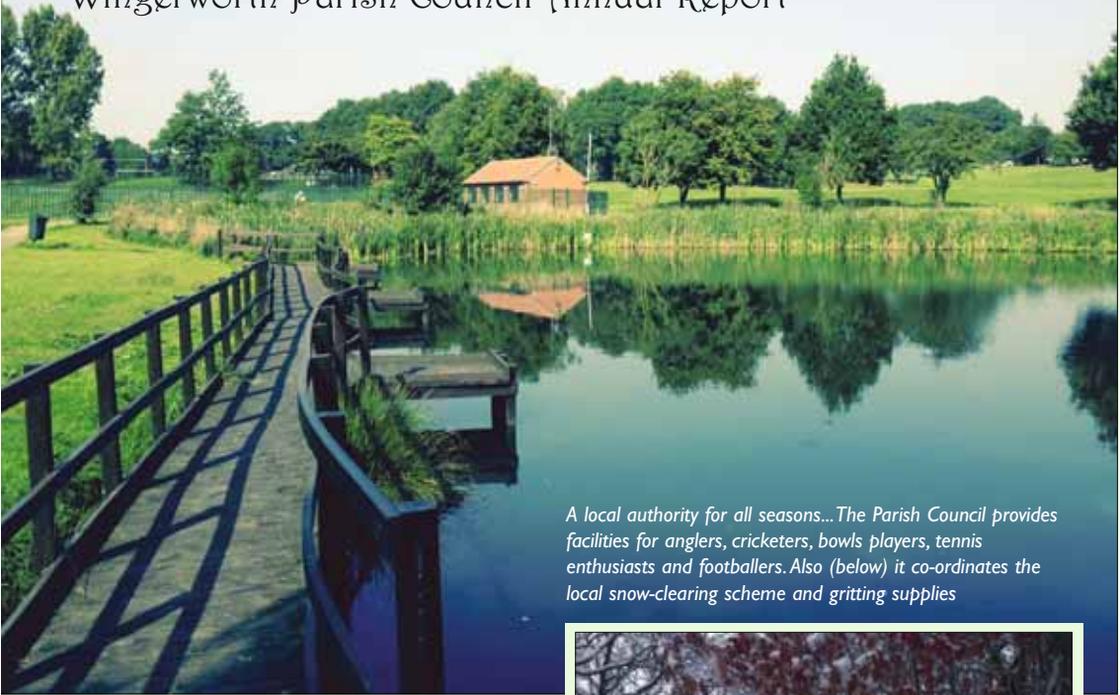


# Wingerworth Parish Council Annual Report



*A local authority for all seasons...The Parish Council provides facilities for anglers, cricketers, bowls players, tennis enthusiasts and footballers. Also (below) it co-ordinates the local snow-clearing scheme and gritting supplies*

## Council Chair's Annual Report

COUN Diana Ruff opened what was her third report as Chair of the Parish Council by referring to a number of interesting moments resulting from winter storm damage which included several trees across the Parish being left in need of urgent husbandry or total removal, as well as flooding of several footpaths and a section of the bowling green.

She said the Council had also experienced numerous maintenance issues with the Parish Rooms which triggered a feasibility study on options for repair and refurbishment of the present building as well as the case for a new building. This study was still in progress and would lead to a public consultation on the best way forward.

Within the Parish Rooms, the Rolling Arts Programme continued to be popular with artists and visitors alike. Several groups continued to meet on a regular basis in the Parish Rooms while the Library maintained a healthy footfall of users. The Remembrance Day Service at the Parish Room had been well attended with representatives from the New Road Nursery and both of the primary schools and thanks were due to the willing helpers. Thanks were also due to the business sponsors, co-ordinated by Peter Rhodes, for supplying the Parish Christmas Tree which brightened up the Parish Hall for most of December.

The Allotment Holders' Association had continued to maintain the site to a high standard and had coped with some serious drainage problems and the Angling Association, the Bowls Club and the Tennis Club all continued to flourish. She paid tribute to the organisations for their hard work and for maintaining such high standards.

The efforts of the Floral Group continued to improve the visual aspects of the Parish and the wild flower meadow planted last year on the Chartwell site looked a picture last summer, while the second and final phase of the Adlington gardening scheme had been agreed.

The group had also carried out work examining the feasibility of placing floral containers at the main entry points to Wingerworth. Grounds maintenance on Parish Council land was generally of a high standard with the exception of the football pitch where arrangements were under review.



Footpaths in the Parish continued to be kept in good order and the Chair took the opportunity of thanking David Selkirk and Mike Sims for completing the annual survey of the 42 footpaths as well as the Footpath Watch members for their continuing hard work. Due to the very wet winter, reserves of rock salt remained in good order and two new volunteer groups had been added to the Council's snow clearing scheme.

