

Whitchurch on Thames Parish Council – Profiles

Updated January 2019

Jim Donahue, Chairman

Jim joined the parish council in 2011 after moving to Whitchurch from Pangbourne in 2008. He was elected chairman in May 2018. He met his wife Clare in the village and was married in 2017. He runs a small Programme Management consultancy focussed on the telecoms industry and also works as a part time photographer. Jim can often be seen mountain biking through the Chiltern Hills with local cycling groups or on walks down Hardwick Road and through Hardwick estate with his son William.



Rachel Hatcher, Vice-chairman



Rachel and her husband Ben have lived in the village since 2013 and have two small daughters. She works as a marketing project manager in the telecoms industry. Rachel joined the Parish Council in December 2015, having already joined the Traffic and Pavements Advisory Group (TAPAG). Often walking around the local area with her children, she is keen to slow vehicles down and to help us all make the most of the lovely village we live in. As well as going out cycling as a family, Rachel also enjoys running, reading and playing the piano.

Warren Beard

Warren moved to Whitchurch from Bucklebury in 2014, with his wife Olivia and three children, and joined the parish council in November 2018. Having jointly owned a successful national technology sales business, Warren hung up his boots a few years ago and set up a small consultancy, providing print technology solutions for business, working from home. He spends most weekends watching his children in various sporting fixtures and enjoys playing football and getting out on his mountain bike. He is very much looking forward to working with both the councillors and parishioners of the Village and hopes he can make a small difference.



David Bowen



Dave has lived in Whitchurch with his wife Hayley since 2008 and joined the parish council in May 2015. His day job is working within the transport sector, providing training for train drivers. He has a passion for the law and is currently studying towards a law degree with the Open University as well as assisting those requiring employment-related help and advice. He enjoys cycling, film-making, photography and boating. He represents our section of the River Thames on the Thames Motor Boaters Association and can often be seen out on the river.

Keith Brooks

Keith moved to Whitchurch in 2002, joining the parish council in 2008. He was chairman from 2015 to 2018. He is a retired scientist and enjoys walking, gardening, theatre, concerts, travelling and working out at the gym. His particular interest is the environment and our impact on it. He studied this at Plymouth Polytechnic on his way to becoming a doctor of biochemistry. He is married to Dianne, who has recently retired from being project manager with an education business partnership and from her role as Parish Clerk of Benson Parish Council.



Sarah Hanfrey



Sarah moved to Whitchurch from London in 2012. Having started her career at an investment bank, where she worked on foreign exchange pricing models, she now runs a software company supplying national and international law firms. She is a governor of Whitchurch Primary School where her focus subject is Maths. She joined the Parish Council in October 2017, having contributed to a village working group. In her free time she enjoys singing with Pangbourne Choral Society, walking Milly dog with her partner Tim Suiter and watching European language crime dramas.

Katherine Higley

Katherine has lived in Whitchurch for over 20 years and spent most of her childhood in the village. She joined the Parish Council in November 2018. Her ancestors were first recorded here in the 1600s so the family have a long association with the village. Katherine studied Environmental Management, Planning and Law at university and is a qualified Coach. She is a Trustee of Whitchurch United Charities and also is part of the brass cleaning team at St. Mary's Church.

Parish Clerk: Ina Chantry

Ina has lived in Middle Assendon, near Henley, for over twenty years. In that time she has served on the Village Hall Committee and is currently a Parish Councillor, having been persuaded to take over the role as her husband wanted to step down. In the summer of 2018 she took early retirement from full time teaching and became Whitchurch Parish Clerk in November 2018. She now has the time to take on an allotment. Ina is also on the Board of Trustees for a charity that works with children with Autism.

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