

WHITCHURCH BULLETIN

WINTER
2023

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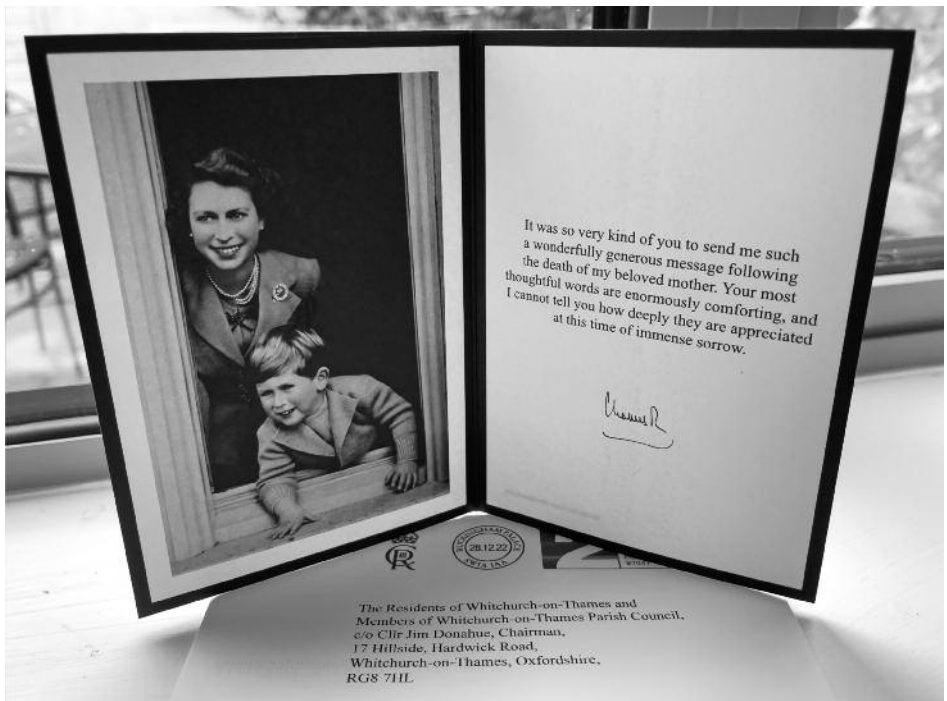
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CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE – JANUARY 2023

Wishing you a Happy 2023! 2022 was a year of change for many with the Queen's Jubilee and then Royal funeral. 2023 will bring the Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May. As last year's Jubilee celebration on the Village Green was so successful, the Parish Council would like to hold a similar event this year. **Please save the date of Monday 8th May for a Village Celebration in honour of Kind Charles' Coronation.** Please contact Clerk Jane Yamamoto if you have questions or would like to be involved.

The King's Letter of Thanks to the Residents of Whitchurch-on-Thames –

Many of you will be aware that we recently received a letter of thanks from King Charles addressed to "The Residents of Whitchurch-on-Thames and Members of the Whitchurch-on-Thames Parish Council." The thank you note, shown below, was in response to the letter of condolence I sent to the new King's private secretary, that notified him of the village's Book of Condolences that will be archived at St Mary's Church.



Residents Parking and Pedestrian Safety Plan Approved by the Parish

Council – The biggest change in the past three months has been the Council's approval of a Residents Parking and Pedestrian Safety Plan for the village High Street. This plan was developed by the Traffic and Parking Working Group (TAPWG) that was re-formed in 2021 following a rethink after COVID, working closely with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) Highways team. As of November 2022, data from the Toll bridge shows that traffic levels are back to 80% of pre-COVID levels, with no sign of slowing down.

