

ASTON ROWANT, KINGSTON BLOUNT & CROWELL

PARISH NOTES



Illustration by Christopher Stockley

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If you have anything you'd like to see in the next issue please get in touch.

Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com

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Information in this publication is, as far as we know, accurate. The Parish Notes however, cannot accept responsibility for the quality of the information, services or items provided by other people or organisations.

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USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

CAB Local office www.adviceguide.org.uk	01844 214827
Chinnor Village Centre	01844 353733
Church Tower, Aston Rowant: R Newton	01844 352926
Dial-a-ride (for people with mobility problems)	01869 327048
Highways Pothole Hotline	0845 3101111
Highways Street Light Hotline	0800 317802
Library-Chinnor	01844 351721
Oil Syndicate adam.bernstein@mac.com .	01844 350440
Oxon County Council www.oxfordshire.gov.uk	01865 792422
Police-Thame (Thames Valley)	101 or 999
Poor's Hillock Allotments: Francesca Musaeus francesca.musaeus@hotmail.com	
Porch: S Thompson	01844 351334
Porch: J Rooksby	01844 352320
Post office-Chinnor	01844 351214
Schools:	
Aston Rowant C of E School	01844 351671
Icknield Community College Watlington	01491 612691
Lord Williams School Thame	01844 210510
Mill Lane School Chinnor	01844 352106
St Andrew's C of E, Chinnor	01844 351353
SODC Main Customer Services	01235 422422
SODC Refuse/Recycling	03000 610610
SODC Planning	01235 422600
Reporting Fly-tipping	03000 610610
SODC Environmental Department	01235 422403
Chinnor u3a [Chair]	07711 337243
Village Hall Hire/Bookings: Hayley Hopwood	07470 441857

CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

Anonymous letters

I want to begin by noting that in recent weeks the parish council has received several anonymous letters with regard to the foliage extending beyond a certain property's boundary in the parish.

The landowner is aware of the issue and has organised contractors to clear the foliage.

However, the bigger issue – at least as far the council is concerned – is that the letters were sent to me, as chairman, anonymously.

I am not a fan of anonymous communication unless someone feels personally at risk or threatened; consequently, I believe that if an individual has a point of view that they wish to air that they should make their comment identifiable – to the council and the council only; messages received will not be made public.

By definition of being anonymous these letters cannot be responded to.

I need to state that all correspondence must be sent to the clerk, Tracy Lambourne, as she is the 'proper officer' of the council. Her details are on the website via the 'contact the council' tab on the home page at astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk.

That's not to say that residents cannot or should not contact individual councillors informally over matters of concern; but formal correspondence does need to be sent to the clerk.

There might a delay in getting a response as the clerk's role is part time, but a response will be sent.

As for the matter above, it's been acknowledged and dealt with, and since the letters were anonymous the council will not be taking any action.

A vacant seat

Moving on, since the resignation of Helen Birks in July, there is a vacant seat on the parish council. Notice was given of the vacancy and no resident expressed any interest and so the council is now free to co-opt should anyone come forward.

I've written about this before, but being a member of the parish council can be very rewarding with the opportunity to shape the community that we live in, able to give to society a little more than is taken, and – importantly – puts councillors in a position to meet fellow residents.

It's not an onerous role, doesn't require a massive amount of time, and does not require any personal expenditure.

If you're interested, again, please contact the clerk.

We can operate with six members on the council, but it would be good to have seven for if nothing else, another perspective on the issues we discuss.

I should add that it would be good to hear from interested residents in parts of the parish other than Aston Rowant which is currently very well represented on the council.

Roads

For the last few years residents will have come across the speed indicator devices (SIDs) that the council has installed on the B4009 and in Aston Rowant village to try and slow down traffic.

They're not a perfect solution and aren't overly attractive. However, they do work. The SID nearest the M40 shows average speeds of 31mph while that in Kingston Blount shows speeds nearer 26mph. The unit in Aston Rowant is still to be interrogated but empirical evidence shows that most drive at 20mph or under and those that 'speed' do so close to the 20mph speed limit.

I'm pleased to say that with £1750 of financial help from a concerned resident and a discount on the pole installation cost from Oxfordshire County Council, another SID is to be installed in Kingston Blount on the downhill section after the Cherry Tree in an attempt to slow down traffic that is M40 bound.

The installation date is close but is dependent on OCCs contractors.

I also want to remind residents that I am an OCC Highways 'Superuser'. This means that I report issues with pavements and roads as residents do, but I have the ability to access a system backdoor to turn a report into action – subject to OCCs agreeing with my report – and so have defects repaired quickly.

I do walk the parish, but not every day and not every road. So, if you see a road with a pothole that is 150 x 150mm wide and 40mm deep or a pavement issue that is 150 x 150 x 20 mm deep, let me know. Officially I'm only allowed to report in 20 and 30mph areas, but if I can see and mark a defect without risk of injury then I'll loosely 'interpret' the rules and report it regardless.

Dates

Lastly, two set of dates for the diary:

The first is the next parish walk that's being organised by Peter Hetherington on 4th January 2026. (See page 20.)

The other is the next parish litter pick on 1 and 2 November. (See page 17 for more details.) In a previous column I noted that the last litter pick saw just two people on either day – one of which was a councillor. With some 1,300 souls in the parish, it would be helpful to have more on each day; two people a day does not make the process sustainable, and it would be a shame to see the parish become overrun with litter. Full details of the litter pick will appear on the website and KBAR in time.

Adam Bernstein

Chairman, Aston Rowant Parish Council

adam.bernstein@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL & LOCAL CONTACTS

Parish Website

www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Tracy Lambourne
clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 353989

Parish Councillors:

Chairman Adam Bernstein
adam.bernstein@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07785 905120
Councillor Deborah Chaplin
deborah.chaplin@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 354648
Councillor Matthew Day
matthew.day@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 351300
Councillor Hayley Hopwood
hayley.hopwood@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07515 774871
Councillor Richard Payling
richard.payling@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07801 764019
Councillor Trelawney Hill
trelawney.hill@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 353051

District Councillors:

Ali Gordon-Creed ali.gordon-creed@southoxon.gov.uk
Ed Sadler ed.sadler@southoxon.gov.uk 07842 602398

County Councillor

Kate Gregory kate.gregory@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Georgina Heritage georgina.heritage@oxfordshire.co.uk

MP

Freddie van Mierlo freddie.vanmierlo.mp@parliament.uk

Police Community Support Office

tel: 101 ThameHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Village Hall Hire/Bookings

Hayley Hopwood 07470 441857 bookings@kbvh.org

Play Area

Tracy Lambourne 01844 353989 clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Aston Rowant Cricket Club Chairman

Josh Smith 07894 201929 chairman@astonrowantcc.com

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Parish Council meetings were held on Wednesday 10th of September 2025 where the planning applications detailed below were discussed. (There is no August meeting)
The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 8th of October.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

P25/S1916/LDP Conversion of conservatory to a garden store at The Old Vicarage, Aston Rowant OX49 5ST. We voted **NO OBJECTION**, but see decision below.

P25/S1671/O Amendment No.1: for development work at the following location: Land at Woodway Farm Chinnor Road Aston Rowant – additional information received 11 August 2025 (Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment). Maintained our current **OBJECTION**.

P25/S2653/FUL Proposed erection of single storey building at Aston Rowant School, School Lane Aston Rowant OX49 5SU.

WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS: None.

PLANNING DECISIONS OF SODC:

P25/S0193/HH Erection of a first floor rear extension, single storey side extension and associated works (as amplified by ecology information received 18 March 2025 and amended plans altering the design received 14 July 2025) at 10 The Green Aston Rowant OX49 5ST. **GRANTED**.

P25/S1916/LDP Conversion of conservatory to a garden store. Removal of all glazing to walls, roof and reconstructed in facing brick and tiled roof to match existing, at The Old Vicarage, AR. **REFUSED**.

PLANNING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

None.

