

annual report

YEAR ENDING MARCH 2007

As my year in office as Mayor draws to a close, we have conducted this review and hereby report on some of the progress made by Biddulph Town Council during the last twelve months. The year started off on a particularly sad note with the sudden death of Councillor Bob Sutch, who has been sadly missed by us all. Councillor Sutch's north ward seat was filled by Councillor Linda Deaville, who was welcomed to the Chamber in August.

In addition to the day-to-day administration of the Town Council's responsibilities, we have seen many local issues tackled and have taken major strategic steps forward in areas which will have long term benefits to the community as a whole. One such area the Council has resolved to achieve is to become registered as a "Quality Council". This involves independent assessment of our operating methods and standards. Accreditation as a Quality Council will demonstrate the Council's ability to represent local residents, and will enable us to influence with greater authority principal councils and partners, when seeking delegated functions that can be carried out locally. As a part of this process, the Council has built upon its existing good practice by developing its own website - www.biddulph.co.uk and also produces a regular bi-monthly newsletter the Reporter (this being the third edition) to help keep you, the residents of Biddulph, informed on issues being undertaken by your Council.

The Town Council is - and has been for many years - a partner in the regeneration of Biddulph and we anticipate many changes and improvements over the next few years. Naturally, the major initiatives being undertaken may take some time to achieve. Nevertheless, with a committed council we are confident that these objectives will be met. Finally I would like to thank all the members of the Biddulph Town Council for their support and for the work they have undertaken during the last year.

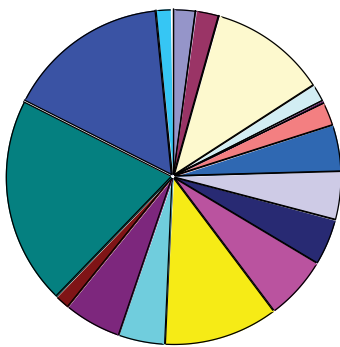
A brief summary of the work of the Council this year:

- Paid for design costs for lighting/paths at Biddulph Valley Park
- £25000 of grant assistance awarded to local community groups
- £10000 to Biddulph in Bloom to assist with valuable community work (leading to great achievement in gaining a Silver-Gilt Award)
- Practical & financial support for the Festival events – including the Town Crier's British Championship; Continental Market; Biddulph by the Sea; Folk in the Park; Art at the Arms; BRIC Funday
- Supported the Town Centre Co-ordinator project
- Supported the Victoria Centre
- Organised the Lengthsman scheme – mainly footpath, road signage and ditch clearance work
- Supported Biddulph in Bloom's Milestone project
- Assisted the Biddulph Moor Community Group's Village Green floodlight project
- Regeneration partner – public examination of the Area Action Plan
- 2007 Calendar produced

- Remembrance Sunday – support & refreshments
- Christmas – lights in town centre & Biddulph Moor tree; switch on event, Christmas market and fair
- Sponsor for Rotary's Santa Sleigh
- Town Burial Ground maintenance and improvement work carried out throughout the year, in addition to ongoing memorial safety work
- Allotment site maintenance throughout year (plus initial talks to re-develop another site)
- Supported the Twinning Association and is working on commemorating 20th Anniversary of twinning with Fusignano
- In addition to all of the above, Town Council is represented on many outside bodies and members attended meetings throughout the year and reported back to Council

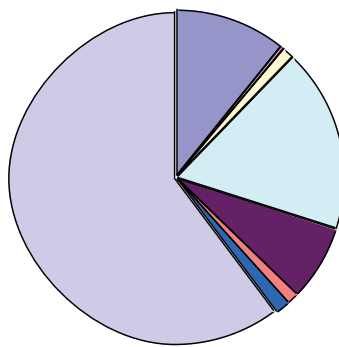


Councillor Jody Shaw
Mayor of Biddulph



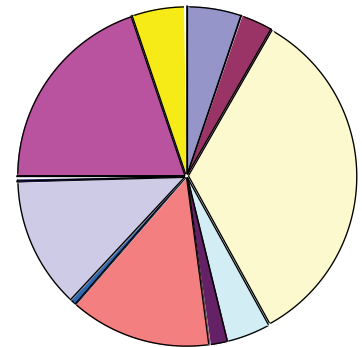
Budget for 2007/8

Town Centre Co-ordinator	5000
TCC projects	5000
Grants	25000
Lengthsman	4000
Footpaths	500
Footway Lighting	5000
Biddulph in Bloom	10000
Town Park	10000
Christmas Lights	10000
Building hire costs	13500
Regeneration	25000
Projects	10000
Allotments	12000
Elections	3000
Burial Ground/paths	45000
Add Burial Land	35000
Tourism/Festival	4000



Breakdown of income for 2006/7

Calendar/book sales	3689
Christmas lights switch on	110
Festival sales	324
Bank Interest	6137
Lengthsman	2395
Room hire	378
Allotments	485
Burial Ground	20585



Breakdown of expenditure for 2006/7

Town Centre Co-ordinator	3976
Elections	2355
Grants	25000
Lengthsman	3075
Footway Lighting	1407
Biddulph in Bloom	10000
Town Park	500
Christmas Lights	9349
Allotments	485
Burial Ground	14567
Festival	4032

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH: