



MELTHAM TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

April 2010 to March 2011

THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FOR 2010 TO 2011 are detailed below. (Please note - the list below has changed following the elections on 5 May 2011 - see back cover).

Chairman of the Council - Clr Shirley Watson

Tel: 850857 or email: joshi@helmeedge.fsnet.co.uk

Vice Chairman of the Council - Clr Walter Young -

Tel: 850254 or email: walter.young1@gmail.com

**Chairman of the Properties Administration and Finance
Committee - Clr Alan Redfearn**

Tel: 850738 or email: alanredfearn@gmail.com

**Chairman of the Planning Environmental and General
Purposes Committee - Clr Sylvia Tancock**

Tel: 851389 or email: Sylvia.tancock@ntlworld.com

Other members of Council:

Clr Duncan Crawshaw – duncan.crawshaw@ntlworld.com

Clr Richard Crankshaw – richard.crankshaw@firstgroup.com

Clr Jean Danson - jean.danson@gmail.com

Clr Terry Lyons - terry.lyons@kirklees.gov.uk

Clr Judith Powell - judithandpaul@ntlworld.com

Clr Nigel Priestley - Nigel.priestley@ntlworld.com

Clr David Woodhead – david.woodhead@kirklees.gov.uk

Clr Denise Yeadon - deniseyeadon@aol.com

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Sarah Armitage

Meltham Town Council, Town Hall, Meltham, HD9 4AG

Tel: 852367 or email: melthamcouncil@btconnect.com

Website: www.melthamtowncouncil.gov.uk

MELTHAM TOWN COUNCIL AIMS

1. To maintain the openness of Meltham Town Council's business to the community
2. To encourage individuals and groups to work in partnership with the Town Council to develop the potential of the entire community.
3. To prudently manage and safeguard the assets of the Township.
4. To exercise vigilance in all planning matters.

ACTION PLAN 2011 – 2012

1. To raise and manage income to meet the challenge of current market forces.
2. To maintain the Robert Ashton Memorial Park and other appropriate Town Council supported projects within Meltham Township.
3. To continue to enhance the appearance of Meltham.
4. To monitor the receipt of and consider the requests made through applications to the Meltham Town Council Community Projects Fund and to encourage projects from the local community which can be part funded.
5. To take an interest in all youth development services and projects operated by either public bodies or local groups.
6. To continue and enhance contact with the Police regarding relevant issues in Meltham.
7. To monitor and support Rural Transport in Meltham.
8. To work with Kirklees Highways Services to reduce traffic speeds and improve pedestrian safety in Meltham.
9. To work with those organisations supporting the interests and security of the older generation.
10. To monitor the changes taking place in Meltham Town Hall and the Carlile Institute and support Meltham community interests in the two buildings.
11. To liaise with Kirklees Council to obtain an improvement in the maintenance of roads, buildings and other amenities for which the Council is responsible.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2010 – 2011

Clr Shirley Watson



On Monday 12 May 2010 I was elected Chairman of Meltham Town Council for the ensuing year. It has been a privilege and an honour to represent the whole township of Meltham, Meltham Mills, Helme and Wilshaw.

Throughout the year I have attended various Civic Services of the local town and parish Councils, including the Mayor of Kirklees, Holme Valley, Denby Dale, Kirkburton, Mirfield, Ripponden and Saddleworth. Many thanks to my husband John and my sister Sandra for their support in attending these events. I held my Civic Sunday Service in July at

St Bartholomew's Church where the theme for the service was 'Love and Hope'. Rev Maureen Reed along with Rev Dennis Shields led the service involving the whole community from the township.

During the year I have been privileged to carry on the tradition of Chairman's visits to 100 and 90 year old birthdays, Golden Wedding and Diamond Celebrations and all have been delighted with the visits. I have also visited all the schools within the township and welcomed the children to visit the Council Chamber in the Town Hall and explain a bit about what the Council does. Meeting with the children and listening to their views has been an interesting and valuable experience.

My main aim as a Meltham Town Councillor was to support and work with the people of the Township - one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences has been to see the completion of the road safety improvements within the village. This has involved many local residents sharing their thoughts on how the improvements would help to make Meltham Town centre a safer place which lead to meetings with Kirklees officers and the eventual traffic calming measures which you now see within the village. I am also delighted to see the completion of a project started back in 2009 which has resulted in setting up a new allotment site by Calmlands. This has been a real community project, involving St Bartholomew's Church who own the field and agreed to let this to the Council, the Council who has co-ordinated the project and funded the set-up costs and the newly formed Allotment Association which is made up of the people on the allotment waiting list and who now manage the site. We have also had hands-on help from the Church of the Latter Day Saints. There were initial concerns from the local residents who live near the site but the Council and the Allotment Association will work hard to ensure that the site is well managed and maintained so as to protect the beautiful surroundings and be respectful to the neighbours. This project has resulted in the vast majority of the 45 strong allotment waiting list being accommodated with a place to grow their fruit and vegetables.