A new village-wide survey was conducted in September 2021, which was returned by 178 residents from 164 households. Whitchurch residents have been requesting Residents Parking on the High Street for many years and this was reinforced in the September 2021 survey response. SODC and OCC support for new Residents Parking schemes has only been available in the past year due to changes in policy and, if the scheme goes ahead, we will be amongst the first villages in the county to take advantage of it. There is an article that details the plan later in this issue of the Bulletin, and further information is available on the village website. The next step is for OCC to start the process to obtain the Traffic Regulation Order, which will allow them to begin a public consultation that everyone in the village will be able to participate in.

The Parish Council is acutely aware that historic and geographical constraints in the village mean that no parking plan can meet everyone's needs and any approach will require compromise. Many people in the village already compromise in terms of traffic and parking, whether it is lack of parking, accessibility of parking, or being a pedestrian or regular driver in the High Street. The approved plan will still require compromise, but it will have added benefits of providing parking bays dedicated for residents of the village, improved traffic flow, improved safety for both drivers and pedestrians, and reduced congestion and pollution in the village.

I would like to thank the seven members of TAPWG, including Cllrs Diana Smith and Frances Parkes for their hard work and methodical, transparent, data-driven analysis in coming up with this plan.

Grant for New Benches in the Playground – The Parish Council received a £2,500 grant from SODC to restore two benches on the Manor Road Playground. Cllr Higley is leading the work to restore the benches.

Playground Working Group to be formed – Cllrs Paul O'Grady and Carrie Leadbeater-Hart are planning to form a Playground Working Group to discuss changes to the playground following feedback from the recent survey. Please contact them if you would like to be involved.

Local flooding and drainage – Leigh Travers, SODC Flood Risk and Drainage Engineer, assisted by another SODC engineer, met John Southey and Richard Wingfield of the Flood Risk Team:

- SODC performed a topological assessment of the watercourse running under the High Street and Eastfield Lane. They will use this information to assess the feasibility of improvements to the watercourse to reduce the risk of flooding.
- The Walled Garden on the High Street –The SODC Engineer advised the owners that any changes to the pond and watercourse must be stopped and reinstated. Richard Wingfield and John Southey from our Flood Risk Team are satisfied that the current 'narrow channel' form of the pond should not impact flood risk, as long as it stays a viable channel for the village watercourse.
- Greyhound slotted drain cover – has now finally been delivered and installed. This was paid for by the Greyhound owners, Oak Taverns. The slotted cover allows overflow water to be drained down the watercourse under Eastfield lane in the event that the High Street drains become overwhelmed during a flash flood.

Re-establishment of Manor Road Yew Trees – A reminder that the Parish Council had previously approved plans last year to re-establish the historic row of yew trees on the south side of Manor Road that formed the entrance to Coombe Park. This change is now happening in January. The removal of approximately 18 mostly sycamore trees and laurel undergrowth, will cause a significant change to the entrance to Manor Road until the row of young yew trees is better established. Thanks to Cllr Katherine Higley for leading this work.

Fibre Broadband to the Door in the Village – Things are progressing here, although I am not aware of anyone getting fibre broadband as we speak. Airband has been talking to residents at the doorstep to firm up plans for offering fibre to the home – at least on Hardwick Road. Gigaclear has offered to meet me to explain their plans for providing fibre to the village. I am still waiting for them to confirm a date for the meeting. We have also been notified that the Village Hall is eligible for funding to provide fibre connectivity.

*Kind regards,
Jim Donahue
Chairman,
Whitchurch-on-Thames Parish Council*



PC APPROVES RESIDENTS PARKING AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN FOR THE HIGH STREET

The Parish Council passed a motion to proceed with a Residents Parking and Pedestrian Safety plan for the village at its November meeting. The Traffic and Parking Working Group (TAPWG), working in consultation with the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) Highways Department, developed the recommended scheme based on the findings from the village-wide survey carried out in September 2021. The key objectives of the recommendations were to provide dedicated parking spots on the High Street for residents of the village and to ensure that there is clear visibility for pedestrians crossing the High Street near the Greyhound, especially for parents and children on the school run. The plan would have additional benefits in terms of improved traffic flow, improved safety for both drivers and pedestrians, and reduced congestion and pollution in the village.

