



WOLVEY Parish Council Annual Report

2010 - 2011

Councillor Ruth Buswell (Chairman)

Margaret Cartwright (Proper Officer/ Responsible Financial Officer)

27th April, 2011

This annual report is prepared on behalf of Wolvey Parish Council and is a synopsis of the report presented to the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April, 2011. Its aim is to provide a brief summary of some of the Parish Council's activities for the year.

Parish Council meetings are held at 7.45pm on the third Monday of each month in the back room of Wolvey Village Hall. Local electors are welcome to attend to make comments or express views on matters being considered by the Council.

The Parish Council also holds a councillor surgery on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the village hall.



Parish Council members are:	Ruth Buswell (Chairman)	01455 221324
Wolvey Parish Clerk	Ron Podesta (Vice- Chairman)	01455 220608
Margaret Cartwright The Old Post Office Wolds Lane, Wolvey, LE10 3LL	Roy Elliott	01455 220491
Tel: 01455 220277 email: parishclerk@wolvey.org	John Hawkins	01455 220482
	Jon Slee	01455 220322
	Keith Orchard	01455 220688

Full contact details are available on the village notice board and on the Parish Council website

2010-11 A year of transition

2010/2011 has been a year of transition for the council yet again, many changes to our role and the way parish council's conduct their business have been under review by the Coalition Government, resulting in many new rules and regulations for us to navigate our way through.

Not only that, but after a short time as Parish Councillor, Roger Wickens resigned, due to personal reasons and is keenly missed. Roger was a steady, sensible person, whose views were valued and heeded. As a talented photographer

he left behind a superb 2011 Calendar and a DVD of 'Wolvey from the Air', We welcomed Keith Orchard as our newest Parish Councillor. Keith brings a wealth of industrial management knowledge and expertise to the table.

Apart from member changes, it has been a challenging year. The water continues to run down Church Hill despite the Council's best efforts to resolve the problem. The wall, also on Church Hill, is still causing concern to residents and Councillors alike. Two new dogwaste bins have been

installed in the village. Nevertheless, dog fouling continues to be a problem, caused by people too selfish to clear up after their pets.

The Speed Limit Review is on-going, the sign installed in Leicester Road, seems to have made little difference to speeding cars. The village centre speed situation is still a huge problem, with much debate by the Council as to the solution.

The Website and Newsletter

On a positive note, the Wolvey Website gets better and more informative, attracting many browsers, The presentation is second to none, so the man responsible, Mr Pete

Hopkins must be thanked profusely. Likewise the Newsletter, which without the hard work of Derek Warren would not be possible, so thankyou, Derek.

www.wolvey.org

Winning Wolvey

Wolvey was again successful in competitions. In the Warwickshire Best Village of the Year 2010 we were the winner of the Community Award and came

second in the Environment section. We were awarded certificates, trophies and £350 in prize money. In the Rugby in Bloom competition we won Gold for the

community section and Gold and overall winner of the Environment section.

Wolvey Society

Some progress has been made to integrate our **village youth** with their counterparts at Bramcote Barracks. The Youth Service is organising transport from Wolvey to Bramcote for a youth club session, on Wednesdays for 10 weeks. In addition the Wolvey Scouts Group continues to meet weekly with a healthy attendance.

Wolvey Environmental Group is still active and busy. Seventy more trees have been planted in the Reserve, to compliment last year's planting, of 150, which are healthy and thriving. Another donated bench has been installed, wild flowers planted and our role in the Wetland is now the maintenance, preservation and monitoring of our precious space. An Open Weekend held last June, in the Reserve, with pond dipping, insect netting and spotting, was very well attended, and thoroughly enjoyed by villagers and visitors from farther afield. The village square looked great last summer, many

prizes were won to our delight and it makes the work we do worthwhile so a big "Thankyou" to all the volunteers.



Unfortunately, the **Neighbourhood Watch Group** is not faring so well, membership is low, and the group is in danger of closing. The position of our PCSO, Sharon Bailie, who is a great supporter of the group, is uncertain and the Police Office, situated in the Village Hall, will be closing soon. Crime is low in Wolvey but as a result of the cuts in police services we will need a Neighbourhood Watch more than ever.

It was decided after great deliberation to abandon the attempt to establish a viable **Community First Responder** service. The interaction and support from the West Midlands Ambulance Service has been non-existent, so it was agreed with

regret, not to continue any further with this exercise.

The Christmas Tree Switch on Celebration was once more a resounding success, despite extremely cold weather, attendance was good. People came to sing carols along with the choir and silver band, to drink mulled wine and eat mincepies. Donations were given in support of Help The Heroes and £200 was raised. An added bonus this year was a variety of art and craft stalls in the Village Hall, which added to the Christmassy atmosphere. The light switch on was conducted by David Lloyd this year, in respect of his many contributions to the village over many years.

Be assured that the Parish Council will continue to give Wolvey Village the best service possible with the resources we have available.

Financial Report

The precept for the year 2010-11 was **£30,000**
Other receipts amounted to **£8,187**

Receipts during 2010 include:

- a) Payment from Rugby Borough Council of **£1807** as the Parish Council has taken responsibility for cutting grass verges
- b) Best Village prize money of **£350**

The total expenditure for the year was **£30,597**

During 2010-11 significant expenditure included:

- a) **£3800** to refurbish the playing fields pavilion
- b) **£682** to purchase street furniture

The revenue budget is the amount of money necessary for the Parish Council to carry out its statutory requirements. In other words it is the amount of money required for the Parish Council to function lawfully. This includes expenses such as insurance, internal and external auditors, fees to professional bodies who provide advice, training for the Clerk and Councillors, salaries, administration costs such as computer expenses and sundries, stationery, photocopying, phone calls, travel expenses, etc. and the cost of the Parish Council website and newsletter.

The total of the revenue budget for the year was **£8682**.

The street lights in Wolvey are owned and maintained by Wolvey Parish Council.

The costs of electricity, maintenance and upgrading of streetlights accounted for **£6242**.

The Parish Council also takes responsibility for cutting the grass verges in and around the village. To avoid double taxation of Wolvey residents, funds are obtained from Rugby BC to offset the costs involved. The overall annual cost for 2010 was **£2249** and the amount received from Rugby BC and Warwickshire CC was **£1807**. As a result, the amount remaining to be paid by the Parish Council was only **£442**.

Charitable donations

A total of £7,650 was given as donations/grants to organisations within the parish and to charities.

These included:

- £500 to the Air Ambulance
- £50 to Rugby Citizens Advice Bureau
- £300 each to the Wolvey Scouts, Brownies & Baby & Toddler Group
- £450 to Over 60's group
- £2000 to Wolvey Church
- £650 to Baptist Chapel
- £1500 to Village Hall
- £1600 to the Playing Fields to assist with their on-going maintenance costs

The Council's annual accounts are made available for public inspection and submitted for internal and external audit, within the timescale and requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003. The Audit Commission appointed Clement Keys as the external auditor for this year. For the year ended 31st March 2010, Clement Keys verified and endorsed the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts and Statement of Assurance and provided a signed audit certificate and opinion. These documents were published on the village notice board and the Parish Council website.

Proper governance of the budget is maintained throughout the year to ensure work is managed effectively. Costs are kept to a minimum and reserves are within recommended parameters.

The total cash and investments increased slightly to £38011. This is because additional funds have been allocated to earmarked reserves for future traffic calming measures and an upgrade of streetlighting when appropriate.