

Income and Expenditure

Income: During the year the Parish Council's greatest sources of income were the precept from Maldon District Council (£44,000.00) and fees from letting the pavilion (£4,275.50). The Parish Council also gratefully received a donation from Purleigh Community Primary School towards the cost of enforcing the parking restrictions in Pump Lane and Westerings (£405.00) and £108.93 interest was accrued on the Parish Council's investment accounts.

Expenditure: During the year, in addition to usual items of expenditure, the Parish Council spent £1,314.25 repairing the public clock at All Saints Church, £1,248 repairing the pedestrian footpath between Fairfields and the village sign, and £1,359.98 on the maintenance of the existing, and development of the soon to be launched new website. £887 was also spent on maintaining the Pavilion for use by local groups and individuals. The Parish Council was also happy to make a grant of £100 towards the street party held in Cock Clarks to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Plaques acknowledging this street party and the event held on the playing field have been installed and huge thanks to all those involved in putting on those memorable events.

External Audit of Accounts for the Year ending 31st March 2023

To comply with the legal requirement to enable interested parties and local electors to exercise their rights with regard to the accounts, PKF Littlejohn has suggested Monday, 5th June 2023 to Friday, 14th July 2023 inclusive, as the dates between which interested parties can inspect the accounts and related documents and exercise their rights under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The Parish Council is happy to comply with these dates.

Please note therefore that on or before 2nd June 2023 the Parish Council will publish and display notices informing parishioners that the accounts will be available for inspection at Lower Barn Farm, Roundbush Road from Monday, 5th June to Friday, 14th July inclusive (on reasonable notice by application to the Clerk).

A copy of 'Local Authority Accounts: A Summary of Your Rights' will be displayed alongside each Notice, as required by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 sections 26 and 27, and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234).

MEETINGS

The Parish Council meets on the second Friday of every month in the Wells Pavilion, Howe Green Road at 7.00.p.m with a public session beforehand commencing at 6.45. p.m. for parishioners to talk to Councillors. All welcome.

PURLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1st APRIL 2022 - 31st MARCH 2023 YOUR COUNCIL

Steven Bardwell (Chairman)	Brooklea, Cold Norton Road, Latchingdon. Tel: 01621 740234
Gavin Strathern (Vice Chairman)	Spar Hill Farm, Chelmsford Rd, Purleigh Tel: 07702 322203
Nigel Arthur	Contact <i>via</i> the Clerk.
Colin Ash	Gardeners Cottage, Spar Lane, Purleigh Tel: 01621 827055
Karen Collier	karencollierpurleigh@gmail.com
Brian Oliver	Cosy Nook, Chelmsford Rd, Purleigh. Tel: 01621 828433
Steven Potter	Lower Barn Farm, Roundbush Rd, Purleigh. Tel 01621 828270
Graham Rayner	Tel: 01621 828117

CLERK

Jane Potter	Lower Barn Farm, Roundbush Road, Purleigh, Nr. Mundon, Maldon, Essex. CM9 6NN. Tel: 01621 828270; Email: jane.m.potter@btinternet.com www.purleigh.com
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WEBSITE

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

This year the Parish Council held 13 ordinary meetings at which Councillors made 71 attendances out of a possible 104. One Councillor attended every meeting and our thanks go to our District and County Council Ward Members, Sue White and Jane Fleming, for attending meetings, listening to our and residents' concerns, and keeping us informed about the work of their councils. In addition to the normal meetings of the Council, we also held numerous site and other *ad hoc* meetings. In June 2022 Councillors met with Maldon District Council to discuss the Purleigh Village Facilities Survey, which will inform the next Local Development Plan, and will therefore have an impact on how much development Purleigh may have to absorb. The meeting was very successful in that Purleigh has been downgraded from a large to a medium sized village. In October, the Parish Council hosted a meeting with Essex County Council representatives and residents regarding speeding traffic through Cock Clarks and a follow-up meeting was held on 4th April 2023. The Council has also held meetings with representatives of the Purleigh Community Fund to discuss preparations for the summer fete to be held on 2nd July 2023 and with Rag Creative to develop a new website. Three meetings have also been held with District Council representatives and others to discuss the enforcement of planning conditions at various sites in the parish.