I must mention the Robert Ashton Memorial Park which is owned and maintained by the Town Council and we work hard to ensure that it is a wonderful place for you to visit and enjoy. The Council employs a small team of people to help look after the park by undertaking litter picking, toilet cleaning, gate security and general maintenance and gardening. There are facilities within the park such as the allotments, duck pond, play areas, formal gardens, picnic area, tennis courts and junior football pitches which can be enjoyed by the whole community. Various events have taken place in the park this year, such as Carols in the Park, parades, orienteering events etc.

Twelve members of the council represent many local voluntary groups and support them in their projects throughout the year. They are involved with many projects in the village working on issues with the elderly, the schools, children, crime prevention,

Group and the Carlile Street Luncheon Club. I hope that the Meltham Memories 1940s weekend and the Over 60s Group Scarecrow Festival become annual events attended by people from far and wide.

I would like to thank the many people within the township who give up their free time to help the community; people such as the volunteers who run and support the Meltham Greenway, Crossroads Charity Shop and Centre, the Wednesday luncheon club which provides a hot meal to the elderly and a social time for people to chat and meet. It's also worth mentioning that children from Meltham CE School help at this club forging a vital link in the community between young and old.

Finally, may I say a special thank you to the council members who will not be on the new Council from May 2011 - these are Cllr Richard Crankshaw, Cllr Duncan Crawshaw, Cllr Nigel Priestley, Cllr Judith Powell, Cllr Sylvia Tancock, Cllr Walter Young and Cllr Denise Yeadon. They have given up their free time to the community and passed on their knowledge to fellow councillors and we are very grateful for this.

I wish to conclude this Chairman's Annual Report by offering my grateful and sincere thanks to everyone in the whole community for their help and support in my special year as Chairman of Meltham Town Council.



REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING ENVIRONMENTAL AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 2010 – 2011

Cllr Sylvia Tancock

The Planning, Environmental and General Purposes Committee has met nineteen times this year, and six times out of the seven 'plans only' meetings have been held at 6pm before either the full Town Council meeting or the Properties, Administration and Finance Committee meeting. Before all meetings, we have a 15 minute Public session. Public sessions during the year included from just 2 members of the public to at least nineteen. It is good that the public can air their views over planning applications that concern them and their concerns are duly noted by the committee. The public's concerns are taken into consideration and often included in the comments forwarded to Kirklees Planning Officers. About 3/4 of these applications have been refused by Kirklees Planning Officers. So it is very important for the public to make good use of this time. I would like to point out, as I did last year, that the Planning agendas are always displayed the week before meetings, on the Council's notice board outside the Town Hall, and in the village centre notice board, and also on Meltham Town Council's website:- www.Melthamtowncouncil.gov.uk. The actual plans can be viewed on Kirklees website:- www.kirklees.gov.uk/planning.

During this year we have continued to :-

- encourage low cost housing
- support green issues
- ensure highways safety

As Chairman of Planning I wish to send my grateful thanks to the members of the committee for their continued support.



REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROPERTIES ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE 2010-2011

Clr Alan Redfearn

Precept revenue received during 2010/2011 was again set at £41,500 and this being the fourth year at this rate means that no increase was applied during the term of this Council.

Expenditure was in line with budget in most areas but significant savings were achieved in Administration expenses.

The Township's major asset, the Robert Ashton Memorial Park is well maintained and the new junior football pitches will enjoy greater usage with the advent of junior summer league football. Take up of the £50,000 annual grant amount for local bodies with appropriate capital projects is down on last year and I urge organisations with suitable schemes to apply for funding in the coming year. Once again, I close my brief report with sincere thanks to our Town Clerk, Sarah Armitage.

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income (revenue)	2010/11	2009/10
Precept	£41,500	£41,500
Interest and dividends	£17,408	£16,915
Rental and miscellaneous	£931	£665
Income (Capital)		
Sale of investments	£0	£0
Sale of assets	£0	£0
TOTAL INCOME	£59,839	£59,080
Expenditure (revenue)		
Administration	£31,382	£30,094
Meltham Hall Estate	£30,123	£24,518
Services	£2,332	£29,572
Expenditure (capital)	£20,500	£21,045
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£84,337	£105,229
Cumulative Fund Balance		
Balance brought forward 01/04/10	£734,668	£780,817
Net Movement in Funds	- £24,498	-£46,149
Balance Carried forward 31/03/11	£710,170	£734,668

PUBLIC SESSIONS AND INVOLVEMENT AT MEETINGS

It should be noted that all meetings are 'public' meetings and anyone is welcome to attend.

An opportunity has been made for members of the public to raise issues of concern with Members of the council prior to the commencement of the formal meeting and as such there is a 'public session' commencing at 7pm.

GRANTS

GRANT UPDATE FOR 2010/2011

SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

Meltham Cricket Club - £700 towards new bins for the cricket ground.

Meltham Environment - £600 towards the upkeep of Hey Doorstep Green.

St James Church - £350 towards a Meltham Churches Together event - Carols in the Park.

Pennine High Flyers - £600 towards the set-up costs of a new troupe.

Residents of the parish aged 70 and over - £580.00 as the Over 70s Christmas Gift.

