

Clerk's Report

19 November 2025

1 Update on road safety initiatives

Community Speedwatch

The group continues to conduct sessions each week, subject to the weather and availability. Since the activity started, the group has recorded 409 motorists who were found to be traveling over the prescribed speed threshold. Details below:

Location	Speeders	
Beaconsfield Road	4	Of speeders recorded, the maximum speed on a 30mph road is 56mph with the average speed being 39mph.
Beeches Road	3	
Collinswood Road	347	The maximum speed was recorded on Collinswood Road. The maximum speed on a 40mph road is 52mph with the average speed being 49mph. The maximum speed was recorded on Parish Lane.
Farnham Lane	22	
One Pin Lane	30	In addition, we have been notified that four of the vehicles reported did not have a MOT, three were not taxed and one had a statutory off road notification (SORN).
Parish Lane	1	
Templewood Lane	2	
Total	409	

In addition, 10 motorists have been reported for offensive behaviour.

Since the last parish council meeting, sessions have been held in Beeches Road, Collinswood Road, Farnham Lane and One Pin Lane and a new volunteer has completed their training.

Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

Both signs continue to move around the approved sites within the parish. The old machine is now unable to record data but still registers excess speeds and flashes to notify the driver. The newer machine is fully operational and data has been downloaded for September and October 2025 and the software required to analyse it has been reloaded on the Clerk's laptop. Unfortunately, when analysing the data the system is still generating an error message which has been referred to Swarco and they have advised that something may be faulty with the radar datalogging and that I arrange a site visit with the faults team.

2 Update on antisocial behaviour in footpaths FAR/6 and FAR/7

The Chiltern Society confirmed that the installation was delayed but on 27 October 2025, the kissing gates were installed at both entrances to FAR/6 and at the entrance to FAR/7, which merges into FAR/6. Clive Robinson also confirmed this on 1 November 2025 following a site visit.

Following the Parish Council's decision to ask the Thames Valley Police Community Fund if a donation could be made from the grant received to the Chiltern Society who installed the gates at no cost, I submitted a request to the Fund for permission to make a £500 donation (the cheapest installation quote was £2,200) and I am waiting for their response.

3 St Mary's Churchyard

As previously advised, a surveyor's report carried out in July 2025 confirmed that a section of the boundary wall at the south east of the churchyard is collapsing outwards. This wall is also a retaining wall due to the difference in ground height between the churchyard and the neighbouring property. The recommended temporary shoring was installed on 2 October 2025.

Prior to preparing a schedule of works, the surveyor recommended that the Parish Council checks whether there is a preservation order on the wall as they believe rebuilding rather than permanently strengthening the section would be the most cost effective. The latest advice from the Principal Heritage Officer at Buckinghamshire Council is that they presume the wall in question is curtilage listed to the church (the church is Grade II listed). To obtain a definitive answer the Parish Council can apply for Heritage Advice from Buckinghamshire Council at an estimated cost of £608 but the Officer advises that if rebuilding is required Listed Building Consent will be necessary so it might be easier to move straight to an LBC application. In addition, the Officer advised that as the church is within Farnham Royal Conservation Area planning permission may also be required.

As the churchyard is closed, the Parish Council is responsible for carrying out the work but 65% of the cost should be recovered from Buckinghamshire Council in next year's annual maintenance invoice. Having reported the position to Buckinghamshire Council on 9 September 2025 I have now been asked to meet the Crematoria & Cemeteries Service Manager at Buckinghamshire Council at the churchyard next week to discuss the wall. If a councillor would like to join me let me they are very welcome.

4. Living Christmas Tree and Kingsway Green Oak Tree Lights

The living Christmas tree was planted on 30 September 2025 and is decorated ready for switching on, with the other lights, on 1 December 2025.

Amersham Town Council attended the planting with a mobile bowser and returned a few days later to replace some of the soil around the tree with better quality soil and to apply bark mulch around the base of the tree. All requested by the tree supplier and carried out to maintain the warranty.