PLANNING APPLICATION APPEALS:

Appeal Ref: APP/Q3115/C/24/3336385, land at Town Farm Cottage, Brook Street, Kingston Blount. The inspector has found that “the enforcement notice issued by SODC on 20 November 2023 for a breach of planning control as alleged”: Without planning permission, the formation of an access onto a classified road in the approximate location shown between points A and B on the Land by the infilling of an existing drainage ditch, the removal of a section of existing hedge row and erection of a five-bar gate. The notice is found to be a nullity and no further action will be taken in connection with this appeal”.

The requirements of the notice (in paragraph 5) are to: (i) is a nullity and in these circumstances the appeal under the various grounds set out in section 174(2) to the 1990 Act as amended, and the application for planning permission deemed to have been made under section 177(5) of the 1990 Act as amended.





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What's On this October/November



Waterperry
Gardens

ANNUAL EVENT: 4th & 5th Oct – APPLE WEEKEND

EXHIBITION: Until 2nd November
– THE PRINTED GARDEN, IN THE GALLERY

HALF TERM FUN: 18th October – 2nd November
– SPOOKY HALLOWEEN HUNT

EXHIBITION: 15th November until 24th December
– COMFORT & JOY, IN THE GALLERY

EXHIBITION: 16th November
– GROUNDDOG DAY, SUPPORTING O.A.S.

CHRISTMAS MARKET: 22nd & 23rd November

MAGICAL EVENT: 22nd & 23rd November
– COME AND MEET REAL REINDEER

FAMILY FUN: 22nd November until 24th December
– FIND SANTA'S REINDEER IN THE GARDENS



**WE'RE
OPEN
10-5 DAILY**



APPLICATIONS IN NEIGHBOURING PARISHES (which may affect Aston Rowant Parish)

P25/S2120/MPO Modification of a planning obligation on planning application P03/E0563 – Section 106 Agreement dated 07 May 2004 (ref: 04S13) - To revert back to the original wording of the agreement - previously restricting use of the accommodation to the users of the site at Blue Cross, Lower Icknield Way, Lewknor OX49 5RY.

P25/S1987/FUL Installation of a solar farm and cable corridor with associated infrastructure, access, security fencing and landscaping on Land bordering either side of the M40 near Postcombe and Lewknor.

OBJECTION. Although not in this parish, the site is firmly within the visual scope of important viewpoints within the Chilterns National Landscape (previously AONB) and, in particular, the Aston Rowant Special Area of Conservation and National Nature Reserve. Unacceptable industrialisation of land either side of the M40 from J7 to J6 with 4 large solar arrays planned, being built, or already built.

Amendment No1. Received 21/Aug – Supplementary Ecological Report, relating mainly to Bat and Great Crested Newt habitats and tree surveys.

P23/S4262/FUL Respond by 29 August. Further amendment (No.7?) revising plans again and reducing number of houses on full application for 111 residential dwellings including new highways, associated infrastructure, sustainable urban drainage systems, pumping stations, demolition of agricultural buildings, green infrastructure and ancillary works (additional Information received 7 February, 20 March 2024, 08 April 2025, 10 June 2025 and 13 August 2025; amended plans received 24 October 2024, 08 April 2025, 10 June 2025 and 13 August 2025; and amended description to reduce number of dwellings 08 April 2025). Land north of Oxford Road Thame.

Please note that all Planning Applications for the Parish can be found on the Parish Council Website: <http://www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk> under 'Parish Council' and then 'Planning'. All past minutes of Aston Rowant Parish Council (Including the Annual Parish Meeting) can be found under: <http://www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk> under 'Parish Council' and then 'Meetings'. Occasional updates concerning the Parish are added to the Parish Council's website and Facebook pages as well as the Kingston Blount/Aston Rowant (KBAR) Facebook page.

Tracy Lambourne Clerk to Aston Rowant Parish Council

THE UNITED PARISH TEAM

Rector

Rev'd Dr. Jacky Barr 07769 825305
rector@unitedparish.church
01844 352027

Associate Priest

Rev'd Joan DeVal 01844 353404

Licensed Lay Minister (L.L.M)

Margaret Poole 01844 281042

Retired Priests

Rev'd Des Foote 01844 355945

Rev'd Dr. Brian Griffiths

01844 355953

Rev'd Tony Whittaker

01844 352472

United Parish Office

Tricia Prescott 01844 352472
office@unitedparish.church

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Jane Tucker 07890 346781
safeguarding@unitedparish.church

Churchwarden at Aston Rowant

Richard Boarder 07795681263
Vacancy

Churchwardens at Crowell

Andy Warman 01844351909

Maggs Warman 01844351909

CROWELL CHURCH

Normal evening services on 2nd and 4th Sundays at 18:00 for October then into winter timings of 16:00 from November to March. 'Hymns and Pimms' at St Mary's Sydenham on Sunday 31 August had a great turnout.

Sadly, Soul Space is being reduced to three times per year. The next is in December for Advent.

Crowell Remembers is on 9 November at 16:00.

The rescheduled Rector's Ramble took place as planned on Saturday 30 August.

Some work was done on the carpark drive-out but new growth has overtaken again.

The churchyard has been completely strimmed and cleared and we have a new volunteer for some of the churchyard.

Work Parties continue on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00. In September a new volunteer attended and was a great help. Wardens will be working around the churchyard at other times when convenient. We need to get the churchyard ready for winter.

The church will always be open when the Wardens are working in it or working in the churchyard. Please call if you would like access for private prayer at other times.

Copies of the United Parish Magazine are available in the church porch and inside the church. If anyone would like an e-copy of the United Parish Magazine and/or the weekly on-line service booklet then please e-mail the parish office at office@unitedparish.church

CROWELL STAINED-GLASS WINDOW REPAIR

I wonder what you were doing on Thursday 21st August 2025? I was very busy watching, photographing and getting excited as I saw the west stained-glass window at Crowell Church being replaced.

You may have noticed that the window has been boarded up for some time. This followed the criminal damage caused months ago by person, or persons, unknown. Ben and Aiden of Norgrove Studios set to work putting the scaffolding up. Thankfully the weather was fine.

The first step was to remove the 'wooden window'. This took time and patience to avoid any damage. The window frame was carefully examined with any inconsistencies dealt with.

Next came the raising of one side of the window which was slowly offered up into its position with Ben outside and Aiden inside. At this stage Ben adjusted the existing stonework whilst Aiden held the window. Once they were satisfied the window was fixed into position. I was amazed to see the first half with the light through as perfect as the day it was installed.

Once the whole window had been installed the church lit up. The final touch was the stainless-steel powder coated wire mesh guards which are almost invisible.

It was educational to watch two very professional people working in such close harmony.

Andy & Maggs Warman

(Church Wardens) 01844 351909
themwarmans@btinternet.com





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The cricket season has now finished for 2025 and we would like to thank everyone who has supported the club this year. The number of villagers who support the club through playing, membership or just a beer from the bar is greatly appreciated.

The club's stated aim is to become the social hub of the parish and I think anyone who has been to the club will understand that we are moving in the right direction.

When we look back on 2025, I suspect the most important development will be the establishment of both a ladies and a girls softball team. Long may they continue to grow.

On the field the club has had significant success this year at both senior and junior level. The first team finished fourth in The Home Counties Premier League and as such qualified for the 2026 National Cup. The second team with a large number of young players finished a very respectable third in The Cherwell League Division 1 and have laid the foundations for success in the future.

The third team however were the stars winning their league with a 100% win record and being promoted back to Division 3, only the weather stopped them winning 18 out of 18 games. But not to be outdone the fourth team came with a late charge and won promotion back to League 7 at the first time of asking.

The junior teams were even more successful with the U11's, U13's and U19's teams all winning their finals. With all this success driven by the junior training programme the future of the club on the field looks rosy.

