

# KEEVIL ANNUAL PARISH COMMUNITY MEETING 2023

## Annual Report of Keevil Parish Council for 2022-23



# **ANNUAL REPORT OF KEEVIL PARISH COUNCIL for 2022-23**

## **The Chairman's Report**

The new Parish Council is now at the halfway point of its term of office since the election in May 2021. Having stepped into the role of Chair for our second year, it has been a busy time, and I would like to thank all Members of the Council for working together as a team and supporting one another through a very demanding period. Everyone has worked exceptionally hard, and in addition to those mentioned below I would add thanks to Cllr Pat Tucker for her work on Highway, verges and footpaths, Cllr Rob Kevan for his role as interim Responsible Financial officer and his care of the Banfield Recreation Ground, Councillor Sarah Dow for her immense work and exceptional efficiency as the interim Clerk, Councillor Geoff West in his role as Vice Chair and Cllrs Fran Banfield and Rodney Meatyard for their contributions.

### **Governance**

Moving on from the effects of the Pandemic we have been able to hold all Council meetings in public.

The statutory Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the 2021-22 financial year, which the previous year had been delayed, was completed in good time. Particular thanks go to Councillor Kevan and our Internal Auditor Olivia Adlam, and yet again we are most grateful to David Finch for his professional guidance and support of the interim RFO. The effect of the timely AGAR submission was that we were on time with the Exercise of Public Rights and moving forward we are confident we will meet all requirements for our 2022-23 submission which is being finalised now.

By the end of the year, we had reviewed all our core policies and brought them fully up to date with the latest guidance from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and Local Government Association (LGA) Models. We continue to work tirelessly improving our work practices in this area, and build our portfolio of policies and guidelines in line with modern best practice.

### **Personnel**

As stated in last year's report there remain difficulties across the UK Public Sector recruiting for Parish Clerk and RFO positions, and we are indebted to Cllrs Sarah Dow and Rob Kevan respectively for taking on these roles (for which, as councillors, they cannot be paid), as well as our volunteer Minute-taker Barbara Lewendon whose diligent efficiency has ensured our meetings continue to run smoothly. We continue to advertise the vacant Clerk/RFO role.

## **About the Parish of Keevil**

There are currently around 190 rateable properties and 370 electors

Between April 2022 and March 2023 there were 14 planning applications (excluding those for works to trees in a conservation area): Wiltshire Council have approved eight and refused one, two are still awaiting a decision, two were withdrawn, and one did not require prior approval.

## **About Keevil Parish Council**

We are the first tier of local government, elected every four years. The current Council was elected May 2021, so this report covers their second year in office. Councillors work hard to represent the interests of parishioners, support and protect the community, and improve the local environment.

Although our powers are limited we try to squeeze the best out of the services available to us. Wiltshire Council and other bodies know that a Parish Council gives the best reflection of how a community feels about something, and its views should be taken seriously.

We meet in the village hall, usually on the first Monday of alternate months, although more frequently if needed (usually to meet deadlines for consultee responses on planning applications). Members of the public are always very warmly welcomed.

Councillor time is fully volunteered, it is not a paid role - but first and foremost we are holders of public office, not volunteers in any legal sense. We are bound by the law and statutory duties, guided by a Code of Conduct and the seven Principles of Public Life, and as an employer must act as a corporate body. The principle governing documents that guide Keevil Parish Council are all available from the Councils website <https://keevilpc.com/governance/> or from the Clerk (at the time of writing this is Councillor Sarah Dow).

**Councillor Alex Goodwin** : CHAIR 2022-23  
Personnel Committee, village hall rep, governance champion  
07836 355503 [alex@keevilpc.com](mailto:alex@keevilpc.com)

**Councillor Geoff West** : VICE-CHAIR 2022-23  
School liaison, planning, defibrillator, Rights of Way, Personnel Committee  
01380 870425 & 07778 144331 [geoff@keevilpc.com](mailto:geoff@keevilpc.com)

**Councillor Fran Banfield**  
01380 871367 & 07703465326 [fran@keevilpc.com](mailto:fran@keevilpc.com)

**Councillor Sarah Dow**  
Website & comms, planning, Interim Clerk since March 2022  
01380 871729 & 07870 909757 [sarah@keevilpc.com](mailto:sarah@keevilpc.com)

