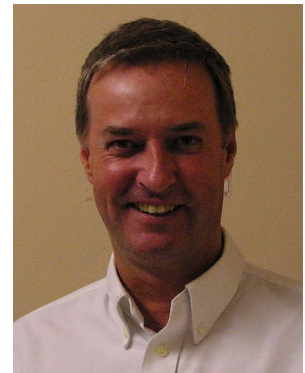


*Ramsden Bellhouse
Parish Council
Annual Report
2010-2011*



Report from the Chairman Alan Harvey



During the year we saw the long awaited completion of the traffic calming scheme by Essex County Council Highways with the installation of the final island at the Northern end of the village. The Parish Council hope that this will reduce the speed of drivers entering the village from the North and eliminate the type of serious accidents which have occurred in recent years where drivers lost control of their vehicles as they negotiated the bend in Church Road.

The Community Speedwatch team have been active again this year. The Parish Council have been working closely with Police to help shape the follow-up scheme being introduced by the Police to deal with persistent cases of speeding through the village.

The continuance of private security for the village enables us to enjoy specifically tailored security patrols to address residents' concerns at a cost lower than community policing, yet with a higher degree of control by the Parish Council. The Parish Council monitor the frequency and duration of these patrols on a monthly basis to ensure residents needs continue to be met and that the agreed performance standards continue to be achieved by the private contractor.

The Parish taxi voucher scheme helps those residents who have more limited mobility than the rest of us. This service, funded through the Parish Council taxes, continues to provide an important service that is deeply appreciated by those who have need of it. On behalf of these people I would like to thank all the residents of Ramsden Bellhouse for their continued support of this scheme. Applications for membership of the taxi voucher scheme are invited from any resident who believes they may qualify.

Recently we have engaged with the Rural Broadband Partnership to identify how we can influence the provision of high-speed, high quality internet broadband services to our village to improve access for home businesses, education and entertainment use. If you would like to help with this effort we would appreciate volunteers. Please let one of your Councillors know if you can spare a few hours during the coming months.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my fellow Councillors who have put in so much effort during this past year and also our Parish Clerk who provides invaluable support to the Council. My thanks also go to those residents who have supported the Council by volunteering for the Speedwatch team, attending Parish meetings, completing questionnaires and giving us valuable feedback.

The Parish Council welcomes your suggestions on what might be done to improve village life in Ramsden Bellhouse and your feedback on the services currently being provided. If you want your views to be heard please come along to a Parish Council meeting at the village hall. All Parish Council meetings are open to the public. These meetings are held in the village hall according to the schedule published on the hall notice board.

SUMMARY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31/3/2011

31/03/2010		31/03/2011
£	RECEIPTS	£
12563.46	Precept	12277.98
12.29	Interest Deposit Account	7.66
	Veolia Grant for playarea improvement	14460.00
	CIF Grant for play equipment	7500.00
895.06	VAT Refund	3089.45
13470.81	Total receipts	37335.09
	 PAYMENTS	
232.39	Administration	148.97
3457.41	Staff	3450.16
219.00	Training	
634.73	Audit/Insurance/Elections	576.23
472.62	Subscriptions	518.59
946.00	Taxi Vouchers	900.00
5090.00	Security Project	5270.00
1043.00	Projects/Memorial/Churchyard	1282.02
	Play Area Project	22250.00
61.00	S137	62.00
831.56	VAT	4919.58
12987.71	Total Payments	39377.55
	 SUMMARY	
34496.43	Balance at 1/4/10	34979.53
13470.81	ADD Total Receipts	37335.09
12987.71	LESS Total Payments	39377.55
34979.53	Balance Carried Forward 31/3/11	32937.07

These cumulative funds are represented by:

Current Account balance	20912.55
Deposit Account balance	12024.52
Total fund	32937.07

These funds are allocated as follows:

Earmarked reserve: Elections	917.73
Earmarked reserve: Tree Planting	350.00
Earmarked reserve: Traffic Calming	6400.00
Earmarked reserve: Taxi Vouchers	1213.00
Earmarked reserve: ECC Grant for IT	1000.00
Earmarked reserve: Environmental Projects	1350.00
Earmarked reserve: Village Security	17443.28
General reserve:	4263.06
Total Fund	32937.07

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS 2010-11					
	Ian Batley	Pam Cummins	Alan Harvey	Ernie Skinner	Richard Wellborne
Contact details	Brynhedryn, Homestead Road	Firs Cottage, Ramsden Park Road	Brook House, Church Road	St. Anthony, Ramsden Park Road	September Cottage, Church Road
Posts held	Notices	Vice Chairman Taxi voucher co-ordination, Open Spaces & Environment, Planning monitoring	Chairman, Traffic Calming	Taxi Voucher co-ordination, Open Spaces & Environment, Notices deputy	Community Speedwatch
Representatives to:	Basildon Association of Town & Parish Councils Reserve		Basildon Association of Town & Parish Councils,	Village Hall	Police Neighbourhood Action Panel
Meeting attendance	6/7	7/7	3/7	7/7	5/7

NON-ELECTED APPOINTMENTS 2010-11		
Clerk to the Council	Independent Internal Auditor	External Auditor
Mrs. Karen Plumridge, 2 Clinton Close, East Hanningfield, Chelmsford CM3 8AZ ☎ 01245 400628 ✉ karen.plumridge@btinternet.com	Heelis and Lodge	Audit Commission, Room 215, Tamar Science Park, Davy Road, Derriford, Plymouth, Devon, PL6 8BX

During the year

- The Parish Council subscribed to membership of the National Association of Local Councils, the Essex Association of Local Councils, The Basildon Association of Town and Parish Councils and the Rural Community Council of Essex. The Clerk is a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks.
- The Parish Council considered 33 planning applications.