

# Abbots Bromley Parish Council



# Annual Report

*June 2004*

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## Introduction

### Our first annual report

This is the first time that an annual report has been created in this format and the Council hopes that you will find the information useful and understandable.

Although there is no new information in this report, it does bring together in one place key details about the activities of the Parish Council in a manner recommended as good practice by the government for those Councils wishing to aspire to be *Quality Councils*.

### Summary already issued

A summary of this annual report from the Parish Council was included in the May 2004 ***Bromley Bulletin*** distributed to all households in the parish early in June 2004. A copy of the financial report was also provided.

### Also available on-line

An electronic copy of this report is available on the village web pages where you can view it or print your own copy. Our web pages are at **[www.abbotsbromley.com](http://www.abbotsbromley.com)** and you will find the report in the Parish Council section under "Documents".

# Council Members and Officer

## Council Members

Philip Charles      840251      **CHAIRMAN**  
Poplar Farm, Bromley Hurst, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AY

Clive Cook            840928  
Churchfields House, Bagot Street, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DB

David Eatough      840061  
Newsagent, Uttoxeter Road, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3EQ

Alan Elkington      841011  
Fairview, Ashbrook Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DW

Bob Esling            840778      **VICE CHAIRMAN**  
Town End Farm, Lichfield Road, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DL

Linda Fox            840315  
Coleshill Lodge, Lichfield Road, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DN

Roger Jarman        840678  
Wheelwright House, Bagot Street, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DB

Kate McLoughlin 840409  
16 St Nicholas Way, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3EB

Jean Needham      840481  
Rose Cottage, Lichfield Road, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DN

## Officer

Eric Roy              840153  
31 Goose Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DE  
*Email: [parish.council@abbotsbromley.com](mailto:parish.council@abbotsbromley.com)*

# Working Groups and Representatives

## Working Groups

*The Chairman and Vice Chairman are entitled to serve, ex officio, on all groups*

<b>Working group</b>	<b>Member(s)</b>
Competitions	Cllrs Elkington, Needham
Finance	Cllrs Eatough, Fox
Newsletter	Cllrs Fox, McLoughlin
Recreation	Cllrs Cook, McLoughlin, Needham
Rural Housing	Cllr Jarman
Traffic & Parking	Cllrs Cook, Eatough, Fox, Jarman
Village Property	Cllrs Elkington, Jarman

## Representatives

<b>Representative</b>	<b>Member(s)</b>
Finance	Cllr Fox
RCFS Governor	Cllr Eatough
United Charities	Cllrs Charles, Cook
Village Hall	Cllr Cook
Vital Villages	Cllr Esling
Millennium Green	Cllr Cook
Almshouses	Chairman—ex officio
RISES	Cllr Fox
First Responders	Cllrs Esling, McLoughlin

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly  
held on Wednesday, 12 May, 2004 at 7.30 p.m.  
in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

Present:

*Councillors:* PJ Charles (Chairman), A Elkington, L Fox, KA McLoughlin, J Needham

*Mesdames:* J Crooks, E Ferguson, N MacPherson, P Roy, M Shaw, M Tonking, V Webb

*Messrs:* S Coxon, B Grundy, L Ferguson, J Hough, M King, R Rooke, S Tonking, K Webb

*Guests:* Borough Councillor Alex Fox, County Councillor Philip Atkins,  
Police Inspector Andy Mason,  
Peter Jennings (East Staffordshire Neighbourhood Watch)

Apologies:

Councillors Cook, Eatough, Esling, Jarman  
Mesdames K Cadman, H Davis, S Douthwaite

The Clerk, Mr EA Roy was also in attendance

### **1. Chairman's welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all present to the Annual Parish Assembly.

### **2. Presentation of the Jubilee Cup**

The Chairman presented Jill Crooks with a certificate commemorating her award of the Jubilee Cup in 2003.

Presenting the cup for 2004 to Mr Bernard Grundy, the Chairman drew attention to his significant contributions to village life over many years including:

- The Cricket Club
- United charities
- St Nicholas Church
- Various bands

In response Mr Grundy noted that receiving the cup might be taken as a sign that he was now of an age where little else was expected and wasn't quite how sure to take that? He also confessed to long term involvements with the Youth Club and Village Institute before recounting some of his experiences over the years. He thanked the Parish Council for their award.

### **3. Chairman's report on Parish Council business for the year**

Councillor Charles reminded those present that the year started with an election which meant losing Messrs Ferguson and Wilson but gaining Councillors Elkington and Eatough who he reported have fitted in well with the other members of the Council. He went on to say:

- During the year we have dealt with 71 planning applications ranging from tree pruning to major developments such as that proposed for new houses on the land at Ivy House.
- A year ago, a proposal for a wind farm in Bagot's Park was stimulating intense debate – not always of a constructive nature but reflecting the high levels of emotion that some felt about the concept. Too date, no planning application has been submitted and, with the increasing emphasis on off-shore wind farming, it seems that Powergen may have lost interest in this proposal.
- Early in 2003 the Council became aware of the opportunity to establish a Community First Responder team. The team would provide an early response to medical emergencies in the few minutes that it takes an ambulance to reach the parish. A similar scheme in the Weaver Ward has been very successful. The Council decided to promote the idea and Councillors Esling and McLoughlin have worked with the Staffordshire Ambulance Service to move this forward. We will be hearing more about this initiative later. The Council has



already provided some financial support and will make a further grant in the coming year.

- The Council were involved in the initiation of the Vital Villages project and are continuing to support this important project which we will have a report on later this evening.
- One of the issues most often raised with Councillors is the speed of traffic through the main street. During the last few months the Council has had numerous contacts with both Staffordshire County Council and Police personnel to try and find solutions. A traffic speed survey at the end of February measured the extent of the problem and the results are available on the village web pages. Although the survey showed there was speeding, this was not at such a level that it merited immediate action when compared to other locations the County Council are also being asked to address. At present there is opposition from County planners to the introduction of 20mph limits and so far the Council has seen little benefit from the effort expended on this front. The possibility of acquiring and deploying a community speed gun is also being considered as a way of improving the enforcement of existing limits.
- We have entered the Best Kept Village competition and a great deal of effort has been put in by Cllr Elkington on a number of matters - some of which have come to fruition and others that are still in progress.
- As part of their programme of changes designed to help and strengthen rural communities, the government has introduced the designation of "Quality Council". This can be earned by Parish and Town Councils who meet certain quality criteria. The Council has decided to apply for quality status and the Clerk is undergoing additional training to facilitate this. The reason for doing so is that the Council believes it already meets most of the criteria and those which need some change will be of benefit to the community.
- As we look to the future, the Council has increased the budget for the coming year by 2.2%. Although just keeping pace with inflation, this small increase will allow further support for Community First Responders and Vital Villages.
- Starting from 29th May a series of Parish Council surgeries will be held monthly on a Saturday morning in Church House.

#### **4. Presentation of Parish Council Accounts (copy attached)**

In presenting the un-audited accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2004, the Clerk drew attention to increased insurance costs and extraordinary items of expenditure for the insurance valuation on the War Memorial. Accounts were also presented for the Vital Villages project and the RISES recycling group.

#### **5. Report on Borough Council Matters (Borough Councillor Alex Fox)**

Borough Councillor Fox thanked the Parish Council for their invitation and reminded them that since the election he has been pre-occupied with his new role as leader of the Borough Council. In the last year the main issues affecting his parish interests have been to do with planning matters. He mentioned the development in Ashbrook Lane and proposed development at Ivy House as cases in point. He also referred to the proposal for a caravan site and pointed out that there were more of these than the countryside needed.

He also paid tribute to the work carried out on the village plan by Mithra Tonking, Paul Sweetman and the rest of the team and expressed his delight at the level of response to the questionnaires. Major concerns with the way the highways department are operating are evident and we need to find a way to address these.

A proposed out-of-hours service for GPs is disturbing many elsewhere, but reflects something we are already used to in Abbots Bromley.

A number of people have volunteered to take part in the development of a Design Statement for the village and that will play a significant part in helping to steer future development in the parish. In general the number of volunteers coming forward to assist with plan-related activities has been very encouraging.

He also drew attention to the ESBC community fund that had £100k available for community building projects this year and the £2M being spent to help regenerate Uttoxeter that is helping to leverage other funding from project partners. He outlined some details of the proposed schemes.

