



Finchampstead
Parish Council

Annual Gathering

6 March 2024

Welcome from the Chairman

- A challenging year
- Highlights:
- 4 year FNDP project successfully concluded with supportive referendum
- Funded significant new outdoor play equipment for schools and solar PV for California Association
- Regular newsletter emailed to over 1000 households
- Another well supported litter pick
- Finalised 5 km of proposed new Public Rights of Ways (PRoWs) on southern edge of Finchampstead
- Community Speed Watch - 40+ sessions



2024/25

- **New full time Parish Clerk appointed**
- **Continued liaison with WBC to minimise disruption of their major roadworks at Cali X roads**
- **Lobbying WBC to address state of local roads and regulate persistent local utility works**
- **Improvements and upgrades to well used PRowS**
- **Work with WBC towards possible junction improvements at old War Memorial site**
- **Finally - thanks to staff and Councillors for helping get FPC through a most difficult year**

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
Councillors Becky Eytle; Pauline Grainger,
Sally Gurney; & 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 part time Litter Wardens collected over 350 sacks of litter from our roadsides

- We have over 45 'Adopt a Street' volunteers covering nearly 50 roads



- 2024 Finchampstead community litter pick is on 24 March

The Katy Dagnall Allotments



**A popular site with
nearly 100 tenants and
a waiting list**

**We set up the site – opened in 2012 - and work closely with
the Allotment Association over its management**

Defibrillators



- **5 community accessible defibrillators provided at:**
 - California Crossroads
 - California Ratepayers Hall
 - FBC Centre
 - Memorial Hall
 - St James' Church Centre
- **First aid / defibrillator training session held in April and September 2023 – The next session is on 23rd April 2024 at 7pm in the FBC**



Trees and floral displays



- The trees planted at Burnmoor Meadow – registered under the ‘Queen’s Green Canopy’ Scheme are thriving
- We provide floral displays at the California Crossroads



D-DAY 80 - 6th June 2024

- A Commemoration event is being held at St James Church
- Beacon lighting on 6 June at 9.15 pm
- Bring your own picnic
- Cake and a glass of Bubbly available
- Music of that era played by brass band
- Watch out for details



Remembrance 2023



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



Planning Committee

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



Finchampstead
Parish Council

Committee members

Councillor Roland Cundy, Chair

Councillor Roger Marshallsay, Vice Chair

Councillor Steve Bromley

Councillor David Cornish

Councillor Pauline Grainger

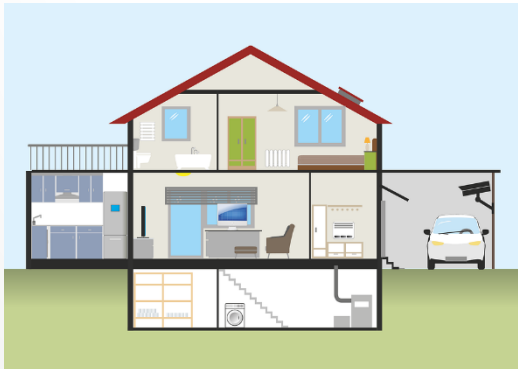
Councillor Andrew Grimshaw

Councillor Gordon Veitch

Our Work This Year



- **Considered 139 development applications**
- **Applications in adjoining Parishes which could impact Finchampstead**
- **Enforcement**



Finchampstead Neighbourhood Development Plan

- September 2023 referendum
- **DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL Wokingham Borough Council Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan for Finchampstead**
- **Electorate: 10,037 Ballot Papers Issued: 2604 Turnout: 25.95%**

Gorse Ride regeneration

- Phase 1 completed 2021 – 46 homes on Arnett Avenue
- Phase 2A residents will start to move into their new homes in the Spring.



Arborfield Green and Finchwood Park

**Works to start soon with a new heart for the community
District Centre.**

- **Sainsbury's has been given the go ahead at the Nine Mile Ride extension as part of a larger district centre.**
- **Pedestrianised high street & public square**
- **18 retail units**
- **Pre-school & day nursery**
- **Pub & community building**
- **206 new houses & flats**



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.



Finchampstead
Parish Council

Committee members

Councillor David Cornish, Chair
Councillor Chris Mortimer, Vice Chair
Councillor Steve Bromley
Councillor Graham Jukes OBE
Councillor Sally Gurney
Councillor Simon Weeks
Councillor Roger Woof

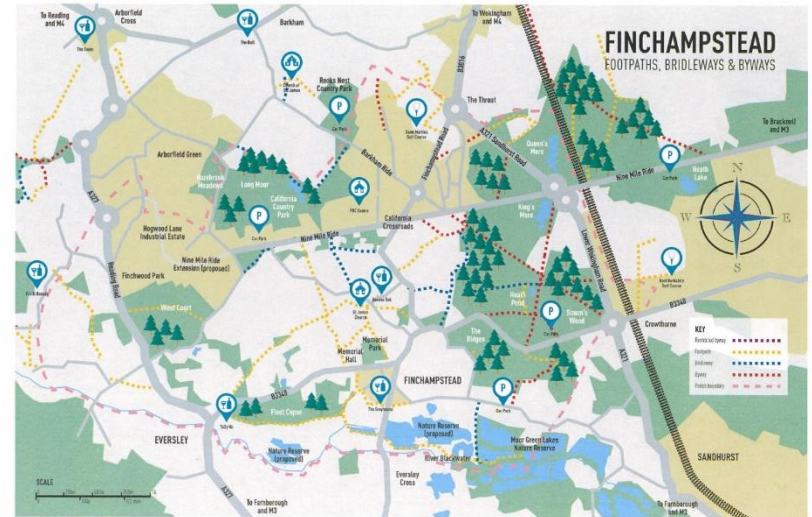
Cemex Restoration



- **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**
- **Extraction operations complete and restoration is underway**



Maps and circular walks



Priorities for 2024/25

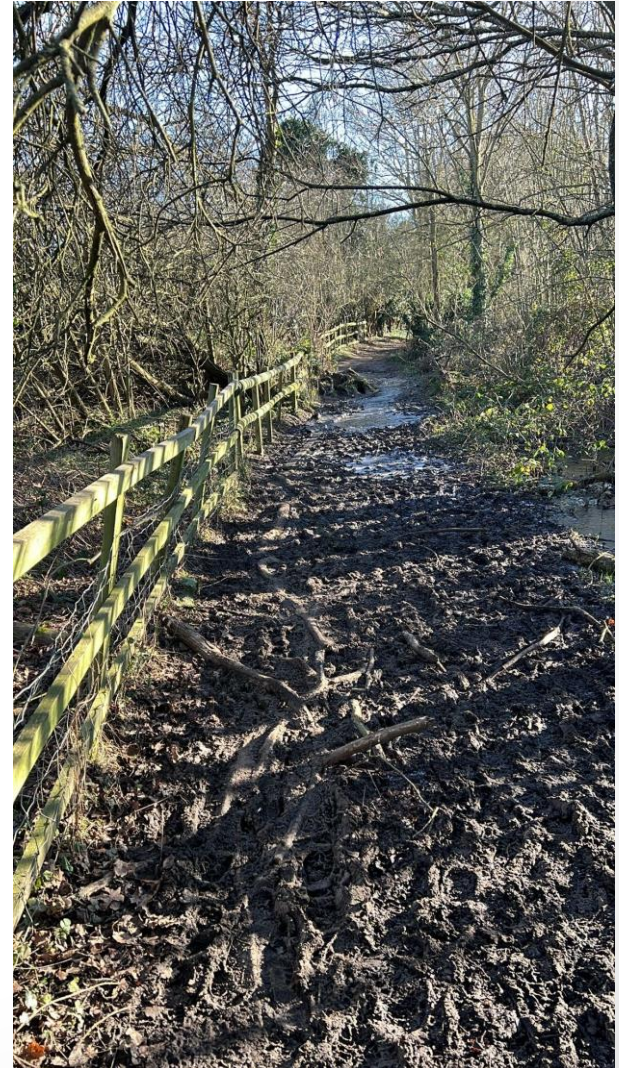
- **Upgrading of Footpath 33 to bridleway standard to resolve longstanding flooding issues**



- **Working with landowner to improve footpath over Wick Hill**

Priorities for 24/25 continued

- **Action to rectify the persistent wet areas on Church Path.**



Resolving problems



- **Damaged or missing gates or signs – we work with landowners or WBC to sort out problems**

