

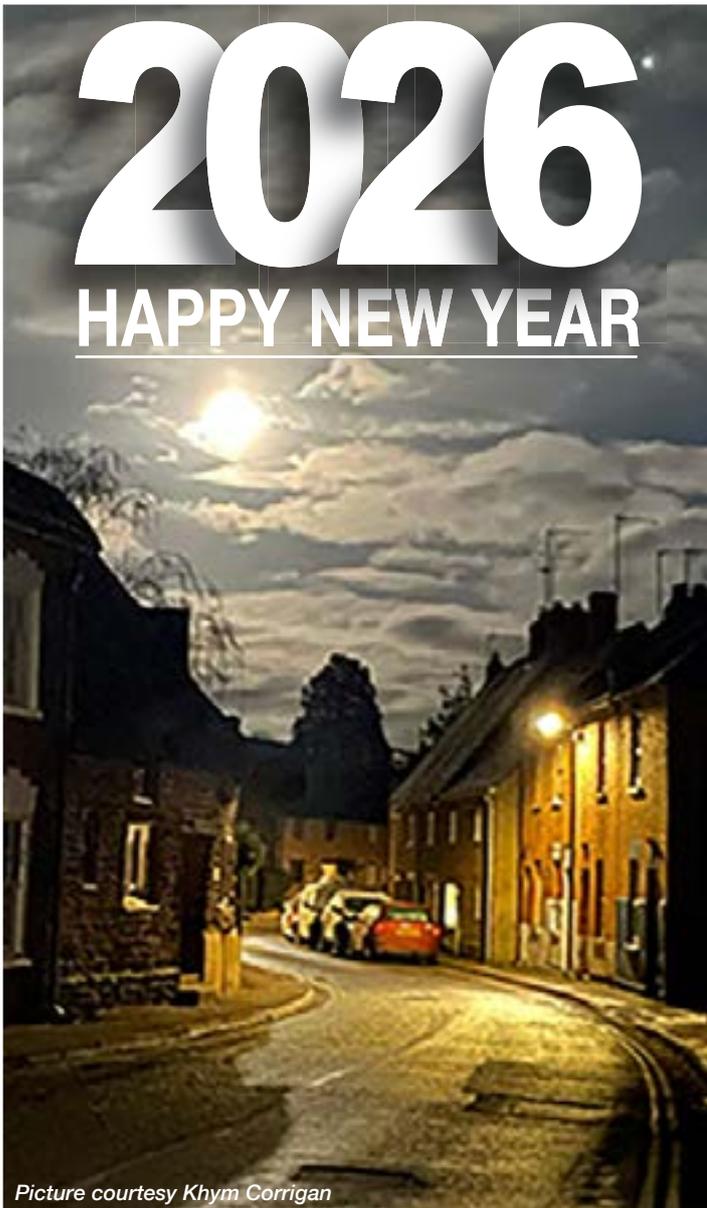
NEWSLETTER

February 2026

Bodicote reservoir 3rd January courtesy Caroline Elmitt

2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Picture courtesy Khym Corrigan

Bodicote Parish Council would like to wish all Bodicote residents a Very Happy New Year.

An amazing Wolf Moon ushered the year in, swiftly followed by a covering of snow and some days of freezing conditions, but happily partnered with stunningly beautiful blue skies and sun.

The Parish Council will continue to work hard to provide essential services to the village and look forward to residents' participation throughout 2026.

INSIDE PAGES

IT'S UP TO YOU

We want your opinion on the provision of extras salt bins and whether Part Night Lighting is a good idea. For information go to Page 2

COULD YOU SAVE A LIFE?

An opportunity for residents to learn life saving and defibrillator skills is being offered in March. For information go to Page 2

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Parish Council is putting together a blueprint for any future development plans in Bodicote. For details see Page 3

TREE WORK NEARS COMPLETION

The Parish Council has undertaken considerable tree work throughout the village in the last few months. Full story on Page 4

TIME FOR YOU TO HAVE YOUR SAY

PART NIGHT LIGHTS - YES OR NO



Oxfordshire County Council is asking towns and villages if they would like to change their street lighting to Part Night Lighting.

Part Night Lighting is a street lighting strategy where lights are switched off for a portion of the night to save energy, reduce carbon emissions, improve the night sky for residents and benefit wildlife. Normally, lights will turn on at dusk and switch off around midnight and then turn back on before dawn. Implementing this strategy can significantly reduce electricity consumption and associated costs. It also lowers carbon footprint and lessens light pollution, helping both residents and nocturnal wildlife.

We have a duty to keep community lighting safe and understand there may be some concerns amongst residents regarding safety and possible nuisance.

