



# **Broseley Town Council**

## **Annual Report 2009/2010**



## **Introduction**

### **by Councillor Roy Childs, Mayor of Broseley 2009/2010**

During my year in office, I raised the amount of £2568.00 for three local organisations: Broseley Cadets, Broseley Boxing Club, and BROADS. I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Councillor Lynda Garbett (Deputy Mayor), local businesses, an anonymous donor, local people and, most of all, my family and friends who have been very supportive and generous.

I am pleased that a bench will soon be installed in the Memorial Green in memory of the late Councillor Roy Lane MBE.

It gives me great pleasure to report that at long last the Chapel in the Cemetery is being renovated to its former glory. This is being achieved by the support of the Council and a Committee made up of Councillors and members of the Broseley Partnership.

Members of the Birchmeadow Park Committee have worked very hard with officers of Shropshire Council to secure grants to improve the facilities for the residents of Broseley. I would like to thank all of those involved with the Park.

The Birchmeadow Centre, which is owned by the Town Council, is also being extended to provide better facilities for the people of Broseley.

I feel that Broseley is continually improving, and it is important that we keep good relations with other Towns and Parishes in Shropshire. As Mayor, I attended a great many functions representing Broseley, and had the pleasure of meeting other Mayors and dignitaries from around the County and further afield.

## People, Facts and Statistics

### Your Broseley Councillors for 2009-2010 were:

Name	Address	Telephone no.	Council meetings attended (total number held = 13)
Mr Derek Armstrong	Caldecote, Woodlands Road, Broseley TF12 5PX dekkers42@hotmail.com	01952 882582	7 (poss. 8)
Mr Roy Childs	20 Sherlock Hoy Close, Broseley TF12 5JB	01952 883510	13
Mr Andrew Cooke	22 Simpsons Lane, Broseley TF12 5RF	01952 884083	10
Mrs Carol Cooper	30 Coalport Road, Broseley TF12 5AZ carol@cooperscorner.co.uk	01952 882715	11
Mrs Lynda Garbett	Tyning Cottage, Chapel Lane, Broseley TF12 5HF	01952 883412	9
Mrs Rita Howells	5 Whitehall Gardens, Broseley TF12 5DD ritmal@talktalk.net	01952 882351	12
Ms Jean Jones	The Laurels, 39 King Street, Broseley TF12 5NA jean.e.jones@shropshire-cc.gov.uk	01952 882650	11
Mr Rob Parker	14 Coalport Close, Broseley TF12 5BF parker_rob@dsl.pipex.com	01952 884746	12
Mr Ian Pickles	2 Queen Street, Broseley TF12 5NB <a href="mailto:iandpickles@aol.com">iandpickles@aol.com</a>	01952 882505	11
Mr Philip Robinson	26 Coalport Road, Broseley TF12 5AZ pandjrobinson@hotmail.com	01952 882495	13
Mr Alan Taylor	7 Hockley Road, Broseley TF12 5HS bailor2002@aol.co	07889 939398	11

### Town Clerk

Mrs Trudi Barrett      The Birchmeadow Centre, Birch Meadow, Broseley TF12 5LP  
Tel: 01952 882172    email: broseleytc.clerk@btinternet.com

### Shropshire Councillor

Ms Jean Jones

## Membership of Committees

### Finance Committee

Councillors R Parker (Chair), I Pickles (Vice Chair), R Childs and R Howells  
L Garbett (Deputy Mayor) ex officio

### Planning Committee

Councillors A Cooke (Chair), A Taylor (Vice Chair), C Cooper and P Robinson  
R Childs (Mayor) and L Garbett (Deputy Mayor) ex officio

## **Membership of Committees cont.**

### **Personnel / Employment Committee**

Councillors A Cooke (Chair), A Taylor (Vice Chair), J Jones and P Robinson  
R Childs (Mayor) and L Garbett (Deputy Mayor) ex officio

### **Cemetery / Chapel Committee**

Councillors R Childs (Chair), L Garbett, P Robinson and A Taylor  
Non-Councillors: E Cox, M Pope, D Wallace

## **Appointments to Outside Bodies 2009/2010**

Appointments were made to the following outside bodies:

### **Birchmeadow Centre Management Committee**

Councillors R Howells and J Jones

### **Birchmeadow Park Management Committee**

Councillors R Childs, I Pickles and P Robinson

### **Victoria Hall Management Committee**

Councillors C Cooper and R Howells

### **Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee of Town and Parish Councils**

Councillors R Childs and L Garbett

### **Broseley and Barrow Local Joint Committee**

Councillor I Pickles and P Robinson

### **MUGA Group**

Councillors R Howells, J Jones and A Taylor

## **Financial Report**

### **2009/2010 Budget Overview**

Broseley Town Council continues to keep a tight rein on finances but has been inevitably affected by the reduced interest rates which we are all subjected to. This means the interest on investments this year is minimal. The development of the reserve fund continues in order to comply with national advice.

