

*Keswick and  
Intwood Parish  
Council  
Annual Report  
2009*

Published by Keswick and Intwood Parish Council  
June 2009

Further copies can be obtained from the Clerk or from the  
Information Points at Intwood Church and Keswick New Hall

**Councillors:**

*Alan Gelder:*

The Shelans, Mill Lane, Keswick, Norwich NR4 6TP.

*Joe Loades:*

5 Low Road, Keswick, Norwich NR4 6TZ.

*Linda Thursby:*

Keswick Barn, Intwood Lane, Norwich NR4 6TG.

*Diana Bulman:*

Low Farm House, Low Road, Keswick, Norwich NR4 6TX.

*Lars Tibell:*

1 Eaton Gate, Mill Lane, Keswick, Norwich NR4 6TP.

*Hayley Spouge (New)*

23 Ellis Gardens, Keswick Hall, Keswick, Norwich NR4  
6RX

Keswick and Intwood is a Quality Parish Council

**Clerk:**

Phillip Brooks: 7 Lindford Drive, Eaton, Norwich NR4 6LT.

**Contact details – for Councillors and the Clerk:**

Telephone: 01603 250639

E-mail: keswick.intwood@btinternet.com

Website: <http://Keswick-intwoodpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

**How do I find out more about what is happening?**

The business of the Parish Council is carried out at Parish Council Meetings. The dates of meetings and agendas are posted on notice boards around the Parish, the website, and the Information Points at Intwood Church and Keswick New Hall. Meeting dates are also announced in the Swardeston group of parishes' publication *The Newsletter* and shown on page 6 of this report.

Parishioners are always welcome at Parish Council meetings and may ask questions or raise any issue relating to the Parish during the parishioners' section of the Council meeting. Parishioners wishing to participate are asked to kindly note that, apart from exceptional circumstances, it is only during this section of the meeting that they may take part in discussion.

Copies of the minutes of previous meetings – and most other information relevant to the Parish (including further copies of this Report) - are available on the website and can be obtained from the Parish Clerk by telephoning 01603 250639.

**Home Watch**

If you would like to find out more about Home Watch or become involved with the scheme then send an e-mail or telephone the coordinator, Margit Beavon—[mb.keswick@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mb.keswick@yahoo.co.uk) T. 01603 458010.

There are some basic precautions to take which help to make the job of a Home Watch much easier. For example, it is important to make sure that your home has security locks, as these will deter the opportunist thief. Ground floor and those upper windows easily accessible at the back are favourite points of entry for the burglar. Window locks can make it extremely difficult for the thief to break in without making a lot of attention-drawing noise. Good quality security locks on external doors can stop a criminal from easily getting in *and* from making an easy escape.

Valuable property, especially TV's and videos etc. are often burglar's favourite targets and should be marked with your postcode followed by the house number or the first two letters of the house name. Property can be marked by etching, die-stamping, engraving or by using a security marker pen which uses ink that can only be read under an ultra-violet lamp. Cycles should also be post coded by die-stamping the bottom bracket.

Photographs (preferably colour) should be taken of all valuable possessions such as antiques, paintings and jewellery. Use a plain background and include a ruler so that the size can be indicated.

Garages and sheds should always be kept locked so that the thief cannot use your tools to help him break into your home, or a neighbours.

## Freedom of Information.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows any member of the public to easily access information about the Parish and how it operates. A summary of the scheme and information available together with any relevant charges are provided on the Parish Council website (the web address is provided on page 2 of this Report).

Future planned dates for Parish Council Meetings:

### 2009

Wednesday July 15th—Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday October 21st—Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday November 25th—Parish Council Meeting.

### 2010

Wednesday March 10th—Parish Meeting and Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday May 26th— Annual Parish Council Meeting and Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday July 14th— Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday October 20th—Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday November 24th—Parish Council Meeting.

## Chairman's Report.

### Overview.

Throughout the year the Parish Council has operated under the banner of being a "Quality Council".

Councillors John Payne and John Morrison resigned their positions since my last report. Hayley Spouge (a resident at Keswick New Hall) joined the Council in November and the year ended with a vacancy which is expected to be filled by July this year.

The Council met on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 30<sup>th</sup> June (a special meeting to review planning application 2008/1137 relating to the permanent gypsy site), 16<sup>th</sup> July, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 15<sup>th</sup> December, 10<sup>th</sup> March (the Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council Meeting) and 27<sup>th</sup> May (Parish Council Annual General Meeting and Parish Council Meeting). The Councillors continue to exercise their responsibilities on an unpaid basis – only the Clerk receives payment.

