

Horwich Town Council
Annual Report
2010/2011.

The refurbishment works to the Council's war memorial are now complete and we are delighted that it has been recognised as a Grade II Listed monument. We continue to benefit greatly from landscaping provided by a local company at no cost to the Council and we are very grateful for this support.

The Council's offices have had to be moved to Horwich Resource Centre to enable refurbishment works to the Public Hall to be done. In addition, due to the withdrawal of support from the Police to effect temporary traffic control for a parade, we have had to make alternative arrangements for Civic Sunday. This includes music provided by Rivington and Adlington Band before and during a church service with refreshments to follow.

The Council's budget for the financial year 2011/2012 continues to provide considerable financial support for Horwich Carnival and the Carnival Races as well as our local historical society, Horwich Heritage.

Provision for our youth has been made in the budget for applications for projects specifically to benefit ages 0 years to 25 years, and Council has been pleased to support some worthy initiatives over the last financial year.

In addition, many local organisations have applied for small grants to help to pay for a wide range of activities, and the Council's current budget also has provision within it to continue to give this essential financial help. Grant awards evenings have proved to be a great success giving local organisations an opportunity to meet each other and share knowledge and experiences.

Horwich Resource Centre and Horwich Heritage Centre continue to thrive with the Council's support. New arrangements for the provision of caretaking/cleaning have proved to be most satisfactory.

The Council has also continued to provide the town centre CCTV Scheme. The Christmas Lighting Scheme has benefited greatly from new replacement displays again during the year.

Provision has been made for 6,000 copies of the new town guide due to be published in the Summer. 'Horwich in Bloom' the annual gardening competition run by the Council, continues to be a great success attracting a high quality of entry level in most categories.

Our web site www.horwich.gov.uk is very popular with both residents and visitors, and we have authorised a complete refurbishment of the site to keep pace with technological developments.

We have added three more commemorative signs to assist with our commitment to form a heritage trail throughout the town.

Our quarterly newsletter, circulated widely in Horwich, attracts much interest. Horwich Remembrance Sunday parades continue to benefit from record attendances, and the Council can take some of the credit for this because of our promotional efforts and general support.

We have consulted throughout the year with our Unitary Authority, Bolton Council, on a wide range of matters of importance to the Parish including the future of the Horwich Loco Estate, the need for public toilets, and we have also agreed to work in partnership to try to secure lottery funding for activities for young people based at the Leisure Centre. We have also consulted with the Environment Agency about the nuisance of fires on an industrial estate.

Our total commitment to the promotion of Fairtrade continues and our Members and Officers have been involved in a number of successful promotional initiatives to raise awareness.

The Town Mayor has had a busy year, performing a wide variety of civic duties, assisted by the Deputy Town Mayor who has given every support.

Staff has adapted well to changes and have worked well with Councillors in all areas of endeavour throughout the year.

The External Auditors found no matters for concern for the financial year 2009/2010 and our Internal Auditors continue to report that they are satisfied that all our financial controls and systems are effective. We have undertaken our annual risk assessment and have reviewed our internal system for financial control.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2011:

BALANCE SHEET:	£
Invested with Bolton Council	15,000
Current Assets:	
Debtors	703
VAT recoverable	4,008
Bank balances	88,023
Cash in hand	66
Total Assets	92,800
Current Liabilities:	
Creditors and Accruals	7,616
NET CURRENT ASSETS	85,184
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	100,184
Financed by reserves:	
Capital Account	25,000
General Fund	75,184
Total:	100,184
Excess income over expenditure:	13,572

Total expenditure limit under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972:
£22,986

Limit: £95,035 (Electorate 15,453 x £6.15 per elector)

Contact details for Councillors and Officers: full list available on the Town Council
Section – Councillors/Offices page.

For a full copy of the accounts, please contact: The Town Clerk, Horwich Town
Council, Room 1, Horwich Resource Centre, Beaumont Road, Horwich, Bolton BL6
7BG. Tel: 01204 338900. E Mail: townclerk@horwich.gov.uk