**Parish Financial Report 31 March 2010**

The Parish Clerk reported that the balance in the Parish bank account at 31/03/2010 was £11,647.81, of which £6,772.84 was S106 money from the development at Palmers Yard.

The Parish Council has spent a substantial amount of the S106 money originally received, on a variety of projects throughout the parish. Renovation work was carried out at the Ecchinswell Village Hall play area, the wall round old churchyard at the southern end of the parish was renovated, landscaping was carried out at the war memorial, Palmers Yard, the old churchyard and the United Reformed burial ground. A bench and map board were erected at Digweeds and the footbridge on Footpath 13 was renewed. Wherever possible, grants have been obtained to assist in this work, ensuring that the S106 money was used as effectively as possible.

Further projects are planned, including a map board at Bishops Green, a new bench at the Ecchinswell pond, and the possible renewal of the railings round the war memorial.

The precept was set at £8,776 for the year 2009/2010, with an additional grant of £1,120 from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. A further grant from BDBC paid for the cost of litter picking throughout the parish. The precept for 2010/2011 was set at £10,193. This increase is needed to enable the Parish Council to continue to make improvements to the parish and to enable the PC to have a small contingency fund to cope with any unforeseen emergencies that might occur. It is expected that there will again be an additional grant from BDBC and further income to cover the litter picking expenses.

The principal expenditures are:
Clerk's salary, including PAYE
Village maintenance

Admin costs, including postage, stationery phone/computer costs
Insurance premium
Hire of halls
Subscriptions and affiliations

The accounts for the year ending 31/03/2010 have been audited by the internal auditor and will shortly be sent to the Audit Commission.

Excluding the S106b money, the bank account stands at £4,874.97. This is a modest sum, given that the guidelines are that a Parish Council should hold no more than 1.5 times the value of the precept in its reserves.