Meltham Memories - £1,000 towards marketing and advertising costs involved in promoting the 1940s weekend in the village. (This payment has not yet been issued).

COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUND

Meltham and Meltham Mills Band - £4,500 towards new instruments.

Meltham Sports & Community Centre - £4,000 towards the provision of hot water for the clubs showers used by all sporting bodies.

Calmlands Allotment Association - £4,402.00 towards the set-up costs of the new allotment site at Calmlands.

Meltham Methodists - £275.00 towards the purchase of a new fridge - the building is used by other organisations other than religious ones and so the provision of a fridge is essential for the many events which are held in this building, e.g. Friend to Friend Luncheon Club. (This payment has not yet been issued).

ON-GOING GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Council is pleased to report that the grant to St Bartholomew's made in 2009/2010 has been paid - £6298 has been issued in respect of clock and tower repairs.

The Council are still holding £10,000 as a contribution towards Meltham pre-school Playgroup's new premises and £10,000 as a contribution towards Meltham CE School refurbishment of breakfast club rooms. Payment will be made on completion of the projects and on receipt of the invoices.

GRANT CRITERIA

- You should have a definite project that requires financial support from the Council.
- - Grants are NOT given to individual people.
 - Applications will be accepted from Community based 'not-for-profit' or charitable organisations. They must be democratic, have an organised structure and are able to demonstrate financial management. Groups must have a written constitution or other recognised legal governing document.
 - Retrospective funding is not allowed, i.e. do not request a grant for something that has already been purchased.
- The grant must directly benefit residents of the Parish of Meltham, i.e. Meltham, Wilshaw and Helme.
- You will be required to provide proof of purchase / use of the money and to provide a small report stating how the funds have helped your organisation.
- This report may be included in the Town Council's Newsletters and Website.
- Applicants are encouraged to seek quotations from local suppliers/contractors.

We have two grant schemes in operation:

GRANT SCHEME 2011/2012 - smaller grants.

- £3,000 has been made available under the 'Small Grants Scheme' for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012.
- The maximum grant per organisation is £1000.00 in each year.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUND - larger grants for CAPITAL projects only.

- £50,000 has been made available under the 'Community Projects Fund' for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012.
- Grant limits have been set, the minimum being £1,000 and the maximum £10,000.
- As part of the application process you will be asked to provide quotations; for items costing under £3,000, two quotations are required. Items over £3,000, three quotations need to be obtained.

**APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEBSITE -
WWW.MELTHAMTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK
OR BY CONTACTING THE CLERK.**

Look at the page opposite and see who has benefited from the above schemes - don't let your organisation miss out!



PRIDE IN MELTHAM, HELME AND WILSHAW AWARD

Members of Meltham Town Council are delighted to announce that two more awards have been made under the above scheme; one to **John Tiffany** for his contribution towards the arts and one to **Barry Gregory** for his contribution to the Mountain Rescue Team.

John is a former Honley High School pupil and his parents and family still live in Meltham. John is currently Associate Director (New Work) of the National Theatre of Scotland. He is best-known for his internationally acclaimed 2006 production of Iraq war drama 'Black Watch'. His other successes include updated versions of 'The Bacchae' and 'Peter Pan'.

Barry has been in the mountain rescue services for 45 years. He has been team leader, and chairman of Woodhead Mountain Rescue Team and chairman and controller of the Peak District Mountain Rescue organisation. He has also helped out Holme Valley Team when required. Over the years he has helped rescue several people from the Meltham area. He was awarded the Examiner Commendation Award for emergency services in 2000 and the MBE in 2009.

Both John and Barry were presented with their Meltham Town Council Coat of Arms at a Council Meeting in November 2010.

Since the last awards, members of Council have discussed the scheme and have decided to make more of an 'occasion' of the presentation by presenting future awards at the Annual Civic Reception. If you know of anyone who deserves a similar award then please contact one of your Councillors or the Clerk with the details.

YOUR NEW COUNCIL - ELECTED 5 MAY 2011

Clr Susan Andrew - 1 Sunny Heys, Meltham, HD9 5PD

Clr Nigel Brook - Bent House, 40 Holmfirth Road, Meltham, HD9 4EW

Clr Jean Danson - Craddin Cottage, 190 Helme Lane, Meltham, HD9 5RL

Clr Edgar Holroyd-Doveton - 9 Helme Park, Meltham, HD9 5QB

Clr Terry Lyons - 81 Wessenden Head Road, Meltham, HD9 4HR

Clr David Maxfield - The Gables, 121 Helme Lane, Meltham, HD9 4EW

Clr Pat Maxfield - The Gables, 121 Helme Lane, Meltham, HD9 4EW

Clr Alan Redfearn - Pine Lodge, 88 Golcar Brow Road, Meltham, HD9 5LF

Clr Shirley Watson - Slade View, 21a Crosland Edge, Meltham, HD9 5RS

Clr Paul White - 7 Sefton Lane, Meltham, HD9 5JX

Clr David Woodhead - 6 The Woodlands, Meltham, HD9 4NN

Clr Jean Wrathall - 95 Wessenden Head Road, Meltham, HD9 4HR