



**Finchampstead**  
Parish Council

# **Annual Gathering**

**31 May 2022**

# Amenities Committee

**Projects to enhance the local environment  
and to support and promote local services**



**Finchampstead**  
Parish Council

# Committee members

**Councillor Sylvia McDonald, Chair**  
**Councillor Steve Bowers, Vice Chair**  
**Cllrs Emily Biskup; Chris Driver; Becky Eytle;**  
**Sally Gurney; Andy Pearce; Gordon Veitch**

## Our partners

- **Finchampstead Baptist Church**
- **Finchampstead Allotments Association**
- **Finchampstead and California Parochial Church Council**
- **Wokingham Borough Council**
- **Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association**

# Litter



- Our two part time Litter Wardens collected over 460 sacks of litter from our roadsides

- We have over 45 'Adopt a Street' volunteers covering 41 roads



- 150 volunteers collected 130 sacks of litter in the community litter pick



# Finchampstead Allotments



**A popular site with a waiting list**

**We set up the site and work closely with the Allotment Association over its management**



# Trees and floral displays



- We have completed surveys of the trees on Wellingtonia Avenue
- We have planted more trees at Burnmoor Meadow
- We provide floral displays at the California Crossroads



# Defibrillators



- 5 community accessible defibrillators provided at:
  - California Crossroads
  - California Ratepayers Hall
  - FBC Centre
  - Memorial Hall
  - St James' Church Centre
- Units provided to the Gorse Ride Schools and Finchampstead Primary School





# Remembrance 2021



- Parade and Service at the Memorial Park
- Worked with the PCC, the Park Management Committee and the uniformed groups
- Barkham Hookers crochet group created poppies for the California Crossroads



# The Platinum Jubilee



**Picnic in the Park  
with BRASS BAND  
followed by  
BEACON LIGHTING**



**Thursday 2nd June 2022**

**Finchampstead celebrates the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

- **6:30 pm to 8:30pm ~ bring your own picnic to the Memorial Park and enjoy music (organised by the Fించampstead Society)**
- **8:30 pm ~ a walk to St. James' Church**
- **9:30 pm ~ Beacon Lighting with a Piper, Bubbly and Cake**



# The Platinum Jubilee

- Trees planted at Burnmoor Meadow for the Queen's Green Canopy scheme
- Support for 2 June events
- Support for Barkham Hookers crochet group to create bunting and decorations
- Gift to be made to a community facility to benefit local children
- Finchampstead Platinum Jubilee Awards





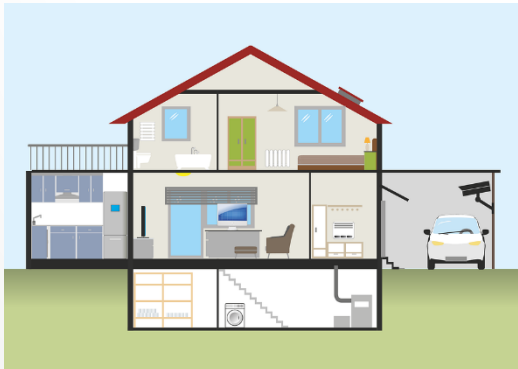
# Planning Committee

**Aims to safeguard the local environment  
Considers and comments on all planning  
applications and related matters**



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# Our Work This Year



- **Considered over 200 development applications**
- **New homes to garage or barn conversions**
- **Tree Preservation Orders**

# Applications of Concern



- **Land off Johnson Drive**
- **Land North of Nine Mile Ride**
- **Speculative proposals**

# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH

LOCAL PLAN  
'Shaping our Future'

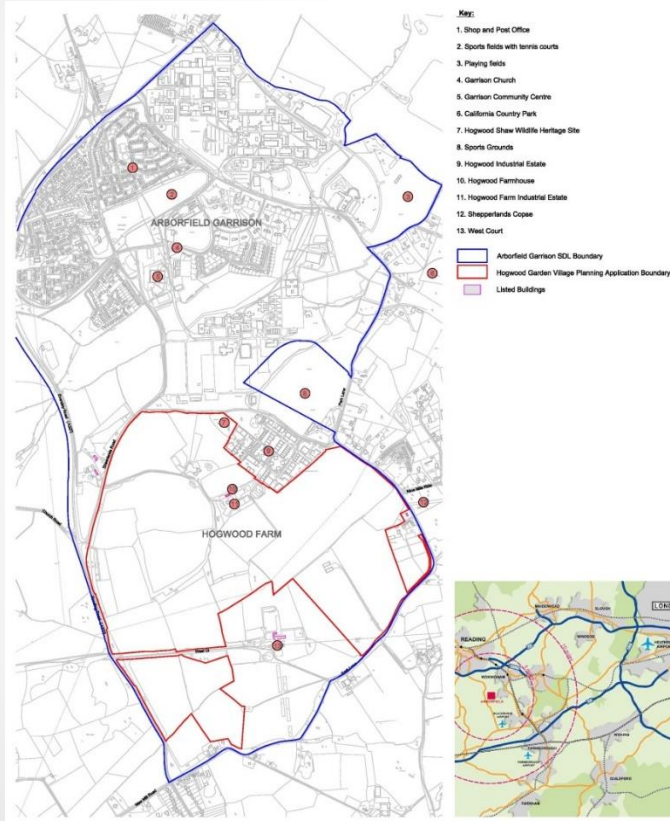
**Revised Growth  
Strategy  
consultation – our  
response included  
strong opposition  
to proposals for  
Rooks Nest Farm**



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BOROUGH COUNCIL



# Arborfield Strategic Development Location



- Homes occupied to date at Arborfield Green include around 300 in Finchampstead
- Finchwood Park – 1500 homes plus community facilities

# Rights of Way Committee

**Aims to ensure that the local network of footpaths and bridleways is kept in good condition, well signed and as accessible as possible.**



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# Wet weather, wear and tear!





**THIS IS A PUBLIC FOOTPATH ONLY**  
**THERE IS NO RIGHT OF WAY FOR CYCLISTS OR HORSES**

**Footpath**



A Public Footpath means that you have the right to go along the path on foot. You don't have the right to cycle or ride a horse on it unless the landowner has given you their permission. If you do so without permission then you are trespassing.

**THIS SPECIFIC PATH IS ONLY SUITABLE FOR PEDESTRIAN USE AND THE LANDOWNERS DO NOT GIVE THEIR PERMISSION FOR ANY OTHER USAGE.**

Why is this rule important?

- Footpaths are designed for people travelling on foot and may contain hazards which you cannot see and which can be dangerous
- Use by cyclists or horse riders can easily damage the surface and the path
- Other users will not be looking out for you, which can put them and you at risk
- The path may go through working farmyards or near to animals which might take fright

Finchampstead Parish Council is working with local landowners and Wokingham Borough Council to expand the options available for horse riders and cyclists.

**Please respect other users and the law, and do not cycle or ride on this path.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION**

FOC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES.  
Tel. 0138 908 8164 Email: clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk  
www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk



# Path improvements

- **Hazebrouck Meadows path – a joint project with Barkham Parish Council**

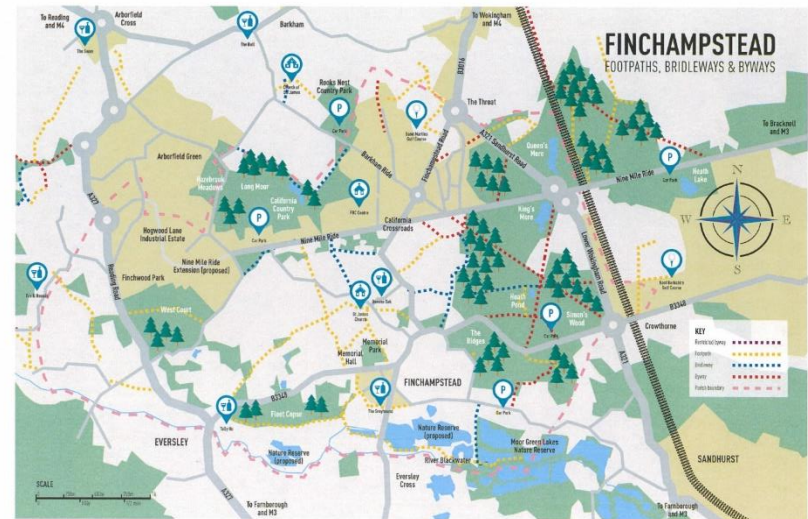


- **Plans finally in place for drainage improvements on Bridle Path 26**





# Maps and circular walks



# Accessibility



- Working with Loddon Valley Ramblers and landowners to improve access by replacing stiles with kissing gates
- 5 gates installed this year, part funded by the Parish Council





# Cemex Restoration



- **Completion of the nature reserves at Fleet Hill and Manor Farm is long overdue**
- **Liaising with WBC over completion, public access and legal designation of Rights of Way**



# New routes and links



**Cycle routes – a  
priority – but it's  
not easy**



**Enjoy our 21  
miles of public  
rights of way!**





# Roads & Road Safety Committee

**Aims to improve the local road network and  
safety for users**



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# Speed watch

Post mounted speed indicator devices – proven to be effective



Roadside speedwatch sessions – June 2021 to January 2022

New Thames Valley Police guidance and requirements

# Speed watch signage



‘Gateway’ signs now installed at all entrances to the Parish – where space permits

Prominent ‘speed watch area’ signs





# Signage and Road Verges



Please photograph problems you find and take a note of the location

# Reporting Gets Results!

wokingham.gov.uk

Google Custom Search



Your

➤ [Search planning applications](#)

➤ [Search job vacancies](#)

➤ [Find waste collection day](#)

➤ [Report concerns about a child](#)

➤ [Report concerns about an adult](#)

➤ [Report problems](#)

➤ [Roadworks and road closures](#)

➤ [Information for new residents](#)

➤ [Find school catchment areas](#)

[0-9](#) | [A](#) | [B](#) | [C](#) | [D](#) | [E](#) | [F](#) | [G](#) | [H](#)

## Service

[Lost dogs - report](#)

[Manhole covers - damaged - report](#)

[Missed bin collection - report](#)

[Neglect of adults - report](#)

[Noise - report](#)

[Pavement damage - report](#)

[Planning enforcement - report it](#)

[Potholes - report it](#)

[Public rights of way - report a problem](#)

[Racist incident report form for schools](#)

[Recycling - report undelivered black recycling box\(es\)](#)

[Road sign damage - report](#)

Do report your examples direct to WBC at  
Wokingham.gov.uk

# Finance & General Management Committee

**Responsible for budgeting, general  
management, administration, financial  
arrangements and development of the  
Council**

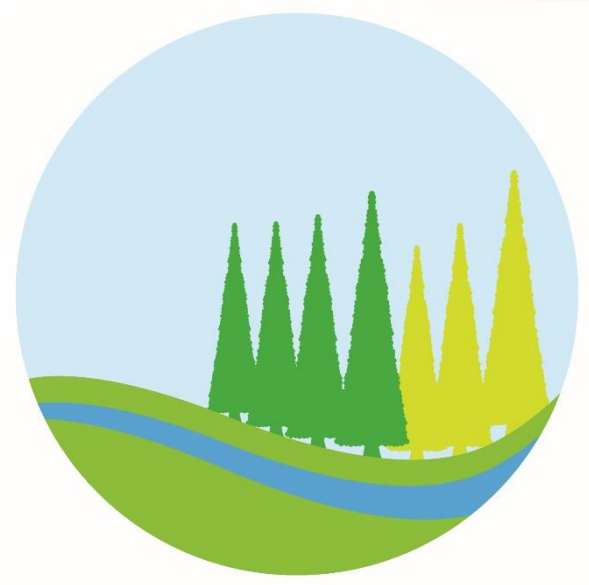


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# Our role

- **General management and strategy**
- **Setting the budget and precept**
- **Financial policy and controls**
- **HR and Risk Management sub committees**
- **Communications**
- **Grants**
- **Community Infrastructure Levy**



# Budget and audit

- **Delivering value for money**
- **Precept £168,500 in 2021/22**
- **£27.93 for the year 2021/22  
for a Band D household**
- **Governance &  
Accountability – clear audit  
reports**



# Developing the Council

- Neighbourhood Development Plan to be the basis for our new Forward Plan
- Community Infrastructure Levy funds – eventually over £4million
- Allows additional activity
- Organisational changes
  - new post of Deputy Clerk
  - IT infrastructure and support



# Community Infrastructure Levy



- £688,259 at the end of 2021/22
- Projects funded this year
  - Defibrillators for schools
  - Kissing gates and path improvements
  - War Memorial relocation
  - Community speedwatch signs and equipment
  - Allotment improvements
  - Tree planting
- Other projects underway and more being planned for 2022/23



# War Memorial relocation project – CIL funded



- 11 accidents over 20 years
- Involving 18 vehicles and 14 injuries
- 11,500 vehicles a day passing
- Dangerous for pedestrians
- Allows WBC to rethink the junction
- Preservation of the Memorial
- The Memorial Park is dedicated for remembrance

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# Grants and Donations

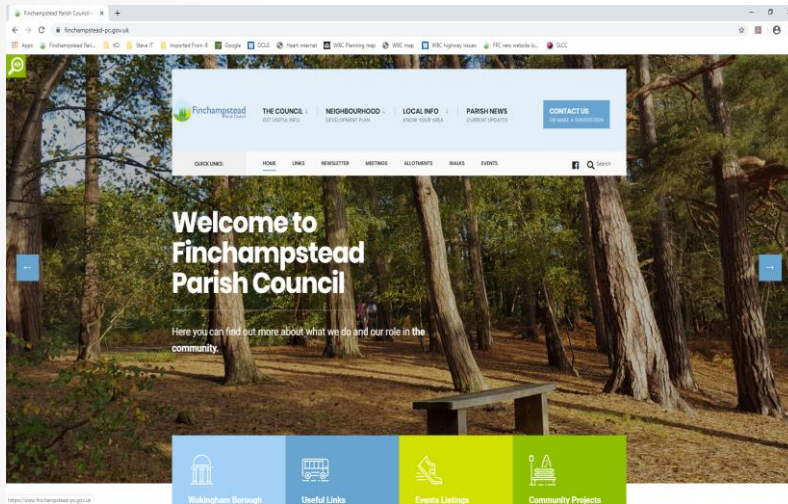


- Organisations providing support and services
- Community Transport
- Local halls, schools and churchyard
- Blackwater Valley partnership
- FBC Youth Work
- Citizens Advice Bureau





# Business Continuity and Communications



- **Challenges of Covid-19**
- **Communications**
  - E newsletters
  - Website
  - Facebook
  - Annual Report



