



# Bishop's Waltham

## Forward Plan 2014 - 2018

**Bishop's Waltham Parish Council is responsible for improving the local community and represents the whole electorate within the parish. It delivers services to meet local needs and strives to improve the quality of life for its residents.**

The Parish Council has the powers to spend money on community transport, traffic calming, crime prevention, youth projects, tourism activities, leisure facilities, community centres, car parks, recreation grounds, entertainment, street furniture, street cleaning, allotments, bus shelters and land. It comments on planning applications and can be represented at public inquiries. It is likely to be granted more powers to negotiate with the local principal authorities and take on additional responsibilities.

### Sustainable Community Strategy

Winchester City Council has four Strategic objectives:

- ACTIVE COMMUNITIES
- HIGH QUALITY ENVIRONMENT
- PROSPEROUS ECONOMY
- EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

The Parish Council resolved to structure its own Forward Plan according to these Objectives. The content, however, was to come entirely from the local community.

### The Forward Plan

This document describes how the Plan was evolved, the list of Actions for the next 4 years, and how other organisations and individuals can help.

### The Actions

The Parish Council has spent much time and effort over the past years engaging with local residents to find out what the community wants. The Forward Plan contains a list of Actions derived from many sources including surveys of the community, feedback from residents and comments on the Development Plan.

### Working with Other Groups

There are a number of partners who will work with the Parish Council to progress the Actions. They include:

Age Concern	North Pond Group
Chamber of Trade	Other Parishes
Development Plan SG	Police
English Heritage	Town Team
Hampshire County Council	Winchester City Council

These partners are abbreviated in the Plan overleaf.

### Engagement with Local Residents

The Parish Council is committed to:

- listening to concerns and suggestions, and providing feedback
- ensuring that actions reflect the community's requirements
- looking to the public for advice, innovations and assistance

In particular, the Parish Council will welcome direct involvement from committed residents in progressing some of the Actions.

**Anyone wishing to help should contact the Parish Council Clerk on 01489 892323 or [parishclerk@bishopswalthamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@bishopswalthamparishcouncil.co.uk)**

## The Plan

This is the List of Actions to be progressed over the next 4 years, showing the responsible Parish Council Committee and, where relevant, the Partners. The Actions are grouped within the Objectives of Winchester City Council's Sustainable Community Strategy.

The responsible Committees will review the Forward Plan at each of their meetings and will manage the Actions by allocating the resources to ensure completion within a scheduled timeframe. Each year, the Parish Council will review the progress of the complete Forward Plan.

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES	PARTNER	COMMITTEE
Following publication, review annually the progress and development of the WCC Local Plan Part 2	WCC	PC
Implement communication strategy to expand communication with people and groups not currently well reached and review success of strategy		CD
Support Village Agent in communicating with the elderly	Age Concern	CD
Encourage greater participation with the young in the community		CD
Support community events and activities		CD
Monitor HCC's High Speed Broadband rollout, ensuring it meets future community and business needs		PE&H
Broaden Town Centre and Community Buildings WiFi 'hot spots'		H&G/CD
Support the sustainable funding for lunch clubs	WCC/HCC	CD
Increase facilities and services for young people		H&G/CD
Increase evening entertainment opportunities		H&G/CD
Effect the provision of indoor sports facilities		H&G/CD
Ensure sufficient provision of dental/GP/Hospice facilities and services in Bishop's Waltham		PC
Ensure buoyant library facilities for growing population	HCC	PC
Plan for Community Halls to incorporate wider range of services		H&G/CD

HIGH QUALITY ENVIRONMENT	PARTNER	COMMITTEE
Investigate renewable energy supply for PC buildings		H&G
Evaluate opportunities for community renewable energy scheme		
Put the case to HCC for additional recycling	HCC	PE&H
Update the PC information on public and community transport		CD
Support and promote Bishop's Waltham as a Transport Hub for surrounding villages and communities		CD
Promote Community Speed Watch and expand facilities	Police Parishes	PE&H

Review future traffic management in town centre		PE&H
Introduce more long and short term car parking to meet future requirements		PE&H/H&G
Lobby HCC to introduce cycle routes around the Town		CD
Facilitate initiatives to create a cycle route to Swanmore College		CD
Manage the project to create a multi-use recreational trail to Botley along the old railway route	Parishes	CD
Recommend to HCC specific improvements to pavements in the Town Centre for ease of use by wheelchairs and push chairs	HCC	PE&H
Propose and manage improvement to the image of the Town Centre approaches and lobby HCC & WCC	HCC & WCC	PC
Introduce more children's playgrounds and informal open space		H&G
Support further development of the North Pond	N Pond Group	PE&H

PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	PARTNER	COMMITTEE
Provide parking for coaches		PE&H
Consider and recommend any proposals for Town Centre Signage		PE&H
Review opportunities of securing Palace Grounds maintenance contract ahead of cessation date of English Heritage's current agreement	English Heritage	CD
Promote the development of overnight accommodation		PE&H/CD
Respond to requests for support from local interest groups to achieve the following objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote Bishop's Waltham as a "great place to do business"</li> <li>Encourage people from surrounding villages to use facilities in Bishop's Waltham</li> <li>Attract and grow visitor numbers to Bishop's Waltham</li> <li>Engage Tour/Coach operators to create opportunities for Bishop's Waltham to become a destination or stopping place on Tours</li> <li>Engage English Heritage to promote greater use of Palace facilities</li> <li>Enhance 'Kerb-Side' appeal by encouraging businesses to heighten attractiveness of the shopping areas</li> <li>Improve visitor information and maps</li> </ul>	Town Team Chamber of Trade	CD

EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY	PARTNER	COMMITTEE
Conduct an internal review against the 10 tests for Quality Status		FP&R
Review Corporate Plan and coordinate with Forward Plan		FP&R
Further the concept of Shared Services with other local Parishes		FP&R
Promote the expansion of employment opportunities in Bishop's Waltham		PC
Increase use of volunteers working with the PC		PC

## The Parish Council and its Committees

There are 14 Parish Councillors who are elected every four years. They are unpaid and are governed by a mandatory code of conduct which includes obligations to act in an appropriate way.

Councillors have three main components to their work:

- **Decision making** on money spent, services delivered and policies implemented
- **Monitoring** the efficiency and effectiveness of services
- **Getting involved locally** in meeting the wider community and involving local organisations

There are a number of committees, those responsible for the Forward Plan being:

- **Finance, Policy and Resources:** Oversees the financial, manpower and land resources of the Council.
- **Planning, Environment and Highways:** Advises the Council on all action required to be taken with local planning, highway and associated authorities on matters relating to local and district highways, road safety and similar matters affecting the parish.
- **Halls and Grounds:** Manages the recreation grounds, public open space, allotments, amenity land and buildings owned by the Council.
- **Community Development:** Promotes Bishop's Waltham, its businesses and facilities.

## Getting Heard

If you would like to express your opinion, get your voice heard or submit some additional requests for local action, you can do these in a number of ways:

- Attend a Parish Council or committee meeting which are held on Tuesday evenings in the Jubilee Hall; time is always allocated for a public session. The dates are available on the Parish Council web site, [www.bishopswalthamparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.bishopswalthamparishcouncil.co.uk)
- Speak to the Parish Council Clerk in the Jubilee Hall office which is open Mon to Fri 10 am – 2 pm
- Phone: 01489 892323 or email: [parishclerk@bishopswalthamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@bishopswalthamparishcouncil.co.uk)
- Attend one of the regular Parish Council 'surgeries'

News about Parish Council activities is available via its website, including copies of meeting agendas and minutes, and the Parish Council's Quarterly Parish Matters publication. There is also a Twitter feed, notice boards and regular articles in the Parish News Magazine.

## Getting Involved

If you can assist in accelerating any of the Actions in the Forward Plan you have the opportunity do so. The Parish Council can accept non-councillors on its committees or its working groups.

If you have an interest in any of the subjects, some background experience or the requisite skills to progress the action, please contact the Parish Council Clerk to offer your services!

## Conclusion

This Forward Plan is a set of Actions evolved entirely from what the residents of Bishop's Waltham have said they want. The Parish Council is committed to delivering results and wishes to involve partner organisations and committed individuals.

**Together we can work for Bishop's Waltham**

