



**Broseley
Town Council
Annual Report
2017/2018**

Introduction

by Councillor Simon Harris, Mayor of Broseley 2017/2018

The period 2017/2018 was a busy year for me. Not only did I get re-elected as the Mayor and Chairman of the Town Council but was also elected to represent Broseley at Shirehall as the Shropshire Council Ward representative.

It started out busy with a visit to Telford for our bid into tourism where the CEO of TripAdvisor gave a presentation – it was interesting to see how a website like that actually works. Shropshire tourism is worth over £4.6 million a year, something Broseley should have a share of.

We had a visit from over 30 steam engines that rumbled the roads through the town. The first motorcycle event was held and was warmly welcomed by the town, hundreds of people came out on a lovely sunny day to see the ride out in the town and take a look at the bikes as they lined the street. Events such as the festival and the Christmas lights bring so much to the town bringing in visitors from far and wide.

Sports did well with visits from Steve Bull MBE and at the Cricket Club the BIG Bike Ride with a number of international cricket players visiting the town; the resurgence of the Hospital Cup made a welcome comeback. This has also led to the start of the sports initiative that has started to gain some legs with local sports and leisure groups joining to build a working relationship between them all.

Helen Vickers was awarded the Citizen of the Year award with Bailey Evason as Young Citizen and Luke Norwood, Hal Pritchard and Rebecca Sankey being commended. These are awards to residents of the town for their hard work and perseverance in the volunteer section - Broseley did itself proud with so many nominations.

An eventful evening was had when Mr Tee arrived in town with his super ice cream desserts and hundreds of townsfolk turned out to sample the products.

A warm welcome was given to Reverend Christopher Penn, who has made such an impact in the town. There was the biggest turnout I've ever seen for Remembrance Day, although it was one of the coldest days of the year. It was great to see so many people of all ages represented.

We suffered two major incidents with the water supply being cut off and the bad weather hit us hard with unprecedented snow falls. The people of Broseley came through with local volunteers coming to the rescue.

The Neighbourhood Plan was started. This has been warmly received and we have had some lively meetings over the future management of the town. Consultation continues with more meetings to come. In my opinion the more people that join in the better for the town.

Once again, I thank all the town's volunteers for their commitment to making Broseley a great place to live and work.

Councillors and Staff

Your Broseley Councillors for 2017-2018 were:

Name	Address
Mr Michael Burton, Deputy Mayor (Broseley East)	1 Wilkinson Avenue, Broseley TF12 5DX
Mr Roy Childs (Broseley West)	20 Sherlock Hoy Close, Broseley TF12 5JB
Mrs Lynda Garbett (Broseley East)	Tyning Cottage, Chapel Lane, Broseley TF12 5JD
Mr Mark Garbett (Broseley West) (From July 2017)	Tyning Cottage, Chapel Lane, Broseley TF12 5JD
Mr Michael Garbett (Broseley East)	Tyning Cottage, Chapel Lane, Broseley TF12 5JD
Mr Gavin Goodall (Broseley Wood)	1 Newland Rise, Bridgnorth Road, Broseley TF12 5EH
Mr Simon Harris, Mayor (Broseley East)	53 Wilkinson Avenue, Broseley TF12 5DZ
Mrs Ann Maltby (Broseley East)	18 Foundry Lane, Broseley TF12 5DN
Mr John Pearce (Broseley East) (May – July 2017)	
Mr Tarlochen Singh-Mohr (Broseley East) (From September 2017)	260 Coalport Road, Preens Eddy, Coalport TF8 7JG
Mr Alan Taylor (Broseley East)	7 Hockley Road, Broseley TF12 5HS
Mr Ian West (Broseley West)	2 Wesley Court, Duke Street, Broseley TF12 5LS

Town Clerk

Mrs Trudi Barrett

E-mail: broseleytc.clerk@btinternet.com

Responsible Finance Officer

Mrs Andrea Williams (from January 2018)

E-mail: broseleytc.rfo@btinternet.com

Administrative Assistant

Mrs Esther Cartwright

E-mail: broseleytc_info1@btinternet.com

Shropshire Councillors

Mr Simon Harris

Mr David Turner (Broseley Wood)

Financial Report

Statement of Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2018

	£
<u>Income</u>	
Precept	200,514.00
Neighbourhood Fund	18,602.74
Cemetery	20,755.00
Grants	1,231.48
Bank Interest	272.74
Miscellaneous	8,367.76
Library/Car Park/Open Spaces	24,910.17
MUGA	10,711.20
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	285,365.09
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<u>Expenditure</u>	
Administration	14,304.84
General	4,295.57
Christmas Lights	7,165.45
Burial Ground	10,425.32
Birchmeadow Centre	11,008.07
Grants & Subscriptions	20,853.33
Salaries & Wages	83,401.71
Library Salaries & Wages	14,848.64
Library/Car Park/Open Spaces	6,984.94
Street Lighting	9,572.84
Public Toilets	21,556.52
MUGA	3,797.37
Everybody Active	4,985.00
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	213,199.60
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Surplus for Year	72,165.49
Balances Brought Forward	282,623.66
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Balances Carried Forward	354,789.15
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The accounts and Annual Return for 2017/2018 are made available for public inspection for a period following approval and audit. Members of the public who wish to see the accounts should contact the office for details.

Town Councillors do not receive any payment 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 during the year.

Grant Funding

During the Financial Year 2017/18 the Council was able to support several local organisations and events through both its Project and Service Support Grant Funding schemes. Grant funding provided throughout the year was as follows:

Project Grants

		£
Broseley Festival	To support the staging of the Broseley Music Festival 2017.	4,000
Bridgnorth and South Shropshire Crucial Crew	To support the attendance of year 6 pupils from the two Broseley primary schools at an annual safety event 2017 and 2018.	590 540
Willey and District Village Hall	Towards the replacement of the front steps and provision of a handrail for disabled access.	250
Broseley AFC	Towards the installation of new toilets in the Birchmeadow Park changing rooms.	1,000
Ironbridge Gorge Walking Festival	To support the provision of a programme of guided walks in and around the Ironbridge Gorge, including Broseley.	200
Broseley Joggers	Towards equipment to support club sessions and Couch to 5k sessions.	220
Broseley Cinema Club	Towards a new screen.	750

Service Support Grants

		£
Broseley in Bloom	To support floral displays around the town.	2,970
Birchmeadow Park Management Committee	Towards drainage work on the Park.	2,000
Birchmeadow Centre Management Committee	Towards the management and upkeep of the building.	2,000
Citizens Advice Shropshire	Towards the provision of an advice service in Broseley.	3,000

The Council continues to consider the provision of financial support to local groups. Application forms and further details can be found on the Council's website or obtained from the office.

Council Meetings and Committees

The Council held full Council meetings every month throughout the year. The Council has three standing committees: Planning, Estate and Staffing. The Planning Committee met every month, the Estate Committee met bi-monthly and the Staffing Committee met as required.

Members of the public were invited to attend and listen at Council meetings and had the opportunity to speak in the Public Participation session of the Full Council meeting or Planning Committee meeting. 10 minutes were set aside for public participation at the beginning of those meetings when members of the public could raise issues of concern or pass on information.

Planning Committee

The Planning Committee meets monthly to consider planning and related matters on behalf of the Town Council. As well as responding to Shropshire Council on specific planning applications, including proposed work on trees, the Committee also oversees the Council's policies on highways, footpaths and the local visitor economy. Members of the public are able to attend meetings and to speak in the public participation period at the start of each meeting. This year, the Planning Committee's activities have included the launching and monitoring of the work to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Broseley and preparing Broseley's response to Shropshire Council's Local Plan Review.

Estate Committee

The Estate Committee oversees the management of Council owned and leased property and assets in the town.

Birchmeadow Centre

The Estate Committee continues to work closely with the Birchmeadow Centre Management Committee. A new management agreement has been drawn up to ensure that this alliance works effectively for the future of the Birchmeadow Centre. The noise levels to neighbours has reduced dramatically following last year's works to the gable end of the building. Refurbishment of the upstairs toilets has been completed and, from all reports, this has been very well received. Solar panels have been installed with a grant from the Postcode Local Trust and savings on electricity charges are now being seen. BroADS have proposed a small extension to allow access from both sides of the stage and the Estate Committee has no objection to this. Vision panels have been fitted in the interior doors and the installation of new front doors is imminent. A new defibrillator has been fitted to the outside of the building and many people have been trained in its use in case of an emergency.

Library

The Council continues to manage the library and information service. Several different groups use the library for meetings, reading and craft groups, public talks and drop-in sessions, which is very encouraging. A new notice board has been fitted outside the building to display Council and library notices. The Council has agreed to install electric vehicle charging points on the outside of the building. Shropshire Council is working on a trial scheme to install electric vehicle charging points in Ludlow and the Town Council is waiting to see whether this scheme will be extended to other towns before progressing independently.

Cemetery

The Cemetery continues to be maintained to a high standard by our groundsmen, who are also responsible for managing interments. The provision of a permanent rest room, toilet and storage facilities has been added to the Place Plan for the town and the Council will be seeking tenders in due course. Funding will be allocated from reserves and a request for CIL funding.

Memorial Garden

A new notice board has been installed in the Memorial Garden to display Council notices, advertisements for local events and tourist information. This means that there is no need to post notices on the lime trees, which makes the Garden look untidy. A damaged bench has recently been replaced with a new one. Many positive comments have been made about the floral displays in the Garden this year for which thanks are due to the Council's groundsmen. A "Silent Soldier" has been ordered for the 2018 commemorations.

Open Spaces

Following their transfer, the Town Council is now responsible for the maintenance of Maypole Green and the open space at Guest Road. The Town Council also owns the telephone box at the top of Quarry Road and maintains the surrounding area.

Guest Road Play Equipment

Over several years the Council has received requests for the provision of play equipment on the Tileries side of town. In December 2016 Everybody Active grant funding was awarded and a scheme to install play equipment on the Guest Road open space has now been agreed.

Street Lighting

A task and finish group has been set up to take forward the LED conversion project. The project will involve replacing concrete columns with aluminium columns and fitting LED lanterns on these and existing steel columns. It is intended to programme the lanterns to allow timed dimming or part-night lighting if appropriate.

Christmas Lights

Once again the switch-on event was very successful and the Christmas Lights Committee are to be commended for their work throughout the year.

Outside Bodies

During 2017/18 representatives from the Council served on the following outside bodies: Birchmeadow Centre Management Committee, Birchmeadow Park Management Committee, Victoria Hall Management Committee, Local Joint Committee, MUGA Group, Severn Gorge Countryside Trust, Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site Steering Group and the JL Edwards Memorial Trust.

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 Council regularly contributed to the Broseley Quarterly and What's What magazine, as well as issuing press releases to the local newspapers. Council notices, including the schedule of meetings and meeting agendas, were displayed on Council notice boards and on the Council's website and were also available from the library and the Clerk. Liaison was maintained with visitbroseley.com to ensure that clubs and events in the town were included on this website.

The office was open to visits from the public on Thursday mornings from 10am to 12 noon.

Broseley Town Council
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