**Councillor Rob Kevan**  
Banfield Recreation Ground, Airfield liaison, Interim RFO since March 2022  
07503 212965 [rob@keevilpc.com](mailto:rob@keevilpc.com)

**Councillor Rodney Meatyard**  
01380 828226 & 07513 435420 [rodney@keevilpc.com](mailto:rodney@keevilpc.com)

**Councillor Pat Tucker**  
Highways, Wiltshire Council Parish Steward, school liaison, Personnel Committee  
01380 871601 [pat@keevilpc.com](mailto:pat@keevilpc.com)

## Councillor Portfolios and Representations 2022-23

Apart from Chair and Vice Chair, the portfolio structure didn't change and has worked well. Cllrs Rob Kevan and Sarah Dow also covered staff 'proper officer' roles of Responsible Financial Officer and Parish Clerk respectively, with the support of Mrs Barbara Lewendon as volunteer Minute Secretary for council meetings.

<b>CHAIR</b> Alex Goodwin	<b>VICE-CHAIR</b> Geoff West	<b>PERSONNEL COMMITTEE</b> Geoff West Alex Goodwin Pat Tucker				
<b>AIRFIELD LIAISON</b> Rob Kevan	<b>HIGHWAYS</b> Pat Tucker	<b>PLANNING</b> Geoff West Sarah Dow	<b>RECREATION GROUND</b> Rob Kevan	<b>SCHOOL LIAISON</b> Geoff West Pat Tucker	<b>VILLAGE HALL LIAISON</b> Alex Goodwin	<b>WEBSITE</b> Sarah Dow
<b>CONSERVATION &amp; ENVIRONMENT</b> Sarah Dow Community members	<b>ACCESSIBILITY &amp; RIGHTS OF WAY</b> Geoff West Community members	<b>HIGHWAYS</b> Pat Tucker Alex Goodwin Community members		<b>NHW CO-ORDINATOR</b> Paul Lenaerts COMING VACANT	<b>COMMUNITY EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER</b> David Bouault COMING VACANT	<b>FLOOD WARDENS</b> Paul Lenaerts John Tucker
<b>ANNUAL PARISH COMMUNITY MEETING</b> Geoff West Sarah Dow Community members				<b>DEFIBRILLATOR</b> Geoff West VACANT		

# Financial Report

## How we are funded

Funding for Keevil Parish Council, known as the precept, comes from your council tax and is allocated annually by Wiltshire Council. The budget is limited and much goes on employment costs, maintaining the Banfield Recreation Ground and the War Memorial, and donating to village organisations. Increasingly, we must also contribute to the cost of Highways projects, and due to policy changes at Wiltshire Council, the full cost of ALL elections will now revert to the Parish Council. In response, the Parish Council have made changes to our earmarked Reserves to ensure we have funds for the next election in 2025.

## Assets

The Asset Register was completely re-evaluated for all facilities, which are now valued at **£156,180**, including equipment on the Banfield Recreation Ground and an estimation of its current land value. Additionally, there was a significant increase in the War Memorial replacement cost which was re-valued at £75,000.

## Income

The Parish Precept for 2022/23 was **£7,875**. Other notable income included a £258 donation from two parishioners towards footpath access gates, and compensation claimed from Lloyds Bank of £50.

## Expenditure

Total expenditure in 2022/23 (VAT included where charged) amounted to **£5,462**. There were no costs incurred for a Clerk, save £178 for expenses paid to a short-term officer. Other expenditure included insurance at £893, and while money has been saved by negotiating a 3 year fixed premium policy, this did increase following the uplift in the value of our assets (namely the War Memorial).

Further notable costs included The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration £180; auditing (internal & external) £380; website services: £379; Subscriptions £321; RoSPA inspection report £134, and training £96. Recreation Ground maintenance remained at £570, including £60 contribution towards the Community Shed insurance, and new cradle swings, football nets and signs were purchased costing £315.

We welcome requests for funding for village projects and donations to local groups or organisations that impact the lives of our community. This year we increased charitable donations under S137 powers to £800, including grants to the Parish Magazine, St Leonard's Church, Wiltshire Air Ambulance, Alzheimer Support, FOKS, and the Village Hall (which was increased to £250 towards the new AV system).

