



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING IS BEING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday 11th April 2023 - 7:30pm

Chairman: Nigel Galletly 3 Allens Orchard, Chipping Warden, Banbury
Oxon OX17 1LX
07733 881729 or chair@chippingwarden.org

Current Vice Chairman: David Cross

Councillors: Phil Brown Natasha Clare Brooke Hamish Gairdner
Alistair Barclay Douglas James Coyne Nick Meades

Clerk: Lorraine Stanley 6 Appletree Road, Chipping Warden, Banbury
Oxon OX17 1LQ
01295 660639 or clerk@chippingwarden.org

Parish Council Website : www.chippingwarden.org

Agenda

Update on West Northants from Councillor Alison Eastwood

Report of the Council (below)

Questions and Answers

Reports from Village Organisations

To keep you informed we are distributing the Chairman's Report and Financial Statement as usual. If you have any queries and can't attend the meeting then please get in touch and we will try to clarify as much as we can.

We are increasingly receiving and circulating information by email. If you would like to be included in our distribution list for any local information please provide your email address to the Parish Clerk. **Send an email to clerk@chippingwarden.org**. Please note that if you provide your email address the Parish Clerk will use it to circulate information deemed of interest to parishioners and your details will be held for this purpose alone.

Increasingly the Parish Council information and local news is also communicated via the Chipping Warden Community Facebook Group. This is a particularly useful line of communication for urgent Hs2 works updates and utility works warnings. If you haven't tried it out log onto Facebook and have a look.

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Parish Council Chairman's Report

In some ways the pandemic has brought the parish closer together with more of us at home during the week. Often a quick 'hello' when meeting on walks or stopping for a brief chat has been the social highlight. But it seems everyone has been looking out for each other and the feeling of community has been strengthened.

The new Relief Road has further improved the feeling of community cohesion having a much quieter centre to the village.

We have had a fair turnover of new villagers arriving and old friends leaving. Hopefully all new arrivals have found the Parish as welcoming as ever.

I have slimmed down this years report a little, as actually it has been a lot quieter but a few things of note are going on.

Hs2 & Relief Road:

The disruption continues – and the delays.

To get their vehicles across the A361 from the compound to Calves Close/Culworth Road Area EKFB have built a temporary embankment and Bailey Bridge constructed just south of the compound.

The next phase was to back-fill the tunnel trench and construct the Relief Road phase II to run north from the large roundabout and join the old A361 just before the bailey bridge.

Unfortunately, the tunnel pre-cast sections were found to be faulty, and some have had to be removed whilst a new design created. This created a large delay in the plans. Work is now underway again and the completion of the Relief Road will hopefully occur by the end of next year.

The Chipping Warden Green Tunnel is 2480m in length and is to be created from 992 'rings' of pre-cast concrete sections. These are manufactured in Ilkeston, Derbyshire by Stanton Precast (www.stantonprecast.co.uk) and delivered onto site via the M40 Junction 11 and A361 by Explo're Transport Ltd who specialize in such logistics. The old design was for 5 pre-cast pieces in each 'ring' which required 4 deliveries per ring. Resulting in 3968 total deliveries to the compound. I presume the new design will have little impact on the number of HGV movements.

It is expected that there will be a maximum of 15 deliveries per day, each vehicle of which will also have to return back down the A361 to Junction 11 as well. These deliveries will probably spread out over up to 2 years.

Additionally, there are still plans to construct 'modular' residential units on the airfield compound for Hs2 employees. We understand these are in units containing 80 rooms each and the initial plan is for 2 of these (160 employees on site) but this is scalable up to 5 units (400 employees on site) if demand requires.

We will do our best to keep you updated with information on Hs2 issues and transport plans via the Parish Council Website and our Social Media. If your neighbours and friends are not tech-savvy please pass on what you can.

Housing Developments - Planning:

Your Council has a long-standing resolution that no housing development should be permitted outside of the village confines and will oppose any such development as a matter of principal should they come to planning stage.