#### **6. Report on County Council Matters (County Councillor Philip Atkins)**

County Councillor Atkins reported that his year has been busy with the additional roles he has gained since the election. He reported that the recommendations of the Electoral Review were now

due to be considered. He explained the implications of these for the local division.

The new Chief Executive had taken office and come with a different style than any of his predecessors with the prospect of some significant changes to come.

Personally he had moved from education to health where one of his main themes was helping children to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

He went on to explain some of the issues that impacted the requirements of the Parish Council for highways improvements, and how these would work against the expressed needs.

In Highways there are three areas each of which has quite separate budgets:

- Capital - covering major projects and traffic calming, road safety issues
- Maintenance - which also has to be stretched to maintain new capital schemes
- Transport (including bus services)

The insularity between these operations creates issues.

By contrast, Education seems to work with much more joined up thinking although there are issues of surplus capacity in first schools that might lead to the middle school system being abandoned in the Uttoxeter area.

He paid tribute to the First Responder group, expressed his pleasure at the progress being made and hoped the benefits seen in Weaver would be repeated in Abbots Bromley. He had been pleased to make a contribution from his Local Members Initiative Scheme fund towards the set up costs.

## **7. Village Reports**

### **7.1 United Charities Report**

Mr Bernard Grundy reported that the Trustees had met twice during the year. In November to discuss the annual distribution of monies available from income accrued to the Investment Fund, and in March approve the audited Accounts. A special Meeting was arranged for October so that the new Trustees Mr. Clive Cook and Mrs. Sue Birch could familiarise themselves with the funding and administration of the Charities. Mr. Cook and Mrs. Birch replaced Mr. Christopher Talbot and Mrs Christine Roebuck both of whom retired at the end of last year.

The annual distribution took place on 12th December when 65 parishioners received a monetary gift. The Trustees also made a special donation of £150 to The Evergreens to assist the Society in its work, and £100 to Miss Bethany Dunmore who is representing the Staffordshire Girl Guides at an international gathering in New Jersey later this year.

The audited accounts show the investment income and Bank Interest remained the same as in the previous year, but there was an excess of Expenditure over Income of £61.65.

The total Capital Assets of the Charities amounted to £65,396.21, comprising Shares in the Charities Income Fund, Deposit Account at Lloyds TSB, and a small sum of petty cash.

The Shares in the Income Fund were valued at £64,683.51, an increase of £6,464.14 on the previous year, due to the improvement in the Stock Market.

### **7.2 Richard Clarke First School**

Mr John Hough (Chair of Governors) presented a brief summary of key facts and events for the past 12 months.

**Financial:** The budget for 2003/2004 is about £360,000, of which £290,000 are staff costs. The respective amounts for 2002/2003 were £335,000 and £275,000.

We do make appropriate use of the RCFS Endowment Fund - as we are obliged to do under regulations, but this is not reflected in our budget. That is, we receive the same as any equivalent

school and the Endowment Fund is an invaluable extra. We are also blessed with an active PTA which makes a very significant contribution to fund raising.

**Number of Pupils:** The number of pupils on our roll varies widely from year to year, and it is this which determines our funding. In 1998 our number on roll was 145; in 2000 this had fallen to 123; and for 2001/2002 it fell to 107. The latest actual and projected figures are :-

2003/2004-126

2004/2005-120

2005/2006-119

2006/2007-120

These figures are reasonably healthy but the loss of a few pupils can bring major problems. This is why we have given a high priority to marketing RCFS whenever we get the chance. I hope that you will all do the same.

We still take nearly 40% of our children from outside of the catchment area and without these we would have to dramatically change the class structure.

**Class Sizes and Staffing:** We are generally delighted with the class sizes and the teachers that we now have at Richard Clarke. They all came through last year's OFSTED very well and all classes are well supported with classroom assistants. With such a small school it is inevitable that, when on occasion we lose a teacher we have to be creative in how we cope. It is also true that, having a teaching Head, we have to be certain that we have a stand-by available for those times when the Head-teacher has to be elsewhere. This is not easy, but we have managed so far.

**IT Support:** Classroom assistants are not the only support that the teacher gets. It is also worth mentioning the enormous use that we make of Information Technology (computers, in other words). Every class in the school has four (4) PCs which are used for all lessons - not just maths and computing. All classroom PCs are connected to each other, and to the Internet via a broadband network. (well before the rest of Abbots Bromley).