## Reserves

A total of £8000 was maintained against additional Recreation Ground development, future repairs to the War Memorial, highway maintenance, and neighbourhood planning - although this has been increased in the 2023-24 budget in the light of policy change at WC that will charge back ALL election costs to the Parish.

*All governance documents, including the Asset Register, can be found at <https://keevilpc.com/governance/> - our completed AGAR documents for 2022-23 will be available there shortly.*



# Vice-Chair’s report

## Liaison with Keevil School

Cllrs Geoff West and Pat Tucker met with Head Teacher Lindsey Hermon each term throughout the year, establishing strong and harmonious links with the school and Friends of Keevil School (FOKS), leading to a more informative approach to the annual Keevil School Scarecrow Trail in the village. FOKS representatives now attend most council meetings to keep us updated with plans which in turn, has meant villagers are more aware of what to expect.

School children have planted new trees on the playing field, and been involved in other parish initiatives where possible, such as contributing to ideas for replacement playground equipment; school staff have, in turn been supportive and helpful in using village channels to inform residents of school events that may have an impact, and it’s good to read more of their news in the Parish News regularly.

## Defibrillator

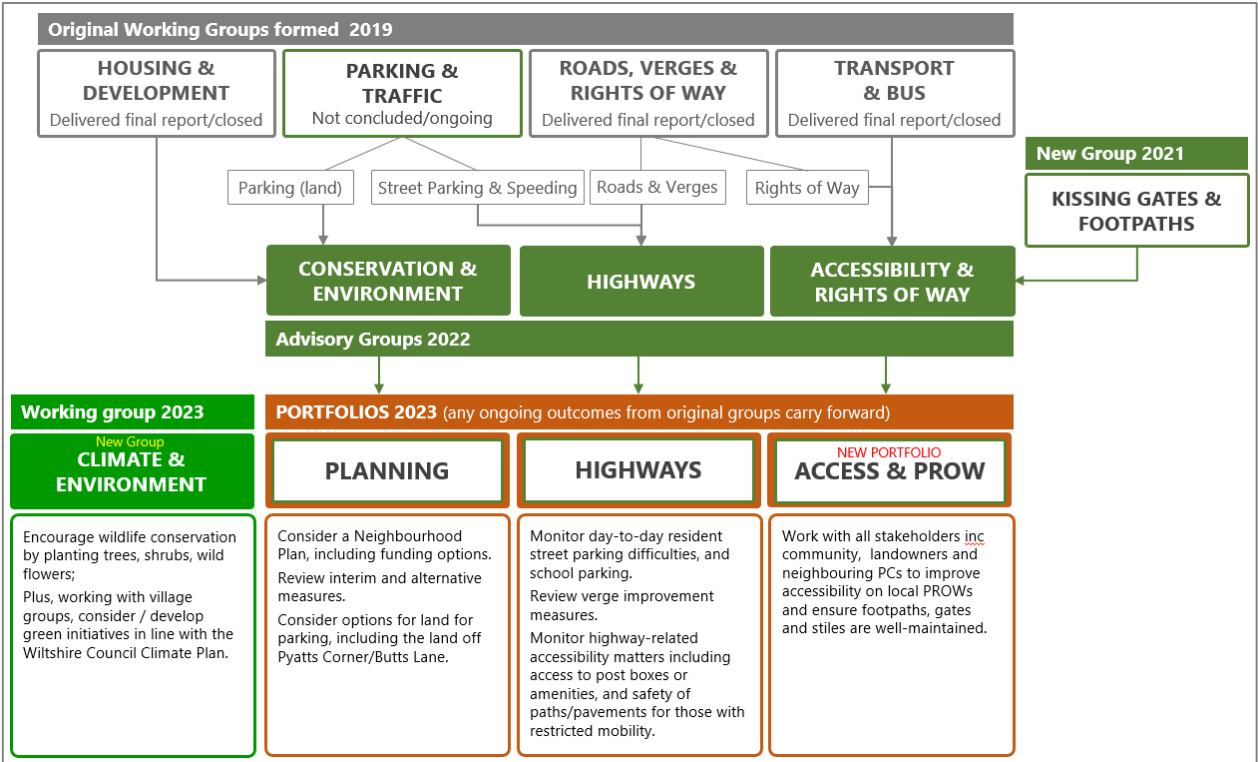
The defibrillator is checked monthly to ensure the pads and batteries required to keep it active are in-date and functional, and replaced regularly as advised by WEBNOS who oversee its upkeep. It was agreed earlier this year to relocate it to the wall of the village hall which was felt to be more accessible and easier to locate - the telephone kiosk is prone to spider webs and the collection of leaves and rubbish due to it not being a sealed enclosure. The new site has a motion-sensitive light above, it’s more open and opposite a street light which seemed more conducive in an emergency situation. A weatherproof notice is in the pipeline.

## Accessibility & Rights of Way (ROW)

The Rights of Way Working Group has now disbanded after successfully installing a new field gate and creating a map pack of local footpaths radiating from the village centre across the parish to help walkers and local farmers be aware of the ROW that should be followed and maintained. Group members will still work together informally to maintain links with local farmers and report any problems with stiles, accessibility or maintenance. Some ongoing issues remain to be tackled, and it’s hoped more volunteers might come forward to assist in this.

## Advisory Groups

There was little activity in the groups this year, so we’ve made some changes for 2023-24, integrating them into Councillor portfolios (where any work will continue) and launching a new Climate & Environment group:



# Highways

This is probably the most demanding portfolio, and Cllr Pat Tucker has continued to build strong relationships with stakeholders at all levels. Here's what she's ticked off her list for the 2022-23 year:

- Working with the Parish Steward to resolve many maintenance items, including several repairs of damage to Stocks Green and clearing weeds there, hedge trimming by the Pump House, strimming under railings by Towmead Lane and The Old Chapel, clearing the pathway at the Butts Lane end of the footpath by the recreation ground, painting of rusty 30mph poles, clearing drains and nearby railings plus pavement work to expose stone edges and level tarmac along Martins Road, and clearing leaves by the church ready for Remembrance;
- Working with Highways to effect many repairs and improvements, including the replacement of broken slabs on a drain cover by Towmead Lane, the replacement of a 30mph pole outside 82 Main Street, repair of potholes outside Field Head, Longleaze House and Westwood Farm plus the drain cover outside Rosemary Cottage, repaint the SLOW sign by Longleaze Farm, repair the 'No Through Road' and repeated damage to the bollard at Pyatts Corner, repair road damage plus sow grass and place protective soft bollards by Wisteria Cottage, placing scalplings at the top end of Butts Lane to make it easier for buggies and mobility scooters, and fixing the broken street light opposite the village hall;
- Site visits with Highways Officers to assess road deterioration on Wick Lane, work for which is now scheduled for late spring/early summer 2023;
- Working with landowners to repair stiles and improve footpath access on several Rights of Way (ROW), on the strimming of brook banks on Main Street to ensure debris removed to allow water to flow freely, and on the trimming of overgrown hedging on the A361 to improve visibility and safety;
- Collaborating with the Community Shed to assist on a number of tasks, including clearing the pathway on the corner of Martins Lane
- Working with WC ROW to remove a fallen tree on the bridleway to Bulkington;
- Placing signs to remind dog walkers to clear up dog mess
- Working with residents and local businesses to successfully resolve several parking or turning issues often associated with commercial school transport;
- Working with Wessex Water to investigate a reported leak near Hobbs Hill on Main Street (none found);
- Working with both WC and the MOD to ensure correct signage and instructions implemented when military vehicles were seen driving through village.
- In line with the Parish Councils asset review, organising a review of the War Memorial insurance value, which had not been done for some years and was markedly undervalued, plus other maintenance matters;
- Met with PCSOs from the local Community Police Team to discuss local issues;
- Investigating 'Quiet Lane' status for Buzzely Bottom, however this was refused by Wiltshire Council.

