

A photograph of a tree-lined street with a church spire in the background. The street is paved and has a white dashed line down the center. The trees are lush green, and the church spire is visible in the distance. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, bold, orange font.

Bloxham Parish Council

APM

April 26th 2023

Agenda

- Introductions and Apologies
- To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 March 2022
- Matters arising from the Minutes
- Chairman's Report 2022/2023
- Parish Council Accounts 2022/2023 & Financial Report
- County and District Councilors Reports
- What's happening this year
- Questions from residents who are on the electoral roll for Bloxham

Chairmans Report

- Village Asset and infrastructure
 - Jubilee Hall
 - Bus shelter, bus stops, benches and bins
 - Potholes, drains and roads cleaning
 - Burial Ground
 - Anti social behaviour
- Speculative Developments
 - Ells Lane
 - Tadmarton Road
 - Plus one
- Traffic calming
- Speedwatch
- Communication and PC meetings

2nd rebuild of Jubilee Hall

Following the original Contractor going into voluntary liquidation, a new Contractor was found to complete remedial works, fitting a new roof and upgrading the water and heating systems.

We now have:

- 4 Changing rooms, with showers and separate officials changing rooms.
- Tea kiosk.
- Additional small meeting room available for hire.
- Main hall with an upgraded kitchen
- Additional toilets in the main building

Bus stops, Benches, Planters, Dog & Litter Bins

- New Bus shelter
- Programme in place to replace our benches with environmentally friendly one:
 - Enviropol slats, recycled aluminium support ends
- Additional Dog bins at junctions with PROWs and roads.
 - Ells Lane x 1
 - Bloxham Grove x 2
 - Further planned for Tadmarton Road
- Programme to replace litter bins as needed.
- Planters to be rebuilt by Galliford Try, following the road junction improvements, village signs to be re-instated
 - Challenges due to steep side banks.

Bus Shelter – I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow you down

Old



New



Pot holes, drains and road sweeping

Shall we just say – there are ongoing challenges

- **Potholes**

- Multiple streets have serious pothole problems.
 - Members of the PC who are “Super users” in “fix my street” are able to mark up and “schedule action” for repair, (marked up in white), usually within 28 days
 - Residents should use “fix my street” to report potholes, if not done in 28 days, contact me and I will follow up with OCC.

- **Drains (Gullies and Catch pits)**

- Multiple drains are still blocked which becomes evident with heavy rain.
 - Unfortunately we can only report in “fix my street” as needing to be cleaned.
 - If they are not done within 28 days, contact me and I will follow up with OCC

- **Road sweeping**

- Not “Fix my street”. CDC responsibility
 - https://forms.cherwell.gov.uk/xfp/form/495?council=CDC&_gl=1*17n6wyh*_ga*OTk3NTQwNzEwLjE2NzY2NTE2NDE.*_ga_ZKNRP2QC5Y*MTY4MjQxNzU4Mi4yNi4xLjE2ODI0MTc2MDguMC4wLjA

Need for a new Cemetery

- Churchyard is almost full
- Is a Cemetery / burial ground in the parish important?
 - Land would need to be purchased or donated
 - Purchase cost could be met by a Developer via S106 monies – more houses
 - Increase the precept, so the Parish Council could buy land with a loan
- We engaged with Consultants to help find suitable land
 - Consultants identified 10 potential sites but only two met all the criteria which is required for a burial ground, which is accessible and either in, or on the border of, the Parish.

Anti Social Behaviour

- Drugs
 - Churchyard
- Graffiti and vandalism
 - Various locations, anti semitic and cult in nature
 - Vandalism within the Church
 - Benches
 - Recreation areas

Meeting with Police and Crime Commissioner

Local Parishes had a meeting October 2022 with Matthew Barber and the local Neighbourhood Policing team in Milcombe, where we were able to raise concerns around increased crime levels in villages

Key concerns raised were:

- Visibility of Officers within the villages
- Difficulty in reporting crime using 101
- No feedback on reported crime

He shared his wish to strengthen neighbourhood Policing and improve 101 service

More importantly for us it introduced us to the Neighbourhood team. As a Parish Council we now engage regularly with the team and have a DIAC provisionally scheduled for 10th June.

