

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Pocklington Arts Centre</i>	2
<i>Car Parking</i>	2
<i>Broadmanor Playpark</i>	2
<i>Keep Pocklington Tidy</i>	2
<i>Primrose Wood</i>	2
<i>West Green</i>	2
<i>Floods</i>	3
<i>Street Furniture</i>	3
<i>Oak House—1st Floor</i>	3
<i>Accounts</i>	4
<i>Contact Information</i>	4

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

During my one year tenure as Mayor of Pocklington, I have been proud and honoured to have served as leader of the Town Council with the support of a first class team of Councillors, Town Clerk and the Chaplain to the Council Rev Gail Dalley.

My first day of duty as Mayor concentrated on the protest march in Pocklington against the proposed imposition of car parking charges. Our objections have been noted and well recorded regionally. The continuation of free car parking in Pocklington will be robustly defended. My inaugural speech promised improvements in the overall appearance and cleanliness of our streets. Since the employment of a council handyman, most residents would agree that a great improvement has been made in the control of litter. As a Council, we continue to improve the Town wherever possible. Two seats were recently placed in Market Place with a grant from the Civic Society. Good progress has been made on our new library which is, in fact, ahead of schedule. We are also seeking to gain old fashioned style street lighting within the Town, similar to those in Butcher Row, Beverley.

We are in the process of taking over responsibility for Primrose Wood from the Woodland Trust. The aim is to enhance this valuable green space on the edge of the Town.

The Town continues to gain awards for Pocklington in Bloom with the help of enthusiastic volunteers and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for all their efforts. There continues to be a never ending stream of ideas and plans to maintain and improve the appearance of our attractive old market town.

We are lucky to live in a relatively low crime area. In co-operation with the local police, crime prevention panel and neighbourhood watch committees, we continue to achieve this. Recently, the Council have taken over the control and maintenance of the CCTV cameras from the local Crime Prevention Panel, leaving the panel free to concentrate on promoting crime prevention.

We continue to market Pocklington and the Promote Pocklington Group have produced an



The Town Mayor enjoys the sunshine

attractive leaflet for visitors. We have also led a campaign to have brown signs placed on the A1079 to attract visitors to our Town.

We celebrated St George's Day in Pocklington, to promote national pride, with entertainment provided by the Ebor Morris Dancers, a Junior Town Criers competition and a further competition between the pupils at Pocklington Junior School for the best poster for St George's Day. A splendid dragon was loaned to us made by the children from Pocklington Infants School.



Left: The Civic Ceremony in March was organised by The Town Mayor

Right: The Town Mayor opens new care facilities at Beaumont House, Stamford Bridge.



THE ARTS CENTRE CELEBRATES A SUCCESSFUL DECADE

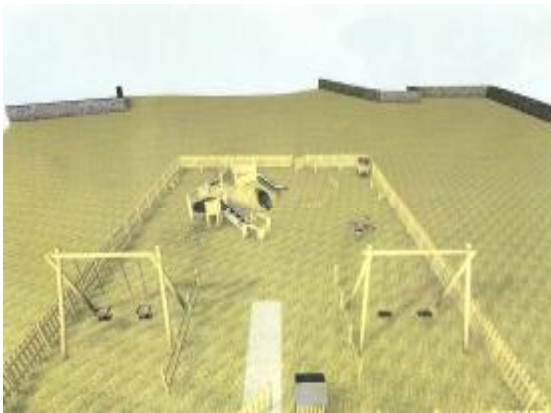


The Arts Centre continues to provide a wide spectrum of live performances and up to date releases for the cinema. We are so lucky to have such dedicated staff led by Janet Farmer and James Duffy, who together with the volunteers make the Centre such a success.

As part of the Arts Centre's 10th Anniversary celebrations a carpet bedding flower display is being planted in the grounds of All Saints Church. This has been financed by the Town Council, the Arts Centre and the Friends of Pocklington Arts Centre.

PLANS FOR BROADMANOR PLAYPARK AGREED

During the year Pocklington Town Council have been in negotiation with the East Riding Authority to take over the responsibility of the green space on Broadmanor. The Council conducted a survey about the possibility of siting play equipment in this area. This proposal received overwhelming support and plans are now in place to secure funding for the play equipment.



PRIMROSE WOOD

The Council are in the process of taking over responsibility for Primrose Wood (off Burnby Lane beyond the Cricket Club) from the Woodland Trust.

The idea is in its early stages but the aim is to enhance this very valuable green space on the edge of town.



KEEPING POCKLINGTON TIDY

In April 2009 the Council employed a part-time handyman to make sure the town is kept clean and tidy. Arthur Woodcock's work has been much appreciated by the local residents and a marked improvement in the general appearance of the town has been noted.



KEEPING POCKLINGTON'S PARKING FREE



During the year Councillors spearheaded a successful campaign to prevent car parking charging for being levied on the town car parks. This has resulted in the charges being deferred but Councillors are determined to continue this action as they feel charging for car parking would be detrimental to the economic activity of the town.

ENHANCEMENTS TO WEST GREEN

The refurbishment of West Green has continued.

Already the area is being used for more events. A fair visited in May. A vintage car rally was held in June and a caravan rally in November.

The British Trust of Conservation Volunteers undertook most of the construction work with the majority of the cost of the work being covered by a further 'Breathing Spaces' grant of £2,000.



FLOOD PREVENTION WORK



FLORAL DISPLAYS
PRIOR TO THE SPRING
JUDGING OF THE IN
BLOOM COMPETITION



Since 2007 (above) the Flood Committee have worked tirelessly to make sure flood prevention work is carried out in the town. The Environment Agency has recently commissioned Aquajet to clean out the culverts which has resulted in over 400 tons of gravel and debris being removed.



Above: The 2007 floods
Left: Remedial work being carried out in 2010

NEW SEATS FOR THE TOWN

During a street audit it was noticed that there was a lack of seating in the town centre. Subsequently two new seats have been installed in the Market Place. This was made possible by a generous donation from the Pocklington and District Civic Society.

Right: One of the new seats in Market Place



REFURBISHMENT OF THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE OAK HOUSE

The Cemetery Chapels and Cemetery Lodge were sold in 2008 for £250,000

The monies realised have been used to pay off one of the mortgages for Oak House and to pay for the first phase of the Oak House repairs.

The first floor of the Oak House has undergone repair work to the beams and floorboards in preparation for this area to be brought back into use. A group of councillors, together with representatives from local groups and members of the public are considering the best use for this area after the refurbishment.

Left: One of the original features of the Oak House to be retained



POCKLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
 The Old Court House
 37 George Street
 Pocklington
 East Riding of Yorkshire
 YO42 2DH

Tel: 01759 304851

Email:
townclerk@pocklington.gov.uk

WEB:
www.pocklington.gov.uk

The Council hire out the rooms at the council office. The fee is £15 for community groups for a morning, afternoon or evening session.

Please contact the office on 01759 304851 for details of availability



Above: Geoff Sheasby, the Town Crier, in Burnby Gardens

POCKLINGTON TOWN COUNCILLORS - HERE TO SERVE YOU



Accounts for 2009/2010

		Income		Expenditure	
2008/2009		2009/2010	2008/2009		2009/2010
192,400	Precept	198,200	112,119	Staff Costs (2)	118,918
228,784	Arts Centre (1)	196,594	177,164	Arts Centre (1)	157,050
7,630	Burial Fees	9,212	4,695	Administration	4,002
6,979	Shop Rents	9,558	244,290	Mortgage Repayments(3)	27,905
2,781	Room Hire	3,958	74,687	Property Maintenance	32,667
36,000	Grants	1,924	4,181	Utilities	3,814
245,086	Property Sales	0	7,952	Insurance	6,133
1,369	Allotment rent	520	838	CCTV	1,815
599	Hire West Green	903	2,681	Lighting for Paths	1,861
6,035	Miscellaneous	497	5,630	Professional Fees	2,645
727,663	Totals	421,366	2,974	Audit Fees	3,815
			1,126	Community Grants	2,640
			1,350	Mayor's Allowance	2,000
			579	Internet	951
			2,997	Street Furniture	2,580
			2,455	Pocklington in Bloom	2,159
			1,905	Town Promotion	945
			1,372	Entertaining	1,391
			11,345	Christmas Lights (4)	10,333
			1,441	Energy Conservation	1,011
			607	War Memorial Project	295
			33,226	Miscellaneous	29,831
			695,614	Totals	414,761

FOOTNOTES

- (1) This includes all the income and expenditure relating to Pocklington Arts Centre.
- (2) This includes salaries, pensions and Employer's National Insurance Contributions for all staff
- (3) This relates to the mortgage on The Oak House.
- (4) These costs include the erection, maintenance and removal of the Christmas light displays.