It was not possible for the Christmas lighting company to complete the groundworks required to install the permanent electricity supply in time but they have provided a temporary solution and will complete the work after the festive season.

The new lights purchased for the oak tree on Kingsway Green have been installed and will also be switched on with the main display.

5. Follow up on the feedback received from residents at Orchard Day

The following issues were raised at Orchard Day:

- A resident echoed a concern raised previously by other residents regarding pedestrian routes along and across Farnham Lane in Farnham Royal. I have reviewed previous projects and in 2021 the Parish Council applied to Buckinghamshire Council (via the Beeches Community Board) for part funding of a new zebra crossing on Farnham Lane. The application was assessed by the Design Services Team at Transport for Buckinghamshire and they recommended that a controlled zebra crossing be installed across Farnham Lane in the vicinity of Bishops Orchard. They provided a cost for the work of £89,372.53. This application was considered by the Community Board for match funding together with the application to extend the footway on Blackpond Lane and the decision was made to fund the footway extension rather than the new zebra crossing as there were already several crossings in the vicinity, although it was acknowledged that a crossing in this location would create a more efficient pedestrian route.
- A resident who neighbours Temple Dell requested that some of the low lying vegetation on the eastern boundary is cut back to remove it from the fence. I am currently reviewing the Management Plan for Temple Dell prior to discussing this request with the maintenance contractor and reporting back to parish councillors.
- A resident raised concern about speeding and particularly the speed of vehicles entering Farnham Common from Farnham Royal and suggested a Fixed Vehicle Activated Sign should be installed the same as outside The Avenue in Farnham Common. I included this suggestion in an email to Buckinghamshire Highways Commission about traffic calming schemes for the villages. More details in item 8 below.

6. A resident's concern about streetlighting in Home Meadow

Following the attempted theft of a motor vehicle and burglary at their property, a resident has requested the installation of an additional streetlight at the entrance to the roundabout in Home Meadow to improve overall visibility and safety.

The Parish Council owns and manages two streetlights in Home Meadow (131 and 132). One was not working at the time of the incident but has subsequently been repaired. Based upon previous decisions, I have advised the resident that the Parish Council does not have any plans to install additional streetlighting in the villages but agreed to make councillors aware of the request.

7. A resident's concern about speeding on the Beaconsfield Road by Farnham Common Infant School

A resident contacted the Parish Council to express serious concern regarding the safety of children and families commuting to and from Farnham Common Infant and Junior School and requesting the implementation of the following measures near Farnham Common Infant School:

- Reduced Speed Limit Zone: Implement a 20mph limit during school hours, reinforced with flashing signs and road markings.
- School Zone Signage: Install clear and visible signs warning drivers of the school zone and pedestrian activity.
- Traffic Calming Measures: Use speed humps, raised tables, or chicanes to physically slow down vehicles.
- Crossing Patrol Officer: Provide a trained individual to assist children in crossing safely during peak times.
- Improved Pavement and Lighting: Ensure pavements are wide, continuous, and well-lit to support safe walking

routes.

- Install metal barriers: Install barriers on one side of the road to physically protect pedestrians (similar to barriers near pedestrian crossing outside of Sainsburys in Farnham Common Village centre).
- Child-Shaped Bollards: Install brightly coloured child-shaped bollards outside the school entrance. These visual cues are highly effective in alerting drivers to the presence of children and reinforcing the need to slow down.

The resident advised that they would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and support any initiatives that promote safer routes to school. I replied to the resident and asked for their availability to meet to discuss this further. I provided the background information below about the Parish Council's efforts to date as some of these mirror some of their proposals.