## Footpath & access improvements between Martins Road and the Recreation Ground:

As one of the suggestions put forward by parishioners at last year's Community Meeting for use of our **CIL fund**, this project was prioritised because of its potential to improve life for so many residents. Cllr Tucker has worked throughout the year with Wiltshire Council Highways Officers, the Local Highways & Footpath Improvements Group (LHFIG) and the Melksham Area Board (MAB), concluding with agreement to:

- Resurface and edge the length of footpath between Martins Road to the first gate into the Recreation Ground, and
- Replace the safety barrier with a smaller version (making it easier for mobility scooters to access) and providing a drop kerb plus new hard standing.

The cost of the work is estimated at £10,650. With the unstinting support of our Wiltshire Councillor Jonathon Seed, Cllr Tucker has secured a 75% grant from LHFIG & MAB; the remaining 25% will come from our CIL fund (£1,218) and budgeted Parish reserves (£1,444). The work is due to commence at the end of May this year, and is expected to complete by late June.

## Banfield Recreation Ground

Named in memory of the late James Banfield who was instrumental in the purchase of the land for the community, the recreation ground is owned by the Parish Council who hold ultimate responsibility for its maintenance, insurance and all matters related to land and equipment which is publicly accessible:

- General maintenance including grass cutting and strimming is provided by the Community Shed.
- Monitoring and improving the safe use of the playing field and equipment is conducted on a regular basis, with the repair or replacement of equipment where necessary.
- Compliance with applicable government guidelines – notices/risk assessments etc.,
- Annual RoSPA safety inspection and report.

A consultation with the community is presently underway to consider a replacement for one of the springees that has deteriorated beyond reasonable repair.



## Keevil Airfield

The Parish Council maintain close liaison with the MOD with regard airfield activities, including advanced notification of exercises.

Airfield Operator responsibilities have recently been transferred from the Royal Air Force (RAF Brize Norton) to the Army (Joint Helicopter Command).

### Watchkeeper and 47<sup>th</sup> Regiment Royal Artillery

Following extensive consultation last summer for a permanent Airspace Change to enable Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Operations of Watchkeeper Remotely Piloted Air Systems (RPAS) from Keevil Airfield into the Salisbury Plain Danger Areas, the Civil Aviation Authority has approved the proposal.

The successful option was that which most benefits our community because of the flexibility it offers the regiment to minimise noise by varying flight paths to SPTA.

Operations are expected to start at the end of May 2023.

### Motorsports

After engagement with the local community the British Army Motorsports Association (BAMA) agreed to limit the number of motorsports events to 8 per year. Dates are published on the Village website at <https://keevilvillage.com/information/airfield/>

# Community safety and resilience

The hidden heroes of our community resilience volunteers have continued quietly behind the scenes, so a big shout out and thank you to our Flood Wardens Paul Lenaerts and John Tucker, our Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) team led by Paul Lenaerts, and our Community Emergency Volunteer (CEV) Dave Bouault.

In terms of emergency problems, Dave Bouault reports that the last year has probably been one of the quietest - key areas such as flooding, power cuts, and of course Covid-19 measures of the preceding two years have thankfully been absent, although there were a couple of power cuts lasting a couple of minutes! Long may this continue.

David has also been able to bring the Initial Response Plan up to-date, after consulting with Paul Lenaerts and sector leaders at a recent Neighbourhood Watch meeting.

## Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and Civil Emergency Volunteer

Paul and Dave have been trying to retire from their respective NHW and CEV roles for the last two years, but so far a replacement for either role has proved elusive! The duties really are simple and in no way time-consuming - why not have a chat with Paul or Dave to understand exactly what's involved... for full details see <https://keevilpc.com/get-involved/volunteer-roles/>



# Community Shed

Keevil is so lucky to have the continued support of it's Community Shed, a dedicated group of volunteers, both men and women, who help look after our village, and we know we speak for everyone when we say thank you to Paul Lenaerts, John Tucker, and every one who turns out on Mondays and other days throughout the year. Not forgetting Bryan Banfield for the use of his Shed!

In 2022 there were 40 Shed sessions – including mowing the recreation ground 18 times - with a total of 592 'person-hours' logged, and in 2023 so far a further 16 sessions including mowing sessions, totalling 198 hours.

The Parish Council provides financial support for insurance and materials.

