



Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 27 April 2023 at 7.30pm
Worship Hall, the Church
Bar Hill

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To welcome representative from Bar Hill Community Association – Jenni Foster-Smith
3. To receive presentation on proposed play equipment from Jenni Foster-Smith and an opportunity for members of the public and Councillors to ask questions
4. To welcome Local Council Officers
5. To answer questions on the Home Office use of the Bar Hill hotel to temporarily house asylum seekers
6. To welcome CEO of GP Cambs Network – Mark Wallington
7. To answer questions from residents and Councillors about Maple Surgery
8. To approve minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting of 28 April 2022
9. Matters arising from those minutes
10. To receive a report from the Chairman of Parish Council
11. To receive a report from the Environment and Amenities Committee Chairman
12. To receive a report from the Staffing Committee Chairman
13. To receive a report from the Finance and Policy Committee Chairman
14. To receive draft accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2023 (RFO)
15. To receive the Community Police Officer's Report (if any)
16. To receive short reports from representatives of Village Organisations
17. To receive the Reports from the County and District Councillors

All members of the public and press are welcome to attend these meetings



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Bar Hill

18. Any Other Parish Business

B Waters

B Waters - Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 17 April 2023



Bar Hill Parish Council
Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting
held at Worship Hall, The Church, Bar Hill
7.33 pm on Thursday 28 April 2022

Present: B Waters Chairman of Parish Council and District Councillor
S Jenkins Vice-Chair Parish Council
3 Councillors plus 35 members of the public/representatives of village groups

In Attendance: Bar Hill Parish Clerk and RFO

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chairman paid tribute to Roger Hall and all the work he had done for the village.

1. Apologies: Cllr G Tamulonis
Representatives from:
Police – PC Mani
Primary School – Charlotte Linden, Principal
Allotment Society
Health Walks
Bar Hill Library
NWR

2. Welcome representative from Stagecoach, David Boden

The chairman welcomed David Boden to the meeting and invited him to speak.

3. Presentation on the local bus service provided by Stagecoach from David Boden and an opportunity for members of the public and Councillors to ask questions.

An explanation of why changes to the bus services have happened was given. The main reason being the shortage of bus drivers. This shortage was due to many drivers moving on to become HGV drivers and high levels of sickness due to COVID. Stagecoach had to make a choice between putting out an unreliable and undeliverable timetable or make changes. Stagecoach wanted to keep the frequency of buses running from Bar Hill to 30 minutes, so the decision was made to merge the existing Number 6 and Number 5 buses into one service. They admitted that mistakes were made in the beginning and expressed apologies for the upset caused.

They are training new drivers and have 6 training buses in use for this purpose but need to be sure of staffing numbers before they can make any changes.

A potential new timetable has been drawn up and Stagecoach are looking for feedback from customers regarding this. It will include a fast-track service to Cambridge from Bar Hill every hour during peak times in the morning and afternoon/evening. If the response is positive, it will be implemented as soon as possible, likely the start of June 2022.

It was asked if the late bus would be coming back. There would be no late bus from Cambridge to Bar Hill as Stagecoach were not convinced there would be enough people using it to make it a viable option. If funding could be found to share the risk, it may be considered.

The meeting was informed that other services were affected by the driver shortage, and many have seen the frequency of services decrease.

It was asked whether there would be a bus service between Bar Hill and Northstowe. The Northstowe road has not yet been adopted (and won't be until 2025) which can be



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an issue for bus services, but Stagecoach is looking into bus services from Northstowe but not necessarily to Bar Hill.

A discussion was had regarding whether the bad service and bad timetabling was the reason for low passenger numbers or whether low passenger numbers were still due to COVID and people not wanting to use the bus. Until passenger numbers increase the frequency of buses from Bar Hill can't be increased.

It was asked that if the passenger numbers for the potential fast track hourly bus were high would the slower bus leaving between these services be cut, it was replied that no, this would not be the case and the slower bus would still run.

It was asked why the Sunday and Bank Holiday services, start late and end early. It was replied that is due to passenger numbers, and not something that Stagecoach can do anything about at the moment, but they will bear it in mind for the future when things are more prosperous.

6 members of the public left the meeting

4. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 29 April 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2021 had been circulated.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed Parish Councillor Sue Jenkins, seconded Mervyn Pope - Approved.

5. Matter arising

There were none.

6. To receive the report from the Chair of Parish Council

The Chairman's report was included in the pack. The Chairman introduced the new Clerk for the Parish Council, Lyndsey Copeman. The Chairman thanked Kate Flack (assistant to the clerk) and Malcolm Cox (RFO) for their hard work during the period when the Parish Council didn't have a clerk. There were no questions raised.

7. To receive the report from the Environment and Amenities Committee Chair

This report was included in the pack. There were no questions raised.

8. To receive draft accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2022 (RFO)

Accounts were included in the pack. There were no questions raised.

9. To receive the community police officers report (if any)

No report was submitted.

10. To receive short reports from representatives of village organisations

Reports from the following organisations were included in the pack:

Bar Hill Allotments
8 o'clock club
Bar Hill Church
Bar Hill Community Market
Bar Hill Community Hub
CraftShed
Skate Park Working Group



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Cricket Club
Bar Hill Short Mat Indoor Bowls
Happy Hours Club
Bar Hill Health Walks
Bar Hill Library
Bar Hill NWR
Maple Surgery PPG
Bar Hill Primary School
Bar Hill Scouts
Bar Hill Village Hall Management Committee
Girlguiding
Bar Hill Childminding Group

Representative from CraftShed informed the meeting that the group had been asked by the Scouts to leave the building, as the Scouts would need it back. They are looking for alternative accommodation and asked the meeting to contact them if they have any ideas on where they could meet in future. There are 17 members in total, and they welcome all to the group. They would like to thank the Scouts for their support over the past 2 years.

Representative from Maple Surgery Patient Participation group asked for questions, there were no questions raised.

Representative from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust asked for questions, there were no questions raised.

Representative from LGBTQ+ asked for questions, there were no questions raised.

Representative from Skate Park working group informed the meeting that a Skate Park working party has been set up and they had had two meetings so far. They plan to ask the village about the design via a Parish poll and they hope the village will support the Skate Park. They hope to have 3D models to show by the time of the Village fete in July 2022. There are 10-15 people attending the meetings including young people. They are looking at getting quotes for high, medium, and low-cost options but they are only at the design stage at present. The proposed site for the Skate Park is either the site of the old skate park, or the site of the old Little Chef near Lolworth.

Representative from the Bar Hill Cricket Club spoke. He informed the meeting that Covid had been a big blow for the Cricket Club, but financially they had a good contingency and were able to keep going. They are looking forward to the future with the new season about to start. They expressed thanks to the Parish Council for their funding and support given. They expressed that all are welcome.

3 members of the public left the meeting

11. To receive the reports from the County and District Councillors

County Councillor Edna Murphy's report was included in the pack. No questions were raised.

District Councillor Bunty Water's report was included in the pack. No questions were raised.



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12. Any Other Parish Business

The chairman announced the Parish Office is open for calls and emails during working hours and open for visits between 9 and 11 am.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.54pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Signed Dated.....

DRAFT

Cambridgeshire County Councillor's Report

Cllr Edna Murphy

Lib Dem County Councillor for Bar Hill division including Girton, Dry Drayton, Bar Hill and Lolworth

Introduction

2022 will be notable as the year of the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8 September. The accession of HM King Charles III was proclaimed in Cambridge and Ely, and elsewhere in the county.

The composition of the County Council has changed since last year following the death of Independent Chair of the Council Derek Giles who had retired from that role as a result of his ill health, and another councillor switching parties (Cllr Doug Dew, representing Hemingfords & Fenstanton, left the Conservative Group in January 2023 and joined the Liberal Democrat Group). Cllr Geoff Seeff (Lib Dem) won the St Neots seat The Eatons in the by-election in February following Cllr Giles's death. The composition now is:

Conservatives	27
Liberal Democrats	22
Labour	9
Independents	3

A County Council by-election will be held on Thursday 4 May, the same day as the District Council elections, following the resignation of Cllr Dan Schumann (Soham South & Haddenham).

1 The Council

- 1.1 The three-group Joint Administration of Liberal Democrat, Labour and Independent councillors continues to run the Council. The Agreement signed by the three groups in May 2021 is scheduled for a two-year review, which will take place after this May's elections.
- 1.2 I have worked on various committees within the Council: Adults & Health, Strategy & Resources, Pensions, and chaired the Staffing and Appeals Committee which oversees the recruitment of senior officers. I have also participated in Planning, Environment & Green Investment and of course Full Council.
- 1.3 I have also continued to Chair of the Fire Authority, and represent the Authority at the Mayoral Combined Authority's Board. I am the lead member for Governance and significant work has taken place during the latter half of the year. I report regularly to the County Council on the issues facing the Fire Service and have spent some time this year lobbying for additional funding for the Service.
- 1.4 The County Council's Chief Executive Stephen Moir carried out a reorganisation of the senior staffing structure, and the Council has been making senior appointments. The process of disentangling joint staffing structures with Peterborough Council set up by the previous administration has been very positive. The Combined Authority has also appointed a new Chief Executive and embarked on a new structure, having had interim management and governance reviews for most of the year.
- 1.5 The County Council's new HQ at Alconbury Weald was formally opened on Friday 8 July 2022. Whatever its merits as office facilities, it is a poor choice of location for a democratic body given the non-existent public transport links available and its inaccessibility for both councillors and most importantly the public.