A detailed map of the parking plan for the High Street is available on the village website. Although not on the map, a “virtual pedestrian crossing” will be created with improved visibility, from the movement of certain parking bays, with designated crossing locations on either side of the street just north of Eastfield Lane across from the Greyhound.

OCC’s Parking and Traffic Officer attended the November meeting and answered questions from Councillors. Some of the questions answered in the discussion were:

- The plan included 4 banks of parking bays on the High Street with a total of 19 residents parking spaces. The OCC Officer confirmed that this was the maximum number of spaces that could be approved for the parking plan due to sight lines of traffic. There are currently a large number of parking spaces used by non-resident commuters during the day that would be freed up for residents in the plan. At the January PC meeting, the Council agreed that 3 of these parking banks should be dedicated to Residents Only parking, although one of the banks of 7 parking bays should be available to people who do not have a permit for up to 2 hours.
- Residents on the High Street will be able to purchase annual parking permits for about £100. Residents can purchase permits for up to 2 cars per household. 25 visitor passes will be included in the permit fee. Additional visitor passes can be purchased by residents of the High Street, whether they have an annual permit or not.

- An amendment to the plan was approved that made use of single yellow lines in some locations south of Manor Road that would allow for approximately 10 additional car parking spaces for those without parking permits to use outside the restricted hours. At the January PC meeting, the Council agreed that single yellow line no parking restrictions should be only for Monday to Friday 8am – 5pm. Parking will be allowed along the single yellow lines at all other times, including weekends.
- There will be single or double yellow lines between each of the 4 banks of parking bays. OCC requires double lines between the upper and lower narrows and the first bank of parking bays to keep traffic clear. The OCC Officer was clear that the Residents Parking scheme could only be approved if yellow lines were implemented on the High Street to ensure it can be enforced. The plan is to use Heritage Area versions of the lines, which would be thinner and paler.
- The “virtual pedestrian crossing” to be placed just north of Eastfield Lane across from the Greyhound is proposed instead of a Zebra crossing because of costs and to avoid the use of Belisha beacons (amber coloured globe lamps on top of a black and white striped pole) which could be a source of light pollution to nearby residents. Although there will be no road markings, it will make use of a dropped kerb and designated crossing locations on either side of the road, with 20 metres visibility in either direction, which is a significant improvement over the current situation. The virtual crossing will run from the dropped kerb on the west side of the High Street to a newly surfaced area on the east side which will be marked by white lines guiding pedestrians safely into Eastfield Lane.

The next steps:

- OCC will start the process to obtain the Traffic Regulation Order, which will allow them to begin a public consultation. We understand that consultation letters will be sent to all properties in the High Street and notices will be put in local newspapers, on lampposts and on the OCC website. This is a similar process to that which happened before the 20mph limit was agreed.
- After the consultation, OCC will make the final decision on whether to proceed with the changes, including any alterations resulting from the consultation. OCC says that the timeframe for consultation and implementation can be anywhere from 6 months to 2 years.
- If the changes are agreed and implemented there would be a review by OCC after it has run for a year. We are told that it is possible to make changes to the scheme at this time should they be necessary.

