

Sunday evening at the Ratepayers Arms

The Ratepayers Arms is the bar at the Filton Sports and Leisure Centre in Elm Park and can be found by going to the car park at the rear of the building, behind the Dolphin Swimming Pool and next to the "Fun Hangar".

Sunday 1st May – Rafferty
 Sunday 8th May – Teri Bramah
 Sunday 15th May – Flossie Malavialle
 Sunday 22nd May – Charity Quiz
 Sunday 29th May – Phoenix Hot 5 Jazz Band
 Sunday 5th June – The Porter Boys
 Sunday 12th June – Roger Lendon
 Sunday 19th June – Charity Quiz
 Sunday 26th June – Phoenix Hot 5
 Sunday 3rd July – Cook and Solomon
 Sunday 10th July – The Canny Band
 Sunday 17th July – Charity Quiz

The Ratepayers Arms is
 listed in the Camra
 National Good Beer Guide



Northville Millennium Green

Established through a grant from the Countryside Commission, the Millennium Green is beginning to mature as the trees become established.

There is however work to be done to improve it as a public park, including the provision of litter bins, seats and various other features that will make it attractive to a variety of users.

During 2004 a meeting was held of interested residents and a working party set up to progress the ideas that were discussed.

The council has every intention of convening the working group quite soon to consider the next step towards completing the project and would appreciate any offers of help or sponsorship that might be offered.

To advertise in Town Council News and/or on the Council's very popular web site call the Council Office on 01454 866698
www.filton-town-council.co.uk

Filton Festival 2005 Sunday 10th July

Elm Park Playing Fields
 Filton Sports and Leisure Centre
 including

The Wurzels

Helena

"Filton does Pop Idol" Grand Final

Pride of Bristol Marching Band

Harlequinn Majorettes

James Rogers Fun Fair

Annual Firework Display

(Saturday 9th July 10pm approx)

Donkey rides

Community Stalls

Car Boot and Farmers Market (planned)

Sponsored by Airbus UK and the Evening Post
 to offer sponsorship, book community stalls
 or for any other information contact:
 Cllr Di Hutchinson on 01454 610720



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Filton Town Council News Annual Report 2004/5



www.filton-town-council.co.uk

Filton Town Council, Elm Park, Filton, South Gloucestershire BS34 7PS

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First Annual Report

This is the first Annual Report to be published by Filton Town Council, as far as we are aware. It is being circulated to every household in the town.

The publication of an Annual Report is part of the Council's move towards an application for Quality Town Council status. As are the regular newsletters and our well designed and informative web site. The council also qualifies in other ways and expects that an application can confidently be made in the coming year.

The Council is committed to being open and accessible and is currently drawing up its scheme for the implementation of the new Freedom of Information Act for the maximum access to be available. This year's Annual Assembly has been organised as a special meeting on a different date to the Annual General Meeting to encourage increased public involvement with the council.

The Council is ambitious to provide further amenities for the use of the whole community and is seeking ways to raise grants to enable us to do so.

Our current facilities are some of the best in the area and we are committed to ensuring that they remain so. We hope that you will find this report helpful and informative

Cllr Roger Hutchinson
 Chair of Filton Town Council



Back row left to right Cllrs David Bell, Adam Monk, Stuart MacCallum, Pete Blandamour, Gordon Crane, Paddy Lillis (left Council February 2005), Judith Hutchinson and Andy Hewlett. Front Row l to r Lesley Reuben (Town Clerk), Diane Hutchinson, Roger Hutchinson (Chair), Terry Pomroy (Vice Chair). Not on photograph Cllrs Brian Freeguard and Stan Sims and new Cllr Carolyn Hewlett

Food Market - another success

Filton Town Council's ambition to stage a regular Farmers Market in the town came a little closer on Friday 15th April with another successful event at the Filton Sports and Leisure Centre.

Local retailers, farmers market regulars, customers and organisers all hailed the market as another success.

The next market is planned for Sunday 10th July at this year's Filton Festival



Annual Assembly

Wednesday 11th May 2005

in the Pavilion at

Filton Sports and Leisure Centre

Elm Park, Filton

commencing at 7.30pm including

presentations from

Filton Police and

Filton People Community Group

plus a public open forum

www.filton-town-council.co.uk

Filton Sports and Leisure Centre

Swimming Pool

During the past year there have been difficulties arising from the use of incorrect materials when the pool was refurbished and the learner pool added. Our staff discovered some white deposits on the side of the learner pool, which turned out to be the grout, which was the wrong specification. As a result it was necessary to close the small pool for the grout to be replaced. Our Leisure staff then became concerned about the large pool and an underwater inspection was carried out. This confirmed that the large pool had the same problem and the pool has been closed recently for the work to be carried out.



Swimming lessons

We now run, through continued expansion, 101 lessons per week with 780 children attending our lessons, the most we have ever taken, this despite the opening of the Bradley Stoke pool. This means that we have increased our income in swimming lessons by £14,000 more than the previous year.

Public Sessions

The opening of the Bradley Stoke pool has had an effect on Filton and although we had 77,500 public swims in the past year this was down from 87,500 in 2003/04, this was inevitable as Filton has been serving the whole of the area ever since it opened. Despite this we have actually had almost 124,000 swims in total over the year 2004/05. The result is a loss of income on public swims of £13,000 compared to last year.

Dry sports and Fun Hangar

Just over a year ago we turned one of the 2 squash courts into a new children's soft play are, called the Filton Fun Hangar.

The Fun Hangar cost £21,000 to install. In the year from April 04 to march 05 there has been 4969 casual users, 298 parties of 25 children per party, equalling 7,450, a total of 12,446. The income over that period was £16,982 giving a total of £4018 to recoup in 2005 before moving into profit. We should achieve this in the first quarter, 3 months ahead of our 18 month target.

The installation of the Fun Hangar reduced us to just one squash court the takings for the one court are only £1000 less than the 2 courts took over the previous year, that is £4,300.

We have regular netball and football bookings on the outdoor courts and our function hall continues to be popular for badminton, as well as being regularly booked for functions of various types. Snooker also remains as popular as ever, although the skittle alley use has seen a decline. Over the next few months the council is going to refurbish the toilets and showers that serve the dry sports side of the centre.



Filton 2000

The Council works closely with local organisation Filton 2000. Set up originally as a sub group of the council, Filton 2000 became independent during the organisation of the Millennium Festival for which it was formed.

Filton 2000 continues to organise the annual festival and to do so the group does it's own fund raising.

The council supports the organisation by allowing free use of facilities for fund raising purposes which includes the use of the fields for the fair ground and the circus.

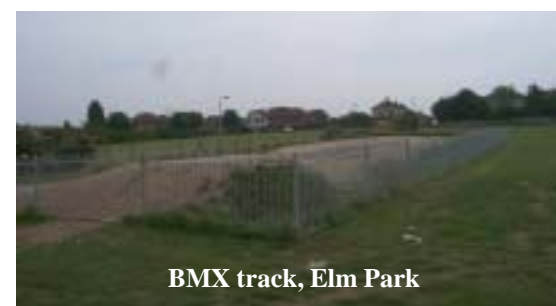
Grants

Every year the council makes grants to local organisations to assist with running costs and last year grants were given as follows: North Bristol Advice Centre £3,000, 4 Towns Transport £2,000, Filton People £1300, Pyramid YC £1,300 Filton Twinning Association £650, Saturday Club £250, SHE 7 £250, The Owl Club £250 Northville Golden Age Club £250 Filton Pensioners £200 Grove Senior Citizens Club £200

Applications for grants should be directed to Lesley Reuben, Town Clerk, Council Office, Elm Park, Filton BS34 7PS

Filton People

Filton People has, under another name, been an active group within the community for several years and over the last 2 to 3 years has worked in increasingly closer partnership with the council.



Filton People has done a great deal of fund raising work and one result is that there is now a BMX track in Elm Park, which is very well used by youngsters. The base has also been laid for a BMX/Skateboard Park. The Council is now seeking grants to complete the project which will require approximately another £60,000. In addition grant funding has been achieved to site a "teen shelter" near to the skateboard park and the unique design has come from consultation that Filton People has done with groups of young people.

In addition to the festival, Filton 2000 runs family oriented events such as the Children's Christmas Party and the New Years Eve Party, which again the Town Council is pleased to support

www.filton-town-council.co.uk

Council Finances

Filton is one of the largest Town Councils in the area with more facilities than any of the others, these include the Sports and Leisure Centre, Dolphin Swimming Pool, Elm park Playing Fields, Northville Millennium Green. The Council is currently negotiating the change of ownership of the Filton Folk Centre, to keep it in the ownership of the town and we have recently agreed a licence to include the old Shield Road playing field into the Elm Park fields.

The Council employs the Town Clerk (Lesley Reuben) and 2 Clerical Assistants, an Operations Manager (Gareth Hughes) to run the Leisure Centre, a Grounds Manager (Terry McCormack), a Bar Steward (John Beese) to run the Ratepayers Arms. In addition there are approximately 55 other full or part time staff comprising of leisure assistants, bar staff and receptionists. This enables the centre to be open from 7.00am (swimming pool) to 11.00 at night.

The Town Precept last year was £384,800 or £128.48 on a band D property. Filton has approximately 4,300 properties of which about 3,000 pay the full precept.

For 2005/06 the precept is £402,790, an increase of 4.68% or £6.37 per annum on a band D property. The Council's accounts are available for inspection at Filton Library

Town Guide

During 2004, the council began work on producing a Town Guide for the first time for a number years. It will be available at the Annual Assembly.

The booklet will contain information about the town as well as a directory of local organisations and useful contact details as well as photographs and advertising.

Land behind the Bulldog

Owned by the Town Council, this triangular piece of land is a continual problem with it's use by fly tippers. The Council always tries to respond to complaints about tipping by organising clearance as soon as possible, but at a cost.

A public meeting will be held for residents in the next few weeks to discuss the future of the land.