

ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING

Wednesday 22nd April 2026 at 7.00pm in the Bernard Hall

Agenda and Contributor Reports

A meeting to celebrate local activities/achievements and debate current issues in the community.

1. Apologies
2. Approval of Minutes – 2025 Annual Village Meeting
3. Matters Arising
4. Contributions
5. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 27th May 2026 at 7.00pm in the Bernard Hall

Bernard Hall Update including Village Picture House

Rob Morris-Jones, Chairman

robmojo65@hotmail.com

Bernard Hall. On January 6th this year, Robert Spencer Bernard the longstanding Chair of the Bernard Hall trustees sadly passed away. In line with the original Bernard Hall Conveyancing document dated 8th November 1929 we invited his wife Georgianna to become the next Chair. I am very pleased to say that she has accepted and will chair her 1st Trustees meeting on 8th June. Bernard Hall usage and income grew by nearly 5% in 2025 compared with 2024. Activities taking place in the Hall included:

- Village Picture House (“VPH”). Films and National Theatre performances throughout
- the year with the exception of the summer holidays.
- Cuddington Youth Drama (“CYD”) use the Hall every Saturday with performances of taking place at least once a year.
- Exercise classes
- Yoga 6pm every Monday.
- Pilates 7am on Friday.
- Church Sunday School.
- Monthly Parish Council meetings.
- Private parties

Financially the Hall made a profit of £4,062 in 2025 compared with £1,603 in 2024.

Village Picture House. Since the Village Picture House opened in September 2013, we have screened over 420 films, dozens of National Theatre Live plays, West End musicals, and occasionally internationally renowned opera productions. We have sold over 19,000 tickets. and managed to hold our prices at about 50% of the major cinemas in nearby towns and cities. Our bestselling titles for 2026 so far - with full houses of 65- are Downton Abbey - The Grand Finale; Lee; The Choral; and coming up in May, One Battle After Another voted Best Film at the BAFTA and Oscars Awards in the last few weeks, and Hamnet, where the brilliant Jessie Buckley took the Best Actress Award in both London and Los Angeles. All our surplus income goes into the upkeep and maintenance costs of the Bernard Hall. The last upgrade of the cinema equipment took place in 2019, and we are hoping to undertake another upgrade this summer with the focus on the sound system. We have a great Front of House team, and wish to thank Helen Keeping, Gareth Anderson, Carol Hayward, Andy Lockett, Cathy Morris-Jones, and our brilliant Technical Manager and Projectionist Chris Long for their continued support and constant enthusiasm. Also thanks to John Cooper without whom we would not have a VPH. We are also very grateful to Jayen and Sugi from the Village Stores for providing a very popular bar before each screening, plus their great support in publicising and selling tickets in the shop. Thanks as always to the Management Committee (i.e. Charlotte Cooper, Caroline Winnicott, Jessica Ecott, Zoe Gibson, Chris Lockett and Brian Woodford) who again this year made my job as Chairman very easy!

Best Kept Village Competition

Natasha Lee

natasha.lee1234@gmail.com

The Best Kept Village tidy group re-started meetings in February when the weather was a little more clement. On the third Saturday of the month volunteers gather on the Upper Green at 10.00am and do general tasks/litter picking around the village. Everyone is welcome so please come along and join in. It's a great way to meet new people.

- March's event was held in conjunction with Keep Britain Tidy campaign.
- April – will include the pub garden.
- May – Will be in conjunction with Children's Gardening Week.

If anyone has any plants to spare, please let me know – all donations will be gratefully received. The events are advertised on the village noticeboards, Village Voice and the Village WhatsApp group. Last year's projects included the creation of the community herb garden in Spurt St and the revamp of the Welford Way garden into a community garden. This year we have taken on the additional project of clearing the Baptist Burial ground in Dadbrook – this has been a very rewarding experience for all of those that have been involved and it is still ongoing. We did very well in last year's competition – coming second in a category where we were judged with all the previous year's winners from every category. The PC has agreed to enter the 2026 Best Kept Village competition this year, and we will be judged in a group with similar sized villages – so fingers crossed. Natasha Lee has prepared an excellent entry brochure and is responsible for the posters that you see around the village. Please do come and join us as the adage that many fingers make light work really does apply in this case.

