

ready for occupation, we still seem to have parking issues from the contractors on site, to which the only way forward is to keep reporting the parking problems to Wyre Council and the Police.

Our persistent drug dealing issue; blatantly continues, even though we are assured that the Police are dealing with the matter. We are suffering some wanton damage and vandalism which in my personal opinion IS linked, Vickers old building on Catterall Gates Lane had been broken into and appears to have been used as a meeting place; it has now been re-secured.

Coming up this year, we are not many weeks away from the procession season and I look forward to having an enjoyable Catterall Gala accompanied by the good weather.

Once again thanks you all very much for your support and I look forward to being able to support you and the Parish for the coming year.

Thank you, Ian Brayshaw

The report was accepted by members.

5. REPORT FROM THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

Catterall Parish Council began this financial year with £55,522 and, has to 15th March; a balance of £69,388. Catterall Parish Council increased the precept by £3,000 against inflation for the jobs undertaken and those which do transpire during the year. When setting the budget the Councillors were concerned that although the Government has not capped Parish Councils to date the subject continues to be debated in Parliament.

Both the income and expenditure has greatly increased due to the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field improvement of a new Toddler and Junior Play Area. Catterall Parish Council has been able to carry out the first phase of improvements on the field by using funding from a section 106 planning condition for new houses nearby at £26,798 and a successful Lancashire Environmental Fund grant applied for by Cllr. Jan Finch, which raised £30,000. To date the Parish Council has claimed £42,500 towards the cost of £62,000 with the final instalment to Playdale due in April.

Income

Costs of the day to day workings of the Parish Council's duties have remained static against last year's costs, but other grants have diminished this year as concentration was focused on the play area. The projects commenced last year have been maintained and these include Stone Cross Garden and Catterall in Bloom's contributions to the greening of the village through their use of the many barrel planters and featuring the farm cart on Garstang Road. Thanks must be expressed to the 'Bloomers' and especially to their leading light Netta for their dedication and hard work.

Unfortunately the football pitch has not been used this year, but hopefully this will appeal to local teams shortly. The Parish Lengthsman contract continues with Kirkland Parish Council who is most appreciative of the diligence shown by Tim in their parish.

Expenditure

Staff costs are very slightly up on last year, due to a negotiated percentage rise in line with recommendations. Again the Parish Lengthsman at Pilling was called upon to assist Tim in the bigger projects; such as the reinstatement of the playing field fence and drainage on the playing field.

Equipment was purchased for the village including two benches, a litter bin at the junction of Cock Robin Lane and the Parish Council still holds funds for resurfacing the car park at Catterall Village Hall. It should be noted that the Village Hall committee has undertaken some patching recently, but still feel that compete resurfacing is necessary. During July the

Parish Council's computer crashed and a replacement was purchased at speed to ensure continuity.

Looking to the future and based on the master plan for the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field; the next phase is to source funding for a circular track with exercise stations along the route, known as a trim trail. CCTV is to be installed at the Whitewell Close end of the field to watch over the new play area with the ability to cover other installations as they are completed. Keepers Wood Way land is to be reviewed as to improvements, working with Catterall in Bloom to plant a coppice from Parish Council trees being nurtured and erect bird boxes.

The report was accepted by members.

6. MATTERS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

A Catterall resident raised the possible use of the football pitch by local under 11's football teams working out of Myerscough College. The size of the pitch required would be inside the one marked out at present, but the resident will supply precise measurements to how it would sit on the site. The college would supply temporary goal posts as these are smaller in relation to the age of the children playing. Games would be played each Sunday during Winter. The Parish Council agrees in principal to the use of the field, but would need to see the logistics of what is involved initially.

7. ANNUAL REPORTS

Wyre Councillor Shaun Turner

Cllr. Turner reported on the recent planning committee decisions to grant 8 major planning applications; giving the greater Garstang area a further 600+ houses all using the A6. An application in Cabus was the only one turned down. Phase two of the Daniel Lane application included a medical centre, but the committee do not have the power to condition the building, so conditioned the land usage and the North Lancashire CCG will control the building. An application can be made to lift the condition, but the Wyre Councillors would resist this.

All permissions carry the proviso that should junction 2 of the M55 not receive permission these plans will not become live. It is the provision of this junction which was used as the case for increasing the A6 capacity to take further residential developments. It was also raised that Wyre Council would not be calling for sites until 2031 with the amount of development granted recently. Wyre Council must show to the Government it can bring forward 479 houses per year until 2031.

The development of the garage at Highfield has been the subject of enforcement and must be removed by the end of August, 2017. The Pickerings development was discussed as the houses are sold leasehold rather than freehold.

Report of Wyre Area Lancashire Association of Local Councils Representative

Cllr. Jan Finch reported that dates and times have changed to attract attendance, being a Wednesday when there are no Parish Council meetings. There has been a good attendance recently and Neil Stevens, Lancashire County Council, is secured for the next meeting to explain how highways sit within the planning process.

There were no matters raised by residents.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50p.m.

Date

Chairman