The replacement programme on street lighting is now under way and the Council would be pleased to hear from any resident who can help with information on street lighting which needs attention. The Council is also looking at the options to introduce intelligent controls which will keep electricity costs to a minimum whilst maintaining security and lighting in high need areas of the town. Shropshire Council is looking to undertake a pilot scheme in Broseley to assess benefits and obtain residents' views.

## **2009/2010 Budget Overview cont.**

Many residents have noted and commented on the commitment to bringing the Cemetery and in particular the Chapel back up to a high standard for the benefit of local people and visitors alike. Following major refurbishment of the exterior of the Chapel, we look forward to completion of the interior and the opportunity to use the accommodation for presentations about the town. Broseley Partnership members are thanked for the support they have given to the project. Thanks are also due to local residents who work on the Chapel/Cemetery committee alongside Councillors and provide a valuable input to the development of the site.

The development of facilities at the Birchmeadow Centre has now started with an extension under way to provide much needed facilities to support use of the stage area. This work has been enabled through grants. The Council has increased the financial support to this community facility to assist over the current period of financial difficulty and the Birchmeadow Centre Committee is working hard to reduce expenditure and maximize income.

The Birchmeadow Park is continually being developed through a very active committee. They are presently in negotiation for grant aid through the Football Foundation for improvement of the football pitches and changing rooms on the site, in association with the Multi Use Games Area bid.

Broseley Council continues to respond through grants and assistance to requests for support from local community groups and organisations. There have been a number of lively volunteers supporting the provision of extra services and facilities in the town. The Council again thanks all those who through voluntary activities make for a better town and environment for us all to enjoy.

Again it is worth mention that none of your local Councillors receive any payments for the voluntary duties they undertake. The Mayor receives an allowance to offset some of the costs associated with acting as Mayor of Broseley and representing the town at many functions over the year.

The Annual Return for 2009/2010 is made available for public inspection for a period following Annual Council and Audit. Members of the public who wish to see the accounts should contact the Town Clerk for details.

## **2010/2011 Budget Issues**

Wage and salary increases have been held at the national pay award level.

Broseley Town Council, in responding to a number of requests for Closed Circuit Television surveillance cameras in the town, has now started discussions with various bodies in order to identify funding for this important initiative. The proposal is supported by the local Police who have seen benefits from the introduction of CCTV in other towns around the region.

The budget for the installation and maintenance of lighting in the town has been increased to reflect the replacement programme under way. This budget has increased from £19,291 to £23,955 - an increase of 24% on this spending area.

The work to complete the refurbishment of the Chapel will continue in 2010/11 with an increase in the budget to cover the costs. The overall budget for the Burial Grounds will increase from £26,942 to £28,835, an increase of 7% overall.

## **2010/2011 Budget Issues cont.**

The budget for support of the Birchmeadow Centre has increased this year, firstly to take account of a nil increase for the Centre since the present arrangements were originally set up and, secondly, to reflect increased costs and that the site is an area of major investment for the town in seeking to protect and enhance this important community facility. The total budget, including maintenance, has increased from £6,750 to £16,310 which is a 141% increase. Further grants are being sought to continue the physical development of the site.

With the resignation of one of our Councillors, the Town Council is aware that they may need to hold a local election in this year and new arrangements place a large proportion of the costs at Town Council level. Accordingly, this budget head has been increased from £500 to £4,000. This can be seen as a one-off expenditure for this year only, but is, however, likely to repeat in other years when an election takes place.

In line with proposals from the new Shropshire Council, which seek to equalize services and charges for all Council areas, the donation towards the costs of Broseley Information Point is now centrally funded and does not form a charge against the Broseley Town budget. This has resulted in a saving of £2,500 in this and future years. This, along with a new budget to support our other community facility, the Victoria Hall, and removal of the one-off grant to the MUGA, has resulted in an overall budget reduction from £10,110 to £8,570, a reduction of 15% on this budget heading.

The Town Council continues to build a contingency fund in line with national guidance and also to prepare a fund to cover the costs of a future extension to the Cemetery burial grounds.