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Your Council strongly believe that the rules should be enforced to protect the village environment in an equal and fair manner and we are always proactive in this regard by bringing issues to the notice of the relevant authorities.

There is increased pressure on all planning authorities to allow more housing development, but Chipping Warden Village is defined as a restricted infill village and no property development should be permitted outside the current 'Village Confines'. The Village Confines have recently been reviewed (2017) as part of the new Local Structure Plan and minor changes have been proposed. The new confines still have not yet been adopted due to the Unitary Authority reorganisation but are still planned to take effect.

The 8 houses on the edge of the sports field have now been built and are on the market. An additional property has been approved to replace 'The Morgue' building immediately behind the school. The Parish Council strongly objected to this property but we have been overruled.

Finally, there was a previous application for the land off Long Barrow. This was outside the Village Confines so we objected but it was apparently to build a single self-build dwelling. The rules state that a **SINGLE** self-build property can be approved if it is abutting the Confines boundary and as such the application was successful. Whilst this may well tidy up the overgrown plot I imagine that the cost of self-building a property on this site will be prohibitive due to utility and flooding concerns. Your Council have also made strong representations to avoid there being a further 'single' application once this one is ever completed. The plot is now under offer on the market.

Other Planning: There have been several applications for cutting/felling trees within the conservation area. **Residents should be aware that advance planning approval is required for ANY work on trees in the Conservation area.**

Your Council has considered various other minor planning and consent applications during the year. We are not experts in planning rules but we are pleased to provide input at the pre-planning stage if any developments are considered. We have no formal right or veto over any application, but our opinion is considered as with any individual submission.

All planning applications can be viewed and commented on by anyone online at <https://snc.planning-register.co.uk/Search/Advanced>. Click the Planning Search box at the top right drop down the search criteria by Parish for Chipping Warden and Edgcote. Or they can be inspected at the old SNC Offices now (West Northants) in Towcester.

All Parish Council, Local Authority Agency and neighbours' comments or objections— are published with the details and plans of any application.

Additional council business has continued as normal and the following has been of particular note.

Grass cutting: The Village has continued to receive excellent service from our contractor RD Landscapes and we have agreed to continue with their services for 2023/24. We would also like to thank all villagers who cut 'their bit' of the highways verge as it all assists in keeping costs down. However, there is an increasing incidence of parking cutting up our green verges throughout the village and the Council request that villagers try to minimise any such damage.

Now the Relief Road is finally open parking along the A361 is also possible but some residents still seem to prefer to park on the grass.

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Hopefully this will improve. Now Appletree Road is closed there has been a marked improvement with residents not parking on the verge and hopefully once the areas recover it will return to its best.

Litter: The construction crews and passing vehicles seem to think throwing litter out onto the floor is acceptable. Despite many complaints to the industrial site owners and EKFB the problem persists. All organisations have responded positively and organised regular litter picks themselves.

If you see any litter on your walks through the village please pick it up (if you can in a safe manner) and drop it in any of our bins. If we all do our bit, we all benefit from a nicer environment.

There is now a much a larger team of volunteers who are often visible with litter pickers and plastic bags on their daily walks following social media campaigns. I am afraid we will have to live with this for the duration of the construction project but we will keep trying to get it resolved.

Flooding and Drainage:

The Parish Council have been particularly vigilant with all drainage plans in the Hs2 design when we hope some of the long standing issues may get addressed by improved drainage from the airfield site to the Cherwell

Street lighting: Our Clerk is very proactive in reporting and chasing lighting repairs but if anyone notices malfunctioning street lights in the village please notify the Clerk or a local Councillor as we can only get them repaired if we know they are broken.

Dog Fouling: Following the Covid lockdowns there are many non-village residents walking our local footpaths with their animals – some of which are not as well monitored as we would like. Generally, we would like to thank dog owners for their continued co-operation but recently more issues are being reported. Please be aware that dogs are not allowed in the Activity Park and recently West Northants Council have introduced new regulations on dog walking that involve the possibility of more fines for irresponsible owners.