The important thing is to try to balance energy efficiency and the environment with community needs.

Bodicote Parish Council would like your input. It is important there is a consultation with residents before any decision is made. This is your decision, and we need to know your thoughts on the proposal.

Please let us know via the Contact page on the website at bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk; or by contacting the clerk, **Christine Coles**. Her contact details are on page four of this newsletter.

Alternatively, you can always come along to any meeting. They are held on the third Wednesday of every month and dates of meetings and agendas are posted on the website.

We would be very pleased to see you and hear your opinion and ideas for your village.

MORE SALT BINS - LET US KNOW

Bodicote has been lucky for a few years and has not experienced a hard winter. Unfortunately this year has been a little different and we have had snow and ice which has made driving, cycling and walking in the village difficult and dangerous.

We only have one salt bin in the village sited outside the Post Office which we realise is not very convenient for many people. Residents have contacted the council asking for more bins to be placed strategically around the village for residents' use.

In response we are asking you to let us know where you feel a salt bin would be most helpful and would benefit as many residents as possible.

Please let us know via the Contact page on the website: bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk; or by contacting the clerk, **Christine Coles**, her contact details are on page four of this newsletter.

COULD YOU SAVE A LIFE TODAY?



If you were faced with an emergency today would you be able to confidently administer first aid?

Bodicote Parish Council is organising a First Aid training course, covering what to do in a medical emergency and how to operate a defibrillator.

There are four defibrillators in the village sited at the Post Office, Church House, the Village Hall and at the Horse and Jockey public house.

Defibrillators can save lives and are very easy to use, but it can still be daunting if you have never used one and are frightened of doing more harm than good. The course will walk you through how to use a defibrillator as well as how to deal with other medical emergencies.

The course will be held on Wednesday 25th March 7-9pm in The Church House and it will be free to Bodicote residents. Places will be limited so please book yours as soon as possible by contacting us through the website or by directly contacting the clerk. All contact details can be found on the back page.

BODICOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN IN ACTION



The Parish Council continues to work on a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. Councillors have been working to identify green spaces to designate, such as Town Furlong and Kingsfield. We are also working to include the protection of locally important views and vistas, including the far-reaching rural scenes to the south and west of the village, and the views back to the village.

Much of what we are working to protect was raised in the public consultation we held in Church House last year. We are also working on ideas for enhancing the green spaces and improving biodiversity.

We are now considering how to manage future development to reflect the rural and traditional character of the village, and how we can improve on the infrastructure.

In due course there will be a draft Neighbourhood Plan on which there will be another, formal consultation, and you will again be able to have your say. The on-going development of the plan is being led by the Parish Council but if you would like to become involved we would welcome additional input into the preparation of the plan. Please contact one of the Parish Councillors if you wish to participate.

POPPIES ON PARADE

Once again the Parish Council is proud of the poppy display along the main routes in Bodicote. The poppies marched along from lamppost to lamppost to remember and honour those who fell in the two World Wars and in other conflicts over the years.

In consultation with the Royal British Legion we have taken the decision not to write the names of the fallen on the poppies. It is difficult to write neatly and tidily on them and we are conscious that it could appear disrespectful and possibly detract from their purpose and message.

If Bodicote residents would like to purchase a poppy and write the names of their loved ones lost to conflict and display them on their property they can purchase them for £5 (price correct at time of printing) from the Poppy Shop.



Picture courtesy Kevin Thorne

BODICOTE TREES TRIMMED

There are regular reports of people being hurt, or vehicles and dwellings being damaged by falling tree limbs or, indeed, falling trees.

It is a legal requirement for all councils to regularly check the trees in their wards. Bodicote Parish Council has a rolling schedule for professional examinations and reports on all the trees in the village that are growing within the green open spaces owned and managed by the Parish Council.

Following last year's report, a full programme of tree work is now underway. The object of the work is to keep the trees in a healthy condition and to remove potentially dangerous limbs and branches.

Work has now been completed in the cemetery on Wykham Lane, on the green in The Rydes and the green at Town Furlong. Work has commenced on the small woodland of trees on the village side of the flyover, opposite the new Arbor Park development.

Cotefield Tree Care Ltd were appointed as contractors and we are very pleased with the work they have done. We will continue to monitor the trees and, where possible, plant new ones to enhance the beauty of the village and for the benefit of wildlife.



COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Feel free to contact us by email
or go to the website for all contact
numbers and enquiries:
www.bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk

For general enquiries contact:

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You can find agendas and minutes of
meetings and other information,
news and events on the
Bodicote Parish Council website:
bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk