

BODICOTE IGNORED

Parish loses yet more land despite village campaign

- **New estates to be moved involuntarily into Banbury**
- **Huge swathes of parish land east of Oxford Road to be lost**
- **Merlin Close saved as part of Bodicote**

The Parish Council is deeply disappointed that our village is to have yet more of its historic land seized into Banbury as a result of the recent Community Governance Review carried out by Cherwell District Council. This is despite the overwhelming majority of responses to the consultation being in favour of keeping the parish intact.

Residents of the new Pavilions and Whitechapel Gardens estates south of Salt Way are to be taken into Banbury, while 94% of consultation responses argued they should stay with Bodicote. To date, the Parish Council has still received no justifiable reasons from Cherwell as to why the move needs to go ahead in the face of such widespread public opposition.

In better news, Merlin Close is to remain in Bodicote, although most of our rural village land east of Oxford Road is being taken away for the 850-home southward extension of Longford Park.

The Parish Council is grateful to everyone who responded to the consultation or took part in the campaign. The decision was taken by elected Cherwell councillors, and while several of them voted to protect Bodicote, the majority chose to proceed with the move.

We would invite any concerned residents to get in touch and in particular those on the new estates who will be directly affected. The boundary changes are scheduled to happen in May 2024.



TRAVELLING MAN AT THE POST OFFICE

The new man in charge of the village shop and Post Office is clocking up hundreds of miles a week to ensure these vital village amenities continue to operate at a high standard.

Jay Thaua, who is aged 39, lives with his wife and two daughters in Aylesbury, and currently travels daily from his home to Bodicote.

He says he has been given a warm welcome by his customers and plans to move to the Bodicote area when “things have settled down a bit.”

NEW DEFIBRILLATORS FOR THE VILLAGE

The Parish Council has funded a further defibrillator for the village, and this has been sited at the Post Office.

Another of these life-saving machines is to be installed at Church House in the near future. This has been funded through a grant from the Councillor’s Priority Fund arranged by local County Councillor Arash Fatemian. There are two other defibrillators in the village. One at the village hall and the other at Banbury Rugby Club.



THE STORY OF THE CROSS



Council Chair Joyce Washburn and artist Paul Tomlinson admire the display

The historic story of Bodicote's Weeping Cross is now told in a colourful display that has been erected near the original site of the memorial on the Oxford Road. Artist Paul Tomlinson, who created the artwork for the project, joined members of the Parish Council for the unveiling of the display.

If you would like to see more of Paul's work please go to his website:

www.paulrichardtominson.co.uk



CORONATION PICNIC

Bodicote Parish Council is planning a family picnic on Kingsfield on Sunday May 7th from 2pm to 4pm.



This event is open to anyone living in Bodicote and we will

be celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III. There is more information on the Parish Council website:

www.bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk

COUNCIL NEWS IN BRIEF

The Parish Council have replaced the rubbish bins around the village with larger bins with lids. This will help to minimise the mess caused by strong winds, birds and other wildlife scattering rubbish.

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If you have any concerns regarding suspicious behaviour in Bodicote please report it to the police via their website:

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk> and clicking on Report.

This can be done anonymously if you don't wish to give your details.

Bodicote Parish Council

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Bodicote Parish Council is working with Oxfordshire County Council Highways to introduce a 20mph speed limit throughout the village.

Speeding is a problem on many streets in the village. We require as much support as possible from residents.

If you have views on this initiative please email the Parish Clerk on:
clerk@bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk

WYKHAM LANE ROADWORKS

The resurfacing works scheduled for Wykham Lane have unfortunately been postponed. However the pipework will still go ahead and a length of road will be closed 10–12 April.

BODICOTE CIRCULAR WALK

Bodicote Parish Council has taken over the stewardship of the Bodicote Circular Walk.

We are currently working on a map which will be sited in the new stand by Salt Way and we will be replacing the waymarkers so that the walk is clearly signposted.

Volunteer monitors will regularly inspect this valuable asset to make sure it is kept clear and unobstructed.

COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Feel free to contact us by email

For general enquiries contact

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Annual Parish Meeting

The Parish Council meeting will be

held at 7pm on Wednesday 12th

April 2023 and will be followed

by the Annual Parish Meeting at

8pm. Refreshments will be served.

Everybody welcome.