Crown Public House - The Community Ownership Journey of The Crown

Mike Cottman, Chair

mikecottman@hotmail.com

The Crown closed its doors on 21st January 2026, marking a sad day for the community. Despite repeated efforts over the years attempting to persuade Fullers to sell the pub, it was not until mid-February that an agreement was reached, paving the way for the next steps in the process. On 27th February, the Bernard Hall hosted a memorable village meeting. During this gathering, the vision for Community Ownership of The Crown was presented, alongside the necessary steps required to take ownership, undertake essential renovations, and eventually reopen the pub. To realise this ambitious plan, comprehensive support from the community was required, as well as a significant fundraising effort. The target was set at £619,000—an amount needed to cover the freehold, fixtures and fittings, stamp duty, VAT, legal costs, restocking, and the refurbishment work to meet new standards. To date, over 200 pledges have been received, amounting to over £650,000. This means we have achieved our goal in just 6

weeks which is a truly remarkable accomplishment. It is amazing to have such a large network of people ready to help Abi and her team drive The Crown forward. Legal proceedings are underway, the Community Benefit Society has been established, and advanced assurance for tax relief has been submitted to HMRC. The management committee has been appointed and is working diligently behind the scenes to ensure that everything is organised and ready for the next phase. There were hopes to reopen The Crown on the first bank holiday weekend in May. However, due to numerous factors beyond our control, it has been decided that we cannot commit to this date. We are currently working on the launch plans to deliver the quickest outcome for the opening; however we cannot issue the precise dates yet. Additional information can be found on our website, villagebluesky.com and social media. Updates on progress will continue to be shared through these channels - please stay tuned for further developments. We have just shared a questionnaire with you to find out more about what you want from your community pub. The Crown needs to be the place we all want to go, and we want your thoughts and ideas to shape The Crown's future. Please take a look at it.

Cuddington Book Worms
Lorraine Stevens, Member
lorraine@stevens.co.uk

The village *Bookworms* meets every month in the clubhouse having relocated back there since the crown closed. We have a core group who attend every month to chat about what we have read and enjoy a get together. Many thanks to Ellen Dyer for opening the bar. We are always looking for new members to join us - the meetings are advertised in the Village Voice and we have our own WhatsApp group. Please speak to Lorraine if you are interested in joining Book Worms. We have a diverse range of books that we like to read and talk about so there should be something of interest for everyone. Meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Cuddington Parish Council *including Biodiversity, Buckinghamshire Council, Planning, Traffic Action Group and What's App Community.*
Lorraine Stevens, Chair
lorraine.stevens@cuddington-bucks-pc.gov.uk

2025 has been another busy year for the Parish Council and all of the volunteers who support the PC.

- **Stiles.** We have continued with the replacement stile project which has been managed by Councillor Andy Hughes – thank you.
- **Footpath Project/Bridleway Improvements.** Andy has met with The Rights of Way officer concerning bridleway improvement (off Spicketts Lane/Frog Lane). The path remains waterlogged, hazardous, and impassable for significant periods throughout the year. Bucks Council felt that the flooding and

subsequent deterioration of the surface of the path stemmed from the pond (owned by the adjacent landowner) and it would not therefore be appropriate to carry out any excavation in the surface of the path. Andy has questioned the assessment with Bucks Council, who is responsible for ensuring the highway is safe for public use. BC has now agreed to monitor.