Most of the meetings have been attended by Judith Virgo (Norfolk County Councillor), Christopher Kemp and Garry Wheatley (District Councillors Cringleford Ward). Our Police Community Support Officer for most of the year, Tim Philpott, has also attended regularly but, sadly, the attendance of parishioners to air their views has continued to be poor. The only exception to the latter was the special meeting to consider the planned permanent gypsy and traveller site.

Indeed several meetings had been held during the year regarding the planning application for the permanent A 47 (Harford) gypsy and traveller site to be managed by Broadland Housing Association; and more recently regarding other sites which raised concern because of their close proximity to the Harford site. A construction contract has been awarded for the Harford site and work there is due for completion in September 2009. It is the intention of the Parish Council to establish a worthwhile and productive relationship with the Broadland Housing Association Manager recently appointed to manage the site.

The Council has submitted responses to the public consultations relating to the: Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document (DPD); Greater Norwich Development partnership; and the ongoing Local Government Reorganisation proposals. All of these documents can be read on the Parish Council website <http://keswick-intwood.norfolkparishes.gov.uk> Last year's Annual Return to the Audit Commission was randomly selected for an in-depth examination and was successfully "signed off" by the Commission.

### Achievements

Building on the previous year's work in relation to the Parish Plan:

- the Council had achieved virtually everything that had been included in the original document

- action taken by the Parish Council had directly contributed to the bus service to Keswick New Hall being reprieved until March 2009. It is pleasing to report that the review has resulted in the service "being extended indefinitely"
- following a suggestion from a Keswick New Hall resident, the Parish Council has gained the support of Norfolk County Council to provide a pedestrian crossing island on the B 1113 near the bus shelter. This work is likely to be done in 2010 when next year's budget funds become available
- the prospect of development proposals for the Mangreen county new town had exercised minds with the vision of some 2,000 – 6,700 houses being built there. Residents would be kept informed of developments but it appeared inevitable that there would be some further housing development to the south of Norwich
- it seemed apparent that the local and county council did not have the resources to undertake the basics of keeping drains and gutters clear and litter picked. Improving this situation would be high on the Parish Council's agenda for the coming year
- the traffic survey undertaken in Low Road had resulted in the introduction of a 30 mph limit which became effective during April 2009. However, any improvement in the road layout at the Mulbarton road and Ipswich road junction was unlikely in the foreseeable future until more funds became available
- hedgerows and their maintenance had been a subject of ongoing liaison with the Gurney Estate and the hedges were now getting better treatment as a result of this initiative. It was hoped the improvement would be maintained
- "Neighbourhood Watch" would be reviewed within the Parish and a scheme would be introduced in the coming year for Low Road and later rolled out to other areas in the Parish
- The Reading Room at Keswick has been fully refurbished on the inside from grants received with the outside being cleared of debris, new fencing erected, ground areas resurfaced and woodwork painted thanks to the Norwich Probation Service's Unpaid Works Unit. Unfortunately, the theft of lead work from the roof revealed problems to the extent that we are in course of obtaining a formal lease over the premises which will allow us to seek funding, which if approved will facilitate removal of the chimney and re-roofing. The Council would very much like to extend the existing parking area and whilst plans have been drawn up and the landowner is more than willing for this to happen the costs may prove prohibitive, unless these too can be met by grants which we are always on the look out for. The Council would like to see more residents making greater use of the enhanced facilities.

If you would like any further information about the Council's work or if there are matters you would like us to deal with in the future, please let me know at keswick.intwood@btinternet.com

Alan Gelder  
Chairman  
10th June 2009

## Finances.

The following account (after the internal audit process has been completed) will be submitted to the Audit Commission for the year ended 31.3.2009.

### **Keswick and Intwood Parish Council** *Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2009.*

2008		2009
	<u>Receipts</u>	
£		£
6,000	Precepts	5,000
1,395	VAT Refund	-
1	Interest on deposit account	-
<u>0</u>	Insurance Payment (roof repair)	<u>315</u>
<u>7,396</u>		<u>5,315</u>
	<u>Payments</u>	
51	NCAPTC Subscription	110
25	Norfolk Rural Community Council	10
120	Audit Fee	120
-	Legal Fee: Mills & Reeve	376
639	Insurance	669
3,562	Clerk's expenses	3,140
1,649	Notice Boards	-
440	VAT recoverable	244
1,214	External Maintenance Re'ingRm.	1,256
<u>35</u>	Sundry	<u>35</u>
<u>7,735</u>		<u>5,960</u>
(339)	<b>Net</b>	(645)
2,434	Balance as at 1st April	2,095
2,095	<b>Balance as at 31st March</b>	1,450

Signed by:

*Lars Tibell*

Lars Tibell FMAAT  
(Treasurer)