2 Strategy & Resources

- 2.1 The high rates of inflation over the last year, and the turmoil of the Liz Truss / Kwasi Kwarteng mini budget in the autumn, significantly increased the costs of providing council services and widened the already challenging budget gap for the coming year.
- 2.2 The Council increased its portion of Council Tax in February, by 4.99% in total, ie 2.99% for general services, and 2% for adult social care.
- 2.3 The Conservative opposition unsuccessfully proposed an alternative way forward in which the increase was only 4%, but plugged the large funding gap this created with one-off funding intended for environmental projects, care, and strengthening council services.
- 2.4 The committee has considered a number of significant procurement exercises and strategic initiatives, many of which are necessarily considered commercially confidential. It also scrutinizes the performance of the Council's property subsidiary, This Land, which is has a new senior team, and a revised strategy, and seems to be much improved.

3 Adults & Health

- 3.1 National changes in health and care decision-making took place during the year, with the creation of local Integrated Care Systems spanning health and social care. Cambridgeshire & Peterborough created a joint Health & Wellbeing Board to replace the previous separate Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Boards.
- 3.2 This year has exposed the vulnerability of NHS services nationally and also locally. A BBC investigation last summer of dental provision in the UK revealed that no dental practice in Cambridgeshire was accepting new adult patients. Large numbers of patients are having to travel far afield, pay money they cannot afford for private treatment, or resort to DIY dentistry—and a resident of Ely was recently reported as having had to travel to war-torn Ukraine for dental treatment which was quicker and cheaper than that available in the UK.
- 3.3 Meanwhile the residents in Bar Hill's Maple Surgery heard the consortium of which they were members was ceasing to operate and were taken on by a Cambridge group in record time. Normally the transition to a new practice takes 3 months but the team had the surgery up and running with new management over a weekend. They will be spending more time in the next months completing the transition, as well as taking on additional resource to support the asylum seekers who have arrived recently in Bar Hill's hotel. This is not the only GP practice in the County that has had abrupt changes to its services, but the changes in Bar Hill seem to have resulted in an improvement which is welcome.
- 3.4 In addition to Covid, avian flu precautions were implemented across the UK during the year, including a protection zone in the County after a confirmed case.

4 Children & Young People

- 4.1 Funding of vouchers over the school holidays for families eligible for free school meals has continued, as has the Holiday Activity & Food programme for the children of eligible families. The cost of living crisis has seen many Cambridgeshire families reliant on such schemes.
- 4.2 The Council was praised by Ofsted for the work of senior leaders in Children's Services in responding to the challenge of Covid, and for maintaining continuity during structural change. Most children in need and those with a child protection plan were supported well.
- 4.3 The Council is still seeking residents who would like to make a difference to the life of a child or young person by becoming a foster carer. Cambridgeshire is not unusual in having an ongoing demand for foster carers but it is important to keep raising the issue to encourage people to come forward if they are interested in this vital role.
- 4.4 In a piece of good news for Cambridgeshire, the Council and the Government reached agreement on the 'safety valve' process to resolve the escalating deficit in the cost of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities education.

- 4.5 The deficit for this funding stream was expected to grow to over £90M by 2025/26 if left unchecked, and the Council was not permitted to divert funding from other sources to fill the gap. Cambridgeshire has now been awarded £49M which will be used to create 463 new special school places, with a further £11.3M in capital funding to support new SEND provision on mainstream school sites. Cambridgeshire has historically received less funding per child for education than other areas.

5 COSMIC

- 5.1 COSMIC (Communities, Social Mobility & Inclusion Committee) has continued to oversee the Household Support Fund, which supports people experiencing immediate financial hardship to pay for food, household energy or other essential items. An increasing number of families are struggling financially at the moment. COSMIC agreed to use some of the money from the fund to give a 'payment holiday' to pensioners in arrears with their water bills.
- 5.2 A Warm Hubs programme over the winter was funded by the NHS and administered by Cambridgeshire ACRE with fantastic support from local parishes.
- 5.3 A review of the mobile library service resulted in a number of improvements, including more stops, more fuel-efficient routes, and local storage of vehicles. Cambridgeshire's Library@home volunteers were one of three voluntary organisations in the county to be given the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service—the highest award a local voluntary group can receive in the UK.
- 5.4 The Government is introducing a requirement for photographic ID for voters at elections. This starts with the elections in May 2023 (ie not in South Cambs), and will cost up to £180M over ten years, despite cases of voter identity fraud at polling stations being almost non-existent. Around 2 million voters in the UK do not have the right form of ID to enable them to vote—they can apply for free Voter Authority Certificates, but applications for these are extremely slow and many people are likely to find themselves deprived of their right to vote on 4 May. Young people are likely to be particularly disadvantaged, as most of the forms of ID related to older groups. County officers have been working on ways in which the Council can support the effort to ensure the many people without the required photo ID apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate so that they are not denied their right to vote. There was a Lib Dem motion on this topic which was fully supported by the Council as a whole.

6 Environment

- 6.1 The Council awarded the first spending from its Just Transition fund, including £2.175M for a business case for the first phase of the Council's plan for Cambridgeshire to reach Net Zero carbon by 2045. £1.75M was also awarded for flood work and nature restoration.
- 6.2 On the hottest day on record in the UK, Joint Administration members of the County Council voted to sign Zero Hour's Nature & Climate Declaration, while the tarmac melted in the Council's car park outside the building.
- 6.3 The County Council is working with district councils on energy retrofits in homes with poor energy efficiency. A number of Cambridgeshire residents including in Little Downham received individual invitations to apply for this.
- 6.4 The public inquiry into the proposals for an incinerator at Wisbech took place in February. The waste disposal contract with Thalia (formerly Amey) at Waterbeach has taken considerable amounts of council time. In addition to the odour emission works required by the Environment Agency, the new year saw new enforcement by the Environment Agency of rules on 'persistent organic pollutants in waste upholstered domestic seating'. This led to a week of the Council being unable to accept unwanted sofas, futons, gaming chairs, upholstered dining seats, and other similar items. These must now be incinerated not landfilled. In addition to this, discussions are also ongoing with Defra regarding proposals to introduce weekly food waste collections.

- 6.5 The first households in Swaffham Prior are now receiving renewable energy from the new energy centre. Interest in this project has been considerable. Other energy projects (solar panels on Park & Ride sites, North Angle solar farm, and replacement of gas and oil boilers in schools and in the Council's own premises around the county) are continuing to progress. In conjunction with iChoosr the Council ran another round of Solar Together, the group buying scheme for homeowners wanting to invest in solar panels and battery storage.
- 6.6 The Examination into the planning application by Sunnica for the large solar farm between Burwell and Red Lodge began in autumn 2022.
- 6.7 Anglian Water and Cambridge Water announced in the autumn their preferred location for a new reservoir in the Fens, north of Chatteris, to come onstream in the late 2030s. A planning application will come in due course and progress through a number of stages. It will be a decision for the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate, as with other major infrastructure schemes.
- 6.8 The council has published an interim Tree Strategy, which it will revise once it has baseline information about what trees the Council has, where they are, and how the Council can expand and improve the trees for which it is responsible.
- 6.9 We received details of the County Council's carbon emissions for the year. There was a significant reduction in the early stages of the pandemic, due to construction work ceasing, but this is likely to increase again in future years.
- 6.10 We agreed a motion to the Full Council calling for managed divestment by the council's Pension Fund from fossil fuels.
- 6.11 The council ran a #LetsGetOutdoors campaign over the summer to encourage residents to make use of Cambridgeshire's fantastic parks.

7 Highways & Transport

- 7.1 The condition of Cambridgeshire's roads and pavements remains a serious challenge and concern. In fact this situation has been building for many years, with the Council's approach being one of 'managed decline'. However, recent extreme weather has speeded up that decline very significantly. The peaty soil under the road surface has shrunk in hot dry weather, and expanded in wet weather, causing the surface to crater and split. Adding more tarmac to level the surface simply increases the weight and makes matters worse. The severity and extent of the problem is far beyond the maintenance budget of the Council, so simply 'freeing up some money' is not an option. The Council has been actively engaging with the Department for Transport to seek their support and funding. Clearly this is a significant problem that staff are working on intensely and looking at different options, while repairing as many potholes as they can physically get round (and commissioning Milestone to deliver as rapidly as possible).
- 7.2 The Council used a data interpretation and modelling tool to identify a 'Safe and Dry' programme of 115 locations where work was needed to improve flood resilience. The Council is also undertaking a two-year programme to clean and plot all gullies and surface drainage features to improve highways drainage management into the future. Plans for strengthening the Oakington Road Bridge are in place and the budget is committed.
- 7.3 The freezing spell over winter caused many road and pavement surface defects, and failure of pothole repairs. We encourage residents to report faults online as that is the only way they are logged and become translated into works commissioned from Milestone. Although it is difficult to keep reporting these problems, it is necessary.
- 7.4 The development by the council of a South Cambridgeshire Transport Strategy is pencilled in for 2023-2024. It has been a significant length of time since the previous strategy and so an update is long overdue. It will be an opportunity for South Cambridgeshire to embrace proposals which have been developed, for example in Bar Hill Division the agreed approach

for NMUs and active travel schemes, so they are explicitly supported by South Cambridgeshire too.

- 7.5 The County Council plans to fit street lighting with energy-efficient LEDs. The council spends £3.3M a year on energy for street lights, and this sum will pay back in under six years.
- 7.6 The working group on Heavy Goods Vehicles produced a new policy and criteria against which to judge applications for weight limits in villages. A number of applications have already come forward. The new funding pot for 20MPH schemes has attracted a large amount of interest.
- 7.7 In autumn the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) consulted on its proposals for improved bus provision and active travel in the Cambridge area, which it proposed to fund through a charge for driving in a 'Sustainable Travel Zone' between 7:00AM and 7:00PM on weekdays. The results of the consultation will be published in the late spring. The GCP needs to listen to the concerns of residents. It does not seem likely that the proposals will go forward in their current form. What is needed is action to address the decades of decline in public transport inflicted by successive Governments and local councils.

