

Bishop's Waltham *Matters*

Mar 23
Issue 61

Welcome

2023 and we are getting ready for elections of Parish Councillors in May. Elections to Parish Councils are held every four years, to coincide with ward elections to the City Council. At the moment we have a good mix of long serving, experienced councillors as well as new enthusiastic councillors, which make an active, lively, hard-working group.

As usual at this time of the year, your councillors have been busy setting financial budgets for 2023-24. Despite ever increasing costs, the council have been able to ensure that these increases have been kept to a minimum for Council Tax payers.

Projects are gradually coming to fruition; the play areas at Montague Road, the replacement Skate Park and the overflow car park at Priory Park. At last we can also see the beginnings of the cycle/footpath going from Bishop's Meadow all the way to the old Railway line and onwards to the High Street.

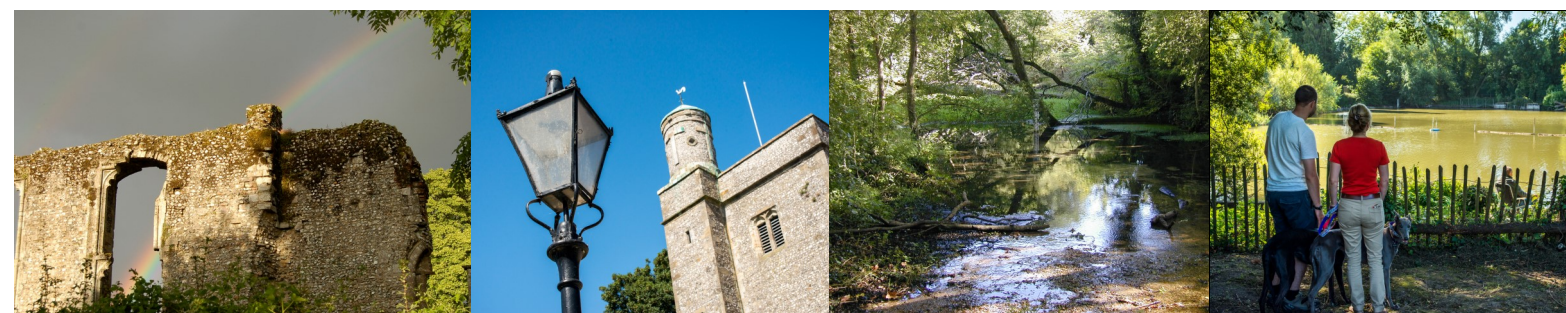
Chairman - Judy Marsh



Look out for our Summer edition of Bishop's Waltham Matters in June 2023



You can sign up to our electronic newsletter by clicking the link from the front page of our website www.bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk



This newsletter is brought to you by Bishop's Waltham Parish Council
Get updates as they happen
Join us on Social Media



Bishops Waltham Parish Council



@BWCouncil



bishopswalthamparishcouncil



Election Focus



These 14 Councillors make up Bishop's Waltham Parish Council and work as volunteers to uphold the Council's mission statement: to deliver services to meet local needs and to improve the quality of life in the parish

These positions are up for democratic election every four years, the next being on Thursday 4th May 2023. In early April a notice of election will be published and nominations invited.

Who do you want to represent Bishop's Waltham and work for Bishop's Waltham residents?

Use your 14 votes on Thursday 4th May for the candidates who put themselves forward. Are you interested in standing for election? For more information, please contact the Executive Officer, Mrs Emma McKenzie on 01489 892323 or parishclerk@bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Elections are managed entirely by Winchester City Council (our district authority). More information can be found on www.winchester.gov.uk/elections

Please be aware that you now need photo ID to vote at a polling station - a list of acceptable forms of photo ID can be found at www.winchester.gov.uk/elections/voter-id

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

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.

The Parish Council 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.

