



## YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL AT WORK



**CHRIS ROBINSON**  
PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON 2009/10



**GERALD SMITH**  
VICE CHAIRPERSON 2009/10

### CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

As I approach the end of my year in office as Chairperson of the Parish Council I have to say it has, to say the least, been quite eventful.

My first four meetings were dominated by somewhat major issues affecting parishioners. There was the major upset of flooding affecting over 150 properties across the parish plus three somewhat controversial planning applications: 6

- Development at the Beeches
- Swallownest Court Hospital
- Ulley Wind Farm

All these were highly emotive for local residents.

The flooding was what can only be described as a local disaster which continues to be a very important issue for many people.

However, the Parish Council responded with a pledge to work with RMBC to identify probable causes and also allocated a sum of £10,000 to carry out works for which the Parish Council was responsible.

RMBC commenced detailed investigations which were completed at the end of March, let's hope that all these efforts have resulted in the identification of causes which can be

rectified quickly so as to prevent any repetition of the misery caused by this local disaster.

On a more pleasing front it has been rewarding to see the investment made to improve play areas across the Parish through the Government's Play Pathfinder programme. At the beginning of the summer period, play areas at West Park Drive, Falconer Lane, Alexandra Park and Skipton Road were completed followed by the one at Aughton Recreation Ground in the Autumn.

Together with the investment at Burgoyne Park with fitness equipment and new youth shelter we hope these new upgraded facilities have provided a much improved and enjoyable resource for our community to enjoy.

In August the Carnival was held at Lodge Lane towards which the Parish Council played its part with provision of facilities and financial assistance. My thanks go to the local group who give up their time and work tirelessly to put on this event for the benefit of our community.

In October we once again held a Parish Open Day at the Parish Hall. Local groups in the area were invited to promote their cause and take

opportunity to reach out to the community, show what was available and what they had to offer. Over 20 groups took part in this successful event.

The highlight of the Open Day was the display by RMBC's Archives and Local Studies Section of the Ancient Map of Aston. This attracted much attention throughout the day.

The Reading Room continues to be used regularly by several local groups and is well supported by the Friends Group who put on the monthly Saturday Lunches the proceeds of which are destined for charitable groups. We continually look for more groups who could use this resource.

Once again, at Christmas, the lights were extended, this time a new tree was decorated near the crossroads junction adjacent The Wetherby Pub. This multi-coloured attraction was well received with many comments and phone calls of thanks having been received.

The Youth Council has continued to meet each month and through its own efforts was awarded a grant by the Area Assembly to purchase IT equipment to help with the future programme of activities.

**Continued Page 2 .....**

Chairpersons remarks continued from front page .....

Regarding what have come to be classed as the Parish Council's regular activities I have to start with the enormous success of the Bonfire and Fireworks evening. Once again it was the greatest supported event in the Parish Council's calendar. Well done to all concerned.

The Recreational Competitions of fishing, cricket and football were held during the summer and attracted the usual high level of interest.

The Parish Natter has continued to be well received as a major communication vehicle between the Parish Council and parishioners. Regular contributions from a range of organisations within the Parish ensure the Editorial Group are able to maintain its varied content. Thanks to our staff for its production.

During the year the Parish Council was consulted on some 75 planning

applications and grants were awarded to a number of organisations to assist them in continuing with their activities or to kick-start their existence.

Also, the Parish Council continued its funding of places at Aughton Early Years Centre along with places at Swallownest Pre-School both to offer support and assistance to some less fortunate local families.

Once again the local Community Volunteers Forum were given Parish Council funding to provide activities for children during school holidays. These included discos, swimming and dance sessions, a trip to the seaside, fairground rides and sports coaching.

Parish Councillor surgeries have continued to be held on a monthly basis. These provide opportunity for parishioners to have face to face dialog with their local representatives and are well received.

Finally, I have to report that towards the end of February, I was very pleased to attend the ceremony to celebrate the unveiling of the STAN ROUSE MEMORIAL FOOTPATH SIGNPOST erected near to Aston Common Farm. Stan worked tirelessly to ensure footpaths were kept open and available and the sign sponsored by the Parish Council is to mark and recognise these efforts on behalf of the community.

Overall, the Parish Council, through its range of services and initiatives, aims to improve quality of life for local residents.

In closing, I must thank all my fellow Councillors, especially my Vice Chairperson for his assistance and support, and the Clerk, his Assistant and all other staff for the effort in supporting me during this term of office.

Thank You  
Cllr Chris Robinson

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS** Observe your Parish Council in action by attending the monthly meeting held on the second Tuesday each month except August in the Parish Hall, Rosegarth Avenue, commencing 7.15 pm. A period of Public Participation is held at the beginning of each meeting. **Contribute in Public Participation** – following completion of the first business and prior to the commencement of other business, the Parish Council invites members of the Public to put questions on relevant Parish matters or to make statements appertaining to items on the Agenda for the meeting. This is for a period of up to 15 minutes and is limited to 3 minutes per person.

## THE WAY YOUR COUNCIL WORKS

All Parish Councillors sit on the Full Parish Council and all 15 members sit on one or more of the committees outlined below.

There are 3 main Committees with 8 members on each.

The **General Purposes Committee** takes on responsibility for 2 burial grounds; Parish Hall improvements and maintenance; grants to local organisations; activities for unwaged and OAPs and items pertaining to general administration.

The **Recreation and Open Spaces Committee** takes on responsibility for 6 recreation grounds/parks (including play areas and football pitches); bowling green; allotments and garage sites; plus bonfire; competitions; Christmas decorations and the floral displays across the Parish.



Cllr Mrs Pat Wade  
Chairperson . General Purposes



Cllr Gerald Smith  
Chairperson . Recreation & Open Spaces



Cllr Mrs Hilda Jack  
Chairperson . Finance & Employment

The **Finance and Employment Committee** is responsible for all aspects of finance including ongoing monitoring of expenditure and overview of Audit requirements, plus all employment related issues including pay, conditions of service and training etc.

In addition to the 3 main Committees there are two specialist committees. The **Young People's Committee** which is responsible for the research and development of youth provision in the Parish including the Youth Council and the **William Layne Reading Room Committee** which is responsible for overseeing the general operation of the Reading Room.

Also, there is a **Newsletter Editorial Group** and the **Parish Plan Steering Committee**.

**SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS (Unaudited)**  
**Y/E 31 MARCH 2010**

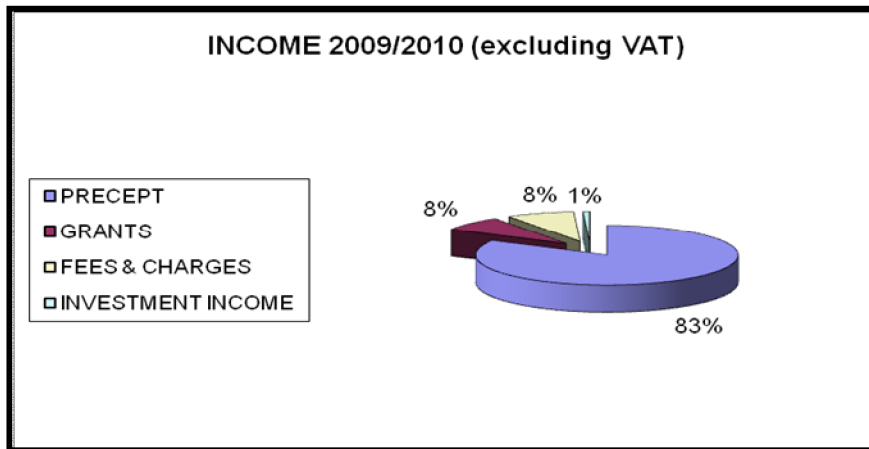
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
	£		£
Precept	219000	Administration	26521
Grants	20632	Employees	108761
Fees & Charges	21802	Capital Schemes/Assets	31785
Investment Income	579	Other Service Prov. Costs	93219
Misc. Receipts	46	Ongoing Projects	1773
	<u>262059</u>		<u>262059</u>

**Notes**

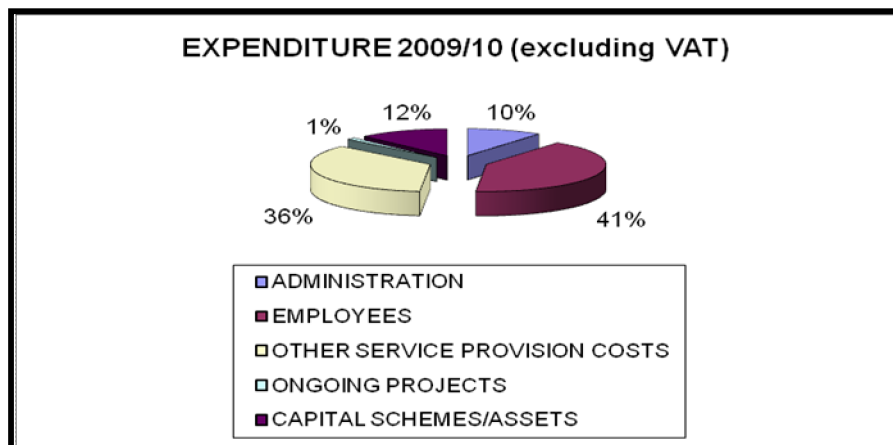
Income includes fees and charges from:-  
 - Burials  
 - Football Pitches  
 - Allotments/Garage Sites  
 - Bowling Green

Expenditure includes General Administration plus Service Provision which includes:-  
 - Burial Grounds  
 - Recreation Grounds  
 - Allotments/Garage Sites  
 - Bowling Green  
 - Floral Displays  
 - Parish Hall  
 - Competitions  
 - Xmas Decorations  
 - Grants to local organisations

**Where the money came from .....**



**..... and where the money was spent**



**Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Members of the Parish Council sit on various organisations on behalf of the Parish Council to represent the Community. Below is a list of Organisations and the member(s) involved:-

Aston-cum-Aughton Recreational Charity . Cllr Armitage

Orgreave Site Liaison Committee . Cllrs Armitage and Mrs Wade

Aston Charities . Cllrs Mrs Bartholomew Mrs Jack and O'Keefe

RMBC and Town and Parish Councils Joint Working Group . Cllrs Mrs Wade and Cooper

Rother Valley West Area Assembly Co-Ordinating Group . Cllr Mrs Windle

Yorkshire Local Councils Associations . Cllrs Cooper and Mrs Wade

In addition to the above, many members are school governors at one or more of the 9 schools in the Parish.

