

# MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT 2011

This is the end of my second year as Chairman of the Parish Council and it has been as busy and as exciting as the first. You will read more about what has been achieved throughout this Annual Report. I specifically want to mention that the remaining initiatives from the Parish Plan have now been undertaken, completing the list of actions highlighted by the responses to the questionnaire. A separate flyer has been produced to update you in more detail.

Throughout the year, more applications for funding have been successful; one of these will see the development over the next year of the land between Meadow Way and the A142 into a Community Wood. Volunteers will be needed to help with the planting of the trees so watch out for more details.

We continue to act professionally endeavouring to represent the views of the residents of the Parish of Mepal to the best of our ability within the resources we have available.

Should you have any concerns or wish to be more involved in the work of the Parish Council then please do get in touch.

**Mike Stacey**  
Chairman – Mepal Parish Council

### Major Achievements in 2010/11

- Bus shelters provided at the Village Green and the end of Chestnut Way.
- Woodland Project to shield the village from traffic noise and provide a pleasant place to walk. Project devised and backing from East Cambs District Council secured. Successful grant application for funding and partnership with The Woodland Trust won.
- A “green” project which saves us money. Scheme for photo voltaic electricity generation at Community Pavilion devised and grant funding secured.
- Allotments now fenced and under cultivation.
- Play area landscaping completed to the evident delight of our local children.
- Mepal & Witcham C of E Primary School – support for “safer routes to school” with improvements now in place. Also, welcome to our new Head Teacher, Mrs Nicola Jones.
- Continuing to ensure response to village concerns through the Neighbourhood Panel and congratulations to Mrs Elizabeth Stazicker upon election as Chairman of the West Panel.



*Area for woodland creation and protection of mature oak tree*

# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2011

Year Ended 31st March 2010	INCOME	Year Ended 31st March 2011
25950.00	Precept	28845.00
1788.22	Agency Services	949.09
0.00	Loans for Capital Expenditure	0.00
15.71	Interest on Investments & Accounts	15.26
0.00	Sale of Assets	0.00
300.00	Tenancies (Council as landlord)	460.00
49398.00	Capital Grants	17960.49
0.00	Other Grants	0.00
499.67	Revenue Reimbursement	7098.63
567.00	Newsletter	617.00
1107.09	Recycling Credits	1140.29
7470.03	VAT	9606.60
553.00	Other	65.00
<b>87648.72</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>66757.35</b>
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
2557.41	Administration	2619.55
	Wages, PAYE, NI, Pensions	
9722.66	Expenses	11753.78
275.00	S137 Payments	235.00
36324.59	Capital Spending	29534.59
1622.90	Agency Services	862.74
2552.14	Grants	3309.25
0.00	Other Payments	0.00
0.00	Provision for doubtful debts	0.00
0.00	Loan Interest & Repayments	0.00
12.50	Advertising & Publicity	0.00
0.00	Tenancies (Council as tenant)	0.00
810.00	Newsletter	690.00
253.33	Public Lighting	254.73
12907.80	Parish Maintenance	21867.11
593.15	Insurance	1327.63
0.00	Pavilion Expenses	452.60
198.00	Parish Plan	0.00
7470.03	VAT	9606.60
<b>75299.51</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>82513.58</b>
24618.74	< Balance at 31st March 2009	36967.95
87648.72	Add total income	66757.35
0.00	Add VAT to be reclaimed	0.00
112267.46		103725.30
-75299.51	Deduct total expenditure	-82513.58
<b>36967.95</b>	Balance as at 31st March 2011 >	<b>21211.72</b>

\*The precept equated to £70.47 per annum at Band D in 2009/10, £78.30 in 2010/11 and £82.12 in 2011/12. Further details are available from the Clerk.

## Much more than doubling your money

Over the six years, from 2005, we have won £332k in grant funding – much more than ten times the precept. Here are details of the grants secured and the projects they have funded:

Project	Total Grant	Awarding Body	Date
Celebrations - War Memorial Project	£1,700	Community LeaP Leader	May-05
Keeping the village informed	£1,200	Community LeaP Leader	Nov-05
Repainting of children's play area equipment	£3,337	Hanson Trust	Jun-06
Recreation Field - land drainage	£23,718	EVOLVE	Late 2006
Mepal Community Pavilion	£160,000	The Football Foundation	Early 2007
Mepal Community Pavilion	£20,000	WREN	Early 2007
Mepal Community Pavilion	£5,000	The Grant Weston Trust	Early 2007
Mepal Community Pavilion	£15,000	East Cambs District Council Sports Grant	Early 2007
Mepal Community Pavilion	£15,000	East Cambs District Council s106	Early 2007
Mepal Community Pavilion - kitchen	£5,000	Community LeaP Leader	Early 2007
Kissing gates	£350	Cambs County Council Parish Paths Partnership	Jun-09
Allotments	£3,785	East Cambs District Council s106	Sep-09
Enhancement of children's Play Area	£40,000	Cambs Play Pathfinder Scheme	Sep-09
Enhancement of children's Play Area	£7,150	Big Lottery Fund	Sep-09
Enhancement of children's Play Area	£3,497	East Cambs District Council s106	Sep-09
Allotments fence, seasonal pond, woodland walk	£5,023	COMMA Aggregate Fund	Sep-10
Renewable Energy Study for Community Pavilion	£3,300	Community Sustainable Energy Programme	Oct-10
Bus Shelters	£5,940	East Cambs District Council s106	Nov-10
A Woodland for Mepal	£5,000	The Woodford Trust	Feb-11
Photovoltaic Panels for Community Pavilion	£8,000	Community Sustainable Energy Programme	Mar-11
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£332,000</b>		

Our thanks to the many parishioners who have helped. If YOU have an idea for a village project, get in touch.

## Current Projects

- Developing the community woodland – be ready to help us plant in October!
- Installing electricity generating roof panels on the pavilion and hosting a launch to share details of our "money saving" scheme.
- Keeping abreast of legislative change to ensure the best deal for Mepal.
- Ensuring village opinion about Manor Farm Yard is well understood and well presented.
- Ensuring the power of well being can be reinstated to allow the flexibility that may be necessary to make sure the services needed in Mepal are still deliverable.

## What else does Mepal Parish Council do?

Our major role is to represent the parish on issues affecting us to the District and County Councils, and to regional and central government, and other agencies.

Within the parish, we:

- Support the Community Pavilion, run on our behalf by Mepal Sports Action Group, and the Village Hall, run by independent trustees.
- Support charitable groups and organisations which work within the village.
- Work with Sutton Parish Council to provide a Youth Club and other Community services.
- Maintain open spaces: the Recreation Field and children's play area, the Village Green, the Laurel Close greens and highway verges (on behalf of the County Council).
- Through the Parish Paths Partnership, assist the County Council with Rights of Way.
- Maintain the Recycling Site for the District Council.
- Report fly tipping and other hazards to the responsible authorities.
- Provide and maintain parish noticeboards, litter bins, dog waste bins, seats and some street lighting.
- Ensure that village problems are brought to the attention of the relevant authorities via the Neighbourhood Panel.
- Consider and comment to the Local Planning Authority on all planning applications (statutory consultee).
- Voice Mepal's interests by responding to government, regional, council and other consultations on planning and other matters and nominate representatives to: East Cambridgeshire West Neighbourhood Panel, Elean Power Station Community Liaison Committee, Cambridgeshire Heavy Commercial Vehicles Group, Cambridgeshire County Council Parish Paths Partnership Scheme and Mepal Outdoor Centre Committee.

**In this period of uncertainty, working hard to make Mepal the place you want it to be.**

## Parish Council Contacts

Clerk: Sally Shipley

Mepal Parish Council, 50 Chestnut Way, Mepal, Ely CB6 2YR

Tel: (01353) 774994

Email: [mepalparishcouncil@msn.com](mailto:mepalparishcouncil@msn.com)

Mepal Parish Council has 7 seats. At the election on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011, the following were elected:

Mike Stacey (Chairman) 58 Meadow Way, Mepal <a href="mailto:mike.stacey@mepalparish.org.uk">mike.stacey@mepalparish.org.uk</a>	58 Meadow Way, Mepal	07777 688890
Elizabeth Stazicker (Vice-Chairman) <a href="mailto:elizabeth.stazicker@mepalparish.org.uk">elizabeth.stazicker@mepalparish.org.uk</a>	The Willows, Low Bank, Mepal	01353 778129
Ron Slough <a href="mailto:ron.slough@mepalparish.org.uk">ron.slough@mepalparish.org.uk</a>	18 Brangehill Lane, Mepal	01353 778893
Glenn Drew <a href="mailto:glenn.drew@mepalparish.org.uk">glenn.drew@mepalparish.org.uk</a>	6a New Road, Mepal	01353 775176
Allen Sallis <a href="mailto:allen.sallis@mepalparish.org.uk">allen.sallis@mepalparish.org.uk</a>	60 Meadow Way, Mepal	01353 775302
Tony Pleasance <a href="mailto:tony.pleasance@mepalparish.org.uk">tony.pleasance@mepalparish.org.uk</a>	51 Laurel Close, Mepal	01353 777275

Please feel free to contact any of your Councillors if you have a concern that you would like to discuss. We would politely request that you respect Councillor's family times and be aware that responses to emails may not be immediate. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, or joining one of our Working Parties, please contact the Clerk.

## Other contacts:

District Councillor: Anna Bailey	40 Cambridge Road, Ely CB7 4HL	01353 663253
District Councillor: Tony Goodge	7 John Amner Close, Ely CB6 1DT	01353 664491
County Councillor: Philip Read	"Mostyn", 76 High Street, Sutton CB6 2NL	01353 778603

## Keeping you informed

Our newsletter, *Mepal People*, is published every second month and delivered in the village. If you don't receive a copy, please ask the Clerk.

Our website [www.mepalparish.org.uk](http://www.mepalparish.org.uk) contains lots of useful village information including agenda and minutes of Parish Council meetings.

*We need to update the Mepal Guide – can you help?*

If you want to contribute to *Mepal People* and/or the website, or need other information, please contact the Clerk.

## Tell us what you want!

Parish Council Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month except in August and December, in the Village Hall. A calendar of dates is on display on our noticeboard in the High Street and on our website. There is a Public Forum at the start of every meeting and you are welcome to address the Council on any matter of local concern.