**Parish Financial report 31 March 2011**

The Parish Clerk reported that the balance in the Parish bank account at 31/03/2011 was £14,771.12, of which £7,177.87 was S106 money from the development at Palmers Yard.

The Parish Council has continued to spend the S106 money on projects throughout the parish. The bench at the pond has been replaced, since the existing one was becoming unsafe. The railings on the bridge at Digweeds have been repainted and bulbs have been planted at various locations.

Further projects have been carried out but have been paid for in the current financial year. The water system at the allotments site has been renewed; this was necessary as there was a leak, resulting in high water bills. The new system also makes it impossible for vandals to turn on the taps and leave them running, causing a waste of water and high bills. And an interpretive map board, similar to the one at Digweeds, is also being sited at the pond.

The precept was set at £10,193 for the year 2010/2011, with an additional grant of £1,110 from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. A further grant from BDBC paid for the cost of litter picking throughout the parish.

The precept for 2011/2012 was set at £11,261. This increase is needed principally because the Clerk's hours of work have been increased from 10 a week to 12 a week and to enable the PC to maintain the small contingency fund to cope with any unforeseen emergencies that might occur.

In the coming year 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 31/03/2011 have been audited by the internal auditor and will shortly be sent to the Audit Commission.

Excluding the S106 money, the bank account stands at £7,593.25. 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.