We have had our annual presentation night and here is the list of the winners:

- 1st XI player of the year - Luke Hayes
- 2nd XI player of the year - Xavier Garvs
- 3rd XI player of the year - Ben Knowler
- 4th XI player of the year - Max Fendom
- Women's player of the year - Freja Rainbow
- Wesley Morricks Cup (U19 player of the year) - Conor Rogan
- Paul Humphries Cup (Junior with most impact on the club) - Max Fendom
- Dudley Lambourne Cup (Best junior in adult cricket) - Seb Grocutt
- Eric Lambourne Bowling Award - Jack North
- Peter & Pauling Coleman Award (Outstanding senior performance) - Yovaan Illangakoon
- Most Ducks Award - Joe Sears
- Team of the year - 3rd XI
- John Pearce Cup (For demonstrating sportsmanship) - Yovaan Illangakoon
- Presidents Cup (Selected by our president for contribution to the club) - Thad Cooper & Josh Smith
- Roy Blake Cup (Outstanding off-field contribution) - Xavier Garvs
- Committee Cup (Selected by our committee for contribution to the club) - Lindy Ford

That is almost it for 2025. There are a couple of work party sessions to tidy up the club house and ground and work will continue on finishing the bottom pavilion and landscaping around the building.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed in 2025, looking forward to 2026.

Steven Sowerby

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ARPC FOOTPATH AND AMENITIES GROUP

Welcome to autumn! The nights are already drawing in, but with the recent rain and weather the footpaths and fields do not look like September. We have had over 4 inches of rain (thanks Lawney) which the gardens needed but has started to confuse some plants which are already coming into bloom. It will be interesting to see what happens in the spring.

The next meeting of the group will be on October 21st in Kingston Blount Village Hall at 7.30pm. One of the main topics will be annual review of the Parish Maintenance Tasks, if you wish to look at these you can find them on the Parish Council website choose the Parish Council tab, then Policies and Publications and then Parish Maintenance Tasks. If you have anything to add please come to the meeting, but please remember that we cannot work on privately owned property.

We will also discuss the Autumn Litter Pick which will take place over the weekend of the 1st and 2nd of November. On the Saturday morning, we will pick in Kingston Blount, meeting at 10am in the Cherry Tree Car Park. Hi vis jackets and litter pickers will be provided. On Sunday we will meet at 10am in the A40 lay by across from the Lambert Arms.

We are aware of the damage caused by the recent heavy rain to the Moors Path and Stert Road junction and are actively looking for a contractor to repair the damage.

Finally, can I give you a date for the diary on January 4th 2026, Peter Hetherington will lead a Parish Walk. (See page 20.)

Steven Sowerby

Chair of Footpaths and Amenities Group
stevensowerby@hotmail.com 07802 81425.

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU!

The Village Hall committee are looking for a new Chair to help run the Hall and lead the meetings. If you are interested and want to know what is involved please contact Andrea Tinson on kbvhall@gmail.com

We are a friendly group of people who volunteer to help run the Village Hall. We meet formally four times a year and use email to contact each other outside of those times. One perk of the roles is that you have two free hirings a year.

FIVEWAYS

I am very pleased to say I have received some offers to help at Fiveways following a plea in the Parish Notes – more are welcome! Hopefully we can get the site ready for Winter now – and duck racing in February. This weekend the helpers planted another Mulberry tree and some pink and purple Toadflax and cleared the vegetation in the stream.

The rain finally arrived and saved the yellow Toadflax which seemed to be going over. It is generally the last plant in flower before Winter.

There are some good sloes to be picked for those thinking of sloe gin.

Mike Smith has reported sighting of Bullheads in the Dog Pool throughout the Summer. I hope we can improve the habitat for small fish in the coming months. The problem is the shallowness of the water and lack of cover. The fish live in two areas – downstream of the Dog Pool and at the very top end where the water is deeper. Both areas have been slightly deepened by the careful placing of stones to increase depth and shelter – but not stopping fish movement up and downstream. Unfortunately the stones are regularly relocated by local youths. Flooding at Fiveways is an almost annual feature dominated by the Winterbourne and so it is important not to obstruct runoff.