In 2020, following discussions with parents and school governors, the Parish Council applied to Buckinghamshire Council for the following measures outside Farnham Common Infant School:

- 1. Child shaped bollards at regular intervals in the proximity of the school on both sides of the road*
- 2. An advisory speed limit of 20MPH for suitable periods at the beginning and end of the school day with flashing warning signs installed on both sides of the road*
- 3. A suitable message, for instance 'School Ahead', on the road surface of both northbound and southbound carriageways with the introduction of a coloured road surface*

Transport for Buckinghamshire ("TfB") on behalf of Buckinghamshire Council replied:

1. Similar child shaped bollards to those requested were installed outside two Iver schools a couple of years ago. Since being provided, the effectiveness of these features has been reviewed / assessed / monitored. As a result, Buckinghamshire County Council's Acting Head Of Highways has stated that "considering all the controversy generated last time they were used; the costs and lack of evidence that they improve road users behaviour after the initial impact, there is no justification for their use in future". As a result, TfB cannot endorse their use on the A355 Beaconsfield Road, Farnham Common.

2. There is an existing traffic signal controlled crossing situated on the A355 Beaconsfield Road, Farnham Common outside the Infant School. Advice and guidance provided by the Department for Transport (DfT) states that flashing lights should not be used near level crossings, traffic signals, Puffin, Toucan, Zebra or Parallel Crossings as this might cause confusion or distraction. It would therefore not be appropriate to provide such flashing lights in the immediate vicinity of the school / formal crossing point. However, there are existing 'School' warning sign assemblies with 'School' plates on both northbound and southbound approaches to the school at least 100 metres away (to the north, near the Drew Meadow junction; to the south, north of the Scott Close junction). TfB therefore proposes to replace these existing assemblies with new ones incorporating 'School' warning signs, flashing amber lights and plates reading 'School 20 when lights show' as it is considered that these are sufficiently far away from the formal crossing so as not to cause confusion or distraction.

3. The provision of signs and lines on the public highway is dictated by regulation. Any sign or marking provided on the public highway must comply with this regulation otherwise it could be considered an illegal obstruction. Unfortunately, the requested 'School Ahead' is not a prescribed marking and therefore cannot be used. TfB therefore proposes to lay white 'SLOW' road markings (which are prescribed markings in the regulations) on red coloured surface patches adjacent to the new sign assemblies detailed in 2. above. These 'SLOW' markings will supplement / reinforce the message referenced on the adjacent signs indicating the presence of a school ahead. There is an existing 'SLOW' marking on the carriageway adjacent to the existing 'School' warning sign assembly north of Scott Close.

The Parish Council was keen to see improvements implemented and agreed to the scheme, as adapted by TfB, which was completed in the first half of 2022. The cost of the scheme was approx. £10,000 of which half was paid by the Parish Council.

After the work was completed I, in my role as Clerk, chased Buckinghamshire Highways (formerly TfB) as the 'School 20 when lights show' plates were not installed on either of the assemblies and in June 2023 they advised that the 'supplementary 20mph plates were originally approved to be implemented however, a Buckinghamshire Council decision on 20mph speed limits was implemented and the removal of these within sites in Buckinghamshire took place. At present the 20mph signage is therefore not supported'. Unfortunately, to the best of my knowledge, this decision remains.

Turning to the other calming measures such as speed humps, raised tables or chicanes, when these options have been raised with Buckinghamshire Highways the Parish Council is always advised that this would be problematic and cost prohibitive as the A355 is a major A road. The Parish Council is currently waiting to hear from Buckinghamshire Highways' Commissioning Team with costed proposals for traffic calming on Collinswood Road where the 30mph sign

is located to slow the traffic entering the village from Beaconsfield and for adding a site for its mobile vehicle activated signs near Kennedy Close, as you drive up to the centre of the village from Slough. The full cost of both of these will need to be met by the Parish Council as Buckinghamshire Highways is unable to provide any funding.

At the time of designing the scheme in 2020, metal barriers (pedestrian guardrails) were discussed but TfB advised that the safety data was mixed so they would not install guardrails. They advised that guardrails can create a false sense of security for drivers causing drivers to be less cautious and actually increase their speeds, obscure visibility of pedestrians, particularly children, for drivers and if struck by a vehicle can potentially worsen the collision for pedestrians on the other side of the guardrail.

I am not aware that there have been any discussions about having a Crossing Patrol Officer or improving the pavement and/or lighting.

Looking at other potential measures, the Parish Council applied to the Police for two Community Speedwatch sites (one on either side of the road) near Farnham Common Infant School but the criteria for sites meant that both were refused as a site must have a safe area of at least 2 metres from the edge of the road to allow pedestrians room to pass the deployed operators without the need to step into the road and there must also be a safe exit path away from the carriageway. The site identified must also not be within sight of a mobile camera or static camera enforcement site on the same road.

Please be assured the Parish Council continues to discuss the unique difficulties experienced by residents as a result of the A355's position through the centre of the villages and has traffic calming as a priority for the whole parish. Over the last couple of years, the Parish Council has invested in a new mobile vehicle activated sign which travels around the villages to approved sites, a Community Speedwatch initiative including new road signs along the A355 and 30mph wheelie bin stickers which are distributed free of charge to residents. In addition, discussions with the Road Safety Team at Buckinghamshire Highways resulted in a site visit and new blue 'It's 30 for a reason' signs near the Infant School.

8. Update on 2025/26 projects

- CCTV

The first phase of this project completed earlier in the year but Tony Birkett is proposing a second phase which would see two additional cameras being installed on Farnham Lane in Farnham Royal. The cost of this is:

Supply & installation of cameras	£2,904.56
Electrical work	£685.00
Total	<u>£ 3,589.56</u>

I have emailed the Thames Valley Police Community Fund asking whether the balance of the grant provided to deal with the antisocial behaviour in FAR/6 and FAR/7 can be used to part fund this phase as it will still be applied to antisocial behaviour in Farnham Royal. The remaining grant is £1,500.

In addition, recent discussions with the Neighbourhood Policing Team determined that to get the most out of all the cameras the Police would like them to be monitored at Buckinghamshire Council's control room in High Wycombe. The Police have easy access to the cameras in the control room which allows them faster and continuing access to the images helping them with their investigations. Buckinghamshire Council has confirmed that assuming all is set up correctly with the cameras, they can be added to the control room for a one off charge of £360.00. There would then be an annual charge of £1,800 per camera and this must be part of a five year funding agreement for transmission, monitoring, and maintenance charges through a CCTV Service Agreement with Buckinghamshire Council. The annual charge is fixed for the five years.

Finally, Buckinghamshire Council has allocated two CCTV cameras to The Broadway as part of its CCTV Digitalisation Programme. One will be placed near the public phone box outside Robin Parade and the other at the corner of Kingsway Green. Both locations have previously had CCTV cameras and the contractors have been out and confirmed that the existing columns have power meaning that the cameras can be deployed very soon as there are no other requirements to seek permission. Farnham Common has been allocated one PTZ (Pan, Tilt and Zoom) and one Multi sensor camera (PTZ +4 fixed views). The Parish Council has been asked if it would like to upgrade the PTZ (Pan, Tilt and Zoom) camera to a Multi sensor camera (PTZ +4 fixed views) at a cost of £3,034.86.

- Woodland Management Plan Preparation

The Plan was approved by the Forestry Commission on 1 April 2025. The cost of preparing the Plan was £1,755 and a grant of £1,500 has recently been obtained from the Rural Payments Agency towards the cost.

- Kingsway Green/Rectory Close Flowerbeds

The flowerbeds were completed in March 2025 but the invoice was not submitted for payment until April 2025 so fell into this financial year. The cost was £2,340.

- Free Parking in The Broadway Car Park

The 30 minute free parking trial started on 1 February 2025 for six months and was then continued until 31 July 2026. Usage has increased over the period but seems to have levelled out. The monthly figures are shown below:

<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
1,730	2,511	2,518	3003	2,948	3,043	2,985	3,178

The Parish Council pays £1 (including VAT) for each ticket obtained either through RingGo or at the machine.

