

## Clerk's Report

6 May 2026

### 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 502 motorists who were found to be traveling over the prescribed speed threshold. Details below:

Location	Speeders	Of speeders recorded, the maximum speed on a 30mph road is 56mph with the average speed being 39mph. The maximum speed was recorded on Collinswood Road. The maximum speed on a 40mph road is 54mph with the average speed being 49mph. The maximum speed was recorded on Parish Lane.
Beaconsfield Road	5	
Beeches Road	3	
Collinswood Road	433	
Farnham Lane	22	
One Pin Lane	36	
Parish Lane	1	
Templewood Lane	2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>502</b>	In addition, we have been notified that seven of the vehicles reported did not have a MOT, six were not taxed and one had a statutory off road notification (SORN).

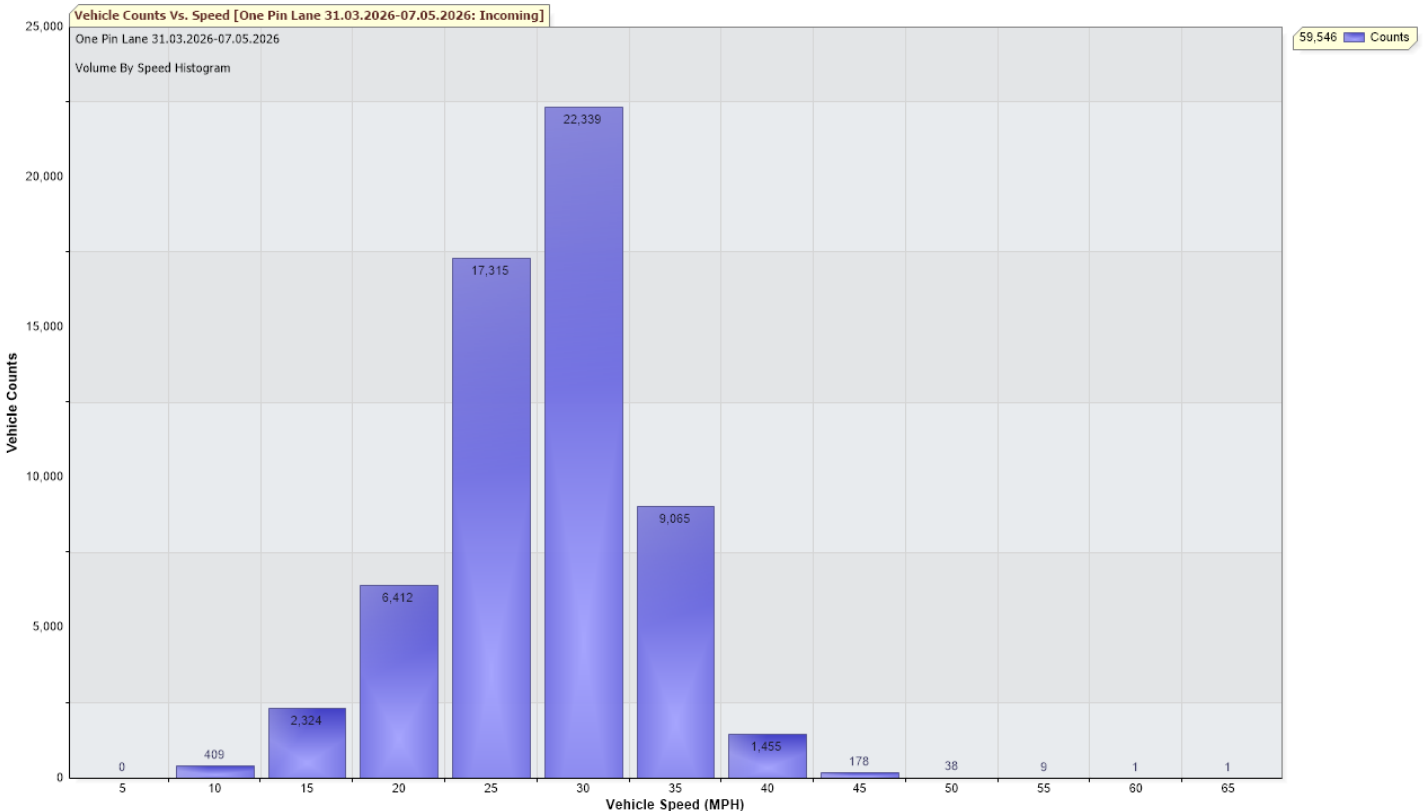
In addition, 10 motorists have been reported for offensive behaviour.

Since the last parish council meeting, sessions have been held in Beaconsfield Road, Collinswood Road and Farnham Lane.

#### Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

Both signs continue to move around the approved sites within the parish. The latest data download is below.

#### One Pin Lane (30mph) – 31 March 2026 to 7 May 2026



Maximum Speed: 65mph at 7.45pm

Average Speed: 25.31mph

## 2 St Mary's Churchyard

As previously reported, the Crematoria & Cemeteries Service Manager at Buckinghamshire Council advised that she had heard back from the legal team at Buckinghamshire Council and would review their advice and come back to me. I chased for an update on 30 April 2026 but have not yet received a reply.

## 3. Emails from Residents

Two residents have separately reported (one via fixmystreet.com) that the footpath through the vegetation between Old Beaconsfield Road and Beaconsfield Road, near the bus stop, is now impassible due to overgrown vegetation. Clive Robinson and I visited the site with one of the residents and Clive Robinson suggested that with a couple of volunteers he would be able to clear the footpath.

## 4. Update on 2025/26 projects

- Website Improvements

As previously advised, following the decision at the November 2025 parish council meeting, Gurdeep Grewal and I met to discuss a scope that could be sent to potential developers with a request for a proposal and quote. Two developers were asked to prepare a proposal that could then be considered with the proposal already received. So far, I have received one further proposal. This together with the original proposal have been sent to parish councillors separately. It should be noted that the Communication Audit Report received from Becky Walsh of Council Culture makes several observations and recommendations regarding the website.

- Farnham Royal Playground Licence Renewal

Following the decision at the April 2026 parish council meeting, Katherine Damsell and Tony Birkett signed the Licence and associated Statutory Declaration. Unfortunately, upon receipt of the documents, Buckinghamshire Council advised there were inconsistencies in the drafting between the documents and issued amended versions. The amended documents will shortly be signed and declared by Katherine Damsell and Tony Birkett.

- Dropped Kerb at Spring Lane in Farnham Royal

As previously reported, a Project Manager at Buckinghamshire Highways asked for further justification for prioritising this location over others nearby. Clive Robinson, who conducted the original survey, has advised that this location is the most problematic for residents and advised that the issue is exacerbated by the poor condition of the footway to the south of the junction. I also discussed the matter with a resident who uses a mobility scooter to travel to St Anthony Church. They advised that this is the only junction along the Beaconsfield Road that does not have a dropped kerb. They continued that there are other dropped kerbs which are not ideal but are passable. I have replied to the Project Manager accordingly.

- Protecting Physical Assets

BP Collins LLP have acknowledged receipt of the required documents regarding Farnham Common Sports Club and will shortly report back with the results of their review and recommendations. Katherine Damsell and I are continuing to investigate the options identified for protecting the land at Farnham Common Sports Club for community recreational use for generations to come prior to a follow up meeting with the solicitor.

- Traffic Calming in Farnham Common and Farnham Royal

As previously reported, the scope for these measures has been agreed but Buckinghamshire Highways and I am waiting for the formal quotation from Balfour Beatty Living Places.

## 5. Feedback from Councillor Meetings

- South Bucks Association of Local Councils

Paul Rowley attended this meeting on 22 April 2026 on behalf of Tony Birkett. The Association's accounts for the year to 31 March 2026 were reviewed and approved and then those present received an update from the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils. After this, each town or parish council provided an update. Paul Rowley shared that there had been public disquiet at a recent parish council meeting, that Green Belt protection was the number one priority and that the parish council was planning a community picnic to bring people together. The next meeting is scheduled for 22 July 2026.

- Burnham, Farnhams and Taplow Neighbourhood Policing Team

Tony Birkett and I met with PCSO Angela O'Connell on 20 April 2026 to discuss issues within the parish. The topics discussed were:

1. A recent report to her of a burnt out caravan in Farnham Park Lane.
2. Police attendance at parish council meetings if there are expectations of public disquiet.

3. The Police Cadets were invited to have a stall at the Community Picnic on 17 May 2026.
4. Increased patrols during the evenings at Farnham Park Playing Fields following reports of antisocial behaviour.
5. Residents' complaints about boys on bikes in/near Burnham Beeches.
6. A Facebook post about a lady being hit on the head in Burnham Beeches.
7. Ticketing vehicles parked on the zig zag lines along The Broadway.
8. A report to the Parish Council of cannabis being smoked in Temple Dell
9. People looking in cars parked in The Broadway Car Park.
10. An invitation was extended to join councillors at Meet Your Local Councillors on 9 May 2026

The next meeting is scheduled for 15 June 2026.

- Meet Your Local Councillor

Stuart Dennis and Paul Rowley are representing the Parish Council in Farnham Common Library on 9 May 2026 for the latest surgery.