During the year we commented on 44 planning applications and contributed the sum of £250 towards an independent review of the highway implications of the approved large-scale development north west of Hamberts Farm, Burnham Road in South Woodham Ferrers, which we believe will have a detrimental effect on Purleigh residents travelling in and out of the district.

The total amount of money we required from Maldon District Council for the year ending 31st March 2023 was £44,000, the same as in the previous financial year.

It has been one year now since becoming Chairman and what a busy year it has been. The Parish Council continues to work hard in trying to deal with issues within the Parish and supporting

individuals as much as we can. We are also busy working hard in the background, with things like annual tree inspections, weekly inspections of the play area and equipment and arranging repairs and maintenance to the Pavilion as and when necessary. The Council spent £882 on general maintenance at the Pavilion during this financial year and also upgraded its security systems.

During the year we were very happy to buy a new dog waste bin, which was installed at the top of Church Hill, a replacement notice board for Maldon Road which was put up on 22nd April, and to have helped the Purleigh Community Fund to buy a marquee to be used at parish events. We also made a grant of £100 to residents living in the Cock Clarks area of Purleigh to hold a street party to celebrate the late Queen Elizabeth's platinum jubilee and will make a similar grant in this financial year towards their Coronation celebrations.

Again, my thanks go to my Vice Chairman Gavin Strathern for his help and support throughout the year. Thanks also go to Graham Rayner assisting me with representing the Parish Council at the Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils.

Many thanks to Brian Oliver for agreeing to continue in his role passenger transport representative for the foreseeable future and for standing again for election, as his knowledge and experience are a great asset to the Council. Sadly, we will be losing Colin Ash this year as he did not stand for election for the coming term. I wish him well for the future and on behalf of all of us, the Parish Council would like to thank him for all the hard work he has put in over the past years, he will be greatly missed.

Many thanks to Steven and Jane Potter. Steven continues in his role as Trustee to the Purleigh Education Foundation, looking after bookings for the pavilion and dealing with the grass cutting contracts. He also assists me in arranging working parties as and when required. Jane continues to be such an incredible asset to the Parish Council in her role as Council Clerk. Her knowledge with regards to legislation and what's right and wrong is amazing, She is also such a pleasure to work with, thank you Jane.

Karen Collier has been busy with the final tweaks to our new website, and we hope to go live on 15th May 23 so keep an eye out, many thanks for all your hard work Karen.

Planning, Highway matters and the enforcement of planning conditions are still taking up a lot of council time, but we will continue to work hard in considering what the best course of action would be to reduce any impact on local residents who may be affected. Cllr Jane Fleming and Cllr Sue White have really helped us with this and we are all very grateful for their input. Although Jane is not standing for election to Maldon District Council again, we are lucky that she is continuing in her role as our Essex County Council Ward Member.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome two new members to the Parish Council. Trevor Parmenter and Libby Johns who will take office in May. I think they will both be great assets to the council and I, along with the Clerk and other Members are looking forward to working with them.

Finally, it is my annual duty to report that the council has one employee, white, British who received training during the year. We are not able to detect any pattern of inequality arising from this data.

Steve Bardwell.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

During the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 the Parish Council's income and investments amounted to £92,458.18 and in the same period it spent £53,625.77 on parishioners' behalf. At 31st March 2023 the following monies were held:

General Fund:	
Barclays Community (Current) Account	£1,175.44
Barclays Business Premium Account	£14,262.52
Petty Cash	£50.00
Earmarked Reserves:	
Capital Projects Fund	£16,027.47
Legacy account	<u>£7,316.98</u>
	£38,832.41

