

## **Adderbury Parish Council Chairman's Report 5.4.23. (2022-2023)**

### **Membership of the Parish Council (PC)**

At the election on May 7<sup>th</sup> (2021) 9 residents stood for election (for 12 seats) so all 9 were elected in an uncontested election. All Councillors represent the whole of Adderbury Parish and the current 11 Councillors live across all areas of Adderbury. The PC would like to thank Rod Head, Jackie Head, Matt Gerrard, Andy Millard and Laura Walker who stepped down during this time and welcome new Councillors Jacky Atkinson, Rob Yeatman, Lucy Wells, Joel Greenberg, Simon Davies, Rachel Moffat and Mark Gerold.

### **The New Community and Sports Centre Project (Milton Road).**

The Parish Council's ambition is to provide a new community hall as a hub for social and community events as well as for a number of different sports, and to also improve the facilities in the Lucy Plackett Playing Field. This is set out in the Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan under policy AD18. This project has been the subject of two Parish Polls as well as other consultations.

There are over 30 village sports and Community groups who have expressed a wish to use the new facilities, including the Christopher Rawlins Primary School. This is an exciting project which will have an intergenerational benefit across the whole community of Adderbury.

The Parish Council and residents' group Working for Adderbury Community, (WFAC) have made significant progress so far:

- The pitches are sown so they will be ready for playing when the changing rooms are completed (all following the original advice of the Oxford FA/ Sport England and Cherwell District Council).
- The Highways entrance has been completed and a new footpath and a pedestrian crossing linking the site with the village have been completed.

All of this has been done under budget by using local contractors and sourcing materials ourselves.

All the planning permissions for the new building have been agreed, including a revised version to make the building more cost effective, and the majority of pre-commencement conditions have now been agreed with Cherwell District Council.

The WFAC residents and Parish Councillors group are now looking at grant applications from bodies like the Lottery, Virador, the FA and Football Foundation. We have had an excellent response from local funding groups, including grants from Banbury Charities, the local Masonic Lodge, the Doris Field Trust and Local Giving.

A new local fund-raising campaign was launched at the last APM and there have been a number of village fund-raising events during the year, starting at the Queen's Jubilee Day last June. So far this has raised just under £10,000 to add to the £20,000 previously raised through events in the village.

There will be more fund-raising events in the coming year and the WFAC group have just launched a 'Buy a Brick' initiative which has begun very well, with lots of requests for 'Bricks'. There will also be a 'Crowd Funding' campaign starting in the next few weeks.

The PC are hoping that all residents will join in and support in whatever way they can, especially those groups who will be using the new facilities. Also residents can help with fund raising by signing up to the Cherwell Lottery which raises funds for all sorts of causes, including the WFAC, and by using 'Easy Funding' when buying online, which provides a contribution every time you shop online. There are links to both of these on the PC website.

The PC would like to thank all those involved in the WFAC for their hard work and time given in support of the new Community and Sports Centre project, especially Councillor Jacky Atkinson who has led on the recent fund-raising.

These facilities will be a valuable asset to this village and will be a benefit to the whole community now and in the future. If you would like to be involved in helping the Parish Council and WFAC team to achieve

this project on behalf of the community please get in touch with the Parish Clerk, Parish Chairman or any Parish Councillor.

### **Adderbury Lakes Local Nature Reserve**

The Lakes are always a very popular and well used amenity in the village.

The PC has completed a programme of work on trees at the Lakes this year, largely dealing with casualties of high winds or the Ash die-back disease.

The Lakes group have also taken action to try to deal with excessive weed growth in the Lakes and we are hoping this will be successful.

The Council wishes to thank all members of the Lakes Management Committee for their hard work in managing the Lakes Local Nature Reserve, especially Rick Atkinson for his work on day to day management and Rachel Moffat who organises the Volunteer work parties, and also the large number of volunteers, who help at the monthly work parties held between September and April. The contribution of all these residents is invaluable and shows how popular the Lakes are within this community.

### **Biodiversity Project**

This initiative will continue this year and a number of areas around the village will be left unmown during the summer months to encourage grass and wild flowers to grow, including Lake Walk Green, and St Mary's Rd entrance as well as the amenity area at Long Wall/ Henry Gepp Close on the Aynho Road. There is also a small area of meadow flowers on the Rise, near the children's play area and areas in the Lucy Plackett Field have been left unmown.

