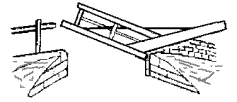




Shipton-on-Cherwell & Thrupp Parish Council

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Chair's Report – Annual Meeting

Shipton-on-Cherwell & Thrupp Parish Council

It has been another positive and productive year for Shipton-on-Cherwell & Thrupp Parish Council, with several important projects and improvements completed across the parish.

During the year, new planters were installed on Thrupp Green, helping to enhance the appearance of the area for residents and visitors alike. New posts were also installed along Canal Road, and the speed camera initiative at Bunkers Hill has provided the Council with some very useful data and encouraging results regarding traffic speeds and road safety.

Unfortunately, during the year the Parish Council received two resignations from Councillors, one representing Shipton and one representing Thrupp. On behalf of the Council, I would like to place on record our sincere thanks for all the hard work, commitment, and support they gave to the Parish Council and local community during their time in office.

Following this, the Council was pleased to co-opt Ms Sam Dawson onto the Parish Council, and we warmly welcome her to the team.

Looking ahead, Parish Council elections will take place in June. If any residents are interested in becoming involved in local government and helping shape the future of the parish, please contact the Clerk, who will be able to advise on the process and the steps required to stand for election.

From a planning perspective, there has been relatively limited movement this year. One significant application relating to land behind The Moors, which could have had an impact on the parish, was not approved. At this stage, we are unsure whether this application will proceed to appeal.

The quarry operations continue, and the Parish Council remains in regular contact with Earthline, who have continued to keep the Council updated on developments and activities at the site.

Another planning application currently emerging relates to the Blenheim Estate. The Parish Council has already begun discussions with representatives involved and hopes to arrange further meetings and presentations for both Councillors and residents as the proposals develop.

There continues to be significant development activity across neighbouring parishes, including Yarnton, Begbroke, Gosford & Water Eaton. As a result, these councils, alongside Shipton-on-Cherwell & Thrupp Parish Council, are now working together through the newly formed Area Oversight Group. This group has been established to discuss how Section 106 funding should be allocated and to ensure that developments across the area complement each other, rather than duplicating facilities while other important infrastructure is missed. Councillor Nigel Simpson is representing Shipton-on-Cherwell & Thrupp Parish Council within this group.

Flooding continues to be an ongoing concern for the parish and remains a standing priority for the Council. We have continued to work closely with Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council to

ensure that we are kept fully updated on flood prevention measures, drainage matters, and any future works affecting the parish.

Local Government Reorganisation has also become an important topic over the past year and is something many residents may have seen discussed across the media. At present, the proposed changes are expected to come into effect in 2028. However, there is still limited information available regarding exactly how this will affect parish and town councils. It is clear that these changes are likely to place additional responsibilities on local councils going forward, but at this stage, the full implications remain uncertain.

Finally, I would like to thank all Parish Councillors, Clerk, volunteers, and residents who continue to support the work of the Parish Council throughout the year. Your continued involvement and commitment to the community are greatly appreciated.

We look forward to continuing to work positively on behalf of the parish over the coming year.