Additionally, dogs should be on a lead at all times within the village boundaries (30mph zone) and care must be taken with dogs running free on the Estate or airfield. A boisterous friendly dog can cause concern and possible injury to other walkers, particularly the older members of the parish and the owners may find themselves liable to prosecution. Please make sure you can control your dogs in all circumstances before letting them off the lead. Everyone's help would be appreciated.

Roads and Pavements: As ever we have been vigilant in reporting the increasingly numerous potholes to the authorities. These can also be reported by individuals by using the online Fix My Street application at <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>. It is simple to use – just enter your postcode, zoom in on the map and click the problem location then make a brief note of the problem and Submit. Photos of the offending pothole/problem can also be easily uploaded.

Parking: All villages suffer from problems with car parking and we are not immune. Many residences now have two or more vehicles and garages are often too narrow to accommodate them. Now the relief road is in place considerate parking on the old A361 is possible. There is no 'right' to park outside your property on the highway when doing so causes inconvenience to others. Parking on any part of a footpath is illegal but not often enforced and parking such that a wheelchair or pushchair cannot pass is also "causing an obstruction" and can be subject to an on-the-spot fixed penalty fine. Whilst many people park half on/half off in villages this is not really acceptable and also damages kerbs and footways which are not built for vehicles overriding. It is

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better to cause the cars to slow down by parking properly in the road than force a pedestrian into the road to get past.

Also please consider carefully when parking on narrow roads such as Mill Lane and Hogg End to ensure sufficient access remains for wider farm vehicles, deliveries lorries and particularly emergency vehicles.

Future Plans: Your Council are planning to update the village entrance 'gates' over the summer. Replacing the southern ones which have fallen into disrepair and re-installing the northern ones past the school that were removed by Fusion when the highway was changed. Hopefully this will provide more visual reminders to motorists that it is a village environment.

Discussions are on-going with WNC Highways with regard to removal of signage 'clutter' now that the centre of the village is bypassed and we are also in conversation about future maintenance of new 'green' areas created by the relief road construction and balancing ponds.

Don't forget your Councillors are always available if you need more information.

Website: www.chippingwarden.org : Information is available on the Parish Council Website at where copies of all the parish council minutes and associated public papers are also available for enquiry.

News is also posted there and to the [Chipping Warden Community](#) page on Facebook. Any such information posted is also available from the Clerk.

Chairman – Nigel Galletly

Reports from Village Organisations

We have received no written reports from village organisations in time for the print run but these can be given at the meeting.

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PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2023/24

EXPENDITURE	2022/23 BUDGET	2022/23 Actual		5%	2023/24 BUDGET
ADMINISTRATION					
Insurance	842	1100		55	1155
Hall Hire	100	90			90
Stationery	200	117		6	123
Audit Fees	400	285		14	299
Clerk	2598	2846	10%	285	3131
Sundries Parish Award	75	0			75
Web Hosting & IT	428	435		22	457
<u>Subscriptions</u> NCALC & SNAST	324	352		18	370
NCALC-DPO	10	10			10
NCALC Training	200	0		0	200
S137 HS2	500	0		0	500
Jubilee		1700			0
Local Government Restucture	200	0		0	0
TOTAL	5877	6935			6409
Lighting					
Power	1450	1555	15%	233	1788
Maintenance	650	1265		63	1328
TOTAL	2100	2820			3117
Other					
Maintenance - Trees	500	0			1000
General	50	79			300
New Works	0	0			0
Play area	575	0			1000
Grass Cutting	3000	2200		110	2500
Sports Field Rent	250	0			0
VAT	1500	1990			1000
Contingency Coronation					1000
Village gates		3518			700
Enhancement					500
Allens Orchard Fencing					2000
Transfer to Reserves	377	2211			281
TOTAL	6252	9998			10281
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	14229	19753			19807
INCOME					
Transfer from Reserves	0	0			342
Precept	14000	14000			18000
Grass cutting	462	462	not received yet		462
Interest	2	16			3
VAT	300	922			1000
WNC-BGC		4353			
TOTAL INCOME	14764	19753			19807
Excess/Deficit	535	0			0