

Parish Council AGM 2018

Welcome to the 2018 meeting.

The council election was unopposed and the council members are Charlotte Rogers, Jane Goody, Rob Atwood, Gareth Walker and myself, Stuart Laurie.

We continue to see many changes in and around Cambridge with developments shooting up everywhere. We, as a council, in principle, oppose the use of green belt land for development in the parish. We are however under pressure to provide additional housing.

With this in mind, we have established a working group to produce a Babraham neighbourhood plan, headed by councillor Atwood. This, in conjunction with the Local plan will form the basis for future development in the parish.

The village

Speeding traffic: Despite the purchase of a new speed indication sign we still experience speeding traffic. We applied for a LHI grant from the Highways department in order to install traffic calming speed bumps, but were unsuccessful. However, it is our intention to proceed independently and have calming installed.

The junction of the High Street and A1307 remains dangerous. Our application to improve the junction was turned down because the proposed upgrade of the A1307 was imminent and would include safety features at the junction. We await improvements with baited breath. As most people are aware the plan to build a park and ride near Oak Lane has been dropped, following much lobbying by the council.

Two trees were blown last winter, blocking the road and causing temporary loss of power to certain areas of the village. Babraham Campus, in conjunction with the Electricity company, cleared the trees and subsequently the campus has topped or removed potentially dangerous trees.

The lease held by the council for the pocket park has expired and with numerous changes about to take place on the Campus, the lease has not yet been renewed. We have also been invited to lease of the Babraham Sports field. This is currently under consideration, and will involve discussion with the cricket club.

The village garden area is doing well and should produce a bright display this year. Thanks to those who continue to maintain it. This year we decided to employ a different company to maintain the grass and bins in the village. So far they have proved very efficient.

We are currently seeking a site for allotments and children's play area. The play area has been on the agenda for some time and we are desperate for land on which to site it. Funds are available so the project could be started as soon as a site is found.