



BISHOP'S WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN REVIEW SEPTEMBER 2023

The Parish Council's Forward Plan, drawn up in 2018 in consultation with residents and outlined for action during 2019-2023, has now reached its maturity.

The summary following outlines the outcomes achieved and some projects to carry forward to the new plan for 2024-2028.

A new survey of residents will be held in September 2023 to gather comments and ideas for inclusion in the next Forward Plan.

Vision Statement

“To sustain Bishop’s Waltham as an attractive and prosperous place in which to live and work, and to enhance quality and affordable services to meet the needs and aspirations of the local community.”

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.

Parish Council Executive Officer

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Forward Plan 2019-2023 Project list

These projects have been reviewed by each Parish Council Committee and this is a summary of outcomes noted.

Managing Sustainable Development

Recommend traffic management solutions to mitigate impact of developments.

The Planning and Highways Committee monitor applications when received and duly consider such. They have, and continue to, consider the cumulative impact of developments on Bishop's Waltham and signpost concerns to Winchester City Council and Hampshire Highways.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/developers>

Information for highways developers

Hampshire County Council considers the transport implications of major planning applications across the county

Encourage appropriate development of the Malt Lane site

Support given for proposal, after many designs presented, and planning permission received. Fostered working relationship with developer to ensure design statement adhered to and aspects of community benefit included i.e. pavement designs, bus shelter improvement. As of March 2023, hoarding in place, awaiting first stages of development.



Implement and review Winchester City Council Local Plans

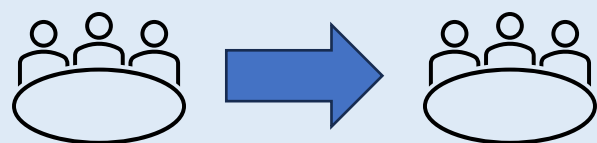
Awaiting details of Local Plan review from WCC. Offered three sites for consideration, based on previous community consultation and public consultation in November 2022.



<https://www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk/>

Liaise with Planning Authorities on planning applications

The Planning and Highways Committee meet monthly to consider applications.



Supporting the Local Economy

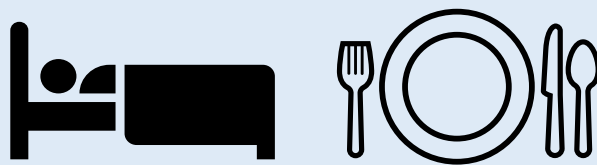
Compile a traffic management plan for town centre

This has been a focus for many years for the Planning and Highways Committee. A survey was carried and results collated in May 2021. Recommendations considered by Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council. Traffic management proposals publicised in 2022 and new lines in place on High Street, Ridgemedede estate and the junction of Winchester Road and The Avenue in 2023.



Encourage provision of additional bed and breakfast accommodation

Applications supported by the Planning and Highways Committee when they arise. Noted that the majority of those considered are within the South Downs National Park.



Identify and lobby for local business sites

This is being considered under the new Local Plan. The Lower Lane Depot has opened within the time period and offered units for rent.



Improving Travel and Parking

Provide additional car parking spaces.

Additional car parking spaces provided at the Jubilee Hall 2019-2020.

Planning application made to extend Priory Park overflow car park and granted in 2023. Works due late 2023/early 2024.

Provide and promote cycling within Bishop's Waltham Parish

Website links to leaflets on cycling routes

Cycle racks located around town centre and at community buildings.

Propose and manage improvement to the town centre approaches.

The agreed Accessibility Plan is awaiting implementation by Hampshire County Council. Funding was approved in August 2022.

Promote reporting schemes for Highways maintenance.

Schemes regularly publicised on website, newsletters and social media.

Lobby for additional pedestrian crossing points

Update requested from Hampshire County Council as crossing requested as part of the Abbey Mill development application.

Support the provision of a cycling path on town approaches

Southern Footpath/cycleway project underway and progressing 2022/2023 to link the estates from Bishop's Meadow to facilities southward to the town centre.

Revived project to create a cycleway from Bishop's Waltham to Swanmore 2022/23. A joint project with Swanmore Parish Council.



BISHOPS WALTHAM

Town Centre Accessibility Improvements

Feasibility Report



Civil Engineering and Landscape Team

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/>

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/apply>



Improving the Parish

Clear litter outside town centre

Parish Lengthsman duties with bi-annual litter picks organised by the Parish Council in Spring and Autumn.

Links with 'The Litter Partnership' established and relationship fostered.

Provide more public seating

Picnic benches placed in three areas. Frequent requests for memorial benches considered.

Take over grass cutting management

Winchester City Council have confirmed their responsibility for this service.

Promote Community Speedwatch and the use of speed indicator devices

The scheme was encouraged and planned but not enough take up of volunteers achieved to action. Speed Indicator Devices in place and reports regularly submitted to Police and Hampshire Highways. Additional device budgeted for in 2023/24.

Replace bus shelter in St George's Square

Ongoing talks with the Developer of Malt Lane site regarding this matter. Budgeted for two new bus shelters in 2023/24.

Ensure the provision of speed gates on all approach roads to Bishop's Waltham

Provision made at Winchester Road and Coppice Hill with assistance of Bargate and Hampshire Highways.

Encourage improvements in the appearance of all buildings

Ongoing. Regular discussions with central town centre building owner.



Support additional tree planting

Much tree planting undertaken for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Jubilee Hall, Priory Park, Priory Meadow, Hoe Road Recreation Ground).

Orchard and Native Trees planted on Parish Council land at Langton Road and Morley Drive.



Support additional flower planting

The Parish Council supports Bishop's Waltham in Bloom who co-ordinate the flower planters and flower beds in and around the town.



Lobby for additional/ extended pavements

The Accessibility Plan covers this aspect. Recommendations made in 2019 and this project is finally due to be actioned in 2023.

Bishop's Waltham Parish Council
Accessibility Report

This Report was compiled by members of Bishop's Waltham Parish Council. It builds upon the Report by Havant Borough Council, commissioned by Hampshire County Council to investigate local transport challenges within Bishop's Waltham town centre and approaches.

This Report focusses upon the ease of access to the town centre for pedestrians coming from the main residential areas. There were 6 main routes considered. In addition, the ease of access along the length of the High Street and in the area around the Basingwell Street Car Park were reviewed. The areas studied were:

A. From Colville Drive
B. From Langton Road
C. From Free Street
D. From Shore Lane
E. From Station roundabout to St. George's Square
F. From Botley Road Junction to St. George's Square
Basingwell Car Park area
Along High Street (lower)
Along High Street (upper)

The findings from the 9 areas studied are at Appendix A, with a summary map illustrating the locations at Appendix B. The total cost is £400,000 which far exceeds the £240,000 available in the budget from developer contributions.

The priority is to improve accessibility, the relevant costs being indicated in **bold**. The remaining findings concerned with appearance, rather than safety, have a total cost of £160,000. Thus, the priority findings could be funded through the £240,000 available.

Recommendation

Bishop's Waltham Parish Council recommends the delivery of the schemes which will improve accessibility and safety identified as a priority in the Detailed Findings of the Report, at a total cost of £240,000.

BW Accessibility Report (v20).docx

BISHOPS WALTHAM

Town Centre Accessibility Improvements

Feasibility Report

Civil Engineering and Landscape Team

Supporting Sports and Recreation

Provide additional play area facilities

Montague Road play area installed in 2023. Replacement skate park in Priory Park due in 2023/24. Enhanced play area at Albany Road planned in 2024.

Provide two additional tennis courts

No public demand at present. Provision to be considered when increased demand known and funding available.

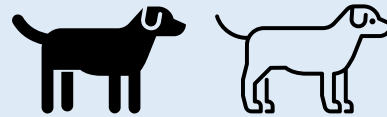


Provide a running/walking track

Walking track considered for Priory Park and Hoe Road Recreation Ground. Priority given to Southern Footpath/Cycleway project at present.

Provide a dog walking area

Designated dog walking areas at three play areas with access to shared green space at three other parklands.



Install a natural wood play area

Locations considered and for consideration when future play areas planned.

Install a MUGA

Location at Hoe Road Recreation Ground considered. Other priorities at present. Facilities Review ongoing. Noted that MUGA already installed at Priory Park.



