

## District Council Report for Shipdham PC Annual Parish Meeting – June 2013

With 300 attending and 746 on line responses the “Could We Should We” five public meetings helped to inform members with decisions about savings and delivery of key services over the next 5 years, whilst keeping free parking in market towns

Council tax has been raised by less than 10p per week – Breckland Council still has the lowest District Council Tax in the country

Assets owned by the Council achieved a 97% let and raised over £2M income from commercial properties.

The Welcome Home parade for the Light Dragoons was attended by over 6000 people.

Over 1000 attended the recent Book Festival

Over 4500 people took part in the Breckland Torch Relay for the Olympic Games, and over 2000 turned out for the Tour of Britain Cycle Race

The Big Energy Switch and Save led by Breckland Council in partnership with five other local authorities attracted over 2500 registrations for our district with a total registration across the country of 160,000, the largest collective switch by a local authority. 71% of those who registered could have saved an average of £116 a year.

Anti Social Behaviour across the district reduced by 26% to March 2012, and then by another 14% to date. This is the third year that the district has seen a double figure reduction in ASB

Economic Development – 119 local businesses have been helped by officers, and £1.3M cost savings have been identified for them over the past 12 months

Shared Management over three councils have delivered service improvements and savings on the budget: Breckland, South Holland in Lincolnshire and Luton Borough

A Budget Overall efficiency for the financial years 2012/13 and 13/14 has been achieved but there are further difficult decisions and savings to be made in the next couple of years. Unless we take further drastic action, by the financial year 2017/18 we will have a budget gap of £2.5 M

On a personal note for Shipdham that I have been or am involved in  
£20,000 grant towards the Church roof replacement and other grant applications  
Planning permission for 8 small units for living with care  
6 empty housing association units to be re-modelled into four new units  
Helped many residents with issues including housing, planning, and asb matters  
Developing a Community Resilience Plan for Shipdham with Cllr Arnold  
Applying for Meadow Close to become a “No cold calling” zone  
Attending Safer Neighbourhood Action Partnership meetings  
Representing the Ward at a number of events and committees