30 minute free parking is provided Monday to Saturday and excludes Sundays and Bank Holidays due to Buckinghamshire Council's charging structure and the car park's proximity to Burnham Beeches.

- Woodland Management Plan Work

Katherine Damsell and I are working with the Community Engagement Rangers from Burnham Beeches to formulate a plan for Boundary Copse in Farnham Royal. This Copse has been the location of several unauthorised encampments and would benefit from some clearance work whilst retaining as much natural habitat as possible. It is anticipated that a plan will be brought forward at the January 2026 parish council meeting with the work being carried out in February 2026.

- Website Improvements

The Parish Council's website was developed nearly ten years ago and although the information is updated as and when necessary, with the developments in website design and new legislation and guidance the website would benefit from a bigger refresh. The Parish Council previously agreed a budget of £1,000 for improvements but I am proposing that it would be better to purchase a new, fully compliant and accessible website from a provider who already works with around 500 town and parish councils. The set up and year one costs are quoted at £899 plus VAT.

Some of their websites can be found here:

<https://www.chalfontstgiles-pc.gov.uk/>

<https://www.iversparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

<https://www.eatonbrayparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

- Farnham Royal Playground Licence Renewal

The Parish Council provides the playground at Farnham Park Playing Fields and occupies the site under a licence from Buckinghamshire Council. Under the terms of the licence, from December 2025 the Agreement can be terminated on six months' notice. The playground would benefit from some investment in replacement equipment and prior to formulating detailed plans, the Parish Council has been trying to obtain a new licence to secure its tenure.

A draft licence has been received today with a request for it to be completed before Christmas. Katherine Damsell has been working with me on this project and more information will be available at the parish council meeting.

- Dropped Kerb at Spring Lane in Farnham Royal

In 2023 Clive Robinson reviewed all the dropped kerbs/junctions in the villages including all dropped kerbs at junctions but excluding drop kerbs where there is no hard pathway or that are entrances to private property as these are not covered under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

The worst issue identified is on the west side of Beaconsfield Road near Spring Lane, which is the only pathway linking Farnham Common and Farnham Royal. This issue is also regularly reported by one resident who travels from Farnham Common to St Anthony's Church in Slough every week.

During ongoing discussions with our Local Area Technician and Senior Highways Liaison Officer for Buckinghamshire Highways it has become apparent that Buckinghamshire Highways are unlikely to take any action and the Parish Council was advised to propose a scheme to the Commissioning Team at Buckinghamshire Highways. I have emailed the team request the installation of tactile paving and dropped kerbs. The request has been forward to the Council's in-house design team who will provide an estimate within the next 28 days.

- Living Christmas Tree & Kingsway Green Oak Tree Lights

As reported in item 4 above, this project is complete subject to carrying out the groundworks for the permanent electricity supply.

- Antisocial Behaviour in FAR/6 & FAR/7

As reported in item 2 above, this project is complete subject to receiving the Thames Valley Police Community Fund's decision about the donation to the Chiltern Society.

- Repairs to Outdoor Gym Surface

This project has not been progressed as the 2025 annual playground inspection graded the concrete surface as low risk even though it identified that some weeding and repairs were needed. It is proposed that this project is carried over to 2026/27, possibly as part of a larger renewal of the outdoor gym area.

- Protecting Physical Assets

This project originated with the suggestion of placing a covenant on the land owned by the Parish Council that is occupied by Farnham Common Sports Club. Following an initial review the scope was increased to look at protecting all the green spaces in the Parish, some of which are leased by the Parish Council from Buckinghamshire Council. Some initial legal advice was obtained but nothing was progressed whilst the outcome of the Neighbourhood Plan was awaited as some of the areas were included for designation as Local Green Spaces, which provides protection similar to the level of green belt.

