

Hullavington Parish Council – looking ahead

A New Chapter for Our Village: Updates from the Parish Council

This summer has been a period of significant progress for our parish council, marked by a fantastic new appointment and key steps forward on projects that will shape the future of our village.

We begin with some most exciting news: the appointment of our new Parish Clerk, Dannielle Hemmings, who started with us on the 22nd of September. After a thorough and rigorous recruitment process, we are delighted to have found such a well-suited candidate. Dannielle deeply impressed the council with her strong understanding of the role and her excellent administrative skills. What truly stood out were her personal qualities—her curiosity and eagerness to learn. As a local resident, Dannielle is keen to serve her community, and we are confident she will be a great asset to our village.

To ensure a smooth transition, the council has been focused on providing Dannielle with the best possible support, including acquiring a new laptop, setting up her official .gov.uk email address, and formalising key HR policies. We know you will all join us in making her feel very welcome.

Charting Our Future: The Neighbourhood Development Plan

September saw a major milestone for our Neighbourhood Development Plan, with the team delivering a splendid presentation to the community in the village hall. It was fantastic to see such a great turnout and an incredibly engaged audience. The

team's hard work and excellent research were on full display, and the presentation was a clear success.

The group has been diligently engaging with landowners, and the council was thrilled to hear about some very positive opportunities for the future of our area. This project is a crucial step in ensuring our village's growth is shaped by the needs and desires of its residents. We will continue to provide updates as this vital work progresses. We are especially keen to engage with parishioners who didn't make it to this meeting and we will be organising a webinar to extend our reach.

Key Updates from the September Council Meeting

The council's September meeting covered a wide range of topics, reflecting the dedicated work being done behind the scenes.

Financial Health and Governance: Our financial position remains steady. Councillors reviewed the mid-year budget and were pleased to note significant savings across several areas. The council formally approved revisions to the budget, which now includes the recent Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money we received from new developments. Additionally, the updated Risk and Asset Registers were approved, ensuring our governance remains robust and transparent. For details of this and other topics covered, do go to the Parish Council website where the September papers including the budget are accessible.

Village Improvements: We are continuing to work on visible improvements to our village green, starting with our new picnic bench. The council will be approaching the Chippenham and Villages Area Board to fund a package of improvements, including

the fencing, ground levelling, and tree stump removal. We also formally accepted the new picnic table and bench as recompense for a previous issue with the supply of the non-wheelchair accessible bench.

Highways and Footpaths: Traffic calming remains a high priority following worries expressed by our community. The council will be consulting the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG) on both short-term and long-term measures. In other good news, the council has created a new document to record and plan for the maintenance of flood sites, moving to a more proactive approach to managing our local environment.

Projects and Assets: The council approved a new Biodiversity Policy, which will guide our actions to support local wildlife. A formal request has been made to obtain quotations for repointing the churchyard wall, a project that will be led by Cllrs Richard Anderson and Anthony Slater. This meeting also saw the formal approval of new areas of responsibility for councillors to ensure all village assets and issues are properly managed.

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who has offered support and contributed feedback. Your involvement is what makes our council's work so rewarding and effective.

Get Involved!

We encourage you to come to our next council meeting to see the work we do firsthand. Our meetings are open to the public, and you are welcome to attend and raise any points you may have during the public session. Please check the notice board and our website for the date and time of the next meeting.

Please don't hesitate to contact Dannielle,
clerk@hullavington.gov.uk with any topics that you would like to
raise between meetings.

Cllr Debbie Lawley, Chair of Hullavington Parish Council

*Please note: the above highlights from Council meetings are subject to formal approval
of the meeting minutes.*