Councillors have three main components to their work:-

Decision making

Where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented

Monitoring

The efficiency and effectiveness of services and keeping an eye on how well things are working

Getting involved locally

Meetings with individual residents or the wider community, taking up public issues and involvement in local organisations

For your 2023 Diary



<p>Annual Meeting of the Parish</p> <p>Wednesday 29th March 2023</p> <p>The Jubilee Hall</p> <p>Doors open at 6.30pm for 7pm start</p>	<p>Clean up Bishop's Waltham</p> <p>Saturday 18th March 2023</p> <p>Meet outside the Jubilee Hall</p> <p>10am start</p>	<p>Parish Council Elections/Winchester City Council Elections</p> <p>Thursday 4th May</p> <p>The Jubilee Hall & Green's Close</p>	<p>The Coronation of His Majesty The King Event</p> <p>Sunday 7th May</p> <p>Time and location to be confirmed</p>
---	--	--	---

Youth Council

The members of the Community & Environment Committee are considering the possibility of setting up a Youth Council.

The Parish Council recognises the importance of working with young people and the need to help empower them by their participation in local democracy and decision making.

If you are interested in finding out more about a Bishop's Waltham Youth Council, please email the Parish Council admin@bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk



Parish Council Budget Setting and Precept

Every year in January, Bishop's Waltham Parish Council agrees its budget and sets its 'precept' for the forthcoming year at a meeting of the Full Council.

The precept is the Council Tax which is raised and spent by Winchester City Council to fund the services it provides.

Bishop's Waltham Parish Council does not receive funding from Central Government, nor does it receive any rates from local businesses. For 2022/23, the precept is £532,213, with £178.80 per Band D property.

The increased precept results in a 42p per month increase per household.

<u>Financial Comparisons (£'s)</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>Change</u>
Revenue Expenditure	565,522	590,741	(4.5%)
Revenue Income	103,667	101,528	(-2.1%)
Net Revenue Costs	<u>461,855</u>	<u>489,213</u>	<u>5.9%</u>
Net Capital Expenditures	507,457	730,807	44%
CIL / Reserves Funding	464,057	687,807	48.2%
Net Capital Costs	<u>43,400</u>	<u>43,000</u>	<u>0.9%</u>
Total Net Precept Requirement	<u>505,255</u>	<u>532,213</u>	<u>5.3%</u>
WCC—BW Tax Base	2907.16	2976.56	2.39%
Council Tax (per household)	173.80	178.80	2.9%

It is important to emphasise that these figures relate to the Bishop's Waltham portion of your Council Tax charge only, and will be added to the Hampshire County and Winchester City Council's elements when calculating your total charge.

Spotlight on: Robert Thorne - Bishop's Waltham Parish Council Project Manager

Rob has been employed by the Council to tackle Parish Council projects, such as Priory Park Skate Park and Montague Road Play Park.

Skate Park

Rob has carried out local research on the local skate parks, looking at the variety of design and construction. After site visits and meetings with the working group and planning representatives, invitations to tender have been advertised for the design and build.

Montague Road Play Park

The transfer of the green space at Montague Road to the Parish Council was completed in 2022. Since joining the team, Rob has been working on the project to install the planned play areas. Rob has been liaising with the supplier and refining the selection of equipment with a working group. He is in the process of obtaining a drainage plan for the land, which can become very wet during the winter months. Groundworks are planned to commence this year, with the drainage work being undertaken before the installation of the play park.

New Play Equipment

Rob has also been working on a replacement for the roundabout that was removed from the Churchill Avenue play area. The options were considered by the Halls and Grounds Committee in their meeting in January, and we hope that this new equipment will be installed in due course.



Contact Us

For all enquiries relating to Parish Council matters or facilities, please use the following details:-

Address: Parish Council Office
The Jubilee Hall
Little Shore Lane
Bishop's Waltham
SO32 1ED

Telephone: 01489 892323

Email: parishclerk@bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk

Web: www.bishopswaltham-pc.gov.uk

The Parish Council Office is open to the public
Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 2pm
(at any other time by appointment only).

Council and Committee Meeting Dates

(7pm at The Jubilee Hall unless otherwise stated)

March 2023

7th Finance, Policy & Resources Committee
14th Parish Council
21st Halls & Grounds Committee
27th Community & Environment Committee
28th Planning & Highways Committee

April 2023

4th Finance, Policy & Resources Committee
11th Parish Council (Annual Meeting of the Council)
18th Halls & Grounds Committee
24th Community & Environment Committee
25th Planning & Highways Committee

May 2023

2nd Finance, Policy & Resources Committee
16th Parish Council
23rd Halls & Grounds Committee
30th Community & Environment Committee (6pm)
30th Planning & Highways Committee