

## PARISH REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2005/2006.

Watton at Stone Parish Council is made up of ten elected members

Mr. N. Poulton (Chairman)	Mr. J. Meischke (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. C. Clark	Mrs. C. Dinnin
Mr. V. Dunhill	Mr. D. Filer
Mr. I. Knight	Mrs. H. McCash
Mr. M. Smith	Mr. D. Stock

The Parish Council met eleven times in the last financial year.

The Parish Council operates three sub-committees. The Recreational and Amenities sub-committee, chaired by Ian Knight, the Budget and Finance Committee chaired by Denis Filer and the Environment sub-committee chaired by Christine Dinnin.

These sub-committees met as and when necessary, discussed issues and made recommendations to the full council.

The Parish Council made the following donations £400 towards the cost of the Parish News, £65 to Royal British Legion.

The Parish Council has awarded two trophies, one to Watton at Stone Primary School for a “Good citizens Award which was won by Damon Pook and the other to the Scout and Guides for “Outstanding Effort” and this was won by Joanna Wood.

Parish Paths Partnership has allowed us to receive grant money for hedge cutting and strimming work especially on the ‘Rights of Way’ footpaths.

The Parish Council have commented on the following documents:

- Police Force Restructuring
- Watton at Stone Traffic Study for the Southern End of the High Street and Station Road
- Upper Lee Catchment Abstraction Strategy.
- Hertfordshire Policing Plan

The Police visited the Parish Council during the Civic Year and gave Councillors an update on policing issues and crime figures with regards to the village.

Two Councillors have been out on patrol with police officers

A mobile Police unit is visiting the village on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. It is parked in the lay-by opposite the Bull Public House.

Councillors have attended the following;

- Locality Policing Panel
- Rural Parish Conference
- Inter Village Conference
- Stevenage Funding Information Day
- Rural Housing Conference
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Hertfordshire Policing Plan 2006/2007

The Village Directory has been updated and distributed to all the residents in Watton at Stone and Whempstead.

The Parish Council is continuing to work with the Countryside Management Service to improve the Lammas as a Conservation Area and two interpretation boards have been erected.

The two bodies are now working together to produce a management plan to enhance “The Old Cottage” site opposite Watton Green.

Two large decayed trees have been removed from this site as they were in danger of falling onto the highway.

The Parish Council would like to congratulate the organisers of the Family Fun Day held on the 10th July. Councillors have met with Hertfordshire Highways over the provision of improved lighting in Lammas Road, following a petition from residents.

The Parish Council has been able to secure sufficient funds from Hertfordshire County Council, East Herts District Council and from the Parish Council for this scheme to proceed. It is hoped the scheme will be completed by the autumn.

Investigations are under way to see if a salt bin can be installed at the junction of Beane Road and Walkern Road

The telephone number and e-mail address for the public to report Highway faults. The telephone number is 01438 737320 or [www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults](http://www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults).

Concessionary Bus Permits for 2006/2007 were issued to those that required them.

ROSPA have undertaken a safety inspection of all our play equipment.

The Parish Council were successful in obtaining funding from Circle Anglia, East Herts District Council and Herts in Trust, the county wide police charity to upgrade the Great Innings Play area with two sports walls and an all weather pitch.

The Parish Council has representation on local organisations so that we may assist in any ideas, projects or plans they might have. The list is as follows:

- Watton Conservation Society
- Watton at Stone Memorial Hall Management Committee
- Watton at Stone School Governors
- Watton at Stone Scout and Guide Group
- Watton Sports and Social Club
- River Beane Restoration Association
- Police Authority
- Watton at Stone Playgroup
- Allotment and Gardeners Association

It is the policy of the Parish Council to view all local plans and make appropriate planning comments to the local authority.

Finally, none of our work would have been possible without the assistance of our Clerk, Mrs Jane Allsop, who has put in many hours beyond her normal duties and on behalf of all Parish Councillors I would like to say a big thank you to her for all her hard work.

<b>Watton-at-Stone Parish Council</b>	
<b>Summary statement of expenditure and income for the year 2005/06</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Sportsfield/Recreation Areas	14565.31
Administration	9983.81
Grant to Community Hall	4384.54
Footpaths/Amenities	<u>4535.00</u>
	<u>33468.66</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Hire of sports facilities	1035.00
Allotment rent	437.50
Agency grants	3694.87
General income	29.00
Bank interest	145.21
VAT refund	777.68
Precept	<u>23860.00</u>
Provision from 2004/05	<u>5000.00</u>
	<u>34979.26</u>
<b>Reconciliation</b>	
Total Income	<u>34979.26</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>-33468.66</u>
Income minus Expenditure (change in reserves)	<u>1510.60</u>