

might affect East Cambs and local parishes. The District Council accounts for 2011/12 had been agreed and were showing a £350,000 surplus. The budget for the current year, however, is showing a probable loss of £300,000 caused by a massive increase in bed and breakfast accommodation for the homeless. A saving of £10,000 per annum needs to be found through discretionary rate relief but the Arkenstall Centre, Recreation Centre and Haddenham Library should not be affected. Cllr Wilson had attended the meeting at which the Northumbria Close application had been rejected and he advised that Sanctuary might appeal against the decision. He had also attended a tour of Village Vision Sites including Rowan Close and New Road and they had been found, initially, to be acceptable sites for affordable housing. He had also attended a presentation of the Ouse Washes Habitat consultation and a meeting to discuss County bus cuts.

10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES & GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports this month from Burial Areas, Christmas Lights, Open Spaces, Street Lighting, Arkenstall Centre, Elizabeth March Foundation and Pond.

- A. **Finance & Emergency:** The next meeting will be held on Monday 29th October.
- B. **Allotments:** Letters had been sent out regarding the state of some plots at the Recreation Field, prior to the tenancies being offered for renewal and some had been tidied up or given up. Once all the rents are in the spare plots will be allocated to people on the waiting list.
- C. **Fairchild's Meadows:** A group meeting had been held on 1st October and a site meeting on 7th October. The grass in the Bonfire Field has been cut and baled. Thistle control is being discussed and the footpaths in the Wildflower Meadow will be cut in the near future.
- D. **Green Footpaths & Trees:** The hedge at Newtown Pocket Park is overhanging the garden of a property at the bottom of Newtown Road and the Clerk will ask the Groundsman to arrange to top and trim it back.
- E. **Road Safety:** Cllr G Wilson advised that the 30mph limits have not yet been moved in Hillrow or Hop Row.
- F. **Wayman's Pits:** Cllr Parr wished to thank Mike Smith and Chris Breeze for their help in clearing the area for the tree planting on 18th November.
- G. **Youth Club:** The Clerk reported that Viv and Bell will be leaving on 19th November and their roles will be taken over by Liam Siddon and Joe Hoblyn assisted by volunteer Gerry. Attendance figures are good at approximately 24 per session. There had been some complaints about bad language, litter and smoking at the Club but these have been dealt with by Viv and the PCSO is also keeping an eye on things.
- H. **Haddenham Library:** The fifteen successful Reading Challenge readers had all attended a Medal Ceremony and also received their certificates. Their ages ranged from three to eight years old. The Friends have been unable to hold a meeting in recent weeks, as there have not been enough members to form a quorum. They have to hold five meetings plus an AGM each year to fulfil the constitution. The next AGM will be on 28th November in the Library followed by a very short business meeting, all are welcome to attend. One new volunteer has come forward but another one would be useful. Many of the original volunteers are only able to attend half as many sessions as before and Moira is kept busy with admin duties, which reduces her time to be able to help. Barrie's Memory Board has been replenished with photographs of Freda Crofts who sadly passed away recently. The Library would be pleased to receive photographs, paper cuttings or information on her life in Haddenham since 1950. The Library owes a lot to Freda for her help in the Library; help with Friends events and of course if it were not for her there would be no archive in the village. She was a truly remarkable lady. A Family History Day will be held in the Library on Sunday 14th October.
- I. **Recreation:** The opening of the new play area had been a great success with over 200 children and their parents attending. The bunting made by the Haddenham School children was wonderful. Cllr G Wilson has even received complaints from parents that their children are so delighted with the new area they want to go up there every evening! Cllr Norman wished to thank Cllr Wilson for all his hard work in making the project happen and also all the other people who had helped over the 5 years it had taken to make it possible.

