

BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

The Village Plan Report

“Bleadon are the 124th-Council to do it”



Councillor Glyn Duck Chairman of North Somerset District Council presenting The Quality Council Certificate to Mrs Penny Skelley Chairman of Bleadon Parish Council.

Nearly 200 villagers' young and old alike crowded into The Coronation Hall last Saturday to tell their Parish Council how they hoped their village would develop in both the short and long term over the next 5 to 20 years. So many attended the meeting it had to be adjourned for 10 minutes to allow everyone access to the Hall.

Chairman of the Council Mrs Penny Skelley welcomed everyone by saying that she hoped that the afternoon would produce a vision for the future that would keep the village of Bleadon vibrant proactive and sustainable for future generations. Surprise was expressed by some residents at some of the suggested likely outcomes set out in the introductory leaflet for the future which was countered by the Councillor Pyke in his presentation when he stressed that many of them could happen if the Parish did not keep "their eye on the ball".

Welcoming Councillor Glyn and Mrs Duck Chairman of North Somerset Council the Chairman announced that Bleadon Parish Council had just last month attained Quality Council Status only the 124th Council to do so in the whole of England and Wales. This had been achieved by a great deal of hard work during the last two to three years on the part of the Parish Council which included a regular Newsletter Introduction of a village Website a qualified Parish Clerk and a full electoral mandate. On presenting the certificate to Mrs Penny Skelley Councillor Duck congratulated the Parish Council and Village on their outstanding success against some 9400 Councils yet to achieve this status. He went on to say that he was looking forward to the remainder of the afternoon to see how the villagers were planning to produce their Village Plan.

At the conclusion of the very professional power point presentation which lasted some 45 minutes residents were asked to make a wish list for the future - setting out their likes and their dislikes. They were also asked to volunteer and participate in four separate investigating groups Economy & Prosperity – Well being and Safety – Learning and Leisure and Environment. Such was the enthusiasm of the meeting that some 24 villagers agreed to work on these groups in the hope that a questionnaire would eventually be circulated to every household in the village. Thereafter a village plan would subsequently evolve that hopefully would embrace all the ideas thoughts and comments raised in the four groups to steer the village progressively towards 2025.

The meeting concluded with Mr Peter Lindsey thanking the Parish Council who he said were volunteers like everyone else in the room for promoting the idea of a Village Plan. After listening to the afternoon proceedings he could see that undoubtedly there would be a great deal of radical if not always acceptable thought but at least the Village would be prepared for future outside influences whether they be from central government or district council.



Members of Bleadon Parish Council