It is now proposed that given the acceptance of the Neighbourhood Plan the project returns to focussing on protecting the land at Farnham Common Sports Club. I have emailed the solicitor with this update and am waiting for their reply.

- Farnham Royal Playground Renewal

As reported earlier in this section, Buckinghamshire Council has just provided the draft licence which if agreed could enable to renewal to progress in 2026/27.

- Traffic Calming in Farnham Common and Farnham Royal

One of the concerns raised most by residents is speeding within the villages. Following discussions with our Local Area Technician and Senior Highways Liaison Officer for Buckinghamshire Highways I emailed Buckinghamshire Highways Commissioning Team to find out about installing some traffic calming measures for frequently raised areas and the associated costs. The email has resulted in the following suggestions:

1. Gateways and Dragons Teeth markings, '30' carriageway roundel on red coloured surfacing; and mounting the speed limit signs on yellow backing boards (to increase their conspicuity) on Collinswood Road, Farnham Common near the village name plates, if not a little further north. Estimated cost: £5,000 to £15,000.
2. A site for the Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign on Beaconsfield Road, Farnham Common northbound carriage way just south of Kennedy Close. Estimated cost: £Not yet provided
3. A nearside gate, Dragons Teeth markings, '30' carriageway roundel on red coloured surfacing; and mounting the speed limit signs on yellow backing boards (to increase their conspicuity) on Park Road, Farnham Royal to slow traffic heading into Farnham Royal from Stoke Poges. Estimated cost: £5,000 to £15,000.
4. A nearside gate, Dragons Teeth markings, '30' carriageway roundel on red coloured surfacing; and mounting the speed limit signs on yellow backing boards (to increase their conspicuity) on Farnham Lane, Farnham Royal near the junction with Crown Lane where the speed limit changes to slow the traffic heading into Farnham Royal from Burnham. Estimated cost £5,000 to £15,000.

The Commissioning Team is currently working on more accurate estimates for consideration by the Parish Council. Any project would need to be fully funded by the Parish Council probably utilising CIL receipts.

In addition, I asked if there was a suitable measure that could be installed on Beeches Road, Farnham Common. They advised that it is likely that physical measures such as speed cushions or road humps may be required and that such measures often require additional street lighting and/or drainage to be compliant and/or effective. Estimate cost: more than £15,000.

Finally, I asked whether there is any way of upgrading the speed camera on Beaconsfield Road near Signature to a digital camera covering both sides of the road. Buckinghamshire Highways advised that unfortunately this was not possible. They had been advised that Thames Valley Police undertook an upgrade of wet film to digital cameras across

the whole force area which ended in 2021. Those speed cameras identified as warranting the change, including the one further south on the A355 Farnham Road in Slough, were upgraded then. Thames Valley Police has no active plans to upgrade this particular camera and does not support third party funding for the upgrade of any of the cameras that were not upgraded to digital at that time.

9. Design a Bauble Competition 2025

This year's Design a Bauble Competition launches on 21 November 2025. Competition post boxes have been placed in Farnham Common Infant School, Farnham Common Junior School, Farnham Common Library and St Mary's Farnham Royal CofE Primary School.

Entries will be divided into five age categories: under 4 years, 4 to 7 years, 8 to 11 years, 12 to 17 years and adults. The winner of each group will receive a £50 gift voucher with a £25 gift voucher awarded for second place.

The competition closes on 15 December 2025 and the entries will be judged by Tony Birkett (as Chair) and Katherine Damsell (as Vice Chair) on 17 December 2025. Prizes will be distributed before the Christmas break.

10. The Big Christmas Singalong!

One of the Community Volunteers recruited in the Summer asked to work together on a community Christmas event and The Big Christmas Singalong! was born. The event is free to enter, available to all ages, weather proof, different to other local events and the venue can accommodate a large number of residents.