As well as mowing (and associated service and maintenance), other activities might include painting railings, strimming verges and the airfield ditches, clearing drains, trimming overgrowth back from footpaths, developing and maintaining the flower border on the recreation ground, painting village hall walls and steps, repairs to benches, maintenance work to noticeboards, organising the Annual Litterpick, and a myriad other general maintenance jobs.

Do come and join in, an extra pair of hands is always very welcome! You don't have to commit to every week, just come whenever you can. More details at <https://keevilvillage.com/groups-services/community-shed/>

# Report from our Community Police Team

**Inspector:** Andy Lemon

**Sergeant:** Gemma Rutter (previously James Twyford, who wrote this report)

**Constables:** Ben Coombs, Jennifer Miller

**Community Support Officers (PCSOs):** Vic Rolph, Mel Culliford, Luke Hosken



## The last 12 months...

Keovil is one of the lowest crime areas within the West Wiltshire Community Policing Team area. In the year to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023, we recorded a mere 8 Crimes and Incidents within the Parish. This equates to 0.04% of our total demand of around 21000 incidents. Compared to previous years, this figure shows a steady average.

Whilst we also maintain speculative community engagement; the Neighbourhood Team have been largely focussed on addressing repeat problems over the last year.

Burglaries drew us into the rural areas with some considerable time investment during the hours of darkness, but much of our work has been within the more densely populated areas, where we've seen some repeat issues occurring. Our aim is to complement the investigations conducted by our colleagues on Response Teams by looking at the root cause of repeating issues, in order to resolve those as well as the symptoms.

## Crime & incident types

Four offences (50%) were Burglaries - three occurred on the same night and one a fortnight later. These formed part of a series we investigated, where Farms and Outbuildings were targeted by one individual, who is now on Remand in Prison for 10 such offences. Since this, we haven't seen any new offences in our area.

One offence related to Criminal Damage; one related to the Theft of a Catalytic Converter; one was a Road Traffic Collision and the remaining one was an Administrative request.

The successful response to the burglaries was a direct result of prompt reporting from residents who were able to quickly list property they'd had stolen - much was recovered and returned to the rightful owners.

## Community engagement

Community Engagement is a staple of the Neighbourhood Team. Our three PCSO's split their time across the Melksham Town and Rural areas, conducting drop-in sessions at numerous places throughout the month.

We will continue with ad-hoc drop-in's to listen to local worries and provide a visible presence. This is however at an inevitably reduced level compared to years gone by. Posts have been lost; demand has increased and the amount of administrative work behind every case has increased by around 20% over the last year, as the necessity for accountability increases.

We partake in a number of 'Weeks of Action', which largely exist to bring certain areas of focus to the front of peoples' minds. Most relevant to Keovil is "Project Zero", part of a national campaign to reduce road deaths. It targets the Fatal Five: mobile phone use, drink and drug driving, careless driving and failing to wear seatbelts. Run weekly by our Roads Policing colleagues it targets the Trowbridge area every 5 weeks.

## Reporting

If there's one thing we learn in Neighbourhood Policing it's that underreporting of incidents is a consistent theme. People say "What's the point?" or "It didn't seem worth reporting", but every single report we get helps to paint a picture.

Underreporting also creates a bit of a disconnect between perception and reality (the same could also be said of those who take to social media and write exaggerated accounts, but that's a different issue). This in turn makes it harder to prioritise work, identify suspects and conduct quality investigations.

If I were to make one plea, it would be to please report incidents and do it directly to us, as factually as possible. Even if that one report in isolation can't be progressed; it still helps to inform our Priorities and occasionally, it helps to solve a series of offending. Our recent burglary series was ultimately solved by a concerned member of the public who saw our hapless offender sleeping at the wheel of a stolen car. They wouldn't have known that when they called in a concern for his welfare, but their observation helped us to recover a vast amount of stolen property and put a prolific offender in Prison.

