

Annual Report 2009/2010

The Village Council, being at the grass roots level of local government, has continued on its quest to ensure that our surroundings, community facilities and services available within Great Burstead and South Green are maintained, supported and improved where possible.

The summer of 2009 saw the launch of 'The Mole', the newsletter of our Village. The media working party, which was responsible for it, have been innovative in its content and style and it has been extremely well received by residents, with many coming forward with material for articles and photos. I would like to thank them, and the team of Great Burstead Church for their assistance in ensuring it is received each time by all residents within the village. It's quite a task, when you think, that we have 2700 households in our village!

Last summer saw the launch of a series of walks along the local footpaths, the result of collaboration between the Village Council and Phoenix Striders. The walks were most ably led by Gwyn Hughes of Phoenix Striders and well attended. It is hoped to run a similar course this summer if demand is sufficient.

During the festive period of Christmas, the illuminations were in place again and our councillors with the clerk, organised a Christmas Sing Song, outside the shopping parade, which was a great success, a first in village history. The Ladybirds, local ladies singing group and South Green Infants plus 1st Great Burstead Brownies were in great voice. Our thanks go to our local traders, who were most supportive and ensured with their tombola contributions in support of St. Luke's Hospice, there was fun all around.

Road safety continues to be a major concern and with the collaboration of residents the Village Council continues to highlight concerns to the County Council. The Village council was successful in acquiring the newly installed vehicle activated speed signs in Outwood Common Road and Kennel Lane, the result of funding applied for and awarded by the County Council Community Initiatives Fund (Highways) 08/09. Village Gateway signs are also shortly to be installed, to define the area of our village and where permissible further display the prevailing speed limits.

Prudent housekeeping has again ensured the precept remains at a similar level to recent years. The precept for residents within Great Burstead & South Green being the lowest when compared to other parishes within the district.

December 2009 saw the departure of Cllr. Aisha McConnell due to her husband's relocation to Singapore, thus creating a vacancy for a councillor. It's a great opportunity for anyone of you to have a 'say' into the future of our village.

In closing, I would like to thank Aisha McConnell, our current members and of course our clerk, for their tireless efforts on behalf of residents.