The Council continued to support the Café WY youth drop-in centre which had gone from strength to strength due in large part to the work of Anne Kryhnyckyj and the group of volunteers. The Adlington Focus Group continued to work well with the Council and the Council had once again made financial contributions to the Scouts' Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Display, the Family Festival Fun Day and the Christmas Tree Lighting Concert. On behalf of the Council, the Chair thanked the many sponsors and volunteers who helped to make these events happen.

The Chair also thanked PCSO Mike Coates who always attempted to attend Council meetings, often giving up his own time to attend, and she made reference to the introduction in February of a Safer Neighbourhood session to the Council's agenda.

In drawing her report to a close, the Chair thanked all of the Council's staff as well as vice-Chair Dawn Hart and fellow Councillors for their on-going support and efforts throughout the year, and to the Clerk for his work on behalf of parishioners.

# Financial results for 2013/14

THE Parish Council's recurrent income was £170,415, which was close to £14,000 over the budget figure.

This was due to extra being received for lettings against a budget figure that had been set prudently low given the uncertainties associated with lettings income at the time the budgets were set. This increase in lettings income more than made up for some shortfalls against budget in other categories

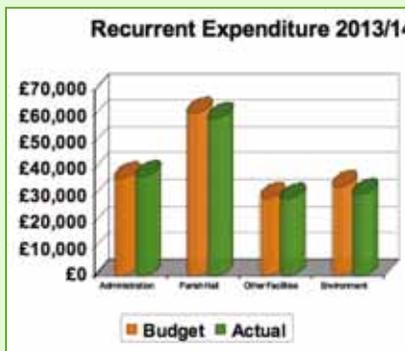
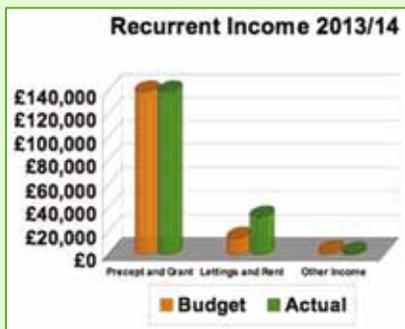
Recurrent expenditure for the year was £156,652, which represented a saving of just under £5,000 on the budget figure. All the major spending categories were close to budget – Administration, Parish Hall, Facilities and Environment – but there were significant savings resulting from a £1,400 reduction associated with the small business tax relief scheme, close to £1,300 with a lower than expected expenditure on gritting services due to the mild winter and a saving of over £2,000 on expenditure on planting schemes and general grounds maintenance.

The resulting overall surplus for the year was £13,763 which was in excess of £19,000 over a the budget for the year which had been set at a deficit of £5,784.

In addition to the recurrent expenditure, the Council had committed a total of almost £20,000 on capital expenditure during the year, close to £11,000 on the new fencing for the Council's tennis courts, nearly £3,000 on the reproofing of the score hut at the cricket ground, and just over £3,000 in payments to the Public Works Loan Board which the Council had previously agreed should be paid for out of reserves.

A summary of the Council's financial results for 2013/14 was presented at the Annual Meeting of Electors. Since then, the Council has received a clean report from its Internal Auditor and the accounts have been signed off by External Auditors.

The Council remains committed to a tight control of expenditure and seeks to achieve value for money in all of its activities, while trying to ensure that any increases in the prices of facilities and services offered are at most in line with the prevailing rate of inflation.



# Council attendance records

A COMBINATION of 11 monthly meetings, an extraordinary meeting and a Budget Meeting made for a total of 13 meetings of Wingerworth Parish Council during 2013/14.

The average attendance of Members for the year was 81% which was

slightly up on the 79% level for the previous year and was a highly creditable performance considering that Members give freely of their time and have to balance Council duties with a range of other responsibilities including, in some cases, work and family commitments that unavoidably clash with meetings, as well as occasional illness.

## Members' attendances 2013/14

Coun Pat Antcliff	11	out of	13	85%
Coun Vince Causey	13	out of	13	100%
Coun Lindsey Edwards (A)	10	out of	13	77%
Coun Stuart Ellis	8	out of	13	62%
Coun Brian Flude	5	out of	10	50%
Coun Cecilia Harper	13	out of	13	100%
Coun Dawn Hart	12	out of	13	92%
Coun Chris Hutchings	8	out of	13	62%
Coun Anne Knyhynyckyj	7	out of	13	54%
Coun Peter O'Neill	12	out of	13	92%
Coun Diana Ruff	13	out of	13	100%
Coun Colin Berry	9	out of	11	82%
Coun Kevn Broughton (W)	12	out of	13	92%

## Wingerworth Craft & Food Fair

Parish Rooms, New Road,  
Wingerworth  
Saturday, November 8th 2014, 10am-4pm  
Admission Free  
Crafted Celebration Cakes & Cup Cakes  
Hand-Crafted Jewellery  
Hand-Made Cards & Soaps  
Personalised Laser Gifts  
Pottery  
Speciality Hampers  
Woollens  
...And Much, Much More!  
Refreshments Available