

EUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE ELECTORS

Year: 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016

Introduction The Council has continued its commitment to deliver and provide improved facilities and projects in Euxton for all its residents.

Chairman of the Council was, myself Councillor Katrina Reed, together with Vice Chairman Councillor John Bamber, both for our second term of office.

Councillors 2015/16 There were no changes of Councillors during the year.

Council employees Clerk to the Council, Debra Platt, continued to guide the Council through its business and carry out all the tasks required to ensure its decisions are met. Council also employs three part-time Village Caretakers who are all conscientious and fully dedicated to their work in Euxton - Ron Bridge, Jack Storton and Stephen McCarthy.

Euxton Web Newsletter moved into its 17th year of production with the 64th issue in March 2016, the first issue being in 1999. The Euxton Web is full colour eight or 12 page publication which is well recognised and read by many Euxton residents.

The Website was rebuilt and a brand new site was launched in January 2016 which tied in with the increased communications methods introduced in June 2015 of a Facebook site and Twitter account, which have been received well.

Village Caretaker Service continues to keep Euxton's streets clean and tidy and the Village Caretakers, as mentioned above, do an excellent job around the village ensuring the play areas are clean and tidy, the streets are clear of litter and swept regularly. The caretakers also work throughout the year to improve areas including additional litter picking at new facilities, and much more.

Awards Euxton received a Silver Gilt Award placing at the North West In Bloom Competition in October 2015. The North West In Bloom Competition is part of the Britain in Bloom National Competition run by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Projects and Activities the new Toddler equipment on Balshaw Lane Play area was installed earlier in this year, just after Easter and was busy from day one.

The Bowling and Boules project moved at pace this year up to the point of applying for planning permission in March 2016. It will be an aim of the committee to deliver on the bowling project as soon as is possible.

The Millennium Green is to receive some attention in the coming years, and was assessed. The first aim is to improve the path system to help people walking around the Green.

Christmas carol singing was popular again this year and residents were able to sing outside under the tree, with its new multi-coloured lights, as the weather held.

Accompaniment this year was by the Coppull & Standish Brass band who turned out in force and gave a rousing performance.

The new Euxton War Memorial was built and dedicated this year. The war memorial group members did an outstanding job of raising funds and designing and delivering a new war memorial for the village which is outstanding. The Parish Council took responsibility for the memorial going forward and thanked the members of the group for their fitting contribution for the village.

Council Budget for 2015/2016 was set in the previous year. The Precept figure received was £107,800, and this gave residents a reduction on their parish council tax, as it has reduced for the 6 years previous.

Summary. The Council is again looking forward to keeping the village clean and tidy whilst building for its future by supplying new or improved facilities.

On behalf of the residents of Euxton, I would like thank all the Councillors of Euxton Parish Council for volunteering their time and efforts.

Councillor Katrina Reed
Chairman 2015/2016
April 2016

<u>EUXTON PARISH COUNCIL</u>		
<u>Budget 2016/2017</u>		
Description	C/Fwd and allocated funds	Budget request 2016/17
Employees	Employees	56000
Housekeeping	Employee Mileage	1600
	General Office - stationery, copy,	1400
	Publicity - newsletter/AnnRep/ Other	3000
	Insurance	2750
	Subscriptions	1500
	Audit	900
	Legal Fees/Planning Investigations	2500
	H&S working from home advice	2000
	Advice/assistance on NIC/VAT	1500
	Website maintenance	240
	IT/Laptop/Hardware	2000
	Speed Indicator Device new plates	150
Council	Training/Conference Fees	350
	Elections and Parish Poll Fund	5000
	General Reserve	20000
Grants/S137	Grants	18440
	Christmas Celebrations	3000
	Christmas Celebrations	500
Special Events/Projects	Euxton Gala	500
	Neighbourhood Plan	2000
	Comms and social media methods	50
	Increase public involvement work	250
	Finance software	2050
Amenity/Utility	ROF Lamp Post Project	2000
	Utilities	1000
	Gardens/Planting/Competitions	3500
	War Memorial	500
	Millennium Green - grass cuts, maint	4000
	Millennium Green Main Plan Survey	4000
	All Purposes Committee	2500
	Greenside Pitch Maintenance	4000
	Play Equipment Replace Scheme	5124
	Amenity/Open Space RRM	10000
Earmarked Reserve/CF	Land Fund/Amenity	13500
	Land Fund/Amenity	18684
	Street Sweeping Machine Fund	4000
	Bowling/Boules Project	62500
Other	Healthy Streets	879
	Ransnap Brook	279
		<u>120516</u>
		<u>178630</u>
	Less cash in hand	78326
	Precept request @£24.37 (per average band D property)	<u>100304</u>

Financial Report

The Council maintains its accounts in line with regulations and undergoes each year both an internal audit, carried out by a qualified, independently appointed auditor, and an external audit, by an appointed audit company.

At the end of the Council's financial year, 31 March 2016, it carried forward balances which were allocated to ongoing and future projects requiring funds to get them started, pay for the project, or to be used for match funding. In particular funds for the Bowling and Boules project were carried forward.

The budget going forward for the financial year to 31 March 2017 is below.