Clrs Donahue, Smith and Parkes

QUARTERLY PLANNING UPDATE FOR WOT PC

– JANUARY 16, 2023

Planning Reference	Address	Comments by WOT PC	SODC status
P22/S3504/LB	Manor House, High Street, Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7EX	The Council voted to support this application.	<i>APPROVED</i>
P22/S3877/HH	Farthings, Eastfield Lane, Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7EJ	The Council voted to support this application.	<i>APPLICATION UNDER CONSIDERATION</i>
P22/S3901/FUL	The Walled Garden House, High Street, Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7EP	The Council voted to object due to the scale and design of the replacement dwelling, whose size and bulk would be visible from many areas of the High Street. The proposed height and mass presents significant harm to the Conservation Area. The Parish Council requests a full assessment by the SODC drainage engineers. See full objection on SODC planning.	<i>APPLICATION WITHDRAWN</i>
P22/S4051/LDE	Land South of Hardwick Road, Hardwick Road, Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7EN	The Council voted to support this application. However, the Council would like to clarify two points: 1) The owners take responsibility for the ownership and the maintenance of the border fence with the Village Green; 2) The only access to this land is from Hardwick Road as described in the documents.	<i>CONSULTATION PERIOD</i>
P22/S4522/HH	Walliscote Farm, High Street, Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7EP	The Council voted to support this application	<i>CONSULTATION PERIOD</i>
P22/S4285	19 Swanston Field, Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7HP	The Council voted to object due to the size and scale of the building as the plans are inconsistent with a garden room but appear to be a separate dwelling which is not in keeping with the neighbourhood.	<i>APPLICATION UNDER CONSIDERATION</i>
P22/S4281/FUL	Chalkhills, Hardwick Road, Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7QS	The Council voted to support this application.	<i>APPLICATION UNDER CONSIDERATION</i>

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Money Money Money

One of the less enjoyable days of the year is when the annual Council Tax bill lands on the doormat, and one gasps at the amount of money being demanded. Although the bill comes from the District Council (SODC), council tax is largely being collected on behalf of the local big spenders, i.e. the County Council and the Police who take 78% and 11% respectively. The District Council keeps only 6% and the parishes about 5%. The District Council also collects Business Rates, technically called Non Domestic Rates, or NDR. During the pandemic businesses that were liable for Business Rates were entitled to grants of various sorts, funded by the government but distributed by South Oxfordshire District Council. This was quite a big exercise for the Council, dishing out money instead of collecting it, and the District Council was pleased to support all sorts of eligible businesses. However, in the general rush to take advantage of the sudden fruiting of the magic money tree, some businesses which applied for this largesse forgot that they actually didn't pay business rates. On investigation, some of these businesses should have been paying quite substantial amounts.

Elected council members of the Green Party and Lib Dem administration of SODC suspected that there may have been more businesses liable for business rates which were not being collected. External consultants were therefore employed to match data from different sources to make sure that businesses in South Oxfordshire were paying their taxes like the rest of us. Amazingly, this exercise netted £2.6 million pounds of back tax, of which £500,000 has been retained by SODC and there will be an extra £200,000 a year coming to the District Council in future. The current administration at South Oxfordshire is keen to make sure that it is financially secure, and collects all the income that is legally due, and these additional funds are a welcome contribution to the budget; the backlog of £500,000 is equivalent to about 6% of the District's funding from Council tax.

This was an initiative by elected Councillors who know that the devil is in the detail, and who work hard for the benefit of residents.

Aircraft Noise

Over the years, several people have raised concerns with me about the noisy planes that buzz around for about 10 minutes or so looping the loop, vertically diving etc., before pulling up. Being so high, the noise from these planes is audible over a wide area, but strangely there is not much legal constraint over this noise. All planes carry a registration number, but even with powerful binoculars the number can't be seen from the ground. There is however a website <https://www.flightradar24.com/51.29,-1.45/11> that tracks every plane in the sky, and with this you can identify any plane that's flying near you, whether is a passenger airline, executive jet, helicopter or light aircraft, where it has come from and then where it is going. Click on a plane, and you can see its flight path and its registration number, and from the registration number track the owner.

If you wish to complain about the noise of an aircraft, the Civil Aviation Authority states: "In general, if you have a complaint about aircraft noise, you should direct to it the airport where you think the aircraft was operating from. They have a duty to investigate your complaint and respond to you."

The flight radar website shows where the plane has come from, which when I have tracked noisy aircraft, was White Waltham Airfield.