The event is on Sunday 14 December 2025 from 2pm at Farnham Common Village Hall (both halls) and includes Winter Workshop Arts & Crafts, North Pole Puzzles, Mrs Christmas' Crochet Challenge, the Candy Cane Café and a big festive singalong. Children will each be given a ticket on entry to get one drink and one bag of sweets/chocolate free.

The proposed budget is £1,500.

11. Flagpole Services

Flagmasters has confirmed that this year's service is now due and the price quoted of £726.02 for both flagpoles is in line with the agreed annual budget.

12. Topple Testing at St Mary's Churchyard

Topple testing involves routine visual and hand safety checks of memorials to prevent injury to the public as the result of one falling over. Responsibility for this maintenance falls to the Parish Council as the churchyard is closed. Such inspections are typically carried out once every three to five years, with unstable memorials monitored more frequently for example annually.

Amersham Town Council has agreed to add this to their maintenance work for this year at a cost of £800. As mentioned previously, I am meeting the Crematoria & Cemeteries Service Manager at Buckinghamshire Council at the churchyard next week and will discuss this with them then.

15 Gpeto AI Platform

I was contacted by Gpeto Planning AI in October 2025 to see if the Parish Council would be interested in a trial. The platform is designed to help with the assessment of planning applications as it allows the user to upload application documents into the platform and then checks the documents against local criteria to highlight issues with the application. It enables the user to:

- Instantly overlay key layers like conservation zones, flood risk, listed buildings, Green Belt (60+ Data layers)
- Flag policy conflicts (National, Local, and the Farnham Royal Neighbourhood Plan) and highlights potential grounds for objection.

Having met with them, the Parish Council has been offered a discounted monthly rate of £25 with the first 28 days free to get used to the Platform. They will commit to that price for six months after which the rate would increase to £75 per month with 30 days' notice required to cancel the agreement.

They have produced a video and the link is here <https://youtu.be/vs1p7A-dixQ>.

They advise that the Platform is currently being used by Weston Turville Parish Council and Amersham Town Council. They are also in discussions with Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils.

16 Feedback from South Bucks Association of Local Councils

Tony Birkett, as Chair, attended the AGM of South Bucks Association of Local Councils on 17 November 2025.

Also represented were Burnham Parish Council, Denham Parish Council, Fulmer Parish Council and Stoke Poges

Parish Council. The CEO of Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils was also there.

The Parishes shared the top three issues being faced by them and on behalf of Farnham Royal, Tony Birkett raised the threat to the Green Belt, speeding concerns and antisocial behaviour/crime prevention.

It was agreed that going forward, the focus of the Association would be sharing ideas and best practice and working to obtain procurement synergies.

17 Feedback from meeting with the Neighbourhood Policing Team

Tony Birkett and I met PCSO Angela O'Connell on 17 November 2025. At the meeting, the following items were discussed:

1. Encouraging residents to take steps to protect themselves against crimes that are more common this time of year such as burglaries and parcel theft.
2. Encouraging residents to report crimes/antisocial behaviour they posted on Facebook.
3. Location of CCTV cameras and connectivity with the system operated by Buckinghamshire Council.
4. An increase in shoplifting along The Broadway.
5. Speedwatch initiative and what more could be done to secure a camera van on Collinswood Road
6. In the last month, five drivers have been ticketed for parking on the zig zag lines on The Broadway receiving points and a fine.
7. A reminder not to buy E Scooters for Christmas as if seen by the Police on public land they will be taken away.
8. Confirmation that cycling on pavements is illegal but that it is difficult to enforce
9. Attendance at Meet Your Local Councillor Sessions and Annual Parish Meeting
10. Holding a 'Have Your Say' session in Costa on 21 November 2025
11. Encouraged to follow TVP South Buckinghamshire Facebook page
12. Contact for Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

18 Feedback from Buckinghamshire Highways Meeting

Tony Birkett and I met our Local Area Technician and Senior Highways Liaison Officer for Buckinghamshire Highways on 4 November 2025. At the meeting, the following items were discussed:

Issue	Action
The flooding in the dip between the Beaconsfield Services and Farnham Common, which causes traffic to back up into the village.	Possibly some work done by landowner as two tractors with buckets recently witness in location.
Dropped kerbs and pavement repairs, particularly the one on Beaconsfield Road near Spring Lane.	Clerk to email Buckinghamshire Highways Commissioning Team for cost and the work would have to be fully funded.
A resident's complaint about the condition of the pavement between Elm Close and Forge Drive following a fall.	Clerk will include this pavement in siding out work under Devolved Services.
Resident's concern regarding two beacons in Farnham Royal that don't light up and possible addition of a third beacon.	Clerk to report on Fix My Street
Residents have raised that the signs in Templewood Lane asking large vehicles to take another road are not visible.	Clerk to check where the signs are.
Lampost EF62 covered by tree branches	Buckinghamshire Highways have carried out some trimming to the trees on the pavement side but no further work will be done by them. Parish Council to assess whether further work is required given ongoing issues with ownership of the trees and any work would need to be fully funded.

Shrubs outside Robin Parade need cutting as visibility for vehicles and pedestrians is now poor. The grass there needs cutting too.

A resident has complained that the zebra crossing in Park Road is dangerously positioned due to the parking lay-by which is not deep enough for some of the vehicles that are parked there and restrict the vision of drivers who may also be speeding. They believe that if the lay-by was made deeper for proper parking this would make it much easier for drivers to clearly see the zebra crossing and mean the additional flooding issue wouldn't be such a problem.

One Pin Lane - 18 drain covers with tar missing

A resident (former parish councillor) has offered to pay for the removal of the tall trees on the triangle of land behind Kingsway Green and to plant more appropriate trees there

Some of the lines in Church Road were repainted but not the white ones (Access Protection Markings) paid for by residents in St Mary's Close. Residents are asking when these will be done.

The small verge just north of the village nameplate for Farnham Common on Collinswood Road needs cutting

Remove temporary 'No Road Markings'/'No Overtaking' signs on Collinswood Road.

Replace broken mirror outside Hollybank Cottage, Kingsway.

The bollards around Kingsway Green are starting to rot. Are there any restrictions on the replacements as they are so close to the road.

St Marys Close nameplate for cul de sac on Church Road

Green Lane junction with Beeches Road the white lines need repainting

Stewarts Drive pothole

A resident has raised the condition of the service road for Langtons Meadow at the corner of Victoria Road

Buckinghamshire Highways have carried out some trimming but for anymore work the Parish Council would need to send a proposal to Buckinghamshire Highways Commissioning Team and the work would have to be fully funded.

Buckinghamshire Highways do not have the funds to carry out any work regarding the parking lay-by. The Parish Council has therefore submitted a request for traffic calming on Park Road and is awaiting an accurate estimate and timescale. This would need to be fully funded and has been roughly estimated at 5k-15k.

Buckinghamshire Highways has raised a job and are waiting for completion.

To proceed, the Parish Council would need to send a proposal to Buckinghamshire Highways Commissioning Team.

The Clerk has reported on Fix My Street (8370803). The Local Area Technician will go and have a look.

The Local Area Technician has reported this and will chase the team.

The Local Area Technician has reported this and will chase the team.

The Clerk has reported on Fix My Street (8370236). The Local Area Technician is investigating ownership.

The Senior Highways Liaison Officer recommended Glasdon composite posts rather than metal Doric bollards due to road safety and cost.

The Clerk has reported on Fix My Street (8374946). The Local Area Technician will go and have a look.

The Clerk has reported on Fix My Street (8375090). The Local Area Technician will go and have a look.

Clerk to report on Fix My Street and the Local Area Technician will investigate

The Senior Highways Liaison Officer advised that the Clerk needed to contact the Asset Management Team at Buckinghamshire Council. As the road is not maintained by Buckinghamshire Highways.