

**BWCT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**  
**CHAIR'S STATEMENT**

Burley in Wharfedale Community Trust (BWCT) which is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission has had another successful year with membership totals now at an all time high of 1005 at the end of 2020. This is an increase from 925 in the previous year. Membership receipts increased to £9,059 in the financial year (last year £8198) and we continued with the quarterly draw.

Membership income and other donations received during the year from the Coop Foundation, Waitrose, Otley Lions and Ilkley Round Table have been, or are being, used to help fund new children's furniture in the library, new playground equipment (now on order), Youthquake (youth provision), Unique (schoolchildren wellbeing), Bowls Club pavilion, Scout and Guide HQ, Love Burley (help for covid19 initiatives) a complete renovation of the Roundhouse Garden area and a new village web site. We also continued to manage the communal grounds, playing field and pavilion at Scalebor Park. Although usage of the playing fields and pavilion for junior cricket and football was restricted by the covid-19 regulations the Trust continued to maintain this important facility by painting the pavilion, installing new CCTV security measures and AED equipment as well as ensuring that the playing field annual drainage maintenance was carried out.

Unfortunately the annual Duck Race and Teas in the Park in June had to be cancelled due to the pandemic as did the 2020 Christmas Market and Craft Fair. This has impacted on our fundraising both in the financial figures for 2019/20 and the current year. However, I would like to thank all those involved with this year's Christmas Lights and the Hanging Baskets and Tubs for all their help in ensuring these village activities were successful in spite of the restrictions.

Most of our recent achievements and plans for the future are contained in the Trustees Report which is part of the information supplied to the Charities Commission and included with the Accounts and Accountant's Report.

At the end of September we are showing over £85,000 in reserves of which £21,000 is specifically committed and another £15,000 has been allocated by Trustees to additional playground equipment (£31,000 in total). This will be utilised shortly.

The Trust continues to work in partnership with many village organisations including the Parish Council, Burley Gardeners, Love Burley, Burley Trojans Juniors, Burley Cricket Club, Bradford Youth Services, Burley Scouts and Guides, Burley Educational Trust, Churches Together and our funding partners. Thank you to all concerned. They all help make Burley a fantastic village to live in.

Finally a big thank you to all village volunteers, our members for their support, Tom Sumner for all his time and effort on the lights, hanging baskets etc, Malcolm Fisher for maintaining and improving the village web site and lastly to all my fellow Trustees for all their time, help and advice in ensuring that the Trust remains a vital part of Burley in Wharfedale village life.