

St. Anne's on the Sea Town Council

Annual Report 2011 - 2012

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This last year has been busy and challenging for the Town Council with its intake of 8 new councillors and I would like to record my sincere thanks to all the councillors and staff for their hard work during the last twelve months.

We have achieved a great deal during the last year as detailed below.

There have been the ongoing actions from the Town Plan and its Steering Group as the Town Plan comes to fruition. It has already brought about the formation of the 'Street Reps' scheme and has actively addressed the high profile issue of dog fouling.

The Council also achieved other initiatives including:

- Organised a charity Carol Concert which raised over £600 for Home-Start Fylde
- Held a series of street entertainment events in the Square during the summer
- Developed the Blundell Road allotment site for community groups (opening this June)
- Had a pivotal role in winning the Silver Gilt trophy through St Anne's In Bloom, beating rivals Southport for the first ever time
- Organised a highly successful concert in the Lifeboat House raising money for RNLI
- Achieved Quality Town Council status
- Supported various community organisations via grants and help 'in kind'
- Held a Community History Day involving local schools and organisations
- Setting up a new Town Council website in keeping with our role to act as the public face of who we are and what we do

As all our twelve members are volunteers we can be proud of these milestones.

Through achievements such as these I am pleased to see an increase in the Town Council's profile, a consolidation of our relationship with the Borough Council and ongoing involvement in securing a better future for the town and its people.

Cllr. Christine Akeroyd

1. Key Activities of the Town Council

a. Projects/Issues

i. Asset Transfer

The Town Council have had initial discussions with the Borough Council regarding the transfer of Open Space assets to the Town Council. As the Borough Council recently transferred the Open Space Assets in Kirkham to the Town Council it is hoped that the transfer of the Parks and Open Space Assets in St Anne's will be transferred in April next year.

ii. Community Governance Review

Following the Community Governance Review the number of Councillors increased to 12 with 8 new Councillors being elected in May last year.

iii. Blundell Road Allotments

The land for Community Allotments was successfully acquired and work is in progress to bring the land into use for the growing of produce. Thanks go to the LSP and the Lions for grants and to Fylde Food Co-op and Community Payback for the work in developing the site. There are a number of Community Groups interested and there is still room for more.

iv. Town Plan

Since the approval of the Town Plan the Council have been working on initiatives to address the various issues raised during the preparation of the plan. Some visible initiatives:

- The creation of the volunteer role of "Street Representatives" helping to draw attention to issues affecting certain streets in the Town. Following the success of this scheme it is planned to extend it to other areas during 2012 – 2013.
- Dog mess bags in Parks. In order to encourage dog owners to clean up free bags are being provided so there should be no excuse for not cleaning up.

b. Community Activities

i. Easter Egg Rolling

A successful egg rolling event was held on 25th April 2011 which was well attended by local schoolchildren. Deputy Mayor Barbara Mackenzie presented the prizes (Easter Eggs) which were donated by Sainsburys.

ii. History Day

The 1960s theme of the 2011 History Day was chosen and two local primary schools took part by attending on the Friday and singing songs from the era. A window display competition on the same theme was held and publicised but only a few retailers chose to take part. The competition was won by Book Bargains.

iii. Street Entertainment

Four different street entertainers were arranged during July and August including 2 magicians, a children's entertainer and a four piece band.

iv. Guided Walks

Guided walks based on the Town Trail and variations in the Heyhouses area were held by Cllr Ford and Peter Shakeshaft.

v. Christmas Carol Concert

Cllr Akeroyd hosted a charity carol evening at St Thomas' Church in aid of Home-Start Fylde. The event was well-attended and included guest speakers representing local services such as the police, fire service and lifeboat. Over £500 was raised for the charity.

vi. Music**1. Music Festival**

The Town Council supported a local initiative to start a Music Festival in St Anne's by funding some of the publicity costs for it. Over a four day period, musicians played in numerous venues around the town with each venue being responsible for booking and paying for their own music.

The Festival took place in July with a view to being repeated in 2012 to coincide with the Open Golf event.

2. Lifeboat Orchestra

A suggestion from former Town Councillor Arnold Sumner evolved into a highly successful concert in the Lifeboat Station in September with the Lytham Proms Orchestra playing in the building to entertain the public. The event was free with donations to RNLI collected and further proceeds raised for the charity through sale of refreshments. Total amount raised was £241.54

vii. Lancashire Day

The Town Council held its first 'Lancashire Day' event on 27th November 2011. The event included clog dancers, music, planting of a Lancashire rose, Lancashire produce stalls and was also the debut of the Town Crier. The Town Council sold Ormerod Trust produce on the group's behalf and raised funds of £113.

viii. St Anne's in Bloom

The town enjoyed unprecedented success in 2011 when it won Silver Gilt in its category of Large Coastal Town but also beat category rivals Southport for the first time ever. This success reflects on the increased involvement by the Town Council and in more community groups' involvement with the project. The best front garden competition had five times more entries than the previous year.