8 Combined Authority

- 8.1 The Combined Authority has had a somewhat turbulent year, including an unsuccessful attempt to depose the elected Mayor of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough. Most significantly, the auditors (EY) wrote to the Authority in June expressing concerns about the functioning of the Combined Authority, and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities has become involved, setting some clear requirements for improvement.
- 8.2 The Combined Authority has agreed an Improvement programme with a package of external support, and an Independent Improvement Board has been established. I am the lead member for Governance and have supported the creation of a new constitution and governance structure, which will be much more fit for purpose and with a more thought through structure to support better decision making. There is still some way to go but there has been significant progress.
- 8.3 In September 2022 Stagecoach gave six weeks' notice of its intention to withdraw from a large number of bus routes. The Combined Authority pulled together a tender process at very short notice, and was able to find new providers for most of those routes, though there have been changes in frequency and extent of several of them. Additional funding was diverted to support these routes, and the Mayor has decided to levy a precept which will be added to the council tax to ensure the stability of these services for a further year.
- 8.4 The Combined Authority really needs to move ahead with a system of franchising of local bus services, which would give democratic control of routes, timetables, and fares, but to do this it needs to find sources of large amounts of income, and in any case franchising would take c 5 years to implement. Meanwhile the Combined Authority is finalising a Bus Strategy for submission to Government.
- 8.5 The Combined Authority remains starved of resources by the Government compared to other Combined Authorities. It received no money for its Bus Service Improvement Plan, and very little active travel funding. The Government also decided there would be no more money for affordable housing for any Combined Authorities.
- 8.6 The Combined Authority's Local Transport & Connectivity Plan, on which many other local transport plans depend, is being finalised.
- 8.7 Now that it has no money for, and therefore no real role in, housing, the Combined Authority has reorganised its committees into new 'thematic committees' including (for the first time) the environment.

9 Campaigns

- 9.1 I am pleased that campaigning has proved fruitful in some respects. For example 2 years of relentless campaigning has forced a re-think by National Highways in relation to the management of the A14 trees. Originally 860k saplings were planted, at least 70% of which died. Since it was made public, via a motion to Full Council in March 2022, National Highways struggled to justify the approach it had agreed to, as it was obviously not going to achieve positive results. Instead it has undertaken an honest appraisal, and proposed a new, more scientifically based approach. They have also undertaken to take on an additional 5 years of obligation, to ensure trees thrive and become established. This is a really important step. We are watching their progress closely. It is also important that their learning translates to other projects, where planting or biodiversity net gain is a key outcome.
- 9.2 Another positive initiative has been to persuade the County's Highways team to consider seriously the development of a path around the perimeter road in Bar Hill as part of its active travel plans. This is at an ideas stage only, but with the adoption of the idea there is now a possibility that the Council will be able to put forward well thought through proposals, for residents to consider. Obviously there is a long way to go before this can become a reality, not least the challenge of finding funding, but it is a start and at least gives us the chance to consider a clear proposal.

Cllr Edna Murphy
Edna.Murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



South Cambridgeshire District Council: Councillor Bunty Waters

During the 2022-23 year South Cambs District Council has supported Ukrainian families, installed solar Panels on the office car park, introduced eco heating for the offices and trialled a four day week for all desk staff as well as managing severe shortage of staff in the Planning dept whilst producing the first draft of the emerging local plan.

So to look at these major topics in a little more detail. The Council was one of the first to welcome Ukrainian families to host homes for an initial six months. This was funded by the government but included the recruitment of staff and the development of new strategies for this pioneering project. Inevitably there have been problems where relationships have broken down and circumstances have changed. The end of the first 6 months was extremely difficult to find new hosts and new accommodation. 23 families have moved into social housing and the council is buying property to house another 23 families. Several families have found their own accommodation and employment although several have returned to the Ukraine. But more hosts are needed and this includes some payments to help with energy costs etc.

The council has installed charging points and a solar panel roof for the office car park. This energy is used to heat and power South Cambs Hall. The reduction in staff working in the office due to the 4 day week and the new working from home policy has resulted in spare office space which will be leased out in the coming months.

It is planned to build another solar park at Waterbeach to power the refuse lorries in the next 2 years.

The four day week trial was started in January and offers the opportunity for staff to have Monday or Friday off but still doing the same amount of work in 32 hours as they currently do in 40 hours at the same level of pay. It is hoped this will boost recruitment and encourage a happier workforce. The trial will last 6 months but I suspect that it will be difficult to abandon this idea even if it is proved unsuccessful. Other councils are very anxious that they will lose their staff to this idea.

The Greater Cambridge Planning Partnership is the joint planning Department between Cambridge and South Cambs. They have worked very hard to prepare the first draft of the Local Plan which has been through the first consultation period and they are now redrafting. They are proposing 74,000 houses before 2031 which has raised concerns about water supply and the management of sewage. This is especially important in another village, Swavesey, as the Uttons Drove Sewage works are already exceeding their permitted outflow. There is also concern about water since the drying up of a pond in Longstanton as a result of Northstowe development, villages nearby to Bar Hill. The current research into water access and provision may result in a severe reduction in the production of houses.

The Leader of the Council is a member of the Greater Cambridge Partnership - this Authority includes leaders from Districts and County, as well as representatives from the University and business. It is not a democratically elected authority but it is responsible for proposing the sustainable travel for Cambridge scheme - i.e. the Congestion Charging proposals, but if this scheme goes ahead it will be the responsibility of the County Council to implement it. South Cambridge District Council administration is in favour of the congestion charge and has recently refused the Conservatives' motion to ask the County Council to reject it.

If you would like to discuss a matter of local concern, please do not hesitate to get in touch and I will do my best to help. My contact details are below.

Bunty Waters
Bar Hill Ward Councillor
2022-2023

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BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

A warm welcome to you all for this Annual Parish Meeting for 2022, I am Bunty Waters Chairman of the Parish Council.

My thanks to all the Parish Cllrs, Lindsey Bladen, Geoff Caswell, Jo Hall, Brian Howard, Anthony Mitchell, Geof Tamulonis, and Khadijeh Zargar, and they have worked hard for the village and this is increasing each month, they are unpaid volunteers and give their time, not only for meetings but work around the village.

We are very pleased to welcome three new Councillors, Sue Jenkins, previous VP, Graham Ellingham and Warren Hamlett-Evans.

Malcolm Cox, our Responsible Finance Officer, who ensures that the money is spent properly on village matters and to my Vice Chair, Anthony Mitchell, who gives much support.

I am indeed thankful to have their knowledge to ensure the Parish Council continually is able to work on behalf of village residents.

My grateful thanks to our Parish Clerk, Lyndsey Copeman, who began working with us last April and has taken on training, the work of the Council and has been invaluable with her knowledge and help. We have been very well supported by Kate Flack, our Clerk's Assistant, who has taken on a huge amount of work, at present Kate is organising the archiving of parish papers.

My thanks too, to our County Councillor, Edna Murphy who gives her reports each month to the village.

This village requires a great deal of work, you will see a breakdown of how we spend the money throughout the year in the RFO's report on behalf of the village.

Councillors need to meet, at various times, with contractors, so their time is used to discuss the requirements and ensure getting value for money.

'Meet the Councillors' – This continues at the HUB on Monday mornings, where a councillor is available for a chat, ask information and generally to discuss any concerns. For example, how do I purchase my freehold?

I am pleased to say that the PC have engaged once again, Haydens, an Arboricultural Consultancy company to help us manage the trees in the village, it is very important to have professional reports so that knowledge of the health and feasibility of the trees is known and documented. This new report will be for the next three years, we hope to have advice on the type of tree that can be beneficially planted in the village and those that are going to be problematic.

The PC deal with a great many tree requests, in fairness trees cannot just be removed, however, when a query/request comes into the PC office it is inspected, discussed at the Environment and Amenities and main Council meeting and action taken if necessary.

As the village ages, built in the sixties on clay, with climate change with the increasing severe weather, there are more problems with subsidence. The Parish Council refer to the insurance company when the Council is informed who will deal with reports from the property concerned.

Tesco trolleys continue to be a problem, scattered around the village, I quote here from Roger Hall's book,

“A number of residents complained about the large number of shopping trolleys littering the village. While Tesco's argued that it was residents' responsibility to return them (regardless of the fact that some were left by outsiders), both the Parish Council and Residents' Association proposed that a £1 coin should be inserted to release a trolley and then retrieved afterwards. In August 1980, the Parish Council recovered 40 trolleys from 'roadways, play areas and ditches', locked them up 'in a barn', and sent Tesco an invoice for £40 for recovering them. Tesco's duly paid up, complaining about trolleys 'migrating' out of the shopping area, and imploring the public to return them after use. Although Tesco 'trolley collectors' stepped up their roaming of the village for abandoned trolleys, this remained a running sore between the store and the community throughout the decade and into the following one”

Litter and dog fouling continues to be a problem on the village, even though there are a great many bins in strategic places, more have been sited, one of these near the stream which had rotted away. Thank you to all who do litterpicking every day, in these times, sadly, we are finding a lot of broken glass on the play areas, bottles deliberately smashed on play items.

The building work at the hotel site, is on its way, being built by Wellington on behalf of Sanctuary Housing, this is still ongoing, however, some residents have moved in and others expected in the latter part of the year.

Parking continues to be a problem on the village, the PC are always asking that residents park thoughtfully with consideration to others but this is not always the case, however, highways are for the use of vehicles and the PC has no jurisdiction over the roads.

Viking Way was never adopted by Cambridgeshire CC as were the other roads, so is owned by the Parish Council. Work will continue clearing the drains which have caused some flooding. Metrorod are in the process of clearing the 40 gullies in Viking Way, most of which have been done.

The PC Website holds a lot of upto date information on not only what the Parish Council does, but areas which are affecting the village, if you have any queries and can't access the website please ask Lyndsey Copeman, our Clerk who will help you.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)2.1 has a dedicated Councillor who is updating the Councillors, its aim is to ensure public sector websites and mobile apps are accessible to all users, especially those with disabilities.

