

What your Parish Council does

Everything the council does is laid down in law and it is part of the clerk's role to ensure the council stays within the law. There are some things the council must do but there are many things they may do. The council makes decisions at public meetings, where councillors are expected to discuss and vote on topics stated on the agenda. Members of the public are welcome to attend any of these meetings and are given an opportunity to speak.

Your council is responsible for 4 allotment sites, play areas at The Meadows, Common and Village Hall, numerous bins and benches around the village, SAM2 sign, bus shelters, Charlie's phone box, Orchard Park and more. All of this is managed by a mixture of contractors and volunteers. If you would like to find out more or become involved, please contact the clerk.

Precept



In January the Parish Council agreed their budget and precept for 2025/26. The precept is the amount of money the Parish Council receive from residents through the council tax bill and is set at £135,275 for 2025/26. This will see band D properties increasing to £99.83 per annum, an increase of £35.52. See our website for more information or contact the clerk.

Meadows play area

The Parish Council has earmarked £40,000 towards the play area at The Meadows and is hoping to get grants for a further £40,000. Following a small public consultation, they are seeking quotes for new play equipment, including a pump track.

Allotments

The water supply to all allotment sites has been switched off for the winter. This helps protect the pipes from damage caused by freezing water and allows us time to check and carry out any necessary repairs.

We currently have plots available at Long Lane and The Swamp. Half plots cost £32.50 and full plots £65 per year. If you are interested in taking on a plot at Long Lane or The Swamp or would like to join the waiting list for The Meadows or Oakley Park South, contact the clerk.



Goodbye

In January we said goodbye to Adam Banham, who has stepped down as Chair and Parish Councillor. Adam joined the Parish Council in 2016 and has worked hard to deliver the best for the residents. He will be greatly missed, and we wish him all the best for the future.

*** We need you ***



We have space for 11 Parish Councillors, but at the time of writing we have just 4. This is the minimum number we need to legally vote on matters and has resulted in the January meeting being postponed and decisions being deferred.

We can be involved in a wide variety of issues from planning, open spaces, supporting local groups, helping deliver better facilities. If this is something you are interested in why not contact us to find out more?

Parish Councillors are volunteers who want to deliver for our residents. Their role is flexible

but they are required to attend our monthly meetings. If you would like to find out more about the role, please contact the clerk or one of your councillors.