

# NEWS

## Parish Council Election results

In the Spring issue of Village News I expressed some reservations and doubts about the cost and value of the Parish Council By-election that had been called for. I'm pleased to say that democracy and not tight pockets ruled the day. An election for the vacant councillor seats was held in May and a goodly proportion of Bleadon's voters turned out on a windy Thursday to express their preferences at the Coronation Hall polling station.

We had four candidates stand for the three vacant parish seats. Of the 946 electors registered to vote 306 of you made the effort. A 32% turnout at a parish council election is considered quite respectable. There was just one spoilt ballot paper.

The four candidates polled the following votes:

ID Clarke 178 elected

Ian Findlay 204 elected

Ian Gibson 134

Steve Hartree 223 elected

Within four days the three elected candidates were being sworn in and attending their first Parish Council meeting.

Commiserations to Ian Gibson. Hopefully, we shall see him standing at the next scheduled parish council elections in two year's time.



## Your three new councillors

**ID Clarke** is not new to the parish council.

We welcome her back after a two-year break.

Already involved in the Bleadon community as Secretary of the Coronation Hall Management Committee ID now takes on the role of Chairman of Open Spaces.

**Ian Findlay** will be familiar to many of you for his involvement in the May Day Fayre, the Bleadon Party and work on our footpaths with Andy Eddie's team of volunteers.

Ian has taken on parish responsibilities for Roads and Transport, Neighbourhood Watch & Community Safety.

I doubt that he envisaged that within days of being elected he would be cleaning out our public toilets and up to his elbows in .....!! Thanks for bailing us out Ian.

**Steve Hartree.** A familiar face for many years Steve now extends his interest and influence from pulpit to politics. With many years of experience in local government finance and as a previous Hutton parish clerk Steve is sure to bring some welcome expertise to the council.

He has already taken on the role of Chairman of Finance & Personnel.

*"Many thanks to all of you who voted for me in the recent bye-election, your support is greatly appreciated. I will do my very best to represent and serve the residents of Bleadon, and will be interested always to hear your views on matters under consideration by the Parish Council". Steve Hartree*



## Don't lose your vote

In October all Bleadon households will be receiving **Election Registration forms** from North Somerset Council. Please ensure that you complete and return the form. If you fail to do so you cannot vote.

You can choose to **vote by post**. If you find it difficult to get to the polling station on election day a postal vote allows you to vote from your sofa. Any voter can select to have a postal vote. It couldn't be easier.

Around 15% of Bleadon's voters have already registered to vote this way.

## Parish Council attendance by councillors in 2012-13

Cllr Brian Gamble	attended 9 out of a possible 10 Council meetings
Cllr Rob House	attended 7 out of a possible 10 Council meetings
Cllr Trevor Marshall	attended 7 out of a possible 8 Council meetings
Cllr Clive Morris	attended 8 out of a possible 10 Council meetings
Cllr Miles Orme	attended 10 out of a possible 10 Council meetings
Cllr Keith Pyke	attended 8 out of a possible 10 Council meetings
Cllr Mary Sheppard	attended 10 out of a possible 10 Council meetings
Cllr Penny Skelley	attended 10 out of a possible 10 Council meetings
Cllr Pete Trevitt	attended 8 out of a possible 10 Council meetings