

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council

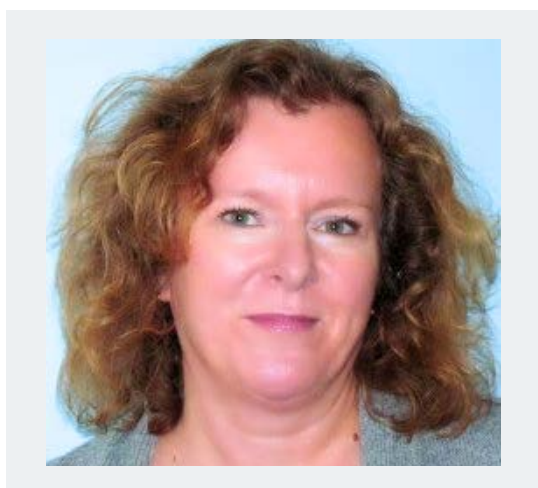
# NEWSLETTER

Winter 2023



## Message From The Chair

Councillor Linda Williams



We have had a busy autumn in Frampton Cotterell. The October half-term saw our very successful annual Scarecrow Trail take place across the village. We also held a Hedgehog Heroes half-term event and launched our brand-new Local Nature Art Exhibition, celebrating nature and creativity in equal measure!

Christmas is now fast approaching. The Parish Council was proud to host the very popular community event, Carols Around the Tree, on December 1st. This wonderful community event coincided with the turning on of the Christmas lights in the village, marking the beginning of the season perfectly.

We also ran our annual competition to design the Parish Council Christmas e-Card – keep a look out on our website and social media to see the winning design!

I am delighted to be able to welcome two new councillors to the parish council. We are all looking forward to working with them for the benefit of the community.

Councillors and staff are now busy working on the Parish Council Budget for the forthcoming financial year. Input from our parishioners is very welcome. More details will be available in the New Year.

On behalf of the staff and councillors, I wish everyone a very **Happy Christmas!**



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The Bockeridge Centre,  
Woodend Road,  
Frampton Cotterell,  
Bristol BS36 2LQ

[office@framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk](mailto:office@framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk)

[www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk](http://www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk)

01454 864442

@ Frampton Cotterell Parish Council

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# Local Play Area Set For Revamp

Delight at plans for new play equipment at Ridings Road.



**3D visual of planned improvements for Ridings Road play area.**

As part of our ongoing assessment of play equipment in the village, Frampton Cotterell Parish Council is pleased to announce the installation of new play equipment at Ridings Road.

The new equipment will be installed, weather permitting, in January 2024. This follows a survey conducted with parents and children of the parish who very kindly fed in what they would like to see.

This improved play area will cater for ages 5-12 years and will be inclusive to all users.

The project will cost in the region of £70,000 and has been made possible with a generous amount of funding.

## Local Play Area Set For Revamp (continued)

The parish council would especially like to thank the SUEZ Communities Fund for making this project possible. We are extremely grateful for this fund's generous contribution of £43,700, without which this project could not go ahead.

New signage will also be installed at the park, the purchase of which was made possible thanks to the generous external Member Awarded Funding in the amount of £500.

The parish council hopes that these play area improvements at Ridings Road will benefit the whole community and be enjoyed by the parish for years to come!

### **The Parish Council's Project Officer said:**

We had a brilliant response to the survey with residents and children. Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback. We were able to take on most comments received, and we hope to make further planting improvements in the future.

communities  
fund





# Local Tennis Courts in Frampton Cotterell Set For Renovation

- Frampton Cotterell Parish Council and the LTA agree partnership to breathe new life into local park tennis courts in Frampton Cotterell.
- The project will see £119,828.58 of investment into the tennis courts in Frampton Cotterell
- Investment comes from the UK Government and LTA Tennis Foundation's Park Tennis Project, being delivered by the LTA in partnership with Frampton Cotterell Parish Council.

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council and the LTA have today announced a partnership to invest in and refurbish public park tennis courts in the Park, Frampton Cotterell. In total, 2 tennis courts will be renovated, with investment of £119,828.58 helping ensure that quality facilities are available for the local community.

The project is part of a nationwide investment by the UK Government and LTA Tennis Foundation, delivered by the LTA, to refurbish public tennis courts across Great Britain, and open up the sport to many more people. This investment will see thousands of existing park tennis courts in poor or unplayable condition brought back to life for the benefit of communities across the country through renovation works, and improved court accessibility with new gate-access technology and booking systems.

Park tennis courts are vital in providing opportunities for children and adults to get active, delivering significant physical and mental health and wellbeing benefits to participants. Accessible facilities in parks are particularly critical to opening up the sport to those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds and women and girls.

## **Local Tennis Courts in Frampton Cotterell Set For Renovation (continued)**

In addition to investment of £41,780,76 from the UK Government and LTA Tennis Foundation, Frampton Cotterell Parish Council have kindly invested £78,047.82 of SGC S106 funding, awarded for improvements to outdoor sports facilities, to ensure the courts and the fencing will be completed to an excellent standard.

Alongside the investment, Frampton Cotterell Parish Council will also work with the LTA to deliver a range of activity on these tennis courts. This will include weekly organised free park tennis sessions for all ages, playing levels and experience where equipment is provided, meaning that people will not need someone to play with or their own racket. Local Tennis Leagues will also provide friendly, sociable, opportunities to get active through local competition.

The parish council hopes that these play area improvements at Ridings Road will benefit the whole community and be enjoyed by the parish for years to come!

### **Julie Porter, Chief Operating Officer at the LTA, said:**

We are delighted to be working with Frampton Cotterell Parish Council to improve their park tennis facilities and provide more opportunities for anyone to pick up a racket and get active. This investment is part of the UK Government and LTA's Parks Tennis Project, and will mean that courts will be available for people to use for years to come. We will also be working closely with Frampton Cotterell Parish Council to ensure that the local community have a range of accessible opportunities to get on court, and open up our sport to many more people.

## **Local Tennis Courts in Frampton Cotterell Set For Renovation (continued)**

### **Councillor Linda Williams, Chairman of Frampton Cotterell Parish Council, said:**

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council is passionate about making sure all of our parishioners have access to quality sports and activity facilities. Therefore, we are proud to be working with the LTA on this project to refurbish our tennis courts at The Park, School Road.

We are grateful to the LTA for their funding contribution as well as the further SGC S106 funding which was awarded for improvements to outdoor sports facilities, including the tennis courts which will be used for this project.

The planned improvements to the tennis courts will benefit our community both in the present and with a view to longevity, thanks to the plans and provisions we have in place for the regular maintenance of the courts moving forward, including regular resurfacing and repainting works.

Funding for the cost of this ongoing maintenance will be secured through the introduction of certain booking charges for the tennis courts alongside the continuing free sessions. This will help to ensure that the tennis courts remain fit for purpose, allowing the community to enjoy playing tennis for many years to come. Any additional money secured through these charges will go toward the further improvement of sports facilities at The Park.

# Carols Around The Tree



On Friday December 1st, Frampton Cotterell Parish Council was proud to host the 2023 Carols Around the Tree community Christmas event at The Bockeridge Centre. This year's gathering was popular as ever, with the Bockeridge Centre and its grounds filled to bursting with festive parishioners!

The Frampton Cotterell Male Voice Choir began proceedings by leading with some beautiful carols. Afterwards, everyone headed inside for delicious refreshments, local business stalls, a tombola, and a kids Christmas crafts room – which the grown-ups enjoyed just as much as the little ones!

The parish council would like to thank everyone who supported and attended this year's Carols Around The Tree. We would also like to thank everyone who donated to our charity collection for the Bristol Children's Hospital – together we raised £264.31 for this excellent cause!



# Local Nature Art Exhibition



During October, we were excited to host the first Local Nature Art Exhibition at The Brockeridge Centre.

This exhibition showcased over 50 works of art by local artists of all ages, in a wide range of media, and all on the theme of "nature". This event was free, and proved very popular.

We also offered our local artists the chance to enter an art competition.

The winners in the Over 16s Category were **Alan Lang, Jamie Constable, and Christine Porter**. The Under 16s winners were **