For the nostalgic members of the audience I have to tell you that this year will almost see the end of the blackboard in RCFS. They are being replaced in all classes except Foundation (Early Years) with "interactive white-boards". These are connected to lap-top computers and high-definition projectors and produce large, amazing images (from TVs, computers, videos and DVDs, for example) and allow the children to talk to the computer by simply touching the white-board. These are already in use in Oldfields and Thomas Alleyne's, but not widely used in business yet, if my experiences are typical.

**Premises:** The swimming pool is now just a fond (or not so fond) memory. We have a new entrance to the school and much improved playing areas for the children. Lots of shrubs have been donated to the school (via the 'sponsor a shrub' initiative, and sweet-talking the Parks Department has also proved successful. We have also made a start on the ceramic 'land-mark viewpoint'. The (small) scale model of Blithfield Reservoir is in the advanced planning stage, but South Staffs Water has donated £2000.

As an eco-friendly school we have also applied for numerous grants to develop our environmental resources - the wild garden, for example - and have been very successful in getting them.

### **Forthcoming Priorities:**

**Workforce Remodelling:** This is a major government initiative designed to reflect new models of learning, to address key skill shortages; to take advantage of technological changes; and, last but not least, to give teachers a better work - life balance. For the record, 30% of teachers leave the profession within the first five years; and 45% of teachers are due to retire in the next 15 years. Excessive workload is always given as the major reason for teachers' leaving the profession. Significantly, over 30% of a teacher's working week is spent on non-teaching activities.

This initiative, over the next two years is designed to remove administrative and supervisory tasks



from teachers and to give senior teachers non-contact time for planning and managing. This is intended to focus the key skills of teachers on to what they are trained to do. This will have to be funded, in part at least, from within existing budgets. The governors have been reminded that these changes are statutory and legally binding, whatever individual teachers may think about them.

Finally, a very important announcement - The New Head-teacher: As many of you now know, Mrs Potter is retiring from teaching at the end of the Autumn Term this year. We have spent the last few weeks sifting applications, creating short-lists, preparing questions for applicants. Last week we interviewed a number of candidates for the post of Head-teacher at Richard Clarke. We quickly decided on a very-short list of two people, both of whom were more than capable of doing an excellent job. We had a long discussion about their relative strengths and weaknesses but eventually came to a consensus view and made an offer. This was accepted and the new Head-teacher will join us at the end of the year. Before then we will arrange for her to meet children, staff, parents and governors at convenient times, such as governors' meetings, sports' day, annual report to parents, and so on. She has a lot to offer RCFS and we, of course, have a lot to offer her. I am sure that she will be made very welcome.

Following the report there was a question and some discussion on possible changes to a single intake per year.

### **7.3 Village Hall**

Mr Mike King (Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees) presented the report and said that he would like to start by thanking on your behalf, my hard working committee for their efforts during the past 12 months in helping me to manage the affairs of this important village amenity.

In particular I would like to thank Eric Roy, our Secretary and Peter Smith, our Treasurer for carrying out their unpaid duties so professionally.

The very high quality of the fixtures and fittings of this village amenity have to be maintained to that standard and in this regard I would also like to thank Geraldine Sweeting, our caretaker, for the manner that she deals with her role, in both maintaining those high standards with immaculate cleaning on a regular basis, and her role, together with our Booking Manager, Gerold Holmes, in organising and invoicing the bookings. This has helped to maintain standards that are expected by those who use this multi purpose facility.

My sincere thanks to them all.

In the year to December 2003 our income increased by £1550, due mainly to the return of the Abbots Bromley Players to the facility and further improvements in the utilization of the Hall.

If, however, one looks at the accounts it is apparent that without the support of the 200 Club raising the magnificent sum of £1000 towards our annual funds we would be in deficit to a greater level than the £484 shown.

Small, but essential, inflation increases for the hire of the Hall have been approved for 2004. The Sinking Fund for future maintenance and improvement costs received a boost from the Millennium fund during the year and plans to use these wisely in the future will be a priority of the Committee and the Trustees on behalf of the Village as a whole.

The proposed Multi Sports Area behind the Hall is still an ongoing project but financing the £100,000 scheme is proving difficult, especially as Lottery funding to the Sports Council seems to have been allocated to the Wembley Project. This has been the experience of our scheme and more obviously the local Burton Football academy, which has been delayed due to lack of funds.

