

# Westbury Parish Council Action Plan

Adopted at its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018

UPDATED January 2024








*Westbury Parish Council constantly strives to work on behalf of parishioners on the issues that matter to the village.*

*We are always keen to receive ideas and suggestions from parishioners on particular areas of interest or concern and where it is felt the council may assist.*

*Listed below is our current schedule of activity; this will be regularly reviewed and updated as projects finish and priorities change.*

ACTION	OBJECTIVE	ACTION BY:	COMPLETE BY
<b>Ongoing</b>			
Maintain strict controls over expenditure	To ensure parishioners get value for their council tax payments	CK	ongoing
Encourage members of the public to attend council meetings	To bring issues of concern to the attention of councillors		ongoing
Monitor and respond to all planning applications received from Buckinghamshire Council (BC)	To note any issues especially regarding neighbouring properties and to liaise with BC as part of the planning process by either objecting, commenting or supporting an application.	ALL	ongoing
Continue to liaise with and put pressure on Buckinghamshire Council about road safety issues highlighted by residents and members of the Parish Council	To keep on top of road safety issues	GC & CK	ongoing
Continue to communicate openly with WVHA, WCSC, WPHC, WCC, Westbury village club, Westbury Church and Beachborough School	Transparency	ALL	ongoing
Encourage Members to attend recognised training opportunities	To support the clerk in the provision of a professional service	CK	ongoing
Continue to ensure that regular reports of the Council's activities are published on the web site and in the Link	To keep residents up-to-date and to fulfil audit transparency	CK	ongoing
Continue to provide newcomers to the parish with the availability of a Welcome Pack	To provide information about the village, the parish council, the local area and organisations	CK	ongoing
Village communications via village website/FB & village mailing list linking with WVHA, WCSC, WCC & BC	To keep everyone up-to-date with the latest news and events linking with other organisations	CK/KW	ongoing

Invite all village organisations and groups to the annual Parish Meeting (held in April)	To bring the local community together and give parishioners the opportunity to hear about various organisations	CK	ongoing
Keep village notice boards up to date	To provide information to parishioners who are unable to use the website	CK	ongoing
To keep the village looking clean and tidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote/encourage litter picks</li> <li>- promote the use of dog bins</li> <li>- keep the grounds maintenance tender up-to-date</li> <li>- report overgrown or inaccessible footpaths</li> </ul>	CK/JS	Ongoing
Tree management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- annual checks</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	RT	Ongoing
<b>BIODIVERSITY POLICY</b> Adopted February 2024	<b>OBJECTIVE/INFORMATION/ACTIONS</b> To raise local awareness of biodiversity	<b>ACTIONS</b> By/via	
GREEN SPACES	<p>To fulfil policy objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gain local support for action.</li> <li>• sympathetically maintain hedging to increase food sources and cover for wildlife.</li> <li>• Leave some areas unmown to encourage insects.</li> <li>• Encourage residents to adopt areas to look after.</li> <li>• Encourage residents to remove litter and pick up after their dogs.</li> </ul>	Clerk via Website, Facebook, Mailchimp	
The Built Landscape	<p>Consider the potential impact on biodiversity represented by planning applications.</p> <p>Ensure planning consultations are considered against the neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>Manage land and property using environmentally friendly practices that will promote biodiversity.</p> <p>Support local businesses and council operations in the adoption of low impact / nature positive practices.</p> <p>Encourage hedgehog/small animal highways.</p> <p>Ask residents for their views on what we can do to conserve biodiversity in the village.</p> <p>Raise awareness of the importance of creating gardens as habitats for wildlife.</p>	ongoing	