Peter Dragonetti
(peter.dragonetti@southoxon.gov.uk)
SODC Councillor for Whitchurch-on-Thames

WHITCHURCH PRE-SCHOOL



Another Busy Term at Whitchurch Pre-School

Our bustling pre-school enjoyed another busy Autumn Term in 2022! Our caring staff invested much time and energy into designing creative activities to excite the children. Favourite activities that the children have enjoyed this term include playing with 'moon sand' during space week and making traffic light vegetable sticks in road safety week. Our supportive and green-fingered parent community also gave our very own allotment a tidy up, making it much more accessible to the children to learn about the natural world. Highlights included planting acorns while learning about nature.

Our Plans for 2023

The Spring term 2023 has started with gusto. The purpose-designed indoor classrooms and outdoor play areas have been alive with the sound of children exploring, making new friends and having fun. We have enjoyed welcoming two more members of staff, all experienced in supporting children with tailored learning and development. They provide a secure and gentle atmosphere where the children thrive and develop at their own pace. Already in January we have enjoyed lemon and orange paint printing, dancing to Boogie Mites and our favourite fizzing volcano experiment for science. There are many more fun activities ahead!

Come and Join Whitchurch Pre-School

We currently have spaces available for new starters aged from 2.5 years. The pre-school is open from Monday to Friday during term time, from 8.45am – 3.15pm, with an early drop-off option at 8.30am. Free places are available for 3 and 4 year olds (funded by the government) for 15 or 30 hours per week during term time.

To register your interest, please use the following contact details:

hello@whitchurchpreschool.org

Tel: 0118 984 4516

Our Spring Open Day will be held in early 2023. You can find more details about joining this and our other events here:

www.whitchurchpreschool.org

<https://www.facebook.com/Whitchurchpreschool.org>

How to Support Whitchurch Pre-School

Whitchurch Pre-School is a registered charity and not-for-profit setting. We are so grateful to all of the local businesses, residents and supporters of the Pre-School for their support. Their fundraising and donations are vital to support the activities and facilities that are so important for pre-schoolers. In 2023 the pre-school is raising money for important building renovations to sustain the pre-school for future years. If you would like to support us, you can:

- Become a Co-Op Member and select Whitchurch-on-Thames Pre-School as your local community cause. For every £1 spent 2p will be donated to our cause.
- Visit <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> and enter Whitchurch-on-Thames Pre-School as your chosen charity, 0.5% of your order value will be given to Pre-School.
- Sign up to easyfundraising.org.uk to support “Whitchurch Pre-School – Whitchurch-on-Thames” when shopping online with major retailers. Register here for free: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whitchurchonthamespresch/>
- Make a donation by scanning the QR code here or go to: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/whitchurchpreschool>



Pippa Ruxton

(comms@whitchurchpreschool.org)

Registered Charity: 1183193

WHITCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



The children at Whitchurch Primary have enjoyed a very busy and special Christmas term. They performed in Christmas productions, sang at the church, danced at their Christmas discos, had an amazing Christmas lunch and Father Christmas himself even made time to visit the school.

The Parents' Association has been equally busy organising a very successful debut 'Get Christmas Cracking' event, where our annual Christmas raffle was drawn, making festive wreaths, coordinating the production of school tea towels and shopping bags along with many other fundraising events this term. The success of all these events has allowed us to purchase 21 replacement iPads for the school.

Even with all our fundraising and hard work from the parents, we wouldn't be able to achieve as much as we do without the continued support from the local community and businesses. We would like to send a heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who has supported us this year, and particularly to Warminghams Estate Agents for always supporting our events, the Rotary Club for the generous donation following a fun-filled visit by Father Christmas to the bridge and the Whitchurch Bridge Company for allowing us to use their charity bucket.

Thank you.

Registered charity 1114159

*Vicky Willcock,
Chair*

WHITCHURCH & GORING HEATH HISTORY SOCIETY

It's time for our Annual General Meeting, which will be held in Whitchurch Village Hall on Thursday 16th February at 7.30pm. After the business, there will be a "mystery" presentation by Nick Brazil.