## **6. Farnhams & Stoke Poges Ward Settlement Spatial Plan and the Response to the Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire**

As previously reported, a Settlement Spatial Plan is a strategic document guiding how towns or villages grow, providing a blueprint for sustainable development, housing, and infrastructure over time. It shapes decisions on where to build, protects key environmental features, and serves as a tool for local councils to influence planning. It looks at settlement boundaries, spatial strategy, settlement hierarchy and infrastructure planning.

This project has seen Farnham Royal Parish Council work with Fulmer Parish Council, Stoke Poges Parish Council and Wexham Parish Council with a jointly instructed planning consultant, O'Neill Homer, who also helped prepare The Farnhams' Neighbourhood Plan. After two in person fact finding meetings, the work is almost complete with two more online meetings planned later in May 2026 where O'Neill Homer will explain the Plan and how it impacts the Farnhams.

## **7. Arboriculture Work**

The majority of the work identified in the arboriculture report has been completed with work being carried out at Farnham Common Sports Club, Jubilee Copse, Temple Dell and Kingsway Green. The work at St. Mary's Churchyard will be carried out once planning permission is received. Planning permission is required as the Churchyard is within a Conservation Area.

## **8. Gpeto AI Planning Tool**

Earlier in the year, the Parish Council decided to trial an AI tool to help review and comment on planning applications. The trial started in February 2026 so is due to finish in May 2026 so the Parish Council must decide if it would like to continue using the tool. The discounted cost during the trial was £25/month. This will increase to £50/month when the trial finishes.

## **9. Civic.ly**

I attended an online course run by Scribe Accounting to learn about improving asset management with a view to better managing risks and contractor performance and improving record keeping for maintenance visits and safety inspections. During the session I was introduced to Civic.ly an all-in-one asset management platform purpose-built for town and parish councils. Katherine Damsell and I attended an online demonstration following which the company prepared a business case for the Parish Council, a copy of which has been sent to parish councillors separately as a decision on whether to subscribe to the platform is being sought at the meeting.

## **10. Repairs to the Information Board at the Community Orchard**

During a recent discussion, Clive Robinson advised me that the stand for the information board would benefit from some repairs, he offered to complete these at no cost to the Parish Council and is seeking agreement from the Parish Council for the work to be carried out.

## **11. Becky Walsh of Council Culture Communications Audit Report**

At the last parish council meeting it was agreed that Becky Walsh would conduct a Communications Audit covering both the website and social media. The audit has been completed and the report has been circulated to parish councillors separately.

## **12. Becky Walsh of Council Culture Draft Survey Questions**

At the last parish council meeting it was agreed that Becky Walsh would design a resident's survey. The first draft has been circulated to parish councillors separately.

### **13.Parish Picnic**

This year's parish picnic is being held at Farnham Common Sports Club on Sunday 17 May 2026 between 12pm and 4pm. The Sports Club will again be running a BBQ and bar and the inflatables, games, face painting, glitter tattoos and hook a duck will be returning. This year's picnic will also include a vintage car and motorcycle show, henna tattoos and more live entertainment than last year with The Polka Dots, who are returning, being joined by Dhol Collective, Michelle B and a DJ. There will also be more food options with pizza and Indian street food available to enjoy. We are also being joined by lots of community clubs and organisations who are looking to promote their activities. There will also be some local business stalls and a young resident who is raising funds to help with the cost of a Scouting adventure – The Grand Tour.

### **14.Christmas light repairs and disposals**

As requested at the last parish council meeting, I arranged a meeting with the contractor who provides the Parish Council's Christmas light display. Tony Birkett attended the meeting and discussed the cost (£2,243 plus VAT) of repairing the lights damaged during the 2025 display. Following the discussion, the recommendation remains that the lights are repaired rather than replaced this year as this is the most cost effective solution.

### **15.Rectory Close Shrub Bed**

As agreed at the last parish council meeting, the maintenance contractor has been asked to remove the old shrubs in two areas of the bed and replace them with new evergreen mixed shrubs that will show all year round colour.

### **16.Policy Review**

As previously reported, this year sees the introduction of a new Assertion, Assertion 10, as part of the audit process which focuses on digital, data protection, and IT security compliance. It requires councils to demonstrate lawful personal data processing, proper IT policies, and website accessibility (WCAG 2.2 AA). In readiness for the audit, a new IT Policy has been prepared (based on a model policy provided by the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils).

In addition, although there are no proposed changes, the Investment Policy is to be reviewed ahead of the audit together with a new Risk Management Policy.

A new Volunteers Policy was circulated ahead of the parish council meeting on 23 March 2026. Clive Robinson has reviewed the policy and is proposing an amended version, which he believes is more workable. Copies of these draft policies have been circulated to parish councillors.