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**31 May 2022**



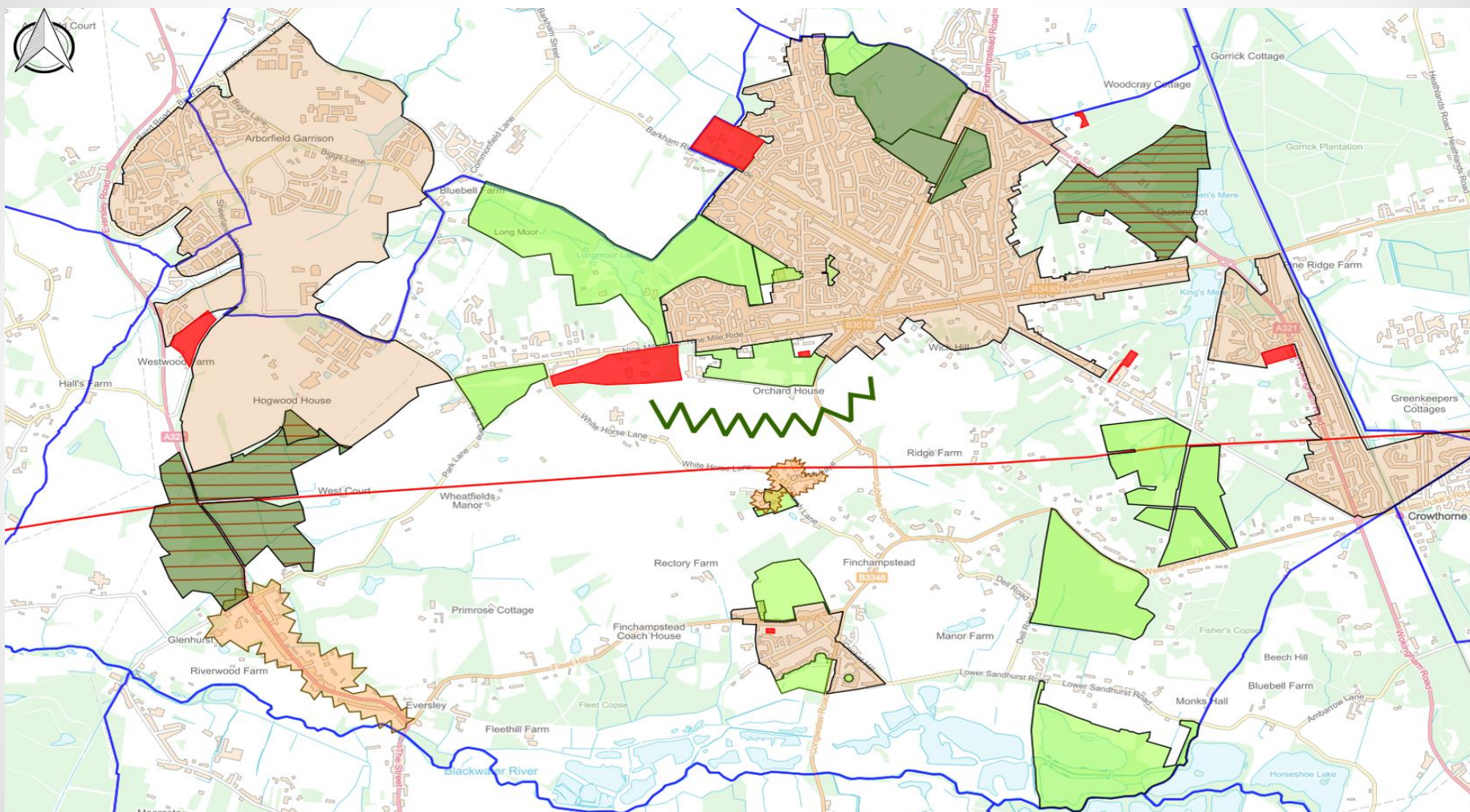
**Local People.  
Local Decisions.  
Local Future.**





## FNDP - Progress Report 31/5/22

- Impact of loss of Grazeley Green on WBC's Local Plan and in turn the FNDP
- Assessment of sites work by FF and further public consultation
- WBC repeated LPU consultation Dec 21 / Jan 22
- Revised FNDP produced
- Technical assessment re environmental impact underway
- Next step is to submit FNDP to WBC to begin next phase of assessment and consultation prior to external examination, local referendum and adoption by WBC





Important Area of Separation



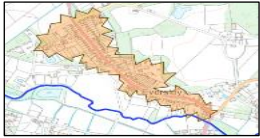
Green Wedge



Potential Housing



Local Green Space



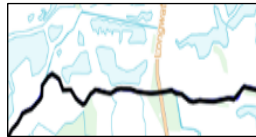
Informal Built Area



Existing Settlement Boundary



Local Key Gap



County Boundary



Parish Boundary



Devil's Highway



## Key policies of the FNDP

- ▶ GS1 - Key Local Gaps, Green Wedges and Important Areas of Separation to prevent coalescence of settlements
- ▶ D2 - Preserving the rural character of the parish
- ▶ IRS1- Protection and enhancement of Local Green Spaces (13 identified)
- ▶ IRS2 - Protection of outstanding views (4 identified)
- ▶ IRS3 - Protection and enhancement of the historic character of the area

## Key benefits of having an NDP

- ▶ Additional policies to ensure that development does not detrimentally affect what we value and wish to protect most
- ▶ Local people having a say in where, and where not, additional housing should be placed to meet need
- ▶ Once 'adopted', additional protection against speculative development if WBC cannot show a five-year housing land supply (for two-years provided WBC can show 3YHLS)
- ▶ Local people influencing what new developments should look like and what infrastructure should be provided



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# Gorse Ride - Your Community



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**Wates**



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[wates.co.uk](http://wates.co.uk)





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Accommodation Schedule		
Overall		
Unit		Total
		249
1B2P Bungalow (P01)		13
2B4P (P03)		41
2B4P Bungalow (P02)		8
3B5P 2 Storey (P04)		18
3B5P 3 Storey (P05)		11
3B6P (P06)		29
4B7P (P07)		6
5B8P (P08)		2
Garage		18
1B2P Flat		43
2B4P Flat		78
Parking achieved :		398



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## Work Experience Placement

**Wates**



**Digital  
Training**

**Construction  
in Careers,  
Advice and  
Guidance**

**Local Job  
Creation**

**Building Futures**

**Apprenticeship**

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[wates.co.uk](http://wates.co.uk)

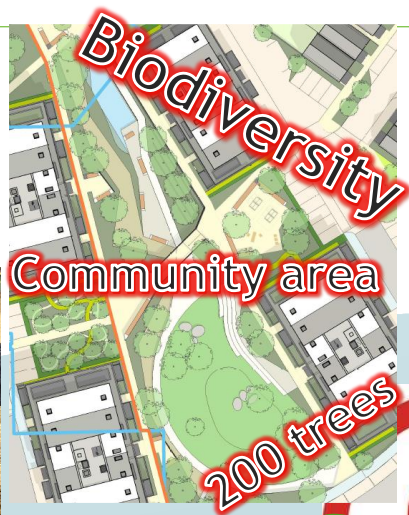


**FIRST  
DAYS**  
CHILDREN'S CHARITY

CREATING TOMORROW TOGETHER

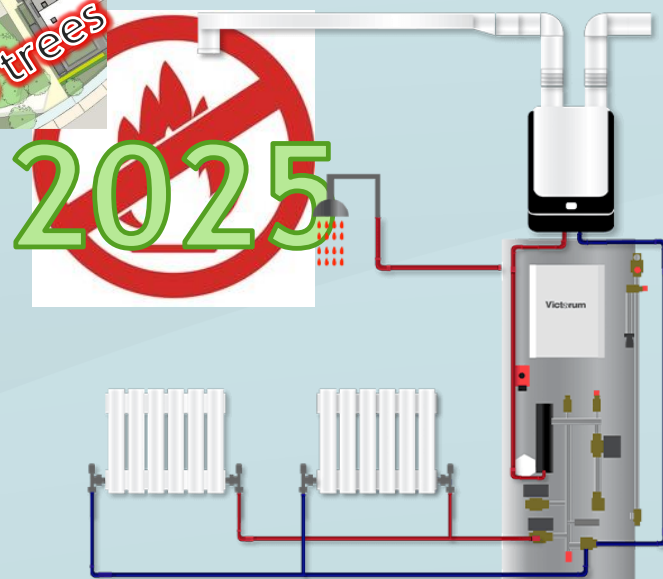


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**Wates**

Exhaust Air Heat Pumps



CREATING TOMORROW TOGETHER

[wates.co.uk](http://wates.co.uk)

SOS Late Summer 2022

Enabling Works – Feb 23

Superstructure – Feb 23 – Nov 24

## Questions





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# Platinum Jubilee Individual Award



**Jac Pluves**



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# Platinum Jubilee Group Award



**Little Reds  
– the Woodfired  
Pizza Company**





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# Honorary Freedom of the Parish

Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 confers power on a local council to admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of its area persons of distinction and persons who have rendered eminent service to that place or area.

## Recipients

- Wally Chapman – Parish Councillor from 1964 to 2016
- Jim May – Parish Councillor from 2006 to 2022

Chris Driver – Parish Councillor from 1987 to 2022





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