It is an important year for us as by the summer the society will be thirty years old. During that time we have held exhibitions, published books, heard speakers on all aspects of local and national history, and provided information to enquiries from all over the country. This last year we have heard talks on Oxford Castle, Thames Valley artists and writers, the English Civil War, the Romans in Oxfordshire, milestones, South Oxfordshire on canvas, and the Oxford of Inspector Morse as well as looking at local place-names.

We're looking forward to another year of exploring where we live and would like to involve new people in our society. We meet on the third Thursday of the month. Non-members pay £3 to include refreshments, or why not join us for an annual fee of £12? Do come along for coffee and biscuits from 7pm and give us a try.

Vicky Jordan

WHITCHURCH ON THAMES PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

We meet on alternate Wednesday evenings from 8pm at Whitchurch Village Hall, Manor Road. On the other alternate Wednesdays, we have Zoom meetings where we feature top-level speakers from the world of photography. On the 'Live' evenings in the hall, we also have our own members giving talks on a wide range of subjects. Have a look at our website - www.wotphoto.co.uk

During the season we have battles against other clubs and internal competitions where there are trophies to be won in the six rounds of ladder competitions for digital images which consist of both open and set subjects. In addition, there are the Natural History and Monochrome trophies up for grabs! Come and visit us to see what we have to offer. You will receive a warm welcome.

Now that Christmas is over and we are into 2023, we are well under way and we start our February programme with a meeting at the Village Hall on Wednesday 1st of February, with a set subject competition titled The Letter 'H', which will be judged by Brian Burden LRPS.

The following week on Wednesday the 8th we have a Zoom meeting titled "Aspects of Composition" presented by Michael Farley LRPS.

On Wednesday 15th February, again at the Village Hall, one of our members Nigel Glover-Wright LRPS will present a wildlife talk titled "Botswana – An African Jewel". This will be in the first half of the evening, and after the coffee break, we stay in Africa with a talk titled "Maasai Mara – The Great Migration".

On Wednesday 22nd February, we have another Zoom meeting titled "A Grand Tour of China" presented by Marilyn and Mike Steward.

*Alan Copeland
(chairman@wotphoto.co.uk)*

WHITCHURCH & GORING HEATH TWINNING ASSOCIATION

We are hosting a Menu Gastronomique at Whitchurch Village Hall on Friday 3rd February at 7pm. The menu will be of a French theme (but no frogs legs or snails) and there will be a vegetarian option. Tickets are £27.00 per head for a 6-course meal including Kir Royale as an aperitif, starter, mains, cheese and a digestif!

Please book your place for a delicious and fun evening by emailing Jane Patel at janefrancespatel@gmail.com or Sarah Dragonetti at sarah@dragonetti.co.uk

All are welcome!

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AND ST JOHN'S, WHITCHURCH

The Friends aim to help preserve the condition of our two historic church buildings in this Parish, support the use of the churches by the wider community, and help bring together people from Whitchurch-on-Thames and Whitchurch Hill. The Friends is an independent charity to which we welcome members from all faiths and none. If you are not already a member and are interested in finding out more on how you can help the work, or become a member, please contact Paul Witcher, pwwitcher@aol.co.uk

Work parties with a small number of volunteers in both our churchyards have been carried out recently and further work parties are planned going ahead. These are an important part of looking after our churchyards and are also a



good 'social event'. The Art Café coffee meetings in The Old Stables are held throughout the year on behalf of The Friends on Saturday mornings. These events are advertised on notice boards at the toll bridge. All money raised is put towards the maintenance of our two church buildings.

The new path at St John's Church has been completed (see photo on previous page, courtesy of Sally Woolhouse) and the Friends have contributed 75% of the total cost. General opinion from a cross-section of people including those with mobility issues is that this has been a big improvement, and the low-level lighting along the edges gives a much safer access during these dark evenings. The heating in St John's Church has been upgraded and The Friends have made a contribution towards the cost of this. The internal repainting of St Mary's Church should be taking place in January and The Friends have agreed to make a contribution towards the cost of this work.

