

Bodicote

PARISH COUNCIL

Serving the village of Bodicote

WHAT DO WE DO FOR YOU?

It is a little late, however Bodicote Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very happy 2025. The snow before Christmas was a bit of a shock. We have been very lucky – some people may not think so – to have stayed snow-free for quite a few years now. Happily it didn't hang around for long but gave way to some very cold weather. We hope you are all staying warm and safe.

We have noticed some online comments criticising the Parish Council for doing nothing and not spending your money. As we all work very hard for the Parish we felt it would help if we addressed any misunderstandings.

Members of the Parish Council are your Elected Representatives and we do not receive payment for anything we do. We are obligated to attend all scheduled Parish Council meetings and often have to arrange and attend extra meetings to discuss planning applications, the environment, contractors and/or developers, or attend meetings with Cherwell District Council. We are also expected to attend training sessions in our own time.

As well as the meetings we have a great many obligations around the village including regularly walking the village in order to notice and report any problems and liaise with the appropriate authorities if necessary. We have purchased the defibrillators and undertake weekly checks to make sure they are working if someone unfortunately needs to use one.

We take care of our environment by planting new trees, making sure the verges, graveyard and cemetery are kept cut and tidy, and we install, maintain and replace, when needed, the rubbish and dog bins and install and replace benches. Any play areas in our care are checked weekly for signs of wear and tear in order to keep them safe. We carefully look at all planning applications and vigorously fight against any we feel are inappropriate, even if we do not have much say in the final decision. Every Christmas we erect and light the Christmas tree by the shop and go back and take it down after Twelfth Night. And of course we produce and deliver this newsletter to every house in the parish.

Remember that members of the public are welcome to attend any Parish Council meeting and take part if you have something you would like us to consider. Details of meetings and minutes are readily available to view on our website. We hope this assures you that we do work hard for you and the Parish and are diligent in the way we spend your money!



OVERGROWN TREES AND HEDGES

During the spring and summer months, we are regularly contacted about overgrown bushes, hedges and trees that are obstructing pavements. Bodicote Parish Council employ contractors to prune any that are on land owned by the Parish Council, but many are growing from private gardens.

Residents are responsible for ensuring foliage from their own gardens does not cause problems to pedestrians and vehicles, and the council will contact them if a

complaint is made. In extreme cases, enforcement action can be taken.

Brambles are a particular danger for children and for people with impaired vision. Please bear this in mind and arrange to cut back any overgrown hedges.

If you have a tree, hedge or bush that is overgrown and you are unable to prune it yourself, you can visit the Trading Standards Buy With Confidence website to find an approved trader:

www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk



PLEASE BAG IT AND BIN IT!

Once again we are receiving complaints about dog waste left on verges, pavements and in Kingsfield and the cricket field.

Please be a responsible dog owner and clean up after your dog so that our village is pleasant for everyone to use.

NEW COUNCILLORS JOIN US

We are pleased to welcome Khym Corrigan and Peter Jackson to the Parish Council. We now have a full complement of councillors. As we start a new year we are excited to be working together as a team to maintain, protect and improve Bodicote village. We are looking forward to initiating new projects which will benefit the village. If you would like to talk to the council regarding any issues please come along to our meetings or contact any of us if there is something you would like to bring to our attention.



I moved to Bodicote in 2023 and have found the village to be very welcoming. I am keen to support the local community and village and see it thrive.

As an avid walker I love the village and surrounding areas and spend lots of time walking my 2 dogs.

I am looking forward to being part of the parish council, working with the other councillors to make Bodicote a great place to live for everyone.

Khym

I moved to Bodicote in 2016, having lived in Manchester, Southern Germany, Abingdon and Gloucestershire where I was a member of the local parish council. I worked as an independent consultant in software development and Data analytics and I retired in 2024.

I am a strong believer in the role of parish councils to represent the views of residents to the higher tiers of government. I would like to see Bodicote maintaining its identity as a village, with the necessary infrastructure to support it.

Peter



The village saw a wonderful display of poppies on the main roads throughout the village last year to honour those who fell whilst serving in the armed forces.

It is hoped that this year the British Legion will be able to arrange a proper parade through the village to the memorial outside the church.

FRIENDLY PRINTING

Bodicote Parish Council regularly print and deliver these newsletters. We are dedicated to making sure that as far as is possible we take care of the environment.

To this end we entrust our printing to KMS Litho because their environmental credentials are in tune with ours.

As of March 1st the electrical energy KMS use will be coming from the local community solar farm at Sibford and the litho inks they use do not contain mineral oils, they are vegetable and soya-based oils.

For nearly 20 years they have not used chemistry in their pre-press department – they don't even use water, and the laser plates are laser etched.

KMS are FSC®-certified which means that this product is made of material from well-managed forests and other controlled sources. They are also members of an organisation called Two Sides, which champions the use of print in communication and who will challenge a lot of the mis-informed green washing that is published about paper and print.

So you can be sure that the newsletters produced and delivered by your Parish Council are as environmentally friendly as they can be.

COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Feel free to contact us by email

For general enquiries contact

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Parish Council contacts

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Councillor Peter Jackson

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Councillor Khym Corrigan

khym@bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk

COME ALONG TO OUR MEETINGS!

Bodicote Parish Council meet on the third Wednesday of every month, (apart from August), at 7.15pm in the Church House.

You can come along to any meeting to voice your opinion, offer suggestions, or just to see what goes on. You are always welcome.