- **Best Kept Village.** The PC supports the Best Kept Village Tidy group. Although we didn't win the competition last year we came second in a tough category with all the winners from the previous year so we were up against much bigger villages and towns – This year we will be judged in a group of our peers – The Morris Cup- Thanks to Natasha Lee for taking the lead on the tidy group and the brochure for our application. The creation of the **Community Herb Garden** and the improvements to the **Welford Way Community Garden** have been very well received – thanks to all the volunteers as we continue work on improving the Baptist Burial Ground. The BKV tidy group supported the Keep Britain Tidy campaign in March and will support Children's Gardening week in May – thanks to Margaret Russell for help with the children's garden.
- **Trees/Playground/Playing Field.** This year the PC has continued with the village tree maintenance programme including the trees on the drive to Nether Winchendon. The PC had planted them in the 1990's so we instructed South Bucks Tree Surgeons (Charlie MacBeth) to attend to them. A big thank you to Councillor Malcolm Thomas for managing the tree programme along with the playground and his CPFA responsibilities. The Playground is now inspected quarterly as well as having an annual inspection in line with current Health and Safety guidelines. Thanks to Neal Waters for cutting the grass in the playground and Simon Brown for maintaining the greens and banks around the village. The PC is very pleased that we can use Cuddington residents to maintain our environment. The Boules pitch has had new sleepers and looks in great shape. There are regular matches organized by Viv Birkby – thank you – Great to see it being used.
- **Community Forums.** We held talks in the village hall on topics that would be of interest to the community – Scams and Dementia. We are keen to host further talks so if anyone has any suggestions that would be of interest to the community then please let Venetia or myself know.
- **WhatsApp.** The village WhatsApp group has proven to be a great success and many thanks to Councillor Louise Butler for managing the group. If you want to join, please speak to Louise or Lorraine.
- **PC Governance & Precept.** Councillor Ken Brown continues to oversee all of PC policies – a big thank you to him and Doug Kenendy consulting on all matters involving Diversity. This year the PC retained the precept at £39,000 for the fourth year in a row. The reserves the Parish Council has built up in previous years may be required if we need to challenge the new Local Plan.
- **Planning.** Many thanks to Ken Trew who, although no longer on the PC, is our Planning Consultant. Ken will be speaking tonight about the new proposals for Cuddington.

- **Neighbouring PCs.** The PC have met with Dinton Ford & Upton PC Chair this year to discuss the proposal for the cycle path. The PC are also meeting with Haddenham PC to discuss a response to the next Local Plan consultation.
- **Speed Watch.** Again, a bit thank you to Steve Wright and his team for all the valuable work they do – I know that they too are always looking for volunteers. HGV's have been a big problem this year and the PC is waiting for an update from Bucks in May.
- **Defibrillators.** Both village defibrillators are registered with the Circuit and checked every three months to make sure they are ready to use in an emergency. A new battery has been ordered for the clubhouse. Thanks to Councillor Ravern Stevens for checking them.
- **Donations.** The PC continue to help towards cutting of churchyard, poppy appeal, and last year purchased a Tommy Statue that will sit proudly on the village green each November. The PC has committed to supporting the tennis club with a grant and loan
- **Parish Councillor Vacancy.** At present we have a vacancy for a new Parish Councillor – if anyone is interested in joining the Council please make yourself known to Venetia or myself. It is a volunteer position (but then what isn't in Cuddington) and can involve you in as much or as little work as you want. If you have any planning experience, then that would be extremely helpful but not essential. Training is provided for all new Councillors.
- **The Crown.** The PC is supportive of the community bid to buy the pub
- A Financial Report detailing expenditure in 2025-2026, grants and projects received and planned expenditure for 2026-2027 will be given, as required, at the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council.

Biodiversity

Doug Kenndy, Parish Council Consultant

doug@doug-kennedy.com

Buckinghamshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), launched in December 2025 under the Environment Act, has now published its Strategy Summary and Habitat Map to guide local nature-recovery projects. The LNRS responds to the stark reality that England is among the most nature-depleted countries, with Buckinghamshire having lost almost all of its open grassland since the Second World War. County priorities include restoring land-based habitats, improving rivers and flood-plain biodiversity, enhancing wetlands, supporting wildlife-friendly farming and strengthening biodiversity in built-up areas. While the strategic framework is strong, funding remains limited and currently depends on small grants and potential corporate support, with further tools and delivery guides in development for parish councils and community groups. **If you feel this is important and would like to get involved with restoring local nature, do think about joining the new biodiversity group.** Locally, **opportunities around Cuddington** include expanding natural grassland and wildflowers, protecting biodiverse verges such as Spicketts Lane, improving tree and

