

Dear Resident.

### **Ibstone Parish Council: Chairman's Roundup for 2024**

As we approach the end of another year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful events and initiatives that have brought our Ibstone community together over the past 12 months.

First, I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the residents who generously gave their time to make key events so successful. Whether it was the Music on the Common, the Ibstone Show, or the Village Fireworks Night, these occasions have not only enriched our community spirit but also raised funds for local causes and charities—something that is deeply appreciated by so many.

The Parish Council has also supported several projects for the benefit of our village, including funding for:

- A new noticeboard, which will be installed shortly.
- A sign for the memorial stone on the common.
- Two tents to support future village events.

We are continuing to address several recurring concerns within the village, including planning applications, speeding through the area, contractor parking, and parking around the Common. These issues remain a priority, and in the case of building, we are guided by the planning document in place for construction projects to ensure consistency in our approach.

To help address the issue of speeding through the village, we kindly ask residents to ensure that vegetation and hedges from their properties are not obstructing highway signs. Maintaining clear signage is a homeowner's responsibility and plays a vital role in road safety. With the nesting bird season now over, this is an ideal time to carry out any necessary trimming and upkeep.

Please remember that your local parish councillors are volunteers who may not always have immediate answers or expertise on every issue. However, we are committed to being objective and thorough in addressing all matters raised, regardless of personal views.

We actively gather feedback from the community, relay it to the local council where appropriate, and ensure responses are communicated back. Your input is invaluable, and we remain dedicated to working collaboratively to find practical solutions.

Looking ahead, in May 2025, local parish elections will take place nationwide. Two of our councillors have decided to step down, creating opportunities for public-spirited individuals to join the council. If you're interested in contributing to our community in this way, please feel free to reach out to me, Kendra Gittus, Melanie Grimsdale, or Lorna Coldwell, our Clerk.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Richard Scott, a long-serving councillor and former Chairman, for his dedication, as well as Holly Hammond, whose fresh perspective as a younger councillor has been greatly valued.

Our Clerk is a source of great knowledge and gets things done. Thank you, Lorna.

Finally, I wish you all a peaceful and joyful holiday season.

Warm regards,

Simon Hammond

Chairman

Ibstone Parish Council