The PC publish all agendas, accounts monthly on the noticeboard, so residents can access what is happening here in the village, and if you wish to join a meeting to see how the Parish Council work. Parish meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month apart from August.

The Parish Council has welcomed newcomers to the village, Asylum Seeker Refugees in the Bar Hill Hotel which was organised by the Home Office. Residents have been incredibly generous in their time and donations and this is ongoing.

The Parish Council organised free play for young people in the village at the Tennis Courts and to use the Astro on days during school summer holidays, this continues and there are more opening times as it is now being organised by the Football Committee.

New benches are to be installed in the village and new play equipment in the small playground with monies from the refund to the village from land taken by the A14 team during the upgrade of the A14.

The PC organised upgrading the new pathway outside the Scout Hut making that area more accessible.

The Parish Council are pleased that the Bar Hill Community Association, have organised a Clock to recognise the work by Roger Hall, local historian, it's a beautiful clock and I'm sure he would be very proud. It will be unveiled on 13th May 2023.

At present the Parish Council is investigating whether to have 20MPH signs in the cul-de-sacs of the village and asking through a survey, whether residents think this would help stopping speeding down these areas – please let the Parish Council know your views.

The Parish Council has got no further with regard to the old area, Lolworth Services, owned by National Highways, with the local MP, local County Councillor and myself asking what is being done with that area.

My report does not even cover all the work which we undertake but gives a small flavour of a very busy Parish Council.

Bunty Waters
Chair, Bar Hill Parish Council

Environment and Amenities Committee Report 2022/2023

The E&A committee deals with a range of works and activities within the village to bring better and positive changes to residents' life in the village.

The E&A committee works are as follow:

- Tree Works
- Grass Cutting
- Stream Works
- Resident Issues

The tree works are carried out annually to comply with the law. We commission an independent specialist tree company to carry out a survey every three years and this forms the basis of the tree works for that period along with resident requests. The tree works are split into categories such as tree health and potential risk. We work through that list by meeting with approved specialist contractors and gaining quotes.

The stream banks were cut back this year as part of planned maintenance.

Grasscutting has resumed and a few cuts have been completed as part of a three year contract.

New benches have been fitted onto the village green and old ones have been sent for refurbishment and will be sited in various locations about the village in the near future.

There are many other issues that the E&A committee deal with including resident requests. If you have something to report or request, could we please ask that you use the form on the website or contact the Clerk for assistance. These requests will be looked into on a case by case basis within the guidelines of the committee and after taking specialist advice if necessary.

Finally, we would like to thank those residents who can be seen around the village voluntarily picking up litter, they are doing a great job keeping the village tidy.

Khadijeh Zargar
Chairman Environment and Amenities Committee

Finance and Policy Committee

The Finance and Policy Committee is a new Committee that discusses issues related to Finance and Policy, largely making recommendations to the Full Parish Council for approval.

We work with our Responsible Finance Officer Mr Malcolm Cox to plan budgets and have started the process of forward financial planning for the 3-to-5-year term. We are also in the process of asking other Committees to identify their longer-term spending priorities.

The Committee also reviews the annual precept of the Parish Council before the annual Parish Precept meeting and for this financial year the Parish Council was able to avoid increasing the precept. Given inflation levels this will not be sustainable and I anticipate a Council Tax rise in the next financial year.

The Parish Precept represents a small fraction of the Council Tax charged to households, at just over 5% of a resident's annual council tax bill and yet it provides for the maintenance and upkeep of the Village. This includes our Green Areas, the Nature Reserve, refuse bins and the maintenance of the Viking Way Road.

Kindly note the Parish Council are not responsible for the maintenance of County Council roads including any pot hole repairs, for street lighting or other County Council services such as the Library. The Parish Council is also not responsible for the refuse collection services of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

I am pleased to say that none of our Councillors are paid a wage and we are all volunteers, we work with the residents in several working parties and alongside other village organisations/charities in our personal capacity to save the Village money and to fundraise for projects.

Anthony Mitchell
Chairman Finance and Policy Committee

Staffing Committee

The Staffing Committee is a new Committee that discusses issues related to staffing, employment and the use of contractors for the Village. As this is a new Committee there is little to report other than the pay rates for all Staff have or will be considered for the next year.

The Staffing Committee also set the terms for the new Village Ranger Contractor, who has been undertaking small Environment and Amenities related works for the Parish Council.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our staff and contractors for their hard work and dedication to the Parish Council.

Anthony Mitchell
Chairman Staffing Committee

BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL		INCOME AND EXPENDITURE year ending 31st March 2023			
		Detailed excluding VAT			
<u>2021/2022</u>		INCOME	<u>2022/2023</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Accruals</u>
150000.00		Precept	165000.00		
32.68		Share Dividend	41.24		
804.88		Authority Contributions	804.88		
193.31		Bank Interest	301.22		
540.00		Garage Rent	540.00		
6374.10		Farmhouse Rent	6580.00		
0.00		Ground Rent	1000.00		
0.00		Football Project	30402.25		
6523.20		Loans & Repayments	6523.20		
0.00		Other Receipts	982.99		
164468.17		Total Income	212175.78		
		EXPENDITURE			
35147.98		General Admin - Salaries/Costs	48377.29		1600
6365.98	Office Costs - Print/Stat/Utilities etc		7724.97		4080
12053.57		Insurance	16164.14		
5726.42		Insurance Excess	4500.00		11500
984.89	Professional-	Audit & Accounting	992.44		
7786.29		Legal & Professional	3273.45		10000
1056.80		CAPALC/SLCC	966.89		
0.00		Electoral Expense	195.00		1500
22843.80	Environment -	Grasscutting	18273.54		3800
28610.15		Trees/Shrubs/Hedges	20689.00		4100
0.00		Viking Way	1650.00		1860
3004.71		Village Maintenance	5965.79		
0.00		Emergency Works	388.33		2600
475.00		Stream & Flooding	17014.00		
3970.00		Ranger Services	3416.00		
602.41	Community Facilities -	Street Lights	597.07		
640.00		Community Support	2994.46		3000
2184.00		Litter	2845.98		
2672.80		Play Equip Maint & Inspect	8128.69		850
325.00		S137 Grants	125.00		
2551.15	Commercial	Maintenance Village Assets	2121.69		23110
6523.14		PWLB Loan	6523.14		
34.20		Bank Charges	233.80		
493.75		Hire of Premises (Covid Grant)	0.00		
0.00		New Benches (A14 Money)	2824.44		
0.00		Allotment Society (Covid)	982.14		
0.00		Sanitising Playground (Covid)	459.00		
0.00		RBL Bench Donation(Flanigan)	161.07		
3206.30		Capital Expenditure	5121.46		
147258.34		Total Expenditure	182708.78		68000
207258.34		Total + Accruals	250708.78		
-42790.17		SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR YEAR	-38533.00		
Prepared by	Malcolm Cox	13.04.2023			
Approved by.....	Chairperson Bar Hill Parish Council				
Approved by Bar Hill Parish Council.....					

BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL - BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDING 31ST March 2023

Current Assets		
Box 8: Total Cash & Short term investments		306291.95
add debtor - HMRC VAT		7968.12
Box 7: Balance Brought forward		314260.07
The net balance reconciles to the cash book receipts and payments		
Opening Balance		284793.07
plus receipts in year (cash book exc VAT)		212175.78
minus payments in year (cash book exc VAT)		182708.78
Closing Balance		314260.07
Prepared by Malcolm Cox 15.04.23		
Approved by.....		
Chairperson Bar Hill Parish Council		
Approved by Bar Hill Parish Council.....		

ASSETS & LIABILITIES			
<u>Year Ending 31st March 2023</u>			
ASSETS			
36257.85	Virgin Money - current	40146.80	
110279.27	Virgin Money - deposit	110571.87	
95431.11	Lloyds Treasurer	90686.98	
68046.79	Cambridge Building Society	68046.79	
46.72	Petty Cash	104.74	
	310061.74		309557.18
DEBTORS			
7058.25	VAT Recoverable	7968.12	
33304.98	BHVHMC (loan liability)	28435.14	
	40363.23		36403.26
CREDITORS			
-32326.92	Unpresented cheques	-3265.23	
-33304.98	PWLB (loan)	-28435.14	
-60000.00	Allocated Reserves C/F	-68000.00	
	-125631.90		-99700.37
	224793.07	NETT ASSETS	246260.07
Represented by:-			
44870.76	General Fund	43126.29	
161.07	T Flanagan Bequest	0.00	
1645.00	Deposit on Farmhouse	1645.00	
65000.00	Precept Reserve	65000.00	
18223.99	A14 Reserve	15399.55	
93451.11	Capital Receipts Reserve	90686.98	
1441.14	Covid19 Grant Reserve	0.00	
	Football Project	30402.25	
224793.07		246260.07	
60000.00	Accruals C/F	68000.00	
284793.07	Box 7 Total	314260.07	
Prepared by	Malcolm Cox	15.04.2023	
Approved by.....			
Chairperson Bar Hill parish Council			
Approved by Bar Hill Parish Council.....			

Skatepark Working Party

On 22nd March 2022, 14 interested people gathered from the Bar Hill area and formed the Bar Hill Skatepark Working Party. Our purpose for existing, as defined by the Parish Council, was to produce an option or a range of options which could then be put to the village in a Parish Poll. The proposal should include both a design, with annual costings, as well as a means of funding. The proposal should include the location of the skatepark.

I am happy to report that a year on we have succeeded in our goal and are now in a position to hand back to the Parish Council to take this forward, supporting them with fundraising, construction and facilitation of contractors as is needed.

Parish Poll

To come up with questions we discussed many options such as building materials, locations, indoor/outdoor options. These are detailed below. However, the questions we thought should be put to the village were:

- 1) Do you want the Parish Council to build a skatepark for the benefit of the village?
- 2) If sufficient independent funding cannot be obtained would you be in favour of putting up to £1/month on the Council Tax for Band D properties to fund it?