hedgerow connectivity, and linking key habitats across the flood plain, Manor Farm, Cheersley, Eythrope wetland, John's Barn field and Cuddington Pastures. The large Cuddington Pastures field is being left by Waddesdon Estates to rewild naturally, and parts of the River Thames floodplain fall within the LNRS area. A constructive relationship with the Waddesdon Farms Manager could support this work, and Doug Kennedy has offered to advise any new local biodiversity group. The River Thames Catchment Partnership has shared encouraging news: the river has been awarded **Smarter Catchment** status, securing a significant share of a £20 million Thames Water fund over the next four years. This investment will support detailed monitoring and research to pinpoint pollution sources and guide future restoration work, with the potential to unlock further project-specific funding as the programme develops. Thames Water is also installing continuous outflow monitoring at Aylesbury, Cuddington and Princes Risborough, alongside upgrades aimed at reducing storm overflows between 2025 and 2030. With agriculture now recognised as the leading source of waterway pollution nationally, the River Thames Conservation Trust is strengthening collaboration with farmers across the catchment. Altogether, these developments offer real hope for improving the river's health in the years ahead, and further updates will follow as work progresses.

Buckinghamshire Council

Dr. Maru Mormina and Greg Smith, Buckinghamshire Councillors.

Maru.Mormina@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Greg.Smith@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

- Your Bucks Councillors have been busy supporting residents with issues ranging from frustrations with the Council IT system when trying to challenge a decision (Blue badge holder) to problems with SEND transport or installing a dropped kerb for improved disability access, and a lot more! Planning issues have included Councillors initiating enforcement action on poorly sited scaffolding, caravans parked on agricultural land, inappropriate commercial use of agricultural land and many more. **Both Councillors are available to residents by phone, online or through regular face to face surgeries at Haddenham Library (second Saturday of the month) and Stone Jubilee Hall (third Thursday of the month).**
- Your Councillors attend regular meetings with the **Highways Team**. We welcome the change of structure and hope this brings quicker and more effective solutions to a range of Highway issues. We remain concerned that about the possible lack of local knowledge and will monitor this as the new system settles in.
- Your Councillors use our regular meetings with the **Highway team to keep raising awareness of the need to improve the King's Cross junction**. We are confident that the team understands the importance of this improvement, which has been included as one of the key projects to be deliver with future S106 funding.

- We have also been involved with the **Freight (Transport Strategy) Officer** and were disappointed that the pilot Freight restriction zone will not be adopted. We will continue to monitor the intention to restrict HGV's running through Cuddington.
- Your Councillors continue to engage with the transport strategy team at Bucks Council to progress the **Haddenham to Thame Greenway**. Progress is slow but steady and we are confident that plans remain on target to launch a formal public consultation by the second half of the year. Similarly, discussions have begun to explore the feasibility of a cycle path from **Haddenham to Dinton**. In all these discussions, we keep the needs of the Cuddington community high on the agenda.
- Your Councillors are also involved in their own community projects such as the Community Shop in Haddenham, a restricted mobility exercise circuit for older residents, launching a community buy out of the Rose and Thistle Haddenham among others.
- Since elected, your Councillors have attended most Parish Council meetings to hear the concerns raised by the Parish Council and the residents of Cuddington.
- Bucks Council increased Council Tax by 4.99% the maximum allowable by central government and has set a balanced budget.

Planning

Ken Trew, Parish Council Consultant (Planning)

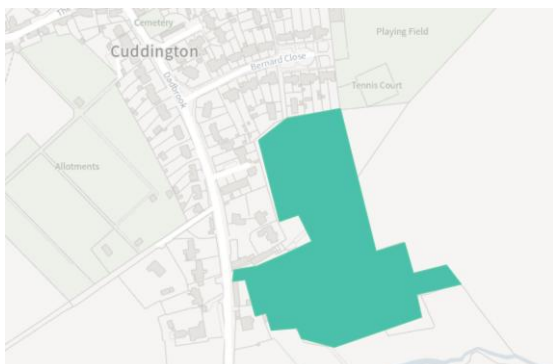
clerk@cuddington-bucks-pc.gov.uk

The new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 12 December 2024. **Housing target.** Homes needed under new government formula December 2024 Houses per year is 4,319. Total houses needed in Local Plan period (2024-2045) is 90,699.