This is my second year as Chairman of the Trustees, and for some unaccountable reason I offered my services for a further 12 months.

In common with most other village organizations I must express my serious concern at the lack of volunteers to become, or assist, the Trustees to help run this facility. I wonder without the services and support of the few I see here today, how such important village facilities would continue to operate.

I am of the view that the many village experts, who constantly tell us how the Village Hall should be run, are predictably unable to get involved.

Your important facility is not utilized to its potential and this is why we are struggling financially to meet the costs we are incurring. I have no doubt that support from the Parish and East Staffs Council will be necessary if the project is not to become a white elephant of the future. We currently rely on people, like myself, to carry out maintenance duties on a regular basis without charge and this may not continue.

The account will show that Income for 2003 was £13,100 whilst essential costs were £500 more.

Insurance and mandatory legal inspections costs continue to rise and amounted to £2000+ last year. These statutory requirements increase in their intensity each year.

Maintaining the high standard of the building is important as those who hire the hall expect them. Quality of cleaning and the appearance of the facade are important.

We do, however have the constant complaint about our expectations that hirers clean the hall after use to the state as found. They seem to believe that because we have a caretaker they should be able to leave it to her to clean up their mess, — this cannot be the case.

We have elected Trustees and a Management committee for 2004 and I am confident that they will do their best to ensure that this facility, so important to the village, is in capable hands but I cannot see this continuing unless we can encourage more support in the form of volunteers and/or further financial support.

Following the report there was a question about the relatively high level of charges for hiring hall facilities. It was pointed out that the building had to be self supporting unlike some others which were heavily subsidised.

#### **7.4 Neighbourhood Watch**

Mr Peter Jennings introduced himself as responsible for Neighbourhood Watch in East Staffordshire with his time funded by ESBC but with accommodation and resources supplied by the Police. He outlined some other complications of the funding arrangements.

There are 52 co-ordinators in the Abbots Bromley parish and this indicates a high level of local commitment from both village residents and farmers. The response to messages sent out is good and results in information passed on to PC Boulter. Crime in the village is low and so it is therefore difficult to demonstrate the impact of NW in the area. Most insurers will offer a reduction in premium for those who participate in NW.

#### **7.5 Voluntary Transport Scheme**

Mr Len Ferguson reported that this had been another successful year for the scheme with 10 drivers currently available – having lost 2 and gained 2 over the year. Requests for transport have been to many different venues including:

- Village surgery
- Queen's hospital at Burton
- Yoxall health centre
- Stations at Uttoxeter, Lichfield and Stafford
- Shopping in Rugeley

Passengers were always very grateful for the punctual and comfortable ride.

Not everyone respects the request for at least 48 hours notice, and our drivers have sometimes

gone beyond the call of duty to assist. For this I thank them but would ask that all would-be passengers to help us by giving the required notice. We do not operate a taxi rank!

Each month passengers are taken to Uttoxeter for the Blind and Partially Sighted group. For this service I must mention Philip Charles who takes this run each time. We are indebted to him for his care and concern as we are also to Clive Cook for his work as deputy coordinator.

To all the volunteer drivers I give my thanks and I am sure I speak for all the community in doing so.

## **7.6 Village Plan**

Mrs Mithra Tonking referred to the earlier remarks by Alex Fox and said that she would merely like to add that the draft plan is available on the village web pages for anyone who has not yet seen a copy.

## **7.7 Community First Responders**

Cllr Kate McLoughlin reported that 15 people had completed the first module of their training and were now about to start the next stage. She expressed appreciation for the funding - and promises of funding - enabling the project to be set up.

## **7.8 Project Playground**

Mr Steve Coxon reported on the work of the project team to provide an Under 5s play facility in the village. This would need funding of about £30k, towards which they have so far raised around £7k. The main emphasis of the current phase is fund raising and a public meeting in June will provide a wider forum for publicity and feedback. The target is to have the facility in place for Summer 2005.

## **8. Police Report**

Inspector Mason reported that the new arrangements for policing - which he had outlined the previous year - left him with very few directly controlled staff. However, a change in command has resulted in the creation of a larger team with many day-to-day benefits and, more recently, an additional officer for Uttoxeter.