Designs

The design of the skatepark was key as it would determine the costing. Three materials were considered:

- Concrete
- Metal
- Skatelite (wood)

Material Comparison

The group was resolute from the outset that metal skate ramps are unsuitable for use in a skatepark. They're really slippery and also get scorching hot in the summer, the peak skating season.

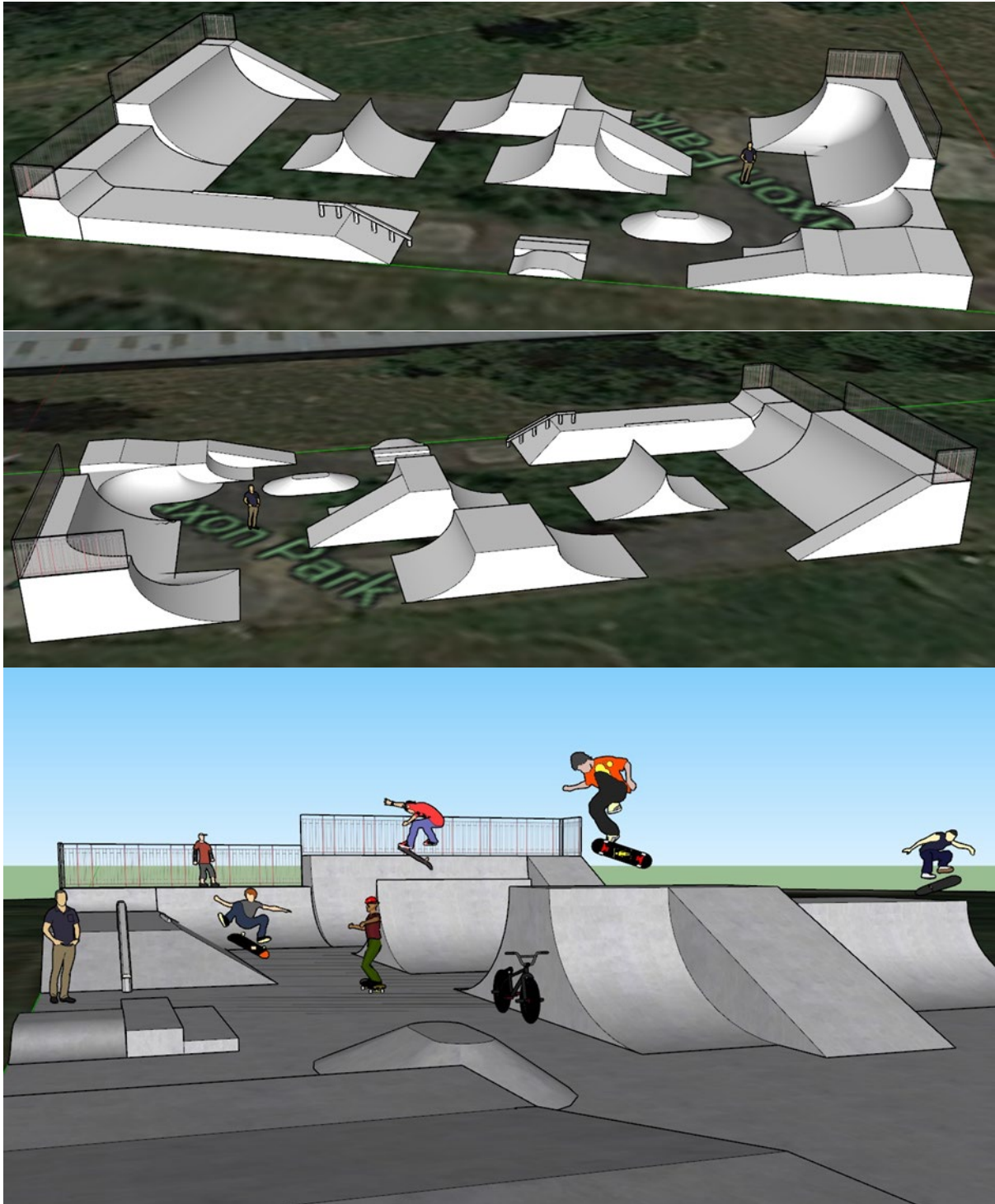
Skatelite is a wooden material for building ramps and is an excellent material to use for an indoor park but is not well suited to an outdoor environment where it is subjected to wind, rain and snow. Skatelite also requires a lot of in terms of maintenance compared to concrete.

With concrete, the initial outlay is approximately 4 times that of skatelite but are longer lasting with a significantly lower maintenance cost. These factors made concrete the most popular choice. It is also worth mentioning that contractors we talked to only built skateparks in concrete and would not consider building one using a different material unless it was indoors.

Design

The group had many opinions about what design the skatepark should have. We went to the site of the old skatepark where various people threw in their ideas of what they considered to be a good design for a skate park. This translated into us measuring it up and creating a 3D model of it. The design predominantly facilitates BMXs and skateboards with scooters and roller skates being less of a design focus. It is worth noting that there are several skateparks around the Cambridge area but very few have large ramps aimed at BMXs and more experienced skaters.

Designs have appeared in the Bar Hill News last year but here are some technical sketches created using Sketchup which accurately show the size of the park and the different elements of the park.



The park is roughly split into two halves, one half has large (6-8ft) ramps designed for BMXs and more experienced skateboarders. The other half has much smaller (1-3ft) ramps designed for beginner skateboarders.

Indoor/outdoor

An idea was proposed to make the skatepark an indoor facility. The nearest indoor skatepark to Cambridge is approximately an hour's drive away making Bar Hill an ideal place to host a new indoor skatepark.

However, doing so would definitely be a business proposition owned by a few people and not a community facility. It would require a dedicated team of people to establish it as a business and has a completely different feel to it than an outdoor park. Funding would be from angel investors or business loans from banks rather than the Parish Council and no permission would need to be sought from the community. In fact, the community would have no say in it at all.

As a group we decided this is not what we were after and therefore chose to pursue an outdoor skatepark that would be free to use by the community rather than an indoor skatepark business.

Locations

We considered three locations:

- The abandoned petrol station where the old Burger King used to be
- The main field over by the scout hut
- Saxon Park, the location of the previous skatepark

The abandoned petrol station

We surveyed the area with a drone and drew up some rough plans for a skatepark in that area. Simon Hetherington, from the A14 team, said that until access to the site is sorted then nobody will be allowed to develop the land. There would also be health and safety concerns given the site's history as a petrol station.

The Parish Council also does not own that land and therefore would need to purchase it. Regarding price, Simon said: "under The Treasury Rules any transfer between public sectors bodies needs to be at market value, the value can be agreed between the parties or determined by an independent expert appointed by the parties both methods require the preparation of a valuation in accordance with the RICS Red Book." This would therefore most likely make the petrol station site prohibitively expensive.

The main field

While the main field was considered, after the area required was measured it was deemed unsuitable as a skatepark positioned there would become a too dominant feature on the landscape.

Saxon Park

The site of the old skatepark, opposite The Fox pub, is an area of land which is already owned by the Parish Council. It already has a concrete foundation the site which is a good size for a skatepark and is far enough away from residences that any noise pollution would not be noticed. It also used to have a very successful skatepark on it which some in the village still have fond memories of.

For these reasons it was deemed that Saxon Park would be the location to propose for the new skatepark.

Costs

We contacted several different skatepark construction contractors and also spoke to Stuart Maclure from Betong Park, a construction contractor who specialises in skatepark design and construction. We showed him our design with detailed measurements of the various elements and he estimated the cost of the park to be £250,000.

The main way to raise this kind of capital would be from the Parish Council taking out a Public Works Loan Board. This is essentially a mortgage taken out by a Parish Council which has a fixed rate for the entire term of the loan. Rates for a PWLB change on a daily basis but on 21st March 2023 the interest rate for a 25 year fixed loan paid back as an annuity was 4.66%.

There are 1490 band D equivalent properties in Bar Hill which, at a rate of 4.66% over 25 years, would equate to 95p per month per household for an initial loan on £250,000.

Maintenance

The PWLB figure above does not account for maintenance, insurance, etc. However, as already mentioned, the maintenance cost of concrete skateparks is significantly lower than skatelite parks. A figure of £500 per year may be reasonable.

Maintenance would mean the figure would be more than the 95p per month proposed above, however...

Funding

The PWLB figure above does not account for any funding but assumes the Parish Council will pay for the entire build. There are many sources of funding available for projects exactly like this from places such as the National Lottery, Comic Relief Local, Tesco Bags of Help, Landfill Communities Fund and Sports England. There may also be local funding available from our very own Tesco or Section 106 money received from local developers, for example. We can also do local fundraising and have already agreed to create a fundraising group should this project go ahead.

All funds raised would mean the initial loan would be less than £250,000. This would mean that the figure would be less than the 95p per month proposed above.

Overall we would expect the maintenance costs and fundraising to approximately cancel each other out, making the final cost approximately £1 per household per month for the next 25 years, or to look at it another way this would be a total of £300 per household paid over the next 25 years.

Maple Surgery Update: As of March 2023

Change in Provider

As of the 1st February 2023 Cambs GP Network Ltd has taken responsibility for Maple Surgery under an NHS APMS (Alternative Provider of Medical Services) contract, for an initial 14month period with the option to extend an additional 12 months.

Cambs GP Network Ltd are an established local GP Federation, who exist to support local practices and their patients. We provide a range of NHS services across Cambridgeshire, with a proven track record of delivering high quality, responsive care that meets the needs of our patients. The change in provider was due to the previous provider MKGP Plus entering Voluntary Insolvency.

Normal process for mobilising a change in provider for a GP practice contract would involve a 3 month pre-start mobilisation period, due to the exceptionally unusual circumstances with the previous provider Cambs GP Network Ltd only had a 36hour window to mobilise and ensure the practice was able to remain open.