I did see a bigger unidentified fish in early spring – but it saw me and went for cover. Spring is when fish use the much higher water levels to move upstream to spawn. Nothing much more can be done re habitat as each winter the stream bed is reconstructed. Note the graduation from larger flints at the top to sand in the middle before the Dog Pool and then fine silt downstream. It is pointless to try to deepen areas much, as the springs contain chalk particles, which silt up in areas of low flow. In Lewknor the silt builds



New recruit strimming



Tractor seat found whilst planting

up in some areas over six foot deep over 10 years. It is pumped out onto local fields (with a permit from the EA) and is very popular with local farmers.

The stream bed is renewed annually and exposes iron objects which can be magnet fished. There is nothing of value, but some objects can be dated back over 100 years. The quantity of iron is typical of a site involved in metal working in the distant past. The whole area is riddled with objects which can be metal detected but holes everywhere are not welcome.

I have heard of reports of American Signal Crayfish in the Holbrook, but I have not seen any recently myself. They will not stop in areas where they are exposed to predation.

Just a warning there is a wasp nest on the far bank opposite the old and rotting wooden bench. This is a problem we have had before.

Mike Eaton

mike.eaton@btopenworld.com

POOR'S HILLOCK GARDEN ALLOTMENT

A SEASON OF CHANGE AND HARVEST

'The best compost is made of summer's mistakes and autumn's forgiveness'

As the vibrant days of summer fades and the cooler days begin, autumn is a time of transformation. While the frantic growth of summers slows, autumn is the gardener's pause – a moment to reflect on the year's successes and lessons, and a look ahead to the promise of spring.



NOTICEBOARD

WHAT'S GOING ON IN KINGSTON BLOUNT, ASTON ROWANT & NEARBY

Friday Coffee Mornings

Kingston Blount Village Hall. All welcome!
Come and enjoy a hot drink and a cake or snack.
Browse the bookshelf, feel free to select as many
as you like. Bring some new ones along to add to
the collection.

We will be open for business from 10.15am –
12pm on:

October 10th, 24th

November 14th, 28th

December 12th Christmas special



Harvest Lunch

on Tuesday 14 October

12.30 – 2.30pm

at Aston Rowant Church.

Ploughman's lunch will be provided.



Early Notice of our Traditional New Year Walk on Sunday 4 January

In January we are going to have a change this time. We are going to meet on Stokenchurch Green, near the café opposite the old Kings Arms at 10.00am. There is plenty of parking on the narrow roads in the centre of the village. The walk is only 4.5m but there are three inclines. We walk past Mallards Court and join the Chiltern Way passing downhill to Colliers Lane. We skirt Crowell and Kingston Woods on our way back up to Gurden's Farm. The return is through Having Wood on a quiet, well defined path which winds it way back to Stokenchurch. This is one of the driest routes in the area and recommended for winter walking. It will be a joint venture with Thame and Wheatley Ramblers. Please wear walking boots and bring a small snack and water.

Did you know? Stokenchurch was part of Aston Rowant Parish many years ago.

Peter Hetherington

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LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

At the start of this new school year two Inspectors spent a day at Aston Rowant School to conduct a Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). This sits alongside the other better known inspection framework, Ofsted, which focuses on results, compliance and finance as well as our overall strategic direction of all schools. SIAMS has a different focus to Ofsted and is targeted on looking at the vision and culture of church schools. SIAMS is designed to encourage schools to live up to their foundation as Church schools and ensure that our their unique Christian character remains central to their ethos and daily life.

On their day with us the SIAMS inspectors looked at the inner details of the vision, mission and culture of our school as well as the pastoral welfare of both the adults and children who are part of our school community. In doing so they provided an independent assessment of the work and culture that sit behind our processes and policies. But our inspection was so much more than that for the staff team and governing body. It was a verification and validation that the vision and culture we embrace and work hard to deliver is prevalent throughout our whole school community.

Fundamental to this process was that when school leaders, children, parents and governors explained our vision of growth and living life to its fullness to the SIAMS inspectors, we were able to back it up practically showing its presence in the paperwork, lessons, displays, language, culture and ethos of the school.

While a faith-based education may not be everyone's preference, by focusing on the effectiveness of the Christian vision, we contribute to the development of the 'whole child' encompassing key spiritual, moral, social, and cultural aspects. Indeed, by looking beyond just the results of our school (which are in themselves outstanding) we can also focus on living up to our foundation as a church school and ensure that our unique Christian character remains central to our ethos and daily life and that our provision and support enables pupils and adults to flourish.