From December there were some improvements in detection rates and a drop in the burglary rates although a small increase in vehicle and violent crimes.

A new role will be introduced of a Community Support Officer, without full police powers but able to tackle some of the issues such as parking that do not normally figure high in police priorities. An initial 10-week training period will precede their independent operational role.

Anti-social behaviour has been concentrated on in some areas and this is less of a problem than in the past. By getting residents to group together it does seem that it is possible to address the issues of persistent offenders.

Vehicle crime in rural areas has often been on the basis of a one-night hit on a village with many vehicles being targeted. An exercise to check vehicles for articles on view and notify owners has had some impact and there has been a visible reduction in this type of crime.

The issue of dealing with speeding through enforcement is not always consistent with other policing priorities and therefore the possibility of Community Speed Watch has been researched in response to an enquiry from the Parish Council.

A visit has been made to see a scheme already operating in Warrington. This works with one coordinator and 5 volunteers who go out for an hour a week and log the registrations of vehicles exceeding the speed limit. Warning letters are then sent to the registered vehicle keeper by the police advising them that they have been observed exceeding the limit. If they are logged on a second occasion, then a different letter is sent indicating that they will be prosecuted if identified

speeding in any enforcement action.

Training of volunteers is fairly straightforward and not too long. It covers equipment operation, health and safety and conflict management.

There is still some more preparatory work to be done before a scheme can be authorised. Apart from Abbots Bromley, interest has also been expressed by a residents association in Lichfield and the village of Kings Bromley.

The police will recommend use of a £200 unit (accurate to 1mph) that is unsuitable for enforcement, but quite adequate for use by a community speed watch.

In response to questions, further details about the Warrington scheme were explained indicating that the team operated about once per week but in different locations.

Other issues relating to drugs and drink were discussed in response to questions.

## **9. Open Forum**

Mr Mike King noted that there had been a letter from the church recently and suggested that it might be helpful to have them make a report to the Assembly? The Chairman responded that Rev Davis had been invited.

Mr King also reported that the Village Show raised money for the local community and could only distribute this when local organisations made requests.

Mrs Enid Ferguson pointed out that the East Staffordshire litter bins on the green were a poor advertisement for the village with posters stuck to them. The Clerk responded that the issue has already been raised with ESBC who had promised to visit and take remedial action.

## **10. Chairman's Closing Remarks**

In closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked Mrs Ferguson for her work on the campaign to get the postal address amended and invited everyone to partake of the refreshments.

The meeting was brought to a formal conclusion at 9.40 pm, and followed by light refreshments.