We have over the past 7 weeks we have been able to successfully achieve the mobilisation of the practice which includes all elements of practice delivery, such as; TUPE consultation of employed staff, training needs analysis, 'onboarding' of all staff to CGPN, Clinical & Clerical provision, review of clinical model and redevelopment, Senior Management support & mentoring and Lease & building services.

Staffing / Clinical Model

The clinical & clerical teams at Maple Surgery have all successfully TUPE'd to Cambs GP Network, post review of the staffing structure we have commenced national recruitment for a salaried GP.

We are moving from a model that was dependant on out of area locum GPs, in the initial period, whilst we restructure and recruit, we are drawing on CGPNs pool of Cambridgeshire local GPs who are all experience with the local hospitals, community teams and Cambridgeshire care pathways. We have increased the volume of GP appointments per week, this includes a full day GP on a Thursday, which in the previous clinical model was not available, in addition the volume of f2f (face to face) appointments available per day has also been increased.

We are moving from the previous model of remote only working ANPs (Advanced Nurse Practitioners), and now provide in practice ANPs twice a week with additionality of a remote ANP on an alternative day of the week.

As a snapshot below is a typical clinical week at Maple Surgery PRE February and as of March 2023

Pre 1st February 2023

Type	Appointment Total
GP	115
ANP	63
Practice Nurse	48
Health Care Assist	15
Social Prescriber	48

March 2023

Type	Appointment Total
GP	153
ANP	90
Practice Nurse	70
Health Care Assist	48
Social Prescriber	41
New Arrivals NHS Health Checks	43

Best Western Hotel - Practice Response

We were advised by local leads on the 21st February that the Best Western Hotel at Bar Hill was being '*Spot Booked*' by the Home Office to provide accommodation to asylum seekers, as the local health provider we are required to register all new arrivals into the NHS system as Maple Surgery patients, part of this process is proving an NHS Health Check for every newly registered patient.

We have mobilised a clinical and management team additional to the Maple Surgery staffing resource to be able to develop a model and facilitate clinics, we commenced clinics on the 15th March and will be providing weekly resources and clinics to enable completion of this.

We will review any impact the increase in patient population causes to the practice as we progress and adjust provision accordingly.

Patient list

The current list size of the practice has increased from 3744 in January 2023 to 3778 as of March 16th 2023.

Community Service Delivery

Social Prescriber has started the walking football group as supported by Cambridge United FC.

I am pleased to report attendance for the group has been in double figures but we are still looking to increase patient uptake. Our Social Prescriber is taking the lead on multiple projects in the community currently. The next project is a memory group focusing towards the dementia cohort of patients.

Mark Wallington
Chief Executive Officer
Cambs GP Network Ltd

Bar Hill Allotment Society

Bar Hill Allotment Society continues to thrive and progress. We now have 90 plots in whole or half sizes. All are numbered and boundaries marked. Two plots were recently vacated. We have 2 people on our waiting list. We have over one hundred members. Several of our members are those that have recently settled in Bar Hill having moved here from other countries.

Our AGM was held on the 29th September 2022. It was well attended. Our committee consists of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, 3 Plot Inspectors and 3 other members with general duties.

All allotmenters had to deal with severe weather conditions. It was either too hot or too cold or very wet at the wrong times. However, nutritious crops were harvested. Water remains a problem, 90 plots now share one source of water. This source is subdivided to outlet taps across the site therefore water pressure can be low. As water taps were left running the committee is seeking ways to use timers to turn off the water during the evenings and night. We have storage tanks and rain water butts for all to use and the committee is looking at ways to save more rain water across the site.

Sadly vandalism is an ongoing problem at the allotments. Several members have had sheds damaged or broken into. Tools have been thrown around the site, over the hedges and even burned. A new shed purchased for the committee to store our equipment in was totally destroyed soon after its erection. Thankfully nothing had been stored in it. All damage was reported to the Police who have visited the site to see the evidence. The police have said they will increase patrols in the area of the allotments.

We have recently been given a Parish Council grant so that we may purchase a very secure shed for storage, complete with locking bars. For this we are most grateful.

We are encouraging our members to stop using, or use less, herbicides and pesticides on site. Several of our members are organic gardeners.

We look forward to the challenges of allotmenting during 2023.

Bar Hill Short Mat Indoor Bowls Club

The short mat indoor bowls club has been running for many years. We meet in the school on Friday evenings from 7.30 - 9.30pm during term time.

We are a small friendly group; we do not play professionally but enjoy a 'Roll up' so even if you have never played before you would be very welcome. The cost is £2 per week which also includes a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit.

We are always looking for new members so if you would like to give us a try look for details in the Bar Hill News.

Bar Hill Church

A NEW DAY FOR NEW ADVENTURES

HELLO & WELCOME:

This month our new minister for the village, Wendy and her husband Tom will be joining us, together with their dog Jonah, making them Jonah and the Wales!

Wendy is an Anglican priest with an interest in mental health, inclusion, gender, sexuality and faith dialogue. She has 15 years experience in Primary Education and Leadership (with a specialism in Language and Literature). Wendy is also a trained systemic therapist with a passion for glittery shoes, chocolate, red wine and good book!

Wendy@barhillchurch.org.uk

ACTIVITIES:

We continue to play our part at the heart of the village in terms of our community services which include:

- i. Coffee Shop
- ii. Foodbank
- iii. Citizens Advice
- iv. Health and Wellbeing
- v. Carers Café
- vi. Parish Council surgery
- vii. Bereavement group
- viii. Art Group
- ix. Craft Group
- x. Knit & Natter
- xi. Holiday@Home (annual 3 days event for the seniors of the village, moved to summer for 2022)
- xii. Holiday Club (annual week in the summer for the village children – currently suspended following Covid-19)
- xiii. NEW ACTIVITIES:
 1. We have set up a WhatsApp group to gather volunteers (60+) from the village, supporting the newly arrived Asylum Seekers to our village hotel, offering a compassion and the warmth of friendship whilst supporting the Parish Council, and South Cambridge District Council who is taking the support lead with this service.
 2. We are hoping to start a Memory Box service in partnership with the village Social Prescriber, supporting those on the dementia spectrum
 3. We are also aiming to start in partnership with the Maple Surgery Social Prescriber, a Men's Mental Health Support service.

HIRERS:

As part of our place within village life, we are also pleased to share our buildings with various partners including:

- i. Slimming World
- ii. Guides, Brownies, Rainbow
- iii. Fitness classes
- iv. Hearing dogs

- v. Allotment society
- vi. Harmonia (occasionally)
- vii. Brazilian Zouk
- viii. Community choir
- ix. Pilates
- x. Play groups
- xi. Many others

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS:

Bar Hill village is a wonderful community, reaching serving and supporting each other and long may that continue!

Bar Hill Community Market

We are pleased to say that since starting back after our 2-year absence due to the pandemic we have helped the Church, Scouts, Guides, Brownies, School PTA and the Community Hub to raise nearly £2,000 for their organisations by serving the refreshment and having a cake stall.

We have welcomed back many of our faithful stallholders and have seen many new ones coming which is great for us all.

We are hoping over this coming year to try and get a vegetable van, who will join us on a regular basis.

It has been great over the last 2 years to join with the Village Christmas tree lighting event in November which we will do again this year on 25th November, so pop this in your diaries as we would love to see as many people as possible.

Please look out for our next market in the Autumn via Posters, Facebook and the BHNews as we need you, as customers so that we can keep this community event going in the future.

Thanks for all your support, Karen and Adrienne.

Email – bar.hill.community.market@gmail.com

Facebook – Bar Hill Community Market

Phone - 07913923349

Bar Hill Community Association

This report summarised the activities and achievements of the Bar Hill Community Association (registered charity number 1195382) following our formation as a charity in August 2021.

Our charitable objectives are:

TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF BAR HILL VILLAGE, SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS.

We are proud of what we have accomplished over the period and are excited about the opportunities ahead. In this report, we will provide a brief overview of our key activities and accomplishments, our financial situation and the impact we have had on our community.

Highlights:

During the past year, we have continued to print and deliver the Bar Hill News every month through the year (with our usual break in January). Advertising within the magazine by local businesses is the primary source of income for the Association and has held up surprisingly well over the period, with some advertisers dropping out but others joining for the first time.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those advertisers who have supported us and without whom our village magazine would not be possible. I'd also like to thank those who contribute regular monthly columns from the village's local organisations, especially Liz Dams and Bridget Wilson, who provide monthly features.

The Community Association is also responsible for the annual Fête & Festival. This year's theme is the Swinging 60s. We will hold the event on the 8th of July on the village green.

We also organise the Christmas Event every year in early December outside of the Parish Council offices featuring the switching on of the Christmas Lights and a Christmas Tree.

When setting up the charity, it was always our intention to support other groups and activities within the village. Over the last year, we have contributed books for Bar Hill Primary School Library and made a substantial donation to the PTA to support the school fireworks.

We now have active committees for the Bar Hill News, the Warm Hub, Christmas Event, Fête & Festival, and the newly formed Parks & Recreation, which will be looking at improvements to the children's play area by the school.

Financial summary:

The charity continues to be completely self-funding through the Bar Hill News and via various charitable grants from individuals and other organisations (including many small businesses) within the village.

Our most significant expenditure is the monthly printing of the Bar Hill News; the second largest is the Fête & Festival, and then the Christmas Event.

The Charity received a substantial donation from the Bar Hill Residents Association, which formed part of the initial money to set up the charity, and we inherited funds from the Fête & Festival when it joined the Association (funds which can only be used to provide an event).

Conclusion:

In summary, the financial position of the Association is currently good, but we are expecting funding issues in 2024/2025 unless we can obtain the services of a dedicated fundraiser within the next 12/18 months.

There is a very long list of people who need to be thanked for their support! I'd like to start with the volunteers who give a few hours (often more!) each month to help, including proofreading the Bar Hill News, helping to manage our banking/ finances, delivering throughout the village, helping with the Christmas Event, and of course the smooth running of our own Fête & Festival.