A fund-raising Quiz Evening is planned for Saturday 15th April in Whitchurch Village Hall and details will be available soon. We hope to see many of you there!

*Paul Witcher,
Chairman
(pvwitcher@aol.co.uk)*

LENT LUNCHESES

Once again members of the church community of Whitchurch and Whitchurch Hill will be holding Lent Lunches at the Old Stables on the following dates between 12.15 and 2pm: Wednesdays, March 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. Come and join us for a simple bread and soup lunch. Your donations will support church funds and Launchpad, a Reading-based homelessness prevention charity.

Wendy Ferguson

WHITCHURCH VILLAGE HALL



The full programme of events listed in last quarter's Bulletin has started up again in the New Year. The newest class is an adult painting class at 6pm on Wednesdays.

To find out more about the class you can ring Anya Goldenberg on 07578 190114.

The Afternoon Teas continue on the second Thursday of each month with the next three on February 9th, March 9th and April 13th. Everyone is welcome to this very pleasant event – no need to book.

The Village Hall Annual General Meeting is on the evening of 26th January. Village residents are very welcome especially if you might be interested in helping run the village hall. If you do plan to come, please ring or text John Bradon on 07789 944676.

*John Bradon,
Whitchurch Village Hall Treasurer*

THE PARISH OF WHITCHURCH ON THAMES, OXFORDSHIRE

Acreage – 1,320, Population – 824 (2011 census), Electors – 622

WHITCHURCH ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL			
Chair	Jim Donahue	cllrdonahue.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	
V/Chair	Diana Smith	cllrsmith.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	
	Nick Brazil	cllrbrasil.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	
	Katherine Higley	cllrhigley.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	
	Carrie Leadbeater-Hart	cllrhart.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	
	Paul O'Grady	cllrgrady.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	
	Frances Parkes	cllrparkes.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	
Clerk	Jane Yamamoto	11 Hillside, Hardwick Road, RG8 7HL parishclerk.whitchurchonthames@gmail.com	07876 714906

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL			
135 Eastern Ave, Milton Park Estate, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB, www.southoxon.gov.uk			
Councillor	Peter Dragonetti	Covert Cottage, Hill Bottom	0118 9844711

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL			
County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND, www.oxfordshire.gov.uk			01865 792422
Councillor	Kevin Bulmer	35 Springhill Road, Goring on Thames, RG8 0BY	07526 743091

WHITCHURCH ON THAMES VILLAGE WEBSITE			
www.whitchurchonthames.com			
News Editor	Richard Wingfield	rmwingfield@btinternet.com	0118 9843682

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL			
St Mary's Whitchurch and St John's Whitchurch Hill			
Hon Secretary	Rosemary Pearce		07761 056125

WHITCHURCH PRE-SCHOOL GROUP			
Eastfield Lane, Whitchurch on Thames, RG8 7EJ			
Supervisor	Kathleen Barrow		0118 9842347

WHITCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL			
Eastfield Lane, Whitchurch on Thames, RG8 7EJ			
Head Teacher	Dawn Chesters		0118 9842347
Head of Parent Association	Victoria Wilcock		
Chair of School Governors	Eleanor Sugrue		

LANGTREE SCHOOL			
Woodcote, RG8 0RA			
Head Teacher	Simon Banford		01491 680514
Chair of School Governors	Alan Dunstan		01491 680514

Front Cover photo courtesy of Richard Williams – Pangbourne Weir on a frosty December morning

WHITCHURCH AND DISTRICT ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

Chair	John Copeland	jvcopeland@yahoo.co.uk	0118 9842692
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WHITCHURCH TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Chair	Wendy Ferguson	wendyfergie@gmail.com	0118 9841262
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WHITCHURCH SOCIETY

Chair	John Bradon		0118 9841574
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WHITCHURCH BRIDGE CLUB