ix. Youth Council

In response to comments in the Town Council's 'Have your Say' household survey, Cllr Ford has instigated a Youth Council comprising students living in St Annes from local schools and youth groups. The Youth Council have now met several times and are putting forward suggestions related to items such as community safety, town centre shopping and parking issues and their interest in the creation of a youth cafe.

x. Members Surgeries

Members Surgeries were held in March, June and September but numbers attending were low and were primarily issues for the Borough Council rather than the Town Council.

c. Publicity**i. Newsletter**

The Council published three Newsletters last year which was one less than planned.

ii. Town Crier

The Town Council have appointed a Mr Colin Ballard as its official Town Crier. Mr Ballard will perform his "cries" before Council and other events in the town.

iii. Noticeboard

With the assistance of a grant from New Fylde Housing a new Town Council Noticeboard was erected at Pilling Avenue.

iv. Signage

The Town Council have agreed to provide 4 signage boards in the town in preparation for the golf championships in July 2012 at a cost of £12,500. The signs will show a new 3D map of the town copies which can be purchased from a dispenser on the sign for £1.

d. Administration**i. Offices**

The Council Offices at West Lodge, 5 St Georges Road are open to the public a minimum of 4 days per week and 4 hours each day.

ii. Staff

The Town Council have two members of staff: the Town Clerk (P Jackson), and Community Development Officer (S Tatton).

iii. Council and Committees

In December the Council changed the way it manages its affairs. It decided to cease the Allotments Committee (see below) and to introduce a new Policy and Resources Committee and to move to a six weekly cycle of meetings. This will be reviewed at the AGM in May. This has involved more matters being devolved to Committees.

Allotments Committee

Following the excellent working arrangement with the Allotment Society any decision making on allotments has been delegated to the Town Clerk or is referred to the Leisure and Community Committee and the Allotments Committee has been cancelled. In order to keep regular contact with the Society and allotment issues a Member of the Council attends the monthly meetings of the Society.

There are approximately 130 plots (where possible the Council split plots to accommodate more tenants). Since March last year 15 plots have been re-let and at the present time there are 62 names on the waiting list for new plots.

iv. Leisure and Community Committee

This Committee plans and organises various community events referred to elsewhere in this report.

v. Planning and Development Committee

The Council is consulted on all planning applications made to the Borough Council. Many applications are dealt with by Borough Council Officers on a delegated basis. If the Town Council have concerns about an application this ensures that it is dealt with by the

Borough Council's Development Control Committee where local residents are able to object in person to applications made. The Planning Committee meets every 4 weeks to ensure that the time limit for responding to applications is not exceeded.

Last year 2011 the Planning Committee met 17 times and considered and commented on a total of 215 planning applications and responded to a total of 16 consultations matters.

vi. Policy and Resources Committee

The Council have introduced a new Committee to deal with policy and other issues. It will also plan the direction of the Council to address local issues in particular the opportunities presented for community involvement included in the Localism Act.

The Committee is also seeking the acquisition of the listed building in Clifton Drive that is part of the Public Offices being sold by the Borough Council.

2. Budget for year

The following summarises the Town Council's budget for 2012/2013. The Precept of £14.20p includes an increase of £2.91

Staffing	£57,998
Premises	£12,385
Administration	£4,480
Democracy	£3,500
Civic	£4,050
Community	£45,500
Publicity	£12,750
Environment	£9,188
TOTAL	£149,851

3. Grants and Donations

During the year the Council have allocated the following grants:

£5,000	Towards Station Improvements in preparation for the Golf.
£500	St Anne's Carnival
£500	HALSA – Band Concert support
£500	Fylde Sharks Swimming Club 0 – for flotation devices to assist disabled swimmers

£1,500	Solar Lights to Ashton Gardens Skateboard Area
£9,200	Christmas Lighting
£500	Ormerod Trust – for construction of a raised flowerbed
£330.84	Babies and Toddlers – St Annes Parish Church – for provision of stackable tables
£453.67	Parish Rooms – St Annes Parish Church – for provision of replacement tables for use by various community groups
£500	Fylde District Scout Council – New HQ

Councillors

Name	Ward	Address	Contact Details
T Ford	Ashton	19 St Leonard's Road, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 2PF	01253 713885
C Lanyon	St Leonards	79 St Leonard's Road East, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 3HD	01253 712090
C Akeroyd	Kilnhouse	23 Coniston Avenue, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 3DG	01253 720870
B Mackenzie	Central	46 – 48 Orchard Road, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 1PJ	01253 711584
V Settle	Heyhouses	11 Admiral Close, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 2TH	01253 712586
V Willder	Heyhouses	20 Pilling Avenue, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 1QG	01253 723590
E Nash	Central	45 Orchard Road, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 1PJ	01253 713839
G Goodman	Ashton	Flat 4, 11 St Anne's Road East, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 1TA	07966 506461
D Prestwich	Park	294 Church Road, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 3NR	01253 283304
C Little	Fairhaven	32 The Boulevard, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 1EH	01253 711722
K Henshaw	Kilnhouse	58 Headroomgate Road, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 3BG	01253 713204
A Jacques	St Leonard's	46 All Saints Road, St Anne's on The Sea, FY8 1PL	01253 724381

Town Clerk Contact Details

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