[We always have opportunities for people to volunteer, and if you'd like to join us, you can email volunteer@barhill-ca.org for more information!]

Next, I'd like to thank our Charity Trustees for their support both in setting up the charity, to begin with, and since then for their help managing and maintaining it. Without them, it wouldn't have been possible to get where we are today! I would especially like to thank Laura Chapman, the current Chair of the Residents Association and the Vice Chair of the Community Association, for all her hard work in organising the Christmas Event and supporting me as Chair.

Finally, I thank Hilary Whipp for helping us prepare our charity reports and manage our funds. Her help has been invaluable in building an organisation which will be around to support our village in the long term.

Our next event in the village will be the Fête & Festival on Saturday, the 8th of July. A full Calendar of our events and meetings is available by subscribing to our public calendar here; <https://bit.ly/bhca-shared-calendar>.

Andy Pellew (Bar Hill News Editor & Chair of Trustees)

chair-of-trustees@barhill-ca.org

Bar Hill Community Association (BHCA) - Registered Charity Number 1195382 - info@barhillca.org

Bar Hill Community Hub

Mission Statement:

Our purpose is to create a weekly gathering point within the village to enable community cohesion and provide support services to the community as a whole.

Our Services:

- 1. The Coffee Stop** – the heart of the ‘Hub’, a social gathering point, comprised of a conversation, a cuppa and a slice, where new visitors can make friends within the community and existing visitors can reach out to new visitors, whilst strengthening and deepening their ties throughout the community as a whole. We are seeing around 40 guests per session.
- 2. Citizens Advice:** Kevin Potts, a long standing, fully trained Citizens Advice advisor, runs a drop in (which are increasingly becoming timed appointments due to demand) where he typically helps 2-4 members of the community requesting advice and support, across a myriad of issues. The service, is in effect an outreach from the Cambridge and District Citizens Advice based in Devonshire Road Cambridge. Typically booked up 4-6 weeks in advance, this service is delivering well over 200 advice interviews per year.
- 3. Foodbank:** Yvonne, have set up and run an in-person foodbank drop in, advertised monthly across the villager Bar Hill News (delivered to all 1800 houses) and weekly via the Community Face Book page, which has a community reach of over 4000 members. Those in financial need are encouraged to reach out, drop in, have a confidential chat with Yvonne and allow the Food bank part of our “Hub” to help them through their time of crisis. There is no need for food vouchers, simply a gentle conversation at reception where we will be happy to help and support.
- 4. Listening Ear:** Kevin, Sue and Yvonne continues to offer a listening ear, sometimes via a conversation in the Coffee Stop, at other times, picked up via a Citizens Advice request, as well as a chat with those seeking help from our food bank. The 3 listening ear representatives are qualified Mental Health First Aiders and so able to signpost community members to appropriate professional services.
- 5. Health and Wellbeing:** on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, Wendy runs our health and wellbeing service which typically incorporates some simple exercises, supplemented by for instance an outside speaker as well as health and wellbeing guidance from our core volunteer leading this service.
- 6. Parish Council Surgery:** on the 4th Monday of each month, one of the senior Parish Councillors, attends the “Hub”, providing a drop-in surgery within the Coffee Shop, for any members of the community wanting to engage with one of our parish councillors.
- 7. Carers Café:** on the 2nd Monday of each month, our local GP Surgery in partnership with the Hub, provides a support service for carers, extending this to any carers within Bar Hill village and not just those who are patients at the local GP surgery. This is lead by the village Social Prescriber, Pekka Tutti.

Voluntary Steering Group:

- Wendy Arrowsmith – Health & Wellbeing
- Sue Kenchington – Coffee Stop
- Kevin Potts – Hub coordinator and Citizens Advice, Foodbank
- Yvonne Potts – Reception, Foodbank
- Pekka Tutti Social Prescriber Maple Surgery – Carer’s Café
- Bunty Waters – additional governance

CRAFTS SHED

Crafts Shed has had a busy year. We had to move from the Scout Hut at their request at the end of July as they were expanding in numbers. We are grateful for their help in enabling us to get established.

From August 2022 we have been allowed to meet in the Octagon's Meeting Room on a Thursday morning. We are thankful to the Trustees of the Church enabling us to do so.

This year has seen three new members, which is extremely encouraging. However, there are no facilities as yet to undertake practical woodwork. This may change with our successful application for a Community Chest Grant which will provide a shed for the storage of our wood and also an awning to work under outside.

We continue to look for new premises of a more permanent nature and hope that a site may shortly be made available. We would still require to raise some £25,000 pounds to enable this to happen. Prices may increase before we can complete this.

Should there be a benefactor who would be willing to help please let us know.

Contact:- Chris Stannard on 07711 623425 or email c.e.stannard1@gmail.com

Bar Hill Cricket Club

Bar Hill Cricket Club were able to play 16 matches this year with our single adult men's team and our adult midweek team. We also once again ran youth training with our qualified youth coaches, although the attendance since covid has been fairly low and has meant we likely will not run youth coaching this season without an uptake in interest.

Unfortunately the weather and lack of availability meant we had to cancel our regular annual matches against Tesco and the Social Club and we were not able to rearrange within the season but we fully intend to play them this year.

This year we received a community chest grant to assist us in purchasing a pitch cover which can be used to help us play games when the threat of rain may otherwise cancel them.

We'd like to thank the parish council and village hall management committee for usage of facilities and their support and look forward to playing cricket from the start of the new season in May.

LGBT+ BAR HILL

LGBT+ Bar Hill has grown yet again this year with 2,700 members made up of LGBT+ residents and their allies, along with people who work in the Village or those that have a family connection to Bar Hill.

We believe we are the largest organisation by number of members within Bar Hill, but we are happy to be proven wrong.

We continue to operate as an inclusive organisation and since the pandemic have operated entirely online growing our numbers during the pandemic.

In the last year Cambridgeshire has experienced LGBT+ hate crime and sadly the Greater Cambridge Area has been no exception. The pandemic also meant the closure of some LGBT+ events and public spaces such as pubs.

The trans community has also been subject to abuse particularly over news articles regarding a single trans criminal and the heated debate over the use of restrooms.

We continue to thank our County and District Councillors for their support of the LGBT+ community and hope that we can continue to rely on Bar Hill Parish Council to be an inclusive and welcoming place.

LGBT+ Bar Hill will continue to be a safe space for all and we encourage existing members to provide written contributions to the Facebook page and for new members to join. You do not need to be LGBT+ to join, all allies with connections to Bar Hill are welcome.

Pride Cambridge will be at Jesus Green in Cambridge City Centre on Saturday 17 June 2023 and we hope that residents will attend, it is fun day for all the family with many inclusive activities. Please visit our Facebook page if would like to contact LGBT+ Bar Hill or to join.

Anthony Mitchell - LGBT+ Bar Hill Web Admin

Bar Hill Library

It's been a very successful year for Bar Hill Library. We have had over 11,800 visits to the library and over 300 new members in the last 12 months. We are so pleased the library is being supported by its local community. Bar Hill Library and Cambridgeshire Libraries continues to invest in resources for all the community to enjoy and we are thrilled that over the past year, we have had 27,000 items issued.

We continue to put on a range of events and activities for all age groups, including our regular weekly events such as rhymetime for children and our monthly events, such as author visits for adults. You can keep up to date with our events by following us on social media and visiting us online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library.

This year, we have hosted over 60 different events with more than 800 people attending, including our diverse range of cultural events and activities we host within our The Library Presents programme.

We love connecting with our local community and schools in Bar Hill. We have hosted several class visits and hope to increase these soon. We also work closely with the schools when promoting the Summer Reading Challenge – to enthuse our participants but to also ask for volunteers to help us run the challenge. Last year, we had over 100 children take part; we are so excited to see if we can beat this record this year! Thank you for the continued support from the Parish Council, helping us to make the challenge even more exciting for our local community.

Shelley Hale, District Library Manager

Bar Hill Ladies Book Club

Our year runs from September to July.

We have had a good year full of varied, entertaining and interesting books which have all led to some great discussions.

Andy Pellew & BHN promote our club with eye catching illustrations & we have grown in number, thank you Andy.

I would also like to thank BH Sports & Social club for hosting our meetings.

I will finish with a quote from our newest member:

“Just to add that the book club is a fantastic way for people who are new to the village to get to know like minded people who love to read”.

Sheila Farrar, Club Organiser.

Maple Surgery Patient Participation Group

The primary objective of the PPG is to;

- give patients and service staff the opportunity to meet and discuss topics of mutual interest.
- provide a way for patients to become more involved and make suggestions about healthcare services they receive.
- explore issues from patient complaints and patient surveys, contribute to action plans and help monitor service improvements.

To achieve these objectives the PPG meets with the Practice Manager at the Maple Surgery bi-monthly. It is important to note that the Maple Surgery proactively engage with the PPG.

As everyone is aware the previous provider MKGP suddenly terminated its contract to provide GP services at Maple Surgery at the end of January 2022. Effective from 1st February the Cambs GP Network (CGPN) took responsibility for the Maple Surgery with an interim 14 month contract. Mark Wallington, CEO of CGPN has already met with the PPG and has provided assurances as to how he sees health care provision in Bar Hill. I think it would be fair to say that there has been an immediate improvement in the patient experience. There were 241 appointments for GP, advanced nurse practitioner, practice nurse and health care assistant pre 1st February and 316 appointments in March 2020. These figures exclude the social prescriber appointments and the health checks for asylum seekers.

The Maple Surgery has mobilised additional resources and been provided with extra funding to provide NHS Health Checks for everyone at the Best Western Hotel so that the asylum seekers can be registered at the surgery.

