4.2 Plantation Hall has a high usage factor with very competitive rates for hire. The recent and ongoing redecoration of the Hall ensures it remains an attractive venue for hirers.

4.3 The play area at Plantation Hall has had the first step in replacing the safety matting with a more colourful surface. This has been effective, attractive and has received positive feedback. Other surfaces are also under consideration for future renovations.

4.4 The Youth Shelter has finally been installed. After initial problems with noise the situation seems to have quietened down and it is hoped will continue to be used in a sensible and considerate manner.

4.5 The Council is aware of a need and requirement for allotments within the Parish and has been actively looking for suitable land. To date with no success.

4.6 After a tender process a new supplier has been instructed to deal with amenity lighting for the Parish. In this, we expect a review of the equipment and replacement of that which falls below the required standard.

4.7 All of the Parish Council noticeboards have now been either refurbished or replaced to bring them up to an acceptable standard.

## **5. Parish Council in the Community**

5.1 The Parish Council will continue to seek to exert influence in relation to those things which affect Heybridge and its residents. The Parish Council works closely with both County and District Councils.

5.2 The Parish Council, through its representatives, maintain contact with local health providers to try and ensure Heybridge gets its own primary care facility and it is working hard to process the move to obtain a hospital for Maldon and surrounding area.

5.3 The Council has offered to assist in contributing to the Maldon Rangers so that we have a call upon their services to help maintain order and reduce some of the incidents of anti social behaviour. We await a response from MDC. To this end parishioners are encouraged to attend the regular Neighbourhood Action Panel meetings where issues of this nature are regularly discussed and local priorities for action identified.

5.4 The Council have managed to obtain a grant to extend a bus service to include Heybridge Approach in its route. This will enable a large number of residents access by bus to Maldon, which in turn may reduce some car parking and environmental costs. This can run for a trial period of one year when the viability of the service is assessed on usage. Use it or lose it.

5.5 The Parish Council looks to support local organisations and community groups in their work. This past year it has contributed to the Youth Group, to the Parkinson Group, Heybridge Basin events, the Heybridge Basin sign, the guides, cricket club, Elms Farm Park conservation and other small donations.

5.6 The Remembrance Service this year was very well supported and the Council have drawn up a template for the future organisation of this important event. Last year the uniformed organisations started from Plantation Hall and processed to the Heybridge Cemetery where the service was held and the wreath laying took place.

5.7 The Heybridge Youth Project got under way this year and is proving to be very successful, with more children joining and with the invaluable support from the many volunteer supervisors to help run the scheme. Many thanks from the Council to all those who have helped this project to fruition.

5.8 In planning now, but for the near future, a Heybridge Fete is being arranged with a due date of 25th. June 2011. Many groups are contributing to this fete and it should be a worthwhile event to attend.

5.9 The Parish Council website is regularly updated by the Parish Clerk and contains a wide range of information pertaining to the Council and its activities, including agendas, minutes of meetings and dates of meetings. Members of the public are invited to the Parish Council meetings with an opportunity to participate and ask questions.

5.10 The continued support and work of the Parish Council's staff is valued and crucial to the smooth operation of the whole enterprise. Thanks are due to our County and District Councillors for their interest and work in support of the Parish Council and residents of Heybridge.

Clive Gifford, Chairman Heybridge Parish Council. 19th. May 2011

## Year End Financial Report 2010/11

Coding		<u>2010/2011</u>	<u>2010/2011</u>	<u>2010/2011</u>	<u>2011/2012</u>
		Actual	Debtors &	Total	Budget
		31/03/2011	Creditors	31/03/2011	
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>					
5001	Precept	95,000.00		95,000.00	95,000
6001	Lettings	32,403.72	400.00	32,803.72	30,000
6002	Letting Deposits	2,843.00		2,843.00	
7001	Deposit Account Interest	113.02		113.02	1,000
8001	VAT Refunds	7,059.09	2,165.92	9,225.01	
9001	Other	1,990.89		1,990.89	
	Bus Service to West Heybridge	6,240.00		6,240.00	
		<b>£145,649.72</b>	<b>£2,565.92</b>	<b>£148,215.64</b>	<b>£126,000</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>					
<b><u>PLANTATION HALL</u></b>					
2501	Equipment & Materials	981.45		981.45	800
2201	Services (incl. Rates)	10,347.84		10,347.84	14,000
2401	Works and Maintenance	6,057.24	82.50	6,139.74	10,000
2301	Refunds of Deposits	3,191.60		3,191.60	
		20,578.13	82.50	20,660.63	24,800
<b><u>OTHER EXPENSES</u></b>					
3001	Grass Cutting and Ground Maintenance	15,928.20	150.00	16,078.20	19,000
3101	Salaries & Pension Contributions	39,097.45		39,097.45	34,000
3201	Daisy Meadow Rates	4,968.00		4,968.00	6,000
3301	Ins/Subs/Misc	5,183.73		5,183.73	7,000
3401	Other Works - Repairs/Improvements	2,154.76		2,154.76	5,000
3501	Playground Equipment	3,855.57		3,855.57	8,000
3601	Street and Other Lighting	3,805.74		3,805.74	5,000
3701	Professional Fees - Planning/Support	250.00		250.00	1,000
3901	Elections				500
4501	Office Equipment	1,620.78		1,620.78	1,000
4601	General Office	4,132.69		4,132.69	5,000
4701	Chairman's Allowance	327.00		327.00	250
4702	Hospitality	462.53		462.53	500
4801	Use of Home as Office	637.00		637.00	600
4901	Support Services	4,680.00	550.00	5,230.00	6,000
1202	Promotional/Publicity	1,889.02		1,889.02	3,000
1210	MDC Park Rangers				2,000
		88,992.47	700.00	89,692.47	103,850
<b><u>PROJECTS / SECTION 137</u></b>					
1371	Donations	850.00		850.00	1,000
1372	Youth Club				1,500
1391	Daisy Meadow Car Park repairs	2,255.32		2,255.32	1,500
1390	Village Sign - Heybridge Basin	1,569.25		1,569.25	
1381	Village Sign				5,000
1375	Bus Service	120.00		120.00	6,500
1392	Other Projects	5,723.36		5,723.36	
1380	Youth Shelter	12,668.98		12,668.98	
		23,186.91	0.00	23,186.91	15,500

<b>RUNNING COSTS SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>132,757.51</b>	<b>782.50</b>	<b>133,540.01</b>	<b>144,150</b>
<b>VAT RECOVERABLE</b>	9,225.01		9,225.01	
	<b>£ 141,982.52</b>	<b>£ 782.50</b>	<b>£ 142,765.02</b>	<b>£ 144,150</b>
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>3,667.20</b>	<b>1,783.42</b>	<b>5,450.62</b>	
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS, B/F</b>	<b>94,516.94</b>	<b>94,516.94</b>	<b>94,516.94</b>	
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS, C/F</b>	<b>98,184.14</b>	<b>96,300.36</b>	<b>99,967.56</b>	