Standing up against Speculative Development

- Planning application for 30 houses on the corner of A361 and Ells Lane.
 - Parish Council fought against this and **won**
 - CDC more than meet the housing land supply target of 5 years.
 - Not compliant with BNP policies
 - Not compliant with parts of the CDC Developed Plan and NPPF
 - Doctors surgery objected
 - Refused by CDC Planning Committee.
- Planning application coming from Gladmans for 60 houses on Tadmarton Road.
 - Parish Council will fight this and object when the application comes in.
- Possible application for Milton Road from Taylor Wimpey – no details yet.

Traffic Calming

- **Main concerns raised during Drop in and Chat:**
 - **Primary school traffic hazards.**
 - Flashing ambers.
 - Fixed – hadn't been connected by OCC
 - Hedge cut back on Cumberford corner.
 - Following formal action by OCC hedge given a "trim".
 - Miller Homes Car Park.
 - Built as specified in the Planning approval
 - Not owned by Parish, so unable to improve
 - Residents Management Group have completed pot hole repairs
 - Just been informed that developer intends carrying out remedial work, not sure what that entails at this moment. CDC will monitor.
 - **Loss of Lollypop Lady**
 - Met with County Councillor and Highways to discuss installation of two Zebra Crossings.
 - OCC currently creating proposals

Traffic Calming

- **Main concerns raised during Drop in and Chat:**
 - **Warriner traffic hazard.**
 - **Ells Lane parking.**
 - Checked with Contractors - No parking restrictions proposed as part of the junction changes
 - **Parking in slip road**
 - Slip road has been removed.
 - **Bloxham Grove parking**
 - Lay by parking instead of the previous diagonal parking, so overall less parking spaces
 - Result - more cars in Chipperfield Park estate.

Traffic Calming

- **Main concerns raised during Drop in and Chat:**
 - General traffic issues.
 - **A361 speeding into village.**
 - Fixed SID's with data collection
 - Let us know problem times
 - Organise Speedwatch event
 - **Courtington Lane.**
 - Parking on the corner from A361 to Workhouse Lane
 - Option of yellow lines being discussed with OCC. Once all proposals received an informal consultation will take place.
 - Speeding vehicles
 - Speedwatch check points defined
 - Portable speed indicator device purchased by PC, which can be located anywhere and will capture speed /time/no's of vehicles
 - **Barford Road, Milton Road and High Street**
 - Speeding vehicles leaving the village as well as entering.
 - Speedwatch check points defined
 - Portable speed indicator device purchased by PC, which can be located anywhere and will capture speed /time/no's of vehicles