Ten members are also appointed as trustees on the Parish Hall Management Committee which operates as a Registered Charity and receives funding from the Parish Council.

## HOW TO FIND US

(All correspondence to Parish Council Office)

**CHAIRPERSON – CLLR CHRIS ROBINSON (W) - 2879290**

ALEX ARMITAGE (S)	2876136	PAUL MARTIN (S)	(01909) 774199
JANE AUSTEN (S)	(01246) 433001	BOB O'KEEFE (W)	2873558
BERNADETTE BARTHOLOMEW (N)	2872731	JIM RICHARDSON (N)	2872049
DEREK CORKELL (N)	2875617	JAMES SHARMAN (N)	2878187
GARY COOPER (N)	2540071	GERALD SMITH (N)	2879599
DAVID GEE (S)	2876642	PAT WADE (N)	2873541
HILDA JACK (S)	2878510	CAROLE WINDLE (W)	2872889

(N/S/W denotes Ward ó Aston-cum-Aughton, North/South/West)



**Alan J Hodkin**  
Clerk to the Council

**ADMINISTRATION (For all correspondence and enquiries)**  
Parish Council Office: Rosegarth Avenue, Aston, Sheffield S26 2DD

**Tele: 2879008**

(Open 10am to 12-30pm Monday to Friday)

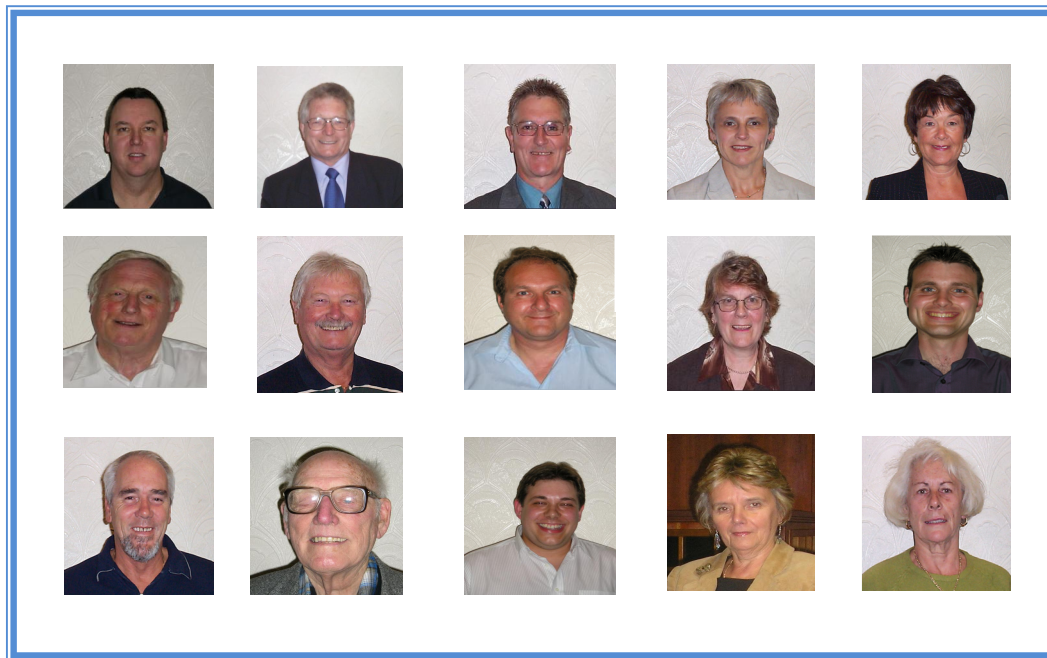
e-mail [info@aston-cum-aughton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@aston-cum-aughton-pc.gov.uk)

website – [www.aston-cum-aughton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.aston-cum-aughton-pc.gov.uk)



**Carole Manship**  
Assistant Clerk

## *KNOW YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS*



**Left – Right (N/S/W denotes Ward – Aston-cum-Aughton, North/South/West)**

**Top Row .** Cllr Cllr C Robinson Chairperson 2009/2010 (W), Cllr G Smith Vice Chairperson 2009/2010 (N)  
Cllr A Armitage (S) Cllr Mrs J Austen (S) Cllr Mrs B Bartholomew (N)

**Middle Row .** Cllr D Corkell (N) Cllr G Cooper (N) Cllr D Gee (S) Cllr Mrs H Jack (S) Cllr P Martin (S)

**Bottom Row .** Cllr R O'Keeffe (W) Cllr J Richardson (N) Cllr J Sharman (N) Cllr Mrs P Wade (N) Cllr Mrs C Windle (W)