I would suggest that the most significant change under CGPN is the increase in face to face patient appointments. Whilst the surgery is still dependant on locum GPs, CGPN are intending to recruit a staff GP. In addition CGPN are only recruiting local GP locums as they understand the local health care pathways. I can speak from personal experience that patients are being referred more quickly than under the previous contract holder.

The CGPN will be submitting their own report to the Annual Parish Meeting.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Memorial Garden continues to be well supported and used by many. We were very grateful for the funds to provide a new Hexagonal Bench. This is a modern recycled material bench so should last much longer than the previous one.

We are extremely grateful for the willingness of several individuals who have volunteered to help maintain the garden. We were sorry to see Isabel Wilson leave the volunteers as she had worked with us from the beginning. We are extremely grateful for all that she had done.

2023 will be a challenging year, as we have two targets to meet.

- a) The first being to extend the wrought iron fencing to the spine path
- b) To make a decision re the replacement for the upright sleepers.

Neither will be cheap to undertake.

There is a steady number of individuals who request Memorial Plaques in the Garden. We expect this to continue. For details of how to apply see the Bar Hill News.

Nation Women's Register

The Bar Hill NWR group counts at present 18 members. We used to meet in members' homes but since the pandemic we had to change and we now hire The Meeting Rooms in The Octagon where we meet every fortnight.

Our programme is varied. We have subjects which are researched and discussed by the group, subjects which are simply discussed. Once in a while we have a 'light' meeting with a quiz. We also try to have speakers and this year we have had two. A Police Officer from the Fraud squad about safety over the internet. And the first female bomb disposal (now first Marshal of Cambridge University) about her experiences as a woman in the Army.

We try to have a Summer Social and a Winter one. The latter was a meal at the CRC restaurant where we had a lovely lunch; delicious food prepared and served by students, to be recommended. We also had a special celebration afternoon to mark one of our members' 90th birthday.

Bar Hill Pre-School

Bar Hill Preschool has like many companies and charities had to make changes in recent years during the pandemic. This is our first school year since without restrictions although we have recognised that some procedures put in during past years have been very valuable and we have adopted them into our general policies and procedures. Children that attend now have had their early years dictated by the pandemic and this has seen a rise in children needing more emotional and communication support. We have also seen a bigger trend in parents working from home but also using longer hours in childcare per child, this reduces the number of children we can offer places to.

The recent announcement from the government in extending funding for children of working families from the age of nine months in a planned scheduled between April 2024 and September 2025, is putting more pressure on busy childcare settings. We are starting the process of how we might offer our service to as many families as possible once this working families funding affects the children in our age range.

As a committee team the process of changing the Preschool charity to a CIO status has begun. This will take a few months to complete and we hope to make the official changeover date in the summer holidays. This will give us better financial protection for the committee going forward and help with recruiting trustees.

As a Preschool we have been a big part of the village for over 50 years we believe, with our home being the village hall since 1974. We thank the village hall committee for their ongoing support. We look forward to many more years to come.

Report by S. Stepney Manager

8 O'clock Club

The 8 o'clock club which is a women's group have just celebrated their 50th Birthday party. We meet in the school on the 1st Thursday of the month during term time at 7.30pm

Due to covid we did not start our meetings until July 2022 and at our 1st meeting 24 members attended a garden party at the home of one of our members. In September we had an enrolment meeting and we now have 45 members. Our meetings are very varied and so far we have had a speaker on My heart & Mind and in light of covid this proved to be very useful. Next we had a chocolatier from the village who explained all about the different varieties of chocolate that are used in manufacturing of chocolate and why some are much more expensive. We also got to sample lots of different types.

In December we held our Christmas lunch at the Social Club which proved to be a great success. Next we had a speaker from the Cambridge Search & Rescue who gave our very interesting talk on all aspects of the work of the organisation. Then in March we celebrated our 50th Birthday Party with a buffet supper attended by 38 members.

Finally after 50 years we are finding it very difficult to find speakers and I would like to ask if there is anyone in the village interested in coming along to give us a talk.



1st Bar Hill Scout Group

The past year have been huge steps for 1st Bar Hill Scout Group. Below are the statics from the last year.

2022:

- Beavers: 11
- Cubs: 17
- Scouts: 16
- Young Leaders: 2
- Leaders: 12
- Executive: 3 (+ BSL, CSL, SL, GSL, 1 Parent/ACSL)

2023:

- Squirrels: 15
- Beavers: 13
- Cubs: 22
- Scouts: 8
- Young Leaders: 2
- Leaders: 12
- Executive: 5 (+ BSL, CSL, SL, GSL, 1 Parent/ACSL)

Beavers:

Beavers have taken part in the following events:

- Nature walk
- Beavers in tents 2022
- Visit to Fen Drayton Lakes
- Remembrance Day Parade
- District sleepover 2022
- St Georges Day

Beavers run on Wednesday Evenings from 6pm – 7pm.

Cubs:

Cubs have taken part in the following events:

- Cooley Cub – Hosted by 1st Hardwick and Highfields Cubs
- District Cub Olympics
- District Cub Camp – at Hallowtree Scout Activity Centre
- Remembrance Day Parade
- Clip n' Climb – joint event with 1st Bar Hill Scouts
- Cubs Winter Camp
- District Unihoc (Hockey / Football / Tug of War) – at Swavesey Village College where they Cubs came 2nd in football and Tug o War plus 3rd in the UniHoc

- 3 day trip to Edinburgh – With 1st Histon Beavers and Cubs and 1st Hardwick and Highfields Cubs
- Edinburgh Castle
- Royal Mile
- The Royal Yacht Britannia
- Edinburgh Zoo
- St Georges Day

Scouts:

Scouts have taken part in the following events:

- Archery
- Air Rifles
- November Scout Camp
- Remembrance Day Parade
- Clip n' Climb
- Easter Camp – at Hallowtree Scout Activity Centre with 1st Comberton Scouts, 1st Over Scouts, 1st Oakington Scouts, 1st Northstowe Scouts and 1st Bourn Scouts
- St Georges Day

Squirrels:

1st Bar Hill has officially launched the newest and youngest section in the Scouting Movement, Squirrels. With 15 Young people on the books with 1 Leader. This is the first Squirrel Drey within the crafts hill district, and we couldn't be more proud that it has happened. This section offers a chance for 4–6-year-olds to explore the world around them in fun and new ways, going on trips while completing badge work either at home or at a Squirrels session. Squirrels already have some fun things planned for the first term such as a fun day at our upcoming group camp plus going to learn all about Alpaca's at an Alpaca Farm.

We have been keeping the scout hut maintained with ceiling been updated and painting the exterior

As a group we look forward to the future in Bar Hill with a great team of leaders and committee

We are always happy to help the parish council for village events

Yours in scouting

1st Bar Hill scout group

Bar Hill Tennis Club

On behalf of the Club Committee I would like to submit this short report on behalf of the Club.

We are able to report a successful year despite some reduction in membership numbers following the significant increase during 2021 due largely to the positive impact of the pandemic. 2022 numbers down from 37 to 29. We have also continued to see a good interest in "one-off" hires of the courts which were maintained at 2021 levels and we remain financially viable.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for its continuing support and we were very pleased to have agreed a new 7 year lease for the Club site which will help to ensure the future existence of the Club.

Whilst our membership numbers remain acceptable many members choose to play privately and we would welcome a greater attendance at our adult Tuesday and Thursday Club nights to enjoy social tennis.

Our Committee continues to work to ensure the ongoing success of the Club and how we may make more provision to encourage the development of a junior and a ladies section.

Our web site www.barhilltennisclub.co.uk continues to work effectively and enables membership applications to be processed on-line and payments to be made electronically. People wishing to make general enquiries or would like to hire the courts can also do so on-line.

Our annual membership fees are very competitively priced at £50 for adults, £100 for family membership and £15 for juniors which include free access to the courts at any time. Membership allows players to play throughout the year and our floodlights ensure that play can continue on the dark winter nights when weather conditions are favourable. Our Club nights formally started on 11 April and finish at the end of September although some members will be playing on if the weather remains favourable.

Over the last few years we have tried a number of initiatives to try to encourage membership including year trialling a "ladies" night and this year we are planning hopefully something to attract junior members although we are currently not able to offer any coaching support.

We would welcome any new members (whether experienced or novice tennis players) or anyone interested in trying to help us promote the Club.

For further information please visit our web site www.barhilltennisclub.co.uk, text or call us:

Paul Chubbuck (Secretary)
07983435104, Email: info@barhilltennisclub.co.uk

Village Hall Management Committee

The Village Hall has continued to go from strength to strength with most of the week day availability taken with regular hirers, including exercise classes, children's dance and theatre classes, karate to name a few. There is still a few slots available, but not many, which is very good news.

At weekends we are particularly busy with parties and the Social Club are making use of the hall with outside entertainment from time to time.

As you may have seen our local Duke of Edinburgh Awards Centre has again used the hall to showcase the Awards Scheme and we were delighted to welcome HRH The Duke of Edinburgh to the Village Hall on Wednesday 12th April where he participated in numerous activities.

Following on from our success with Hallmark 1 we are working towards Hallmark 2, but time constraints on the Trustees, who all work fulltime as well as giving our time to the Hall is proving difficult. We are sure that we will achieve the standard, but it is taking longer than anticipated.

Our biggest project by far will be replacing the hall floor. We have obtained quotes and are waiting for the results of a grant application. This is now a 'must do' rather than a want and we are progressing plans to make this happen during the school summer holidays.

As mentioned in previous reports, we continue to use the information available to Village Halls from Cambridgeshire ACRE to ensure we are compliant with current legislation. Our Policies are updated annually.

Finally, the Trustees thank the Parish Council for their continued support during the last 12 months and we will continue to work with them to promote this valuable Village amenity.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

FOR FUTURE INFORMATION:

OUR FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE
USUALLY HELD ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
IN THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE AT HANOVER CLOSE

ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO
ATTEND TO HEAR THE PROCEEDINGS

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