

MINUTES OF THE WARBOROUGH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 3rd April 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Jonnie Bradshaw **(JB)** Chair
Cllr Megan Hanson **(MHa)** Vice Chair
Cllr Amanda Cooper **(AC)**
Cllr Richard Pullen **(RP)**
Cllr Nigel Meadows **(NM)**
Cllr Emma Keene **(EK)**
Cllr Sue Cooper **(SC)** - SODC
Cllr Robin Bennett **(RB)** - OCC
13 Members of the public

2025/050 Chairman's Annual Report

Environment Trees (NM)

- Over 150 mature trees in parish – some felled by storm damage
- Significant tree work completed including some works in churchyard
- All works carried out within budget - looking ahead next year budget has been increased to clear large backlog of work

Infrastructure Roads (EK)

- Traffic survey commissioned, with several review iterations. Technical note provided to PC and data reviewed and reported on – summary to be provided in due course.
- OCC highways team engaged leading to a good working relationship and action on potholes in parish.
- Remembrance road closure organised and upgraded barriers and signage purchased
- Bus top survey completed for OCC
- Salt bins purchased and installed
- Emergency Response Group Flooding survey kicked off.

Infrastructure Other (AC)

- Bench Survey completed and unsafe equipment removed
- Engaged with OCC Flood Response Planning Tea - drafting of WPC Community Flood Response Plan underway

Planning (MHa)

- Lots of planning applications this year, some complex with Plough Field the most notable (significant rebuttal and opposition work carried out)
- Big year for NP which is at Reg 14 stage and hopefully will progress to Reg 16 stage

Environment Other (RP)

- Landscape contractors have completed clearing works around tennis courts
- Main focus on the ditch network and flooding prevention– much work completed with OCC and SODC on ditches and drainage. Culvert on Thame Road still to clear.

Events (MHe)

- Stellar job being done on Swing into Summer/VE celebration – lots of engagement with the community and some sponsorship secured. Big Help out will be continued as we did in Coronation year and more comms to come

Recreation and The Green (JB)

- Tail end of pavilion work completed – moss just taken off the roof
- Playground annual refurb work done and ROSPA in to check safety
- The Pubvillion events during the pub closure period were hugely popular and all in aid of various community groups.

Allotments (NM)

- 6 plots vacant with some impact on finance
- Bank account converts to a community account so there will be new bank fees, plus water costs increasing and thus proposing allotment increase to £20 – still low compared to others

The Community allotment opened this year with construction of the surplus good stall. **Greet Hall (JB)**

- Village hall upgrade work has been slow due to distractions with Planning and pavilion completion but some progress made. Volunteer group put together options which PC voted on and tender and grants process is underway

Capital Projects (JB)

- Several projects funded — finished off the funding round in a healthy position
- Post box library ongoing, though paused whilst mains disconnected (thanks to RB of OCC for other ½ of funding)
- Plough Memorial refurb complete – huge thanks to David Seymour for his work
- Ballet Bar purchased for Silver Swans
- St Lawrence Hall car park resurfacing contribution made

2025/051 County Councillors Annual Report

- New OCC CEO – re-organised staffing – new Head of Children's services has implemented SEN improvements long due
- Reinstated annual gully cleaning – introduced Flooding Task Force, with plan to have Flood Wardens
- Major investment in Highways funding. Strategic Active travel network progressing and can push developers to contribute new and improved routes. Roll out 20-mile hour completed where chosen to do. Citizens Assembly on Travel
- Local nature recovery strategy is drafted, including Oxfordshire Net Zero and Climate Actions plan
- DPH has annual report – this year on Youth Mental Health
- RB now stepping down and thanked for his support

2025/052 District Councillors Annual Report

- Balanced budget – lots of grants awarded – capital (undersubscribed) – Revenue (over-subscribed)
- Local plan – congratulations to the Team for submission
- Progress made on SODC Climate plan
- Main thing is local government reorganisation (SODC have submitted 3 recommended plans options to government)

2025/053 Reports received from village organisations

W&SCC – Chris Ward

- Over winter work behind scenes maintenance completed including with new mower purchased, and adjustments to sight screens for manual handling
- New Season starts in 3 weeks' time
- Friday evenings last summer very popular
- Indoor nets activity at Moultsford and Cranfield over the winter and outdoor nets starting shortly
- Very proud of the refurbished Pavillion and thank the PC for its support. Fully appreciating it as a community asset, theClub has reduced the number of third party hire sessions to prioritise village use
- Thanks as ever to the army of volunteers coaching, safeguarding and helpers etc

W&S WI – Kim Tompsett

The report included information on all the activities that have taken place each month in the last year, showing active village engagement and local community support

SWATA – Tim Martin

No report for meeting

Allotment Association – Nigel Meadows

Good use of allotments – some had remained unallocated which had impacted finances but these are all now allocated – see report above

W&SS – Matthew Day

- Busy 12 months
- Organised 2 litter picks
- March showcase by local History group as well as many other well-attended talks and events
- Community survey on the pub as an asset completed and putting forward community asset application
- Work on the phone box commenced
- Thanks to David Seymour for his work on the Plough – the Society relies on a group of residents and volunteers

Mowers and Growers

Falling numbers in the club despite best efforts; club may close

St Lawrence Church – Michael Watkins

- Information including opening times of the church and some of the events put on through

the last year provided demonstrating reach and age

- Lots of conservation work completed and thanks go to WPC for Tree Maintenance work undertaken
- Welcome to Rev Mel Stanley and thanks go to Rev Myles for all his work and support over the last year

All annual reports will be added to the Parish Website

Meeting closed at 20:30