Traffic Calming

- **20 mph pre consultation exercise**

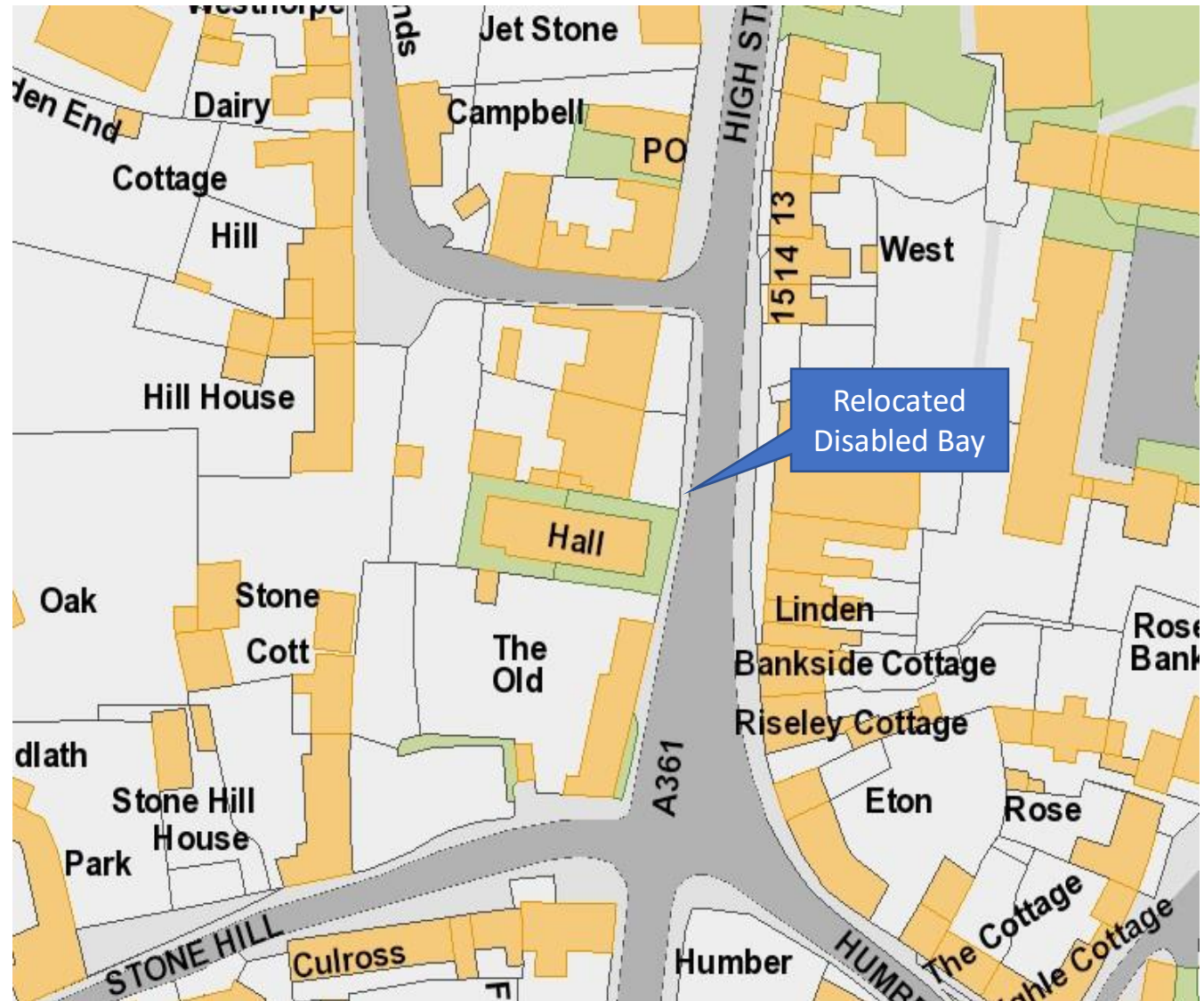
- A village survey early 2022, was generally in support of 20mph speed limits in the village, however the results were mixed on where these zones should be. The survey showed a broad mix of results, some listed here:
 - All village roads.
 - Just estate roads
 - A361 and some additional roads, Courtington Lane as an example.
- Given the negative press reports regarding the implementation of these 20 mph and experiences from other villages in North Oxfordshire, the Parish Council has signed up for OCC to complete a pre consultation exercise. This is not “decision made” and as a Village/PC we can seek changes. WE NEEDED to start somewhere, so as not to be left behind.

- **Relocation of disabled bay**

- Following request to have a formal Disabled Bay. A consultation tool place to relocate in front of the Chippy.

Disabled Bay

- Existing disabled bay outside the Post Office was not a formal disabled bay.
- Located close to the corner of Work House Lane, between the corner and the zebra crossing zig zags.
- Narrow road width.
- New location would be a formal disabled bay directly in front of drop curb to Chippy.
- Consultation with shop owners and properties in the vicinity has taken place



Speedwatch

- The group has been set up and registered with Thames Valley Police.
 - We have 8 trained volunteers
 - We have the equipment
 - We have signs in place for each village entry point (mandatory)
 - We have defined several Speedwatch check points
- Final step:
 - Practical training for the team on the Bushnel Speed Gun and data recording