Provide vehicle access to Priory Meadow

Considered but narrow trackway with no easy turning space

Provide a botanical park with staging

No demand or funding for this project. Other priorities during this time. For future consideration if appropriate.



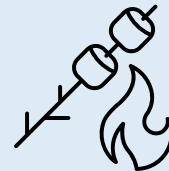
Consider the provision of a water play area

Considered but costs prohibitive as a project at this time. No regular public demand at present.



Provide a barbecue area

Considered. Options presented to Committee and surveyed by residents. Project abandoned due to concerns over safety and maintenance.



Provide a leisure centre for indoor sports / activities

Ongoing consideration within Facilities Review. No opportunity for a leisure centre at this time.

Provide a new play area in the Langton Road /Pondside area

In progress. Due for installation in 2023, pending drainage works.



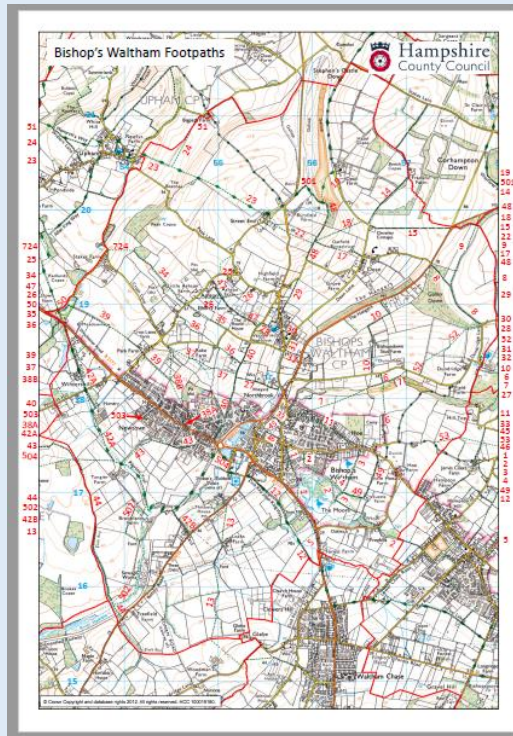
Replace safety surfaces in all play areas

Regular programme of maintenance and renewal in place.

Improve and develop public rights of way

Continually monitored by the Rights of Way Warden with the Planning and Highways Committee.

Projects such as Bishop’s Waltham to Botley bridleway project, Southern Footpath/Cycleway and Bishop’s Waltham to Swanmore cycleway all developing public rights of way and their accessibility.

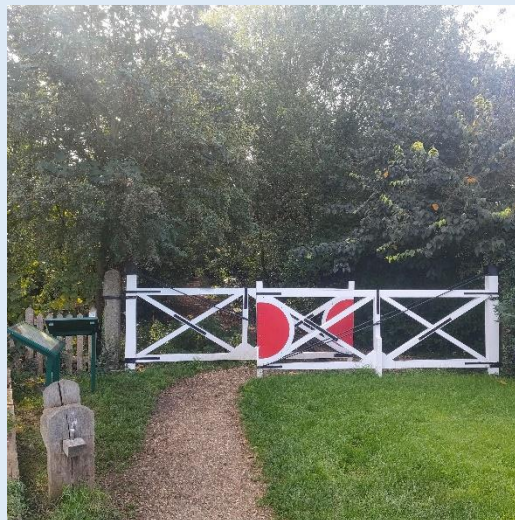


Extend railway path to parish boundary for walkers / cyclists

Railway path has a circular route from Station Roundabout to Priory Park which is popular with walkers and cyclists.

Participate in the Bishop’s Waltham to Botley bridleway project

Ongoing participation throughout 2022 which project revived.



Transfer South Pond into community ownership

Registered as a Community Asset. Discussions held within the Planning and Highways Committee in 2022/23 about owning such an asset.



Managing Community Buildings

Sustain the current facilities and consider the long-term future of Hoe Road pavilion

Current facilities sustained and maintenance continued.

Hoe Road Pavilion considered within the Facilities Review. No immediate plans to change building.



Upgrade the extension to the car park at Hoe Road Recreation ground

Priority given to Priory Park overflow car park during this time period.



Consider the extension of the estates building

Considered within the Facilities Review. No immediate plans to change building.



Provide additional car parking at Priory Park

Planning application submitted January 2023 for extension to overflow car park.



Continue the renovation of the Priory Park clubhouse

Ongoing maintenance. New boilers installed 2022. Considered within the Facilities Review.



Redesign the lower floor layout of the Jubilee Hall

Considered and noted that no changes required at this time. Considered within the Facilities Review.



Continue renovations of the Jubilee Hall

Ongoing maintenance. New automatic doors installed 2021. New windows installed 2022.



Increase facilities for young people

Noted as a very broad, unspecific project. Facilities available in town such as parks, youth shelter, MUGA, tennis courts, football pitches, cricket ground, halls for hire with facilities. Replacement skatepark due 2023.



Increase evening entertainment opportunities

Noted as a very broad, unspecific project. Council owned community buildings available for evening hire by community groups or individuals. Other venues in town also available for hire for community events.

Provide additional indoor sports facilities

Council owned community buildings provide opportunities for badminton, table tennis, fitness clubs. Other indoor sports considered when requested.



Plan to incorporate a wider range of interests

Noted as a very broad, unspecific project. The Council facilitates groups run within the town as 'Community Partnerships'. This has over 40 groups listed highlighting a wide range of interests and activities available to the community.

Investigate renewable energy supplies at Parish Council halls

This has been a key focus on the Council as environmental issues are forefront on many agendas. The council has declared a Climate Emergency and has investigated ways to use renewable energy supplies in the Council buildings such as solar panels and more efficient heating systems.

Providing Information and Advice

Publicise Bishop's Waltham outside the parish to increase footfall

Ongoing. Ensured leaflets are in Tourism Information Centres. Use of website and Social Media to advertise events. Articles submitted to Hampshire Chronicle about events and news.



Further improve Parish Council communications with the community

Ongoing. Quarterly newsletters to every household (and e-newsletter option available too), article in monthly Parish News magazine, website updates, social media posting and noticeboard posters. Monthly Councillors' Surgeries in the High Street and other locations.



Support Bishop's Waltham as a transport hub for surrounding communities

Ongoing. Minibus opportunities highlighted in newsletter. Lobbying of bus companies to ensure regular services. Cyclists welcomed to the town with cycle racks available.

Continue to improve the Parish Council website

Ongoing. Regular tests of ease of finding information and updating current news and events, as well as council factual information i.e. councillors information and policies.



Supporting Services for the Community

Support and encourage the expansion of the Bishop's Waltham Surgery

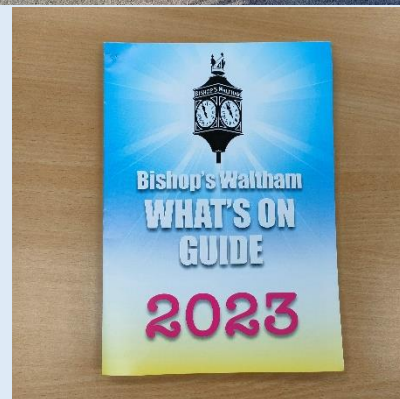
Ongoing. Regular talks held to support and encourage opportunities for expansion.

Support and encourage local events / attractions

Ongoing. Supporting by providing grants when requested. Encouraging with publicity and engagement.

Promote community transport services

Highlighting this service in newsletter or noticeboards. Providing information when requested.



Lobby to improve the provision of public transport services

Ongoing. Recent letters sent regarding improvements to bus services.

Lobby to improve mobile telephone and internet connectivity

Ongoing. Letters sent to providers but responses very broad brush.

Lobby to retain and provide additional public services

Ongoing. Recent letters sent to encourage ATMs at our local supermarkets.

Striving for Parish Council Excellence

Consider providing a new community building

Ongoing.

Maintain Parish Council quality council status

Quality status not available through 2021-23.
Consider reapplying in 2023/24.

Consider the status of the Parish Council

Ongoing. Regular positive postings of progress and actions completed. Regular involvement of residents in council projects or proposed projects. Councillors signed a Civility and Respect Pledge in 2021.



IN COLLABORATION WITH SLCC, NALC, OVW, COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