Enquiries	Phillipa Turner		01491 875648
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WHITCHURCH AND GORING HEATH HISTORY SOCIETY

Contact	Vicky Jordan	Little Langtree, Whitchurch Hill, RG8 7PU	0118 9843260
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WHITCHURCH THEATRE CLUB

Contact	Chris Martin	Sonia, Goring Heath Road, Whitchurch Hill, RG8 7PG	0118 9844252
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WHITCHURCH CRICKET CLUB

Sec	Cormac Neeson	cormac.neeson@gmail.com	0118 9843347
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PANGBOURNE AND DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

Recreation Ground, Thames Avenue, Pangbourne

Contact	Roy Rosekilly	22 Swanston Field, Whitchurch on Thames, RG8 7HP	0118 9843080
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PANGBOURNE AND DISTRICT TENNIS CLUB

Recreation Ground, Thames Avenue, Pangbourne

Chair	Louise Shearer		0118 9842934
Sec	Amanda Holland		07814 369566

WHITCHURCH ON THAMES HABITAT STUDY GROUP (WotHabs)

Contact	Gill Goodwin	1 Swanston Field, Whitchurch on Thames, RG8 7HP	0118 9842934
Sec	John Bradon	Rylands, Hardwick Rd, Whitchurch on Thames, RG8 7HW	0118 9841574

VILLAGE HALL

Hall Manager	Richard Searce	38 Manor Road, Whitchurch on Thames, RG8 7EU	0118 9842004
Events Mgr	Jean-Marc Grosfort		07881 312233

OLD STABLES ROOM

High Street

Contact	Geoff Weir	oldstablesbookings@btinternet.com	
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WHITCHURCH ON THAMES PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Meetings: Whitchurch Village Hall, alternate Wednesdays at 8pm

Chair	Alan Copeland	14 Wayside Green, Woodcote, RG8 0QJ	01491 681471
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GORING HEATH GUIDE AND SCOUT GROUP

Contact	Doreen Pechey	doreen@pechey.org (<i>Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, Guides</i>)	01491 681236
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PANG VALLEY SCOUT GROUP

The Barn, Purley on Thames

Contact	Ian Shenton	ishenton@ntlworld.com (<i>Beavers, Cubs, Scouts</i>)	0118 9678769
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PANGBOURNE AND DISTRICT VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Committee Room, Pangbourne Village Hall

	Open 09:30 – 11:30am Mon-Friday	0118 9844586
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AFC WHITCHURCH FC (ages 5–16)

Chair	Alex Hilton	hiltsl23@hotmail.com or afcwhitchurch@yahoo.co.uk	
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THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Wallingford Police Station, Wallingford, OX10 9DW

	Non Emergency Police Number (manned 24/7)		101
Neighbourhd Supervisor	Barbara Taylor	barbara.taylor@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk	07814 485286

PANGBOURNE LIBRARY

Reading Road, Pangbourne, RG8 7LY

Monday 14:00–17:00	Tuesday 10:30–18:00	Wednesday CLOSED	0118 9844117
Thursday 9:30–12:00	Friday 10:30–17:00	Saturday 10:00–12:30	

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Contact	For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals	0118 9765905
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THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AND ST JOHN'S

Chair	Paul Witcher	pwitcher@aol.co.uk	
Secretary	Sally Woolhouse	whitchurchfriends@gmail.com	

PANGBOURNE BOATHOUSE SURGERY

Whitchurch Road, Pangbourne, RG8 7DP

Routine health conditions	Mon to Fri, 08:00–18:30	0118 9842234
Urgent unplanned conditions		NHS 111
Life-threatening emergencies		999

WHITCHURCH ON THAMES BULLETIN

Editor	Richard Williams	rlwilliamsafcw@btinternet.com	07810 374280
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Spring 2023	15th April	29th April	
Summer 2023	15th July	29th July	
Autumn 2023	15th October	29th October	



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