Emerging Local Plan for Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire Council has published its draft site allocation from its earlier Call for Sites (400 potential sites). For Cuddington, the two sites are Dadbrook Farm (Ref 216), put forward for 72 new homes, and a Haddenham site beside the A418/Churchway (Ref 294), put forward for approximately 7,350 new homes).

Draft proposals for Cuddington

Land at Dadbrook Farm (3ha with potential capacity for 72 homes)

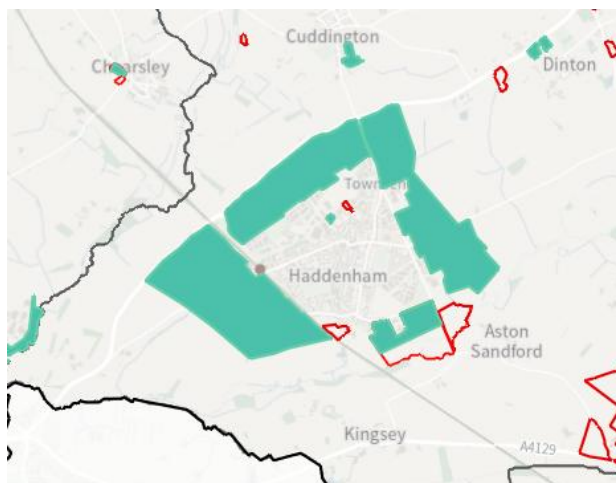


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The Parish Council has responded to the consultation stressing that any development at Dadbrook should prioritise the existing brownfield farm buildings rather than expanding into greenfield areas. The PC's response also included the delivery of the Dadbrook footpath, the safety of the A418 junction and the infrastructure constraints specifically highways, schools and drainage.

Draft proposals for Haddenham

(approx. 7,350 new homes)



For Haddenham site the main concerns are safe access onto the A418, the risk of visual or physical coalescence with Cuddington (as the gateway to Haddenham, a green buffer will be requested) and the infrastructure constraints specifically highways, schools and drainage.

The Draft Local Plan with proposed suitable sites is expected in the summer and will include a formal consultation when residents can make their views known.

Key dates:

- July 2026: Draft Local Plan Consultation
- December 2026: Submission of Draft Local Plan for Examination
- (End of) 2027: Adoption of Local Plan

Cuddington Neighbourhood Plan. The current Cuddington Neighbourhood Plan (CNP) remains in force until 2027. The benefits of undertaking a review include updating the CNP with the emerging Buckinghamshire Local Plan, addressing any gaps in the existing Plan, and securing protection against speculative development. The Parish Council has agreed to review this when the next major review of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is published (expected summer 2026) and when the Bucks Local Plan submission draft for Examination has been published (December 2026). The Draft of the new NPPF includes specific provision for Neighbourhood Plans.

Traffic Action Group
Steve Wright, Speedwatch Co-ordinator
stepnwright@googlemail.com

Community Speedwatch. This is a nationwide scheme where local people monitor the speed of vehicles passing through their community. In Cuddington, there are three locations – Bridgeway, Dadbrook and Aylesbury Road. Each monitoring session is usually one hour, with three volunteers - to count the number of vehicles passing in the agreed direction, to use the radar speed gun, and to take note of the registration numbers of those vehicles travelling at excessive speed. The vehicle details are then uploaded onto the police website, and letters sent out to the motorists concerned. Cuddington has collected a wealth of data about traffic passing through the village, though it is limited by the number of sessions undertaken by our volunteers. The table below compares data collected by local volunteers in 2024/5 and 2025/6. The number of sessions has improved after a drop in previous years. This has been helped in part by the introduction of a Community WhatsApp group, which allows us to book sessions easier.

	2024/5	2025/6
Number of one-hour volunteer sessions	13	28
Number of vehicles reported driving at excessive speed	52	139
Max speed, mph	47	48
Average speeder, mph	38	38
Excessive speed	2	5

And for this year so far, a top speed of 48mph has been recorded by volunteers, with 133 letters sent by the police to speeding motorists. So well done to all of the volunteers involved.

SID (Speed Indicator Device). Speed Indicator Devices accurately measure the oncoming vehicle's speed and display this value to the driver. We have three devices at: Aylesbury Road, Dadbrook and Bridgeway. All have been operating throughout the year, 24/7. This year has seen the installation of new poles on Bridgeway and Dadbrook. And with the use of an existing pole on Swan Hill, we will be able to move the SIDs temporarily to other locations. Research up and down the country has indicated that making the SIDs more mobile improves their effectiveness. Vehicles speeding out of the village have been an issue. These additional locations for the SIDs will help remind motorists of their speed when leaving the village. In conclusion, there is a lot of work still to be done. We are still looking for new volunteers for Community Speedwatch, so that we can provide a greater presence on the main roads through the village. As always, please contact me if you require any further information on our statistics or wish to join our merry band of volunteers. Training is provided.

WhatsApp Community

Louise Butler, Parish Councillor

louise.butler@cuddington-bucks-pc.gov.uk

Helping keep our village safe, informed, and connected. Our WhatsApp Community was created last year to support real-time communication across the village, building on the need for Neighbourhood Watch and making it easier for everyone to stay involved and up to date. This has been a great success and we now have a number of groups covered from The Crown, the Playing Fields Clubhouse to Village Tidy and Boules. Because this is a *Community* rather than a single group, it allows multiple village groups to be included in one place. You're free to join only the groups that interest you, and notifications can be muted at any time to suit your preferences. If you are involved with a village activity or group—such as the Fête, Picture House or Dog/Pet owners or similar—and feel it would benefit from being included, please send a request via WhatsApp. To help keep things running smoothly, we ask that anyone starting a group is willing to act as an admin. We warmly encourage everyone to join and be part of this positive step toward stronger community communication.

Join here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KtOOangtkalmmABeAJ0rA>

Cuddington and Dinton School

Vic Spencer, Chair of Governors

chair@cds.school

Under the leadership of our Headteacher, Mrs Nicola Wilde, Cuddington and Dinton Church of England School has continued to thrive. We are firmly committed to academic excellence and achievement for all, underpinned by a kind, caring and calm learning environment. Through our close partnership with the church, our school values of **resilience, curiosity, kindness and integrity** continue to guide daily life across both sites. “*Let your light shine*” (Matthew 5:16) remains central to everything we do as a Christian school community. As with all schools nationally, Cuddington and Dinton School continues to face financial challenges due to rising costs and the increasing pastoral, mental health and special educational needs of pupils. For example, we continue to fund additional wellbeing and therapeutic support for children who require it. However, through careful budgeting and close governance, the school remains financially stable. Governors are grateful for the continued support of Oxford Diocese, Friends 4CaDS (our PTA), and both the Dinton and Cuddington School House Trusts, especially with the support we have had to fund the roof repairs at the Junior site. The school is at capacity with only a couple of spaces available and a waiting list for some classes. Since Covid, school attendance has been a significant national focus and continues to feature in the media. Governors monitor attendance closely, and I am pleased to report that the school continues to perform strongly with an attendance of 96.4%, this is above national and Bucks reflecting the positive culture, high expectations and good partnership with families. One of the things I continue to be

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most proud of as Chair is the school's ongoing commitment to continuous improvement. Governors and staff work collaboratively with a strong growth mindset, constantly reviewing and refining practice to ensure the best possible outcomes for pupils. An example of this is our two assistant teachers have swapped sites, with Mrs Ferlin Thomas now based on the Infant site in Cuddington and Mrs Julie Bowman returning to the Junior site, this helps to bridge the two sites, with the whole team coming together once a week for a staff meeting as well as whole school assemblies and other special occasions.

Summer 2025 once again saw excellent academic outcomes.

- **Foundation Stage** outcomes were significantly above Bucks and National.
- with **81%** of children achieving a Good Level of Development.
- In **Year 1**, we saw an exceptional result, with a **100% pass rate** in the phonics screening check, reflecting the strength of early reading provision.
- For the **Multiplication Tables Check in year 4**, pupils performed **above national averages**, achieving an impressive **average score of 24.2 out of 25**.
- At **Key Stage 2**, outcomes were **significantly above national**. Reading and maths results were around the **93rd percentile**, with pupils achieving well above average. The school also performed significantly above national figures for pupils working at **greater depth** in reading, maths, and grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Alongside a strong focus on academic success, the school continues to prioritise pupils' personal development and wellbeing. This year, the school has rolled out **OPAL Play (Outdoor Play and Learning)** across both sites. OPAL is a nationally recognised programme designed to improve the quality and inclusivity of playtimes. Pupils now have access to open-ended resources such as crates, planks, tyres and fabric for building and den-making. This approach encourages creativity, collaboration, problem-solving and active play, while supporting children to manage risk safely. Feedback from pupils and staff has been extremely positive.

Education is a partnership between parents, carers, the school, the church and the wider community. On behalf of the governing board, I would like to thank staff, families and villagers for their continued support. We are extremely proud of the progress the school continues to make and look forward to another successful year at Cuddington and Dinton Church of England School.

Nicholas Almond Trust
Lorriane Stevens, Secretary and Treasurer
lorraine@stevencz.co.uk

This year the Trust received five applications for grants – three new applications and two applications applying for second payments. All of which we were able to fulfill. Our sole income is from rent on Poor's Moor – a land locked field on the Gibson's farm. James applied for grant funding to replace the fencing around Poor's Moor, and we are grateful to James for doing this maintenance. We also received funds from the Crown quiz. This year we received a grant from the Fete Committee, and we would like to thank the Fete Committee for their continuing support of the Nicholas Almond Trust. I would also like to thank the current Trustees for their ongoing commitment to the Trust and its aims.

Cuddington Playing Field Association
Charles Sanderson, Chair
charles.sanderson7@gmail.com

The CPFA is a great village asset providing recreational facilities and open spaces for all the village together with the club house and bar where villagers of all ages can socialize. All this is provided at no cost to the Parish Council. Under the dedicated and efficient control of our finances by our treasurer Ellen Dyer and supported by significant financial help from the efforts of Malcolm Thomas and his bar team, the CPFA finances are in a healthy state. Many thanks to our secretary Carol Hayward for coordinating the whole operation. Several events and activities have taken place this year.

- **Fireworks.** Charlie Macbeth and Patrick Maxwell took on a major responsibility to organise with help from many villagers a very successful firework evening.
- **Fun Day.** A Fun Day was organized to show off the facilities of the club combined with a dog show and several trade stands. It was fun and enjoyable and despite a gloomy forecast the rain held off till the end.
- **Tennis Club.** Is now under a new committee with Chris Carey as chairman. Good news for the future it is made up with younger members of the village. The club is also investigating whether the courts can be adapted to include other sports.
- **Boule.** Increasing use is being made of our boule pitch.
- **Folk Evening.** Doug and Jamies monthly folk evenings are drawing bigger audiences and are great fun. We are also unearthing a lot of local talent with lovely voices.
- **Mower.** Malcolm Thomas negotiated the purchase of a new mower on very favourable terms.
- **Maintenance Grant.** The pitches are an area all of us in the village can enjoy, however the cost of maintaining them is high and is not covered by the revenue we obtain from renting them out. Malcolm Thomas has successfully applied to the Football Association for a Maintenance grant to help cover the difference.