	Create a page on the website for photographs / information / links. Provide seed bombs / bulbs etc. for residents' use. Discourage floodlighting.		
<b>Special/one-off projects completed since 2018</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE/INFORMATION</b>	<b>ACTION BY:</b>	<b>COMPLETE BY</b>
Playpark refurb	To provide the infrastructure to develop a healthier and more connected community through the installation of well designed, inclusive and sustainable play equipment contained within a safer and more accessible environment. By using S106 funds from 09/00501/AOP - former Paf Ltd	JS/ CK	
Outside gym S106 funds confirmed	unable to find a suitable location, therefore funds will be kept to use for playpark when needed/or use for MUGA at village hall when tarmacked.		n/a
Playing field Road/Drive improvements  5mph signage added Dec 18	Because the footfall to the village hall has increased so much, we need to improve access. Grants have been successfully sought from Big Lottery/Viridor and donations from WVHA & WPHC Drainage problems 2020. Instructed Haynes to put in 2 x drainage systems. Work complete Jan 2022.	SB/CK	Aug 2018 
PC Notice Board on Main Street	Refurbished April 2020 along with playpark notice board	CK	 April 2020
Street lights - to perform electrical tests on all lamps - to update the four isolated lamps - to continue with the plan to update lamps	All tested in summer 2018. WPC agreed to replace 14 (min 7/19 & 41/19) Instructed Balfour Beatty March 19 to replace 14 asap. BB confirmed they will replace in June. Phase 3 & 4 agreed at Dec 2019 meeting. COMPLETE.	GC/JS	Complete July2020 
Improving the village Green/triangle/Tree Bank	Tree and circular bench in situ as at Dec 2019. Steps approved May19 and put in Dec 2019. Tommy figure added 2021.	CK/JS	
Identify all PC owned trees in the village and carry out a safety check	Survey carried out by Horizon Treecare Oct 2020. A small number of trees required attention – quote from Tree Solutions to prune T1 -Pissards plum and T14/T15 remove ivy at the base of two Sorbus – work carried out March 2021. Cllr Tredwell has taken over responsibility for Tree Management (Sept2021)	RT	 Now added to Ongoing list
Plant three trees for the Queen's Jubilee (Green Canopy) June 2022	1 x black poplar, 1 crab apple and one wild cherry added to the playing field (latter two donated by a resident through Woodlands Trust).	CK/JS/VW	

	3 x official plaques purchased and added. Complete April/May 2022		
Playpark – to repair/replace the playpark gate and replace the fencing. Funds from S106	NEW (soft closing) GATE INSTALLED MAY 2023. New fencing (three sides) installed Sept 2023.	GC/KW/JS	✓
Permissive path from behind village hall to Red Oak Lane	The permissive path has been fenced off. Investigate how we can re-open it. Meeting with all parties over summer 2023. This has now been resolved.	JS/PJ/JN/CK	✓
HS2 – community environmental funding + S106 funds from 17/02835/APP + match funding from WPHC	<p>March 2019 application submitted. – rejected April 19. New application submitted Nov 2019 successful. Awarded £40,574.00 – Conditions met Aug 2020.</p> <p>Historical trail booklets ✓ Historical trail notice board. Put up at VH ✓ Permanent gazebo – work completed June 2021 ✓ Tarmacking back/side village hall etc. Complete Oct 2023. ✓</p> <p><b>Added to application in Summer 2022</b> A further funding request was put forward in April 23 for solar panels which was successful. We have £26,447 HS2 funding secured + £5000 match funding from WPHC (this includes work to lower the treeline at the back of the village hall). Completed NOV 2023.</p>	<p>CK/JS CK/VW CK/JS/VW JS/RB JS JS</p> <p><b>PJ/JN/JS</b></p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>
To develop a programme of maintenance for the leylandii trees to the rear of the village hall	<p>Due to solar panels being fitted on VH roof, we needed to reduce height of trees to 3m at the tallest (from the road). We have HS2 funding of £4K. Work carried out Oct 2023.</p> <p><b>Need to keep in budget.</b></p>	PJ/JN/JS	✓
Speed Watch	<p>Community Speed Watch signage installed at entrances to village (funded by WPHC). Purchased our own kit (speed gun etc). 3 x volunteers trained as at Nov 2022.</p> <p>Cllr James Watson took over responsibility in May 23. Six volunteers (as at Sept 23). He and clerk are admins on speed watch website.</p>		✓
Safe Crossing A422 Brackley Road	<p>Applied to HS2 Road Safety Fund for pedestrian crossing and new VAS sign on A422 March 2021. BC carried out public consultation. Nov.22 no amendments needed for final design which has been approved.</p> <p><b>NEW PUFFIN CROSSING BEING INSTALLED NOV 2023. WILL BE COMPLETE BY 20.01.2024. Jan 24 all installed. Grand opening on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 24.</b></p>		✓