- **We ask our Footpath Warden**
- **Or we take it on ourselves!**



Roads & Road Safety Committee

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



Finchampstead
Parish Council

Committee members

Councillor Steve Bromley, Chair
Councillor Roland Cundy, Vice Chair

Councillor Steve Bowers
Councillor Pauline Grainger
Councillor Roger Marshallsay
Councillor Simon Weeks

Traffic Monitoring



- Roadside Speedwatch sessions – almost 1343 vehicles reported May 2022 to date
- Average 20 vehicles per session
- Working in line with new Thames Valley Police guidance and requirements

Post mounted speed indicator devices – proven to be effective



Speed watch Volunteers

- Sessions resumed on February 5th after Christmas break
- Looking for new volunteers



Speedwatch signs and Gateways



- **Community Speedwatch signs installed on major entrances to the Parish**
- **Working with WBC to get 'Gateway' signs installed at all major entrances to the Parish**



Signs, potholes and footways



**Please take a note of the location of the problem
– and take a photograph if you can**

Reporting helps get 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**



Finchampstead
Parish Council

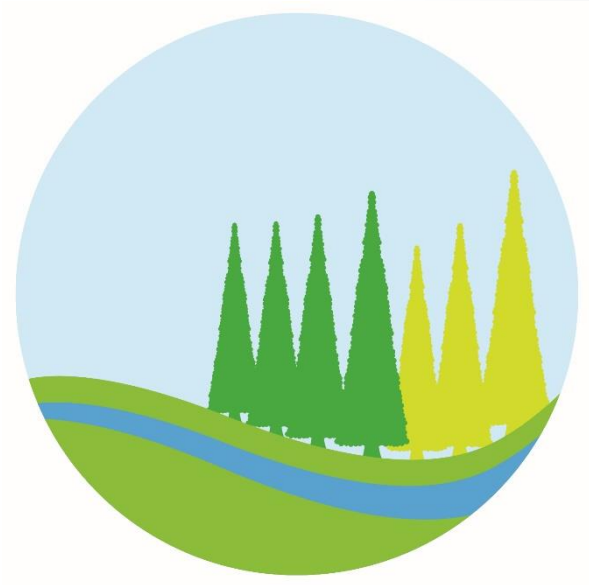
Committee members

Councillor Roger Woof, Chair
Councillor Graham Jukes OBE, Vice Chair

Councillor Steve Bromley
Councillor David Cornish
Councillor Roland Cundy
Councillor George Evans
Councillor Sylvia McDonald
Councillor Gordon Veitch

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



- **£2,663,786 Total CIL received from 2015 – 2023/24**



- **Projects funded this year**
 - Path and bridlepath improvements
 - War Memorial road configuration investigation
 - Gorse Ride Primary School – new play equipment
 - Nine Mile Ride Primary School – new play equipment
 - Play equipment at Waverley Way park
 - Allotment water troughs and new gates
 - Solar Panels at the Ratepayers Hall
 - Refurbishment of the kitchen and disabled toilet at St James' Church centre.



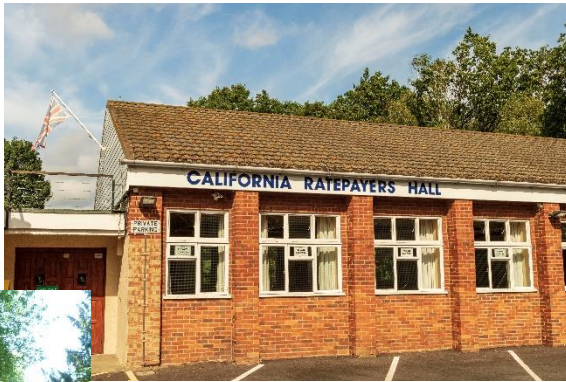
CIL – plans for 2024/25

Expecting to invest significant CIL funds in 2024/25

- **Allotment Maintenance and enhancements**
- **Supporting major WBC projects**
 - **California Cross redevelopment**
 - **California Country Park improvements**
 - **Contributing to improving the 'war memorial junction'**



Grants and Donations



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



Budget and audit

- **Extraordinary economic times**
- **Some positive factors for FPC in 2023/24**
 - Interest rates have risen
 - Inflation is slowing
 - Tax base has increased
- **2024/25 precept £197,919**
- **£29.77 for the year 2024/25 for a Band D household**





Finchampstead
Parish Council

Annual Gathering

6 March 2024