



4-Year Village Plan 2020-2024

Introduction

This plan takes into account suggestions and observations that have been raised in the community and in the 2019 village survey. It will take a practical overview of all activities within the community and focus on measures required to coordinate and maintain the safe, secure and happy evolution of the full spectrum of life in the community. The 4-Year Plan will be a “living” document that will contain a comprehensive set of information on all Parish Council facilities and utilities for easy reference. This document will be available from the Parish Clerk and on the Parish Website.

Aim

To produce a practical, affordable and achievable Waddesdon Parish 4 Year Plan.

Focus

The plan will focus on the following major areas:

- Parish Communications
- Communal Activities
- Sports & Recreational Facilities (promoting healthy living)
- Environment & Climate Change impact on the community
- Devolved Services
- Future Development Plans



Parish Communications

A major priority is to improve the flow of information within the community. The Parish Council website has been up and running since 2017 and is a very comprehensive, inclusive and up to date. We use Facebook and Twitter to inform the community of relevant events and issues in the area. Noticeboards are located by the chip shop and playpark. Care is taken to keep all these systems prominent, current and easy to use for the passage of information both to and from the community.

Action:

- Regular drop-in sessions to be scheduled throughout 2021
- Website accessibility is currently being tested and pages/documents will be updated accordingly

Communal Activities

Community Centre

The Community Centre will be used as a parish office, for PC monthly meetings, by Health Visitor and various other organisations. The Centre is now available for bookings.

The car park provides 24 car parking spaces. In 2018 an extension to the car park was made providing a further 8 spaces.

Action:

- Ensure that there is good support for on-going activities and community use for a wide range of entertainment and activities.
- Enable good up-keep and sufficient staffing support
- Improve provision of car parking for larger attendance / enforce use (barrier erected to car park extension to ensure spaces for hirers end 2020)
- Improve storage facilities for village assets
- Improve visual appeal

Churchyard & Cemetery

Following an Order in Council in 1996 the Parish Council became the Burial Authority for Waddesdon. It owns the cemetery to the north of the churchyard and is responsible for the Maintenance of the churchyard, its paths and its boundaries. A Remembrance bench was purchased in 2020.

Action

- Agreement to purchase 1 acre of land from Oxford Diocese to extend the cemetery –2020/21
- Headstone safety test to be done ASAP
- Maintain regular risk inspection

Sports & Recreational Facilities

Playpark & Recreational Field

The playpark and field remain a central focus for recreation. The land was donated to the village by Mr James de Rothschild to mark his silver wedding in 1939 together and is to be used for recreational purposes only. The area was refurbished in 2010 and now consists of a skateboard park, MUGA, children's playground, BMX track and a large area of grass. Cycle racks and extra seating have since been provided. Adult outdoor gym equipment was provided in 2020.

Action

- Maintain weekly visual inspections
- Continue to improve the playpark and include disabled play equipment
- Continue the footpath around the edge of the field to Silk Street
- Create a pond/ nature area

Football Field & Pavilion

The football pitch is well maintained and regularly used. The pavilion has 2 changing rooms with shower and toilet facilities.

Action

- Trees to be planted along bund behind goal (completed Autumn 2020)
- Maintain the football pavilion in good order and fit for purpose
- Plant a Community Orchard (see Vision Plan)
- Establish a Trim-Trail around the football field (see Vision Plan)

Allotment Gardens & Paddocks

Allotment gardens of various sizes and paddocks are provided off Quainton Road. Most are let and well maintained.

Action

- Maintain regular risk inspection
- The fence between allotment gardens and paddocks needs repair as it is leaning over plots
- Long-term plan to renovate this area (see Vision Plan)

Overall aim: to promote healthy living by providing various means of achieving this.

Environment & Climate Change

(Also see separate policy)

Street Lighting

The Parish Council provides street lighting to all parts of the village apart from the A41. The majority were upgraded to LED in 2019 and are under a 5-year warranty. Electricity is supplied by EON on an unmetered basis. This has significantly decreased light pollution and increased pedestrian safety.

Best Kept Village Competition

We are now entering this annually and need to encourage residents to help.

(NOTE: 2020 & 2021 competitions were cancelled)

Street Hygiene

Litter is collected from the streets and recreation ground on 3 mornings a week. Dog bins are provided throughout the village and emptied regularly by Buckinghamshire Council.

Action

- Promote environment initiatives eg reduce, reuse, recycle
- Work with Waddesdon Wombles on monthly litter picks
- Maintain strategically placed flower planters
- Use biodegradable bags in litter bins
- Check dog bins are in correct locations
- Produce map and leaflet addressing the walks, nature areas etc around the local area (2021-22)

Devolved Services

We have agreed to maintain the current devolved services agreement with Buckinghamshire Council for another 4 years from 2019. This includes: grass cutting, hedge cutting, siding out, rights of way clearance, weed killing, maintenance of street furniture (minor repairs & cleaning) and removal of fly posters.

Grass Cutting

The Recreation Ground, Frederick Street Football Ground, Cemetery, and land bordering the A41 at Goss Avenue, Sharp's Close, and Anstey Close are owned by this Council. The Churchyard and cemetery are our responsibility. Other areas are owned by Buckinghamshire Council and following devolution are maintained on their behalf by us. We have our own Groundsmen and grounds maintenance equipment. During the winter season the groundsmen are employed on other matters such as maintenance of shrubs and small trees, minor repairs etc. In snowy and icy conditions, they will distribute road salt on key areas of the village footways.

Hedge Cutting & Ditches

The hedges at Anstey Close, playing field, football field & allotments are cut annually by our groundsmen. The ditches are monitored annually and cleared when needed.

Roads & Footpaths

These are the responsibility of Bucks Council. The Parish Council does have powers to spend money on footpaths and has contributed to the resurfacing and repair of some.

The PC paid for the installation of 4 VAS signs in an attempt to reduce the speed of traffic.

A puffin crossing on the A41 at Goss Avenue/Sharps Close was completed in 2015.

An adequate number of roadside seats are provided throughout the village.

Action

- Equipment will need repairing/replacing over the next 4 years
- Maintain hedges at a reasonable height to ensure our equipment is adequate to use
- Improve traffic congestion, cyclist and pedestrian safety
- Address road traffic issues, including speeding. More use of sentinel – set up speed watch group
- Extend the 30mph speed restriction to the other side of Warmstone lay-by
- Take steps to improve the ease of passage and cleanliness of paths to all users (overgrowing foliage, horse droppings & dog waste)
- Investigate red road surface (30) at Quainton Road entrance
- Are VAS effective in current locations?
- Roadside seats will need painting
- Maintain clear and polite signage / clean signs & bollards (safety)

Future Development Plans

- Vision Plan – development of land to create more recreation opportunities (consultation undertaken. Phase I planned 2021-22)
- Update Neighbourhood Plan
- Improve car parking in the village centre (resident permit scheme?)
- Provide cycle racks
- Plan more tree planting in the village / creation of nature area(s) (2021-22)
- Raise the Council's profile in the village by:
 - Supporting village clubs and organisations
 - Supporting and promoting village businesses

We would be most grateful to hear of any other items that need addressing or if you have any suggestions and ideas that would help us to achieve our goals. More importantly we would welcome any help or support that you could offer to any of our activities.