Cuddington Sunshine Club

Angela Wenham, Member

apdwenham@gmail.com

The 28 members of the Sunshine Club have enjoyed another successful year of social activities. The monthly Teas are provided by our Tea Hostesses in the Playing Fields Clubhouse. Every two months we show a film at the Matinee Cinema in the Bernard Hall and provide tea and cake at the interval. This event is open to the general public. Our outings during the past year have included an expedition to Speen Home for Retired Horses, a tour of Greys Court, a pre-Christmas shopping visit and tea at Haddenham Garden Centre, and a trip to Quainton Railway Centre with a ride on a steam train – which evoked many memories of childhood travel! Each year we have a Garden Party Lunch at Tyringham Hall and a candle-lit Christmas Lunch in the Bernard Hall. Any new members will be given a warm welcome.

Cuddington Tennis Club

Chris Carey, Chair

tenniscommittee271133@groups.outlook.com

Cuddington Tennis Club continues to go from strength to strength and we are excited about a number of developments planned for the coming months.

Court improvements. We are progressing plans to **resurface the tennis courts**, which will provide a high-quality new playing surface for members and visitors alike. This work is subject to the finalisation of funding and contractor selection, which we hope to complete shortly. We thank the Parish Council for their support in this regard. As part of the resurfacing, we would like there to be lines marked for **pickleball and netball**, allowing the space to be used for a wider range of sports and activities by the community. Subject to funding, we would also like to **upgrade the court lighting to modern LED fittings**, which would significantly reduce energy usage, lower running costs, and be better for the environment. This may not be possible all at once and may take longer, however. **Growing a welcoming club** We are keen to **grow membership across all ages and abilities**, and to ensure the club remains friendly, inclusive and welcoming—whether you are a regular player, returning after a break, or completely new to racket sports. **Community and family activities.** Looking ahead, we plan to:

- Introduce family-friendly social events
- Offer trial coaching sessions
- Expand junior and children's tennis activities to encourage younger players to get involved

If you are interested in joining, helping out, or simply finding out more, please keep an eye out for updates around the village or get in touch with the club committee

tenniscommittee271133@groups.outlook.com

Village Voice

Helen Keeping, Editorial Team

wichertcot@gmail.com

A publication produced ten times a year and delivered to almost every home in the village (some people have opted to receive an electronic copy). There is no charge to any household. We are financially more secure than in the past due to generous support from local companies; and this, in addition to donations from some villagers, and annual grants, gives Village Voice certainty going forward. Whilst there are regular features, the team are always happy to welcome new ideas and one-off articles. It is a magazine for Cuddington. The team currently comprises Rachael Barnard, Kathy Hook, and Helen Keeping. And, if anyone is interested in joining our team don't hesitate to contact Rachael or Helen; our details are in every edition.

Village Fete

Emma Lear

cuddington.fete@gmail.com

Cuddington is gearing up for a vibrant summer celebration as the **Cuddington Village Fete** returns on **Saturday 11th July 2026**, bringing the community together for an afternoon of fun, creativity, and a special theme celebrating wildlife and *100 years of David Attenborough*.

The day will begin with a lively parade setting off from Lower Green at 12:30pm, followed by the fete itself running from 1pm to 4pm. Visitors can expect a variety of attractions, with a strong focus on nature, crafts, games, and family-friendly activities inspired by the natural world. We will even have some animals to come and see including reptiles, small mammals, and an owl.

Organisers are now calling on local residents to get involved and help make this year's fete a success. There is a particular need for volunteers to run stalls, especially those with fun and engaging ideas—whether that's crafts, wildlife-themed products, games, or interactive activities for all ages. Even a small contribution of time or creativity can make a big difference.

In addition to stallholders, volunteers are also needed to assist with planning, logistics, and coordination on the day. Anyone with useful skills, equipment, or simply a willingness to help is warmly encouraged to take part.

If you're interested in running a stall or lending a hand, please get in touch with the fete team at cuddington.fete@gmail.com

This is a wonderful opportunity to support the village, celebrate the natural world, and be part of a much-loved community tradition. Last year we were able to support community causes through grants totalling £5,500 from the fete proceeds.

<https://www.cuddington-bucks-pc.gov.uk/>