Abbots Bromley Parish Council

# Financial Report 2003/2004

*Prepared by:* *Eric A Roy*

**Eric Roy**  
(Responsible Financial Officer)

*Date:* 28 April 2004



## Abbots Bromley Parish Council General Fund - 2003/2004

	Last year actual £	This year budget £	This year actual £	Next year budget £
Balance brought forward	8672.74		<b>8866.15</b>	
Income				
Precept	15700.00	17300.00	<b>17300.00</b>	17800.00
Interest	112.02	92.00	<b>215.94</b>	200.00
Allotments	51.00	55.00	<b>55.00</b>	55.00
Grants received	64.49	90.00	<b>0.00</b>	0.00
Book sales	186.00		Discontinued	
Horn Dance trader licences	45.00	45.00	<b>230.00</b>	150.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>16158.51</b>	<b>17582.00</b>	<b>17800.94</b>	<b>18205.00</b>
Expenditure				
Clerk salary/expenses	3053.75	3470.00	<b>3381.37</b>	3520.00
Insurance	532.15	639.00	<b>576.12</b>	984.00
Audit fee	120.00	200.00	<b>330.00</b>	200.00
SPCA/SLCC membership	354.00	322.00	<b>370.00</b>	382.00
Local Council Review	34.77	37.00	<b>37.50</b>	39.00
Stationery	96.49	160.00	<b>188.22</b>	160.00
Travel expenses	0.00	100.00	<b>0.00</b>	100.00
Training/books	189.00	450.00	<b>260.00</b>	450.00
Hire of hall	203.00	182.00	<b>174.00</b>	308.50
Newsletter	93.50	126.00	<b>72.69</b>	130.00
Software licensing	195.00	204.75	<b>123.18</b>	0.00
Miscellaneous expenditure	967.27	500.00	<b>371.25</b>	500.00
Devolved maintenance	275.00	0.00	<b>(210.00)</b>	0.00
Footpaths	0.00	150.00	<b>114.00</b>	0.00
Speed reduction		4000.00	<b>0.00</b>	4000.00
Grass cutting	1056.00	1104.00	<b>1104.00</b>	1440.00
Other village maintenance	103.95	600.00	<b>701.00</b>	1250.00
Millennium Green	622.00	1115.00	<b>502.50</b>	606.65
Church floodlighting	481.66	420.00	<b>322.28</b>	412.00
Floodlight repairs/ maintenance	530.00	168.00	<b>318.76</b>	165.00
Churchyard maintenance	621.00	700.00	<b>704.00</b>	726.00
Churchyard extension	535.00	1560.00	<b>1170.00</b>	0.00
Church clock maintenance		150.00	<b>141.00</b>	100.00
Village Hall - loan repay- ment	3322.54	3322.54	<b>3322.54</b>	3322.54
Section 137 (see opposite)	3269.07	3271.00	<b>1271.00</b>	6378.00
VAT	-690.05	0.00	<b>369.92</b>	0.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>15965.10</b>	<b>22951.29</b>	<b>15715.33</b>	<b>25173.69</b>
Surplus/(Deficit)	193.41	(5,369.29)	<b>2,085.61</b>	(6,968.69)
Balance carried forward	8866.15	3496.86	<b>10951.76</b>	3983.07

General Fund balance held as follows at 31 March 2004:

Lloyds TSB current account	568.24
Lloyds TSB deposit account	12898.14
Less funds held for Bagot Ward Vital Villages	<u>(2,514.62)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>10951.76</u></b>

## S.137 Payments

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) enables the council to spend up to £5.00 per elector for the benefit of people in the area on activities/projects not specifically authorised by any other powers.

The limit for the year 2003/4 was  $(1337 \times 5.00) = £6685$

Payments were made for the following purposes:

Grant to Scouts & Guides HQ	450.00
Grant to Community First Responders	241.00
Grant to Donna Louise Trust	200.00
Grant to Air Ambulance (use of toilets at Goat's Head)	200.00
Grant to St Giles (for certificate by K Cadman)	10.00
Grant to Richard Clarke towards tree planting	12.60
Subscriptions	88.00
Best Kept Village competition	44.40
AB Royal British Legion (remembrance day wreath)	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1271.00</u></b>

## Publicity

Section 5 of the Local Government Act 1986 requires the council to disclose payments on publicity. Payments were made during the year for the following purposes:

Bromley Bulletin newsletter	72.69
Hosting cost for web pages	36.25
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>108.94</u></b>

This financial report was approved by the Council at their meeting on 28 April 2004.

Chairman: Philip Charles

Date: 28/4/04

Proposed: C Cook

Seconded: L Fox

## **Abbots Bromley Parish Council Recreation Fund - 2003/2004**

Balance brought forward	14672.36
Income	
Lloyds TSB interest	20.16
Cater Allen interest	114.81
ESBC interest	189.52
Expenditure	
Grant for badminton equipment	100.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	224.49
Balance carried forward	14896.85

The Recreation Fund balance was held as follows at 31 March 2004:

Lloyds TSB savings account	1607.51
Cater Allen savings account	5289.34
On deposit with ESBC	5000.00
On loan to AB Cricket Club	3000.00
Total	14896.85

## **Bagot Ward Vital Villages Fund - 2003/2004**

Balance brought forward	3643.71
Income	
East Staffs Borough Council	1300.00
Kingstone PC	1204.00
Blithfield PC	829.00
Expenditure	
Agent salary/expenses	4069.28
Hall hire	213.00
Printing	143.70
Postage	32.32
Stationery	3.79
Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,129.09)
Balance carried forward	2514.62

## **Abbots Bromley RISES Fund - 2003/2004**

Balance brought forward	240.12
Income	
Recycling payment - Oct-Mar	263.49
Recycling payment - Apr-Sep	281.40
Grants made by RISES committee	
AB Scouts & Guides	240.12
Richard Clarke First School	263.49
Richard Clarke First School	281.40
Surplus/(Deficit)	(240.12)
Balance carried forward	0.00