As part of this project the PC has obtained 15 trees, under the Queen's Green Canopy scheme, which will be planted during the coming autumn.

The PC thanks all residents who have been involved in this project.

### **Traffic calming**

This is an important issue throughout the village. As reported at last year's APM the Parish Council has achieved a number of traffic calming measures in the village.

During last year the PC commissioned Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) to conduct a survey of road speeds and vehicle types in the village which has provided up to date details with regard to traffic and the PC is now considering further possible traffic calming throughout the village. A new Traffic Calming Group has been set up consisting of Councillors and residents from all areas of the village. It has met twice in recent months and is liaising with officers from OCC.

Following the PC's consultation with residents on the possibility of a 20mph throughout the village the PC has registered with OCC to be included in their consideration of 20mph limits in villages. OCC has now begun a Public Consultation on 20mph for Adderbury. This can be accessed online at

[https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/adderbury\\_20mph40mph2023](https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/adderbury_20mph40mph2023)

The Consultation is open until May 26<sup>th</sup> and the PC encourages all residents to send their comments. These details will also be in the May edition of the 'Contact'.

The PC wishes to thank all residents who are helping on this group and especially Melissa Zuydem who is chairing this working group.

### **Community Speedwatch**

Alongside the earlier traffic calming the PC and a dedicated group of village members developed the Community Speedwatch. This had to stop due to Covid but the new Traffic Calming group would like to begin it again. It is hoped to have several speed watch teams established in different parts of the village if there are enough volunteers from among residents. This was very successful before Covid and teams logged in excess of 100 significant offenders whose details are passed to Thames Valley Police who then sent approximately 100 letters. TVP also welcome the traffic data as they can additionally follow up with any vehicles that are drawn to their attention for other reasons (like insurance or tax) and visit and/or

prosecute accordingly. The work in Adderbury has been commended as an example of a community working with the authorities successfully.

If you would like to know more there is further detail about the Speedwatch scheme on the Parish website.

### **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

These took place over the June bank holiday from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June until Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. This was a great success, despite some cold weather and rain, and the PC thanks all residents, especially Val Scarffe and Debby Dickinson, who organised and volunteered during this event.

### **The Coronation King Charles III, May 6<sup>th</sup> 2023**

To commemorate this occasion there will be a public viewing of the televised coronation ceremony on a big screen in the Institute starting at about 10.30am. There will also be a bar to buy drinks, teas and coffees as well as a pig roast and ice cream van.

In the afternoon there will be FREE afternoon teas for village children, (sandwiches, crisps and a drink) provided in the Institute courtesy of Tony Watts, (from the Coach and Horses). Volunteers are needed to support this event. Please book children's tickets and send offers of help by email to the Clerk at [adderburypc@hotmail.com](mailto:adderburypc@hotmail.com)

### **Planning**

The Council has considered a large number of planning applications throughout the year including the appeal for 40 houses on the Berry Hill road.

The Parish Council has also made representation on the Cherwell Local Plan consultation so far, the Northamptonshire County Council's Local Plan (for where it affects Adderbury) and OCC's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

The PC will continue to comment on any further consultations on behalf of residents including the next stage of Cherwell's Local Plan which has been delayed until this summer.

### **Adderbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANP)**

The PC is also beginning to consider how the Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan will need to be revised to take account of CDC's new Local Plan.

Cherwell District Council (CDC) are currently reviewing their Local Development Plan (LDP). This has been delayed, with the draft expected to be published early in the summer. Cherwell's Plan will have direct implications for our village, particularly in the context of potential new housing allocations. The PC has set up a new working group with the aim of updating the Adderbury Neighbourhood Development Plan 2018 (NDP) and to improve liaison with CDC. The NDP is an important document which has a significant role as part of the Planning process.

The PC are looking for 3 or 4 residents to join the working group - ideally, but not essentially, anyone who has some relevant experience. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk at [adderburypc@hotmail.com](mailto:adderburypc@hotmail.com)

Finally, I wish to thank the Clerk and all councillors, including our District and OCC members, for their time and efforts over this past year in working to support the Adderbury community.

Diane Bratt, Chairman Adderbury Parish Council.  
April 2023