Further information

You can find out more about Policing in your area by following any of these links:

- Local Crime Data: <https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/wiltshire-police/>
- Police and Crime Commissioner’s Website: <https://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/>
- HMICFRS Website: <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/police-forces/wiltshire/>

You can also follow the Local Team on Facebook, either by searching for “Melksham Police”, or visiting [www.facebook.com/MelkshamPolice](http://www.facebook.com/MelkshamPolice)

Additionally, we offer more bespoke updates, filterable by personal interests, using our “Community Messaging”, this can be found at [www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk](http://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk)

[www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk) | [Facebook/wiltshirepolice](https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice) | [Twitter @wiltshirepolice](https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice)

Keevil Parish Council

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Welcome to the website of Keevil Parish Council

Digital assets: keevilpc.com

As a Public Body, the Parish Council must meet statutory requirements of the Transparency Code 2015, plus ensure our website meets WCAG 2.1AA accessibility standards and other best practice guidelines.

We have continued to make incremental improvements this year, the most notable being completion of the transfer of our domain and hosting arrangements into the sole ownership and control of the Parish Council, in line with current legislation. We also mitigated increases in hosting fees by implementing a 3-year fixed price arrangement, which provides us some small savings.

	2022 Page views	2022 Visitors	2023 Page views	2023 Visitors	Page Popularity (2022)
Jan	281	78	163	65	1. Home page
Feb	139	57	76	46	2. Meetings & Minutes
March	227	73	195	83	3. Councillors & Officers
April	155	72	106	45	4. Community Notices
May	221	87			5. Planning
June	110	51			6. Governance & Transparency
July	121	55			7. Advisory Groups
Aug	128	50			8. Parish Assets
September	92	53			9. Wiltshire Council
October	52	33			
November	166	55			
December	83	44			

# About the Parish Community Meeting

The Parish Council must report annually on its activities over the last year at a Parish meeting which, although chaired by the Parish Council, is a meeting of the people of the Parish, not a Council meeting. Parishioners can vote on agenda items and express their views on matters they consider important to our community, which helps the Council set its priorities and plan ahead.

We did things a little differently in 2022 – after two years of Covid restrictions, we felt the time was right for a more community-centric approach to the Parish meeting – and what a superb event it was, a massive thank you to everyone who helped make it such a success! Parishioners were joined by PCSOs Janet Gould and Mel Culliford, WO2 Ronnie Jansen of 47 Regiment Royal Artillery (who fly the Watchkeeper), representatives of the Wiltshire Air Ambulance, and our Wiltshire Councillor Jonathon Seed. More here <https://keevilvillage.com/parish-matters/annual-parish-community-meeting/>

Because there was already so much more going on (what with the Coronation and all) everyone's resources have been pretty stretched so we decided to scale things back and hold the 2023 Community Meeting in the village hall. Let us know how you'd like to celebrate everything that makes our community tick next year...



# THE BIG THANK YOU

So many people in our Parish help and contribute in some way to the smooth running of our community, often in a thousand ways that are not obvious, as well as many more that are in plain sight:

The villagers who Adopt-a-Drain and help keep them clear throughout the year; our team of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators; our Parish News editor and the team who see that it gets through your letterbox; the Keevil Village and Buzz website team, Facebook group admins and contributors; those who turn up to Council meetings and help us understand different views; our many village groups, clubs and committees who give up so much time to organise a thriving calendar of activity throughout the year; our Community Shedders, our Flood Wardens and Emergency Volunteers; the team who erect the marquees; the farmers who help with salt bins and tractors, flails and other equipment when we need them; everyone who helps keep our Church going; those who tend the plants at the War Memorial, the garden outside the village hall, or the flower border on the recreation ground; those who keep verges and hedges outside their home tidy, who park mindfully, who deal with their dog poo; walkers who take care following designated footpaths across our farmer's fields and follow our Countryside Code; those who turn up to the annual Litter Pick or just take a bag when going for a walk; those who clean the railings or the village signs; those who've helped keep the defibrillator point ready for action; all who help clear the village pond; and everyone who helps a neighbour with a bit of shopping or getting to an event or with a lift to an appointment, or who simply stops to pass the time...

All these things and many more are the ties that bind us as a community..

Thank you to everybody.

**Alex Goodwin** Chair, Keevil Parish Council 2022-23

May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023



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Copies of this report and other Parish Council documents are available from <https://keevilpc.com/meetings/> (scroll down to 'Annual Parish Meetings') or on application to the Clerk:

*Councillor Sarah Dow 01380 871729 | 07870 909757 | Gingells Cottage, 47 Martin's Road, Keevil BA14 6NA*