The combined expenditure for the whole Council has increased from £177,235 to £197,005. This is a total increase of 11%. This increase has been partially offset by income and a decision by the Council to transfer £14,000 from reserves to reduce the final precept and the charge for Broseley Town Council.

The final precept charge for Broseley Town Council which results in the Council Tax charge has therefore increased from £166,035 to £171,795 – an increase of 3.46%.

## **Planning**

During the year the Town Council commented on a total of 55 planning applications. The Planning Committee meets once a month and planning applications may also be considered at full Council meetings if the time scale for comments makes this necessary.

## **Communications**

During the year the Town Council published four issues of its newsletter, Town Talk, which was distributed door to door throughout the town. The meeting schedule and agendas for meetings were displayed on Council notice boards and were also available from the library and the Clerk. It is hoped that the Town Council's web site will be developed during the coming year, to supplement the information already available on the town's community website, [www.broseleyonline.co.uk](http://www.broseleyonline.co.uk).

## Schedule of Council and Committee Meetings 2010/2011

Members of the public are invited to attend and listen at any council meeting, but may only speak in the Public Participation session of the Full Council meeting. 10 minutes are set aside for public participation at the beginning of the meeting.

All meetings are held at the Birchmeadow Centre at 7.00 pm. Copies of agendas are displayed on Council notice boards and are available from the Clerk or in the library.

2010									2011			
Month	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
<b>Full Council</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting	8 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>		14 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Finance Committee</b>	25 <sup>th</sup>		27 <sup>th</sup>			26 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>			26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Planning Committee</b>	27 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Personnel &amp; Employment Committee</b>		22 <sup>nd</sup>			28 <sup>th</sup>			7 <sup>th</sup>			24 <sup>th</sup>	
<b>Cemetery / Chapel Committee</b>	24 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>		27 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>		31 <sup>st</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>

## Outside Bodies

### Broseley and Barrow Local Joint Committee

This committee has had the role of scrutinising the actions of Shropshire Council, in its first year of operation, and dividing the £20,000 allocated to spend on projects to boost the local community. Early in the year we had senior officers from Shropshire Council talk with us about leisure and community facilities in Broseley. This enhanced Broseley's case for more investment and helped to bring about the extension to the Birchmeadow Centre. We have tackled policy on the local road network, the Shropshire Council budget, local authority owned housing and planning, particularly as it applies to Broseley and Barrow. Policing is always on the agenda with police officers in attendance. We continue to press for provision of transport between the new William Brookes School facilities and our local communities.

Grants have gone to many community groups including Broseley Boxing Club, Willey Wanderers Cricket Club and Broseley Youth Sports Football Club. We have also helped the Christmas Lights Committee fund new storage facilities and St. Winifride's Church to buy new folding tables, which are lent out to other groups. Four successful meetings have been held across the year. The focus is on bringing together the public, councillors and council officers so that everyone feels they can influence the way our communities develop. The more members of the public who attend, the better we can help make this happen.

## **Broseley Partnership**

The Broseley Partnership is a community group which seeks to access funding to raise the status of Broseley and improve the town's facilities.

Funding has recently been obtained to start refurbishment at the Birchmeadow Centre. The group is looking for further grants to complete the project.

A Jitties Trail leaflet has been produced (available from the Library) and information posts have been installed along the Jitties in Broseley Wood to tell the story and history of this part of the town.

The Partnership has contributed money to help with the restoration of the Victorian Chapel in Broseley Cemetery. Three members of the group also sit on the Council's Cemetery / Chapel Committee.

The Partnership continues to organise craft fairs on a regular basis at the Victoria Hall.

## **Birchmeadow Park Management Committee**

The Birchmeadow Park Management Committee is pleased to report the continuing development of facilities on the Birchmeadow Park. The recently completed Children's Play Area is an innovative and exciting play experience for younger children and complements the existing Youth Area. It has proved to be so successful, that the Management Committee is working on a funding bid in an attempt to provide a larger version of the 'basket swing' for the older youngsters to use. The site of the former Play Area has been grassed and fruit trees planted - this will provide a seating area with wonderful views across the valley.

When representatives from the Football Foundation recently viewed the Park to assess the Broseley Partnership's bid for funding for a Multi-Use Games Area in the grounds of the Broseley Church of England School, they were so impressed with the site that they asked the Management Committee to apply for a grant to improve the football pitches. Members and Officers are now working on this bid.

Although there are still issues that remain to be resolved, the Management Committee is delighted that Broseley is finally being provided with a local Park that offers something for all sections of our community.

Broseley Town Council  
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Town Clerk: Mrs T M Barrett