Proposed Locations

A361 from Banbury

A361 from Chipping Norton

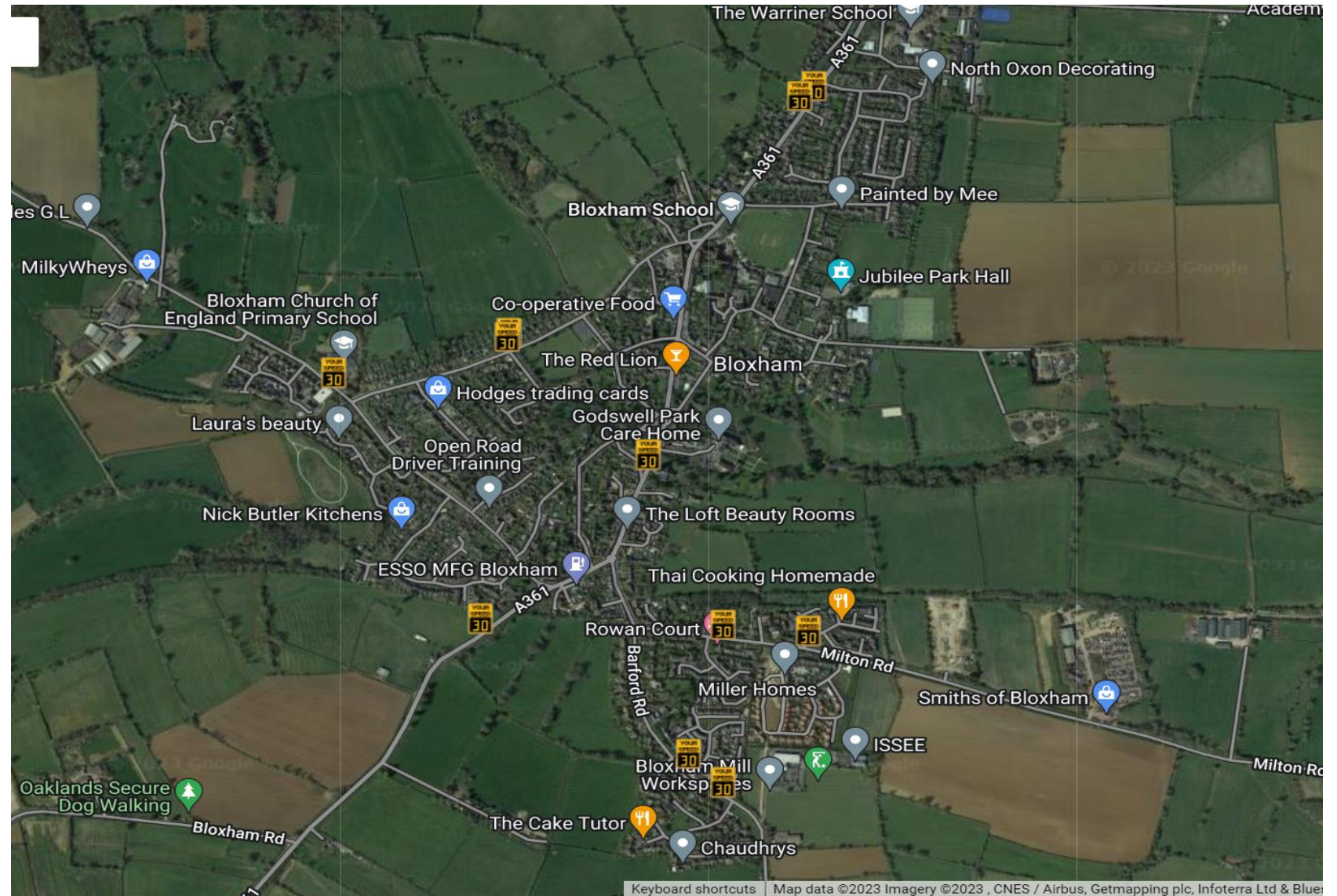
Tadmarton Road

Barford Road

Milton Road

High Street

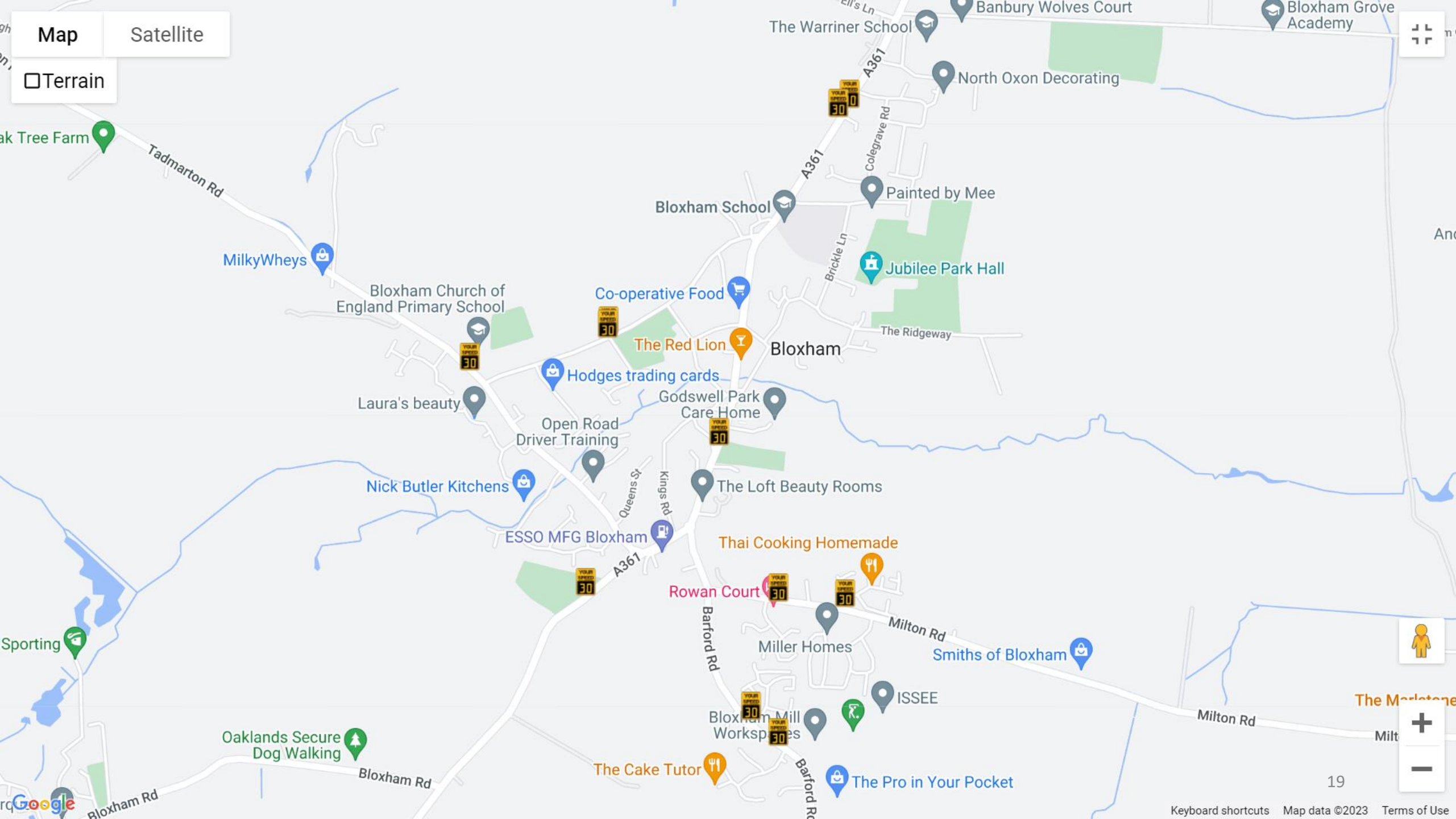
Courtington Lane



Map

Satellite

☐ Terrain



Communication and PC Meetings

- Our Clerk, Theresa, has created a newsletter for the Bloxham Broadsheet. Minutes are still available to view online and on village noticeboards.
- We held a themed Drop in and chat on Traffic calming. We plan to run similar this year, hopefully “meet our neighbourhood Police team will be next, provisionally planned for
- June (TBC).
- Worked hard on how we communicate to keep residents updated on concerns raised.
 - If you raise a concern we’ll let you know how its progressing.
 - Escalate to District and County Councillors, where we cant resolve.
 - This takes time
- Made PC meeting more interactive, within the guidelines of how we have to manage a public council meeting.

Communication and PC Meetings

- Making PC meeting more interactive, within the guidelines of how we have to manage a public council meeting.
- Themed Drop in and Chats. We held our first one on Traffic calming.
 - We plan to run similar this year, hopefully “meet our neighbourhood Police team” will be next, provisionally planned for 10th June (TBC).
- Our Clerk has created a newsletter for the Bloxham Broadsheet.
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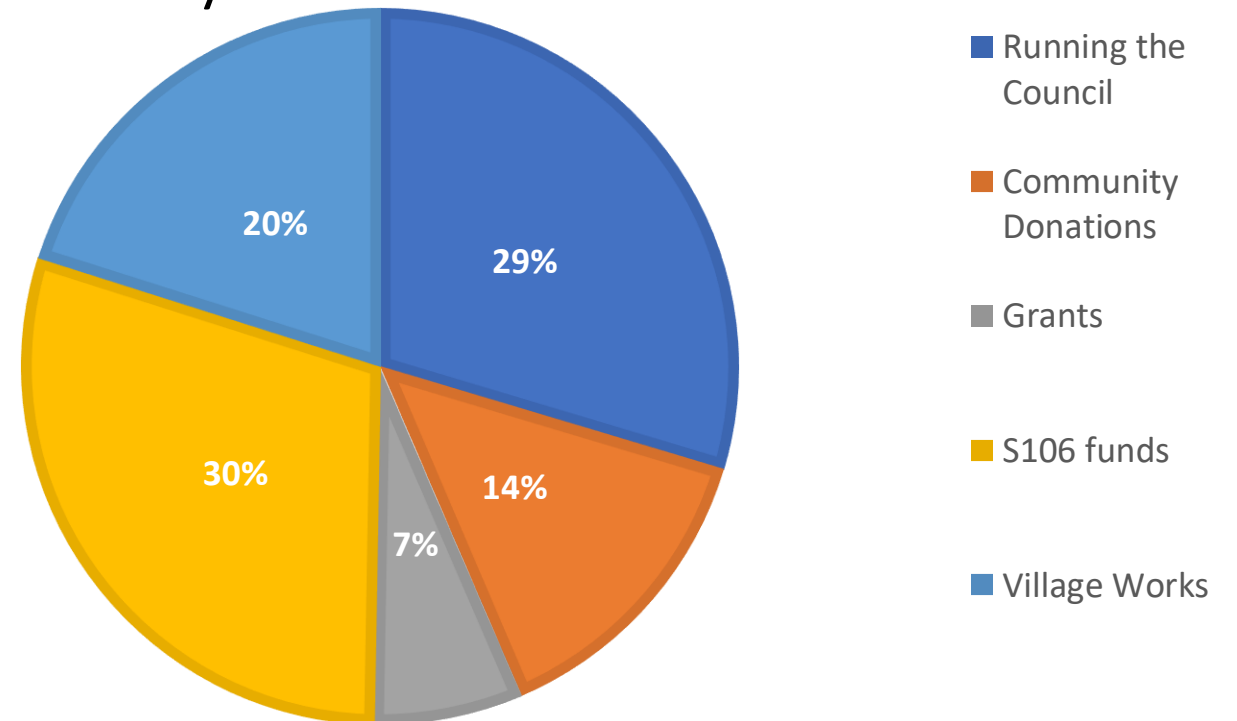
Financials

- Overview
- Donations and Grants
- Village Works
- S106

Financial Overview

- Precept has been kept the same for the last 3 years
- Remained on budget for 2022/2023
- Main buckets:

Running the Council	£33,527
Community Donations	£15,770
Grants	£7,597
Village Works	£22,741
S106 Funds	£33,531



Community Donations and Grants

Community Donations

- Jubilee Park Grass Cutting
- Cherry Tree Centre
- Church Clock
- Community Christmas Lunch
- Royal British Legion
- Recreation Ground
- Thursday Club

Grants

- Ellen Hinde Hall
- Bloxham Pre-School
- Bio Diversity
- Flower Club
- Table Tennis Club
- Boys Brigade
- Jubilee Grant

Village Works

- Tree Management
- Grass Cutting
- General Planting and weed control
- Hedges and bushes
- Litter and Dog bin waste services
- Christmas tree and street lights
- Queen Street site
- Slade
- And more.....

S106 funds

- Jubilee Hall
- Play equipment maintenance
- Recreation Ground

Councillors Reports

- High Level responsibilities (the big buckets)
- District
 - Planning
 - Environmental – Bins, recycling,
 - Housing allocation
- County
 - Highways
 - Education

What's happening this year?

- New roof for the Recreation ground changing rooms, store and hall
- Feasibility study of having 1 or 2 electric vehicle charging point in Jubilee car park
- Standing up against Speculative development on Tadmarton Road and possible other locations in the village
- Defibrillator Training - June
- Consultation on 20mph speed limit by OCC
- Informal consultation on Traffic Calming options
 - Formal consultation on Traffic Calming options
- First Speedwatch session
- Burial Ground

**Dip your toe
in....
The water's
warm!
Come and join
your Parish
Council**



Questions

- When will the residents of Bloxham be consulted on proposed 'traffic calming' measures, how will this be communicated and organised, and how will objections be handled?
- When will Cherwell District Council carry-out an open, considered and public measurement of air quality and air pollution on Bloxham High Street at the shops, and how will residents be informed of the results and potential actions?
- Can the Parish Council consider establishing a Bloxham Community Activity co-ordinator and lead individual to help avoid clashes of events, such as we saw on Saturday April 22nd, and to communicate and encourage community activities including new initiatives?
- What role does the Parish Council carry out to help residents understand how to get action to clear blocked drains and gullies and repair pot-holes? How is this communicated to residents?