At the time of writing we are awaiting our final report. But as the feedback from our inspectors included 'inspirational', 'breath-taking', 'high aspirations' and talked about how each child in our care is 'known and cherished' we are confident that we are building on solid ground. And we do just that – we continue to build and continue to grow. Watch this space for our progress!

Helen France

Headteacher

office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk

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BUSES SERVING ASTON ROWANT PARISH

The 40 bus service started in June 2007 and runs from Thame Town Hall to High Wycombe bus station – all week. By nature of its route along the B4009 to the Lewknor turn and up the A40 at Aston Hill it opens up links to other routes:

At High Wycombe it links to Chiltern Rail.

At Stokenchurch it links to the National Express 737 service that runs from Oxford, Stokenchurch, High Wycombe, Hemel Hempstead, Luton Airport, Hatfield, and Stansted Airport.

At Thame it links up to the Arriva, Aylesbury to Oxford service.

At Chinnor it links up to the Chiltern Rail bus, 320, to Princes Risborough Railway Station.

Red Rose 275 service from Oxford to High Wycombe – Monday to Saturday.

Red Rose 322 service from Icknield Community College to Longwick stopping in Aston Rowant and Kingston Blount. Monday to Friday.

Red Rose 321 service between Princes Risborough and Lord Williams Upper School. Monday to Friday.

Obviously these buses, as is the case with all rural buses, have to be heavily subsidised by Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire County Councils SO PLEASE USE IT OTHERWISE WE SHALL LOSE IT.

For more information and timetables go to bustimes.org/districts/182

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

The Aston Rowant Parish Council website is the place to find out what's going on at the Parish Council for Aston Rowant, Kingston Blount, Kingston Stert and Chalford.

It gives easy access to the dates of council meetings, minutes, agendas, planning applications, etc. There are links to the District and County Council websites for access to the wealth of information that these provide. There's also a weekly newsletter with links on recent developments in the parish.

www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk



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If you are an existing Freemason in the area and are looking for a local Lodge or if you are interested in getting information about joining this new Lodge, we would love to hear from you.

Who Are the Freemasons?

WHAT FREEMASONRY IS – AND ISN'T

What We Are:

- One of the world's oldest fraternal organisations.
- A society of like-minded men dedicated to friendship, self-improvement, charity, and community service.
- A network of men who support each other, their families, and their communities.
- Include our family within our activities to make them feel included and part of the experience.

What We're Not:

- We are not a secret society - our values and goals are openly shared.
- We don't engage in political or religious agendas.
- We don't promise wealth, power, or privilege.

If you are interested in getting more information and coming along to an information day where you can bring your friends and family, please contact:

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

- 8 Parish Council Meeting, KB Village Hall 7:30 pm
- 10 Coffee morning, KB Village Hall 10.15am (p20)
- 14 Harvest Lunch, Aston Rowant Church 12.30pm (p21)
- 24 Coffee morning, KB Village Hall 10.15am (p20)
- 31 Pub Night KB Village Hall (p21)

NOVEMBER

- 1 Litter Pick in Kingston Blount 10am (p17)
- 2 Litter Pick in Aston Rowant 10am (p17)
- 9 Crowell Remembers, Crowell Church 4pm (p12)
- 14 Coffee morning, KB Village Hall 10.15am (p20)
- 12 Parish Council Meeting, KB Village Hall 7:30 pm
- 28 Coffee morning, KB Village Hall 10.15am (p20)

PARISH NOTES

PLEASE do get in touch if you have anything you think might be of interest for future issues of the Parish Notes. **I'm always looking for images for the front cover.**

Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com

Copy deadline for the Dec/Jan issue is 15th Nov 2025



ADVERTISING IN THE PARISH NOTES

The Parish Notes are an excellent and affordable way to advertise locally. They are published every two months and delivered to every household in the area. Please email Rachel Lockwood if you are interested in advertising:

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