

# ECKINGTON PARISH Newsletter

**Eckington**  
Parish Council

ISSUE 11

SUMMER 2014

## ANNUAL REPORT



It's been a busy year as the Parish Council has positioned itself to meet the challenges of the economic situation and the drive towards our ambition to be an improving council with better service delivery.

I am pleased to report that our finances have been audited and are

in good shape. The Council has made good progress in the area of self improvement, including working with partners such as Eckington Town Team, Ash Renishaw Consultation Group and the District/Parish Liaison Group.

### **We have a number of working groups and committees:**

**Cemetery Committee** Updating cemetery regulations, improving the paths and agreeing cemetery fees.

**Community Halls Committee** Recently agreed a refurbishment programme for the Civic Centre.

**Markets Group** Working to improve the Friday Parish Market.

**Communications Group** We issue 4 newsletters a year, and are working to improve the website.

**Parish Review Group** Advising on strategic governance and staffing.

I would like to thank all members of staff and Councillors who have contributed to the work of these committees.

The Parish Council itself has had two of its members leave and I would like to thank both Jim Jesson and David Speed for their contributions and hard work over the many years, they will be missed. On the up side we have welcomed Ms Catherine Tite to the Parish Council as a representative for Eckington North.

Besides the monthly discussion items such as crime figures, planning applications etc, your Parish Council has been busy throughout the year. We have discussed a number of requests for grit bins and new sites, agreed the maintenance of the footpath at Stead's Field, supported Marsh Lane family fun day, and welcomed Police Inspector Kendellen to the area.

### **PRECEPT AND BUDGET**

In order to maintain the services the Parish Council currently provides the Parish Council has agreed an increase in the region of 3.8%. This equates to £2.77 increase for the year on a band D property.

The Parish Council, during this year, has agreed to pay the living wage to those staff who qualify. The engagement of an apprentice onto the staff is a welcome addition to the workforce.

We have awarded a number of grants including CAB (North East Derbyshire), Eckington Christmas Activities, Derbyshire Unemployed Centre, Marsh Lane Under 5's.

We have continued to support the young people of the parish through the youth forum (UFI) and I would like to say a special thanks to that particular group who work so very hard with a number of projects across our area.

The Parish Council is charged with ensuring that the people of Eckington Parish get answers to some of the issues which affect their daily lives. Your Parish Council has expressed concern over the non enforcement of the one way traffic restriction through Eckington Precinct. We have received explanation from the County Council regarding bridleway 147 which has been closed for over twelve months. We have supported residents in Ridgeway for the relocation of a local grit bin. The Council has also considered a number of planning applications for approval or objection on your behalf.

As an advocate of Eckington Town Centre improvement for a number of years I am especially pleased that Eckington Parish Council has allocated £10,000 towards town centre improvements.

We receive petitions, ideas and applications from individuals and groups who attend the Parish Council meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. We are always glad to receive this representation and if you feel you would like to take part in the meeting contact the clerk who can give you guidance.

My thanks to all the staff of the Parish Council and to the Councillors themselves, but I would like to thank the people of the Parish who have worked with the Council to make Eckington Parish a better place to live and I invite you all to join me and your Parish Council in continuing that work

*Cllr Brian Ridgway*



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**This newsletter will also be available on the Parish Council website:**  
**[www.eckington-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eckington-pc.gov.uk)**

This newsletter is published by Eckington Parish Council  
Civic Centre, Market Street  
Eckington S21 4JG  
0114 2309397  
clerk@eckington-pc.gov.uk

#### **Editorial Team**

The newsletter is compiled by a group of parish councillors: Cllr Austen; Cllr Herring; Cllr Hunt; Cllr B and J Ridgway. If you would like to make any comments on the newsletter please contact us. Contact details can be found of Page 4.

## **Where can I find a Parish Newsletter?**

Newsletters are available free of charge in a range of shops, pubs and community centres throughout the Parish.

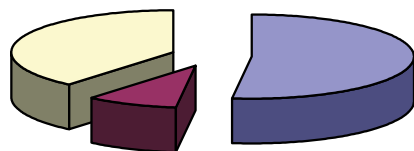
We aim to hand deliver at least 1,000 copies to households across the Parish

# Parish Accounts 2013/2014

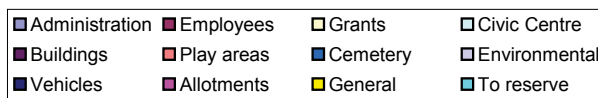
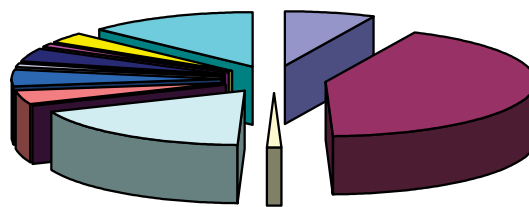
		£
Precept	52%	230959
Support Grant	9%	39041
Fees & charges	39%	174143
From reserve	0%	0
		<b>444143</b>

		£
Administration	7%	32700
Employees	42%	185710
Grants	1%	4364
Civic Centre	18%	80288
Buildings	0%	2005
Play areas	4%	18879
Cemetery	5%	20672
Environmental	1%	6502
Vehicles	4%	17250
Allotments	1%	2895
General	3%	14699
To reserve	13%	58179
		<b>444143</b>

Where the money came from .....



.... and where it was spent



## Parish Councillors

### Eckington North

Councillor Jane Austen	01246 433001
Councillor Jane Marsh	01246 432479
Councillor David Ridley	01246 434789
Councillor Christine Gare	01246 435593
Councillor Catherine Tite	01246 906079

### Eckington South

Councillor Clive Hunt	01246 432206
Councillor Darren Herring	01246 434983
Councillor Joan Ibbotson	01246 435289

### Marsh Lane and Ridgeway

Councillor John Woodruff (Vice Chair)	01246 432632
Councillor Steve Pickering	01246 435817
Councillor Andy Dye	0114 2483046

### Renishaw and Spinkhill

Councillor Brian Ridgway (Chair)	01246 430035
Councillor Jacqueline Ridgway	01246 430035
Councillor Christine Poxton	01246 433978

### Responsible Financial Officer

Michael Gazur  
Civic Centre  
Market Street  
Eckington S21 4JG

### Parish Clerk

Peter Staniforth  
Civic Centre  
Market Street  
Eckington S21 4JG  
0114 2309397  
clerk@eckington-pc.gov.uk

## Parish Councillors' Surgeries

### Eckington Civic Centre

Date	Time
5th July	10.00 am to 11.00 am
2nd August	10.00 am to 11.00 am
6th September	10.00 am to 11.00 am
4th October	10.00 am to 11.00 am

### Green Lawns Community Centre

19th July	11.00 am to 12.00 noon
20th September	11.00 am to 12.00 noon

### Ridgeway Village Hall

23rd August	11.00 am to 12.00 noon
26th October	11.00 am to 12.00 noon

# Your Parish Council

The Parish Council comprises 17 councillors representing the parish wards of Eckington North; Eckington South; Marsh Lane, Ridgeway and Troway and Renishaw. Elections to the Council take place every 4 years with the next full elections taking place on 7 May 2015. If you are on the electoral register in the parish then you can have a say in electing your councillors. If a councillor resigns, or is excluded from office, then a by-election can be called but, if that does not happen, the Council can co-opt members to the Council.

The Council currently has 3 vacancies. If you are interested in being considered for co-option to the Council you can find a form on the parish website or talk to the Clerk or any current councillor.

## Industry in the Moss Valley

The Moss Valley has a long industrial history, in the seventeenth century there was iron making and in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth there was coal extraction. Around this time, situated in the Moss Valley, were a group of small mines called the Plumbley Collieries owned by Mr John Rhodes.



In the mid nineteenth century John Rhodes had ambitious plans to expand and develop the mine; he built a railway line from the mine in Eckington woods to Renishaw where it would join the Midland railway and he also built Plumbley colliery engine house. It is sad to say that John Rhodes had more plans than money; he ran out of cash and was declared bankrupt. The site was abandoned in 1901.

If you look carefully you can find evidence of the railway and the engine house. The railway is known locally as the Penny Engine Line; the track line comes along side of the church hall where it crossed Church Street to disappear along, roughly, what is now Penny Engine Lane. The engine house is called Seldom Seen engine house; you can find this by going along Mill Lane and taking the left-hand path into Ince Peice wood. If you explore amongst the trees you will discover Seldom Seen, the Ordnance Survey grid ref is SK 421 800).

## What the Council Does

The Parish Council has assets and responsibilities. These include:

- **Play areas**
- **Community halls**
- **Cemetery**
- **Friday market**
- **Allotment sites**

The Parish Council employs a number of people to help it carry out its responsibilities.

## How the Council Works

The Parish Council raises a precept. This is an amount of money which every household in the parish pays and is collected with the Council Tax. For 2014/2015 the parish precept for a Band D property is £76.19.

Meetings of the Parish Council are held on the first Tuesday of every month (except August) in the Civic Centre, Eckington. At every meeting time is allocated to Public Participation when any resident can raise an issue which they feel the Parish should know about or can help them with. An Annual Parish Meeting is held in April which is open to every parishioner to attend and question the Council on its performance during the year. The Agenda for each meeting is placed on the noticeboard at the Civic Centre

The Parish Council sets up a number of committees, eg Community Halls Committee, and working groups eg Communications, to help with the running of the Council.

Derbyshire County Council have done some work on the engine house; this quote is from their website "Dating from between 1855 and 1875, this Scheduled Ancient Monument, is an unusually large and rare form of engine house. It is the last remaining building from the Plumbley Collieries and provides valuable evidence of the layout and operation of a 19th century coal mine.

Why is it called Seldom Seen? One suggestion is that because it lies hidden in the bottom of the valley it was 'Seldom Seen'. Another suggestion is that it was believed to be haunted, but the ghost was seldom seen.

We have completed some restoration to the building to ensure the structure's continued survival"

[http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/countryside\\_sites/wildlife\\_amenity/engine\\_house/default.asp](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/countryside_sites/wildlife_amenity/engine_house/default.asp)

*Clr Steve Pickering*

# Eckington Summer Festival

## Saturday 5th July 2014

**Eckington Summer Festival is back! Eckington Parish Council, Eckington Youth Club and Eckington Boys & Belles FC are set to host the festival's second successive year on Saturday, 5th July, running between 1.00pm and 6.00pm. The event is sponsored by Eckington Parish Council and Shepherd Distributions Ltd, with all proceeds going to local charities.**

**Attractions include fairground rides, live music and other entertainment, hot and cold food stalls, a bar, craft stalls and much more! Entrance is free to all, so why not come and join the fun?! The event is to take place on the Eckington Junior School field at the rear of Stead Street.**

**Any and all enquiries by e-mail to [eckingtonfestival@gmail.com](mailto:eckingtonfestival@gmail.com).**

# Sheffield Wednesday School Partnership

As part of our latest partnership with local schools, Liam Palmer was back at school last week when he visited Renishaw Primary School in North East Derbyshire. The community programme now provides a range of activities to the school on Thursdays and has become a valuable partner with the football club.

Having coached Liam as an Under 8 and Under 9 at Sheffield Wednesday's Academy many years ago, headteacher, Simon Fuller was delighted that the academy product was able to visit the children at the school spending time to answer questions and pose for photographs with all classes.

"It was fabulous for the children at our school to meet Liam and it is amazing to think the last time I saw Liam was as an Under 9. He's a brilliant example of how hard work and dedication can result in achieving your goal. The children loved the experience and Liam was superb with them. It's great to see doing so well."

Mr Fuller went on to say, "We hope our partnership with Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme will be a long and fruitful one for the club and for all the children at our school. The staff fabulous and with the help of John Williams, Steve Taylor and the rest of the community staff we are keen to develop all areas of our PE, sport and extra-curricular programme have great plans for the future."

Staff from Sheffield Wednesday Football In The Community support the school with extra-curricular activity clubs, working with teaching staff on delivering high quality PE lessons and are planning holiday activity camps in the school community. Liam Palmer pictured with Renishaw Primary School Year 2 children.



## Where to find a Parish Newsletter?

The Parish Council prints 4 newsletters a year in March, June, September and December.

You can collect a newsletter from the following outlets

ECKINGTON		
Civic Centre		Rose and Crown
Swimming Pool		Gaunt's Butchers
Moss Valley Surgery		
Eckington Surgery		Esquire Hairdresser
Library		Pizza Shop (Ravencar)
Southgate Post Office		Vima Hairdresser
The George		Dong Fang Garden
Age UK		
Kemps		Mossbrook
French's		
Sally – Village Barber		Co-op
Ashgate Hospice Shop		
The Grange		Premier, Birk Hill
Delicious		Hair Hut, Birk Hill
Egyptian Barber		
TJ's Cafe		Miners Welfare
Business Centre 1		Eckington News, West Street
Business Centre 2		
Peak Pharmacy		April Park Nursing Home
MARSH LANE	RIDGEWAY & TROWAY	RENISHAW
Fox and Hounds	Swan Inn	Premier Store
Butchers Arms	Queens Head	Select and Save
Green Lawns	Community Centre	Emmett Carr Surgery
Community Centre	Bridge Inn	Pharmacy
Bramley Park	The Gate, Troway	
	The Inn at Troway	

A further 3,000 are delivered to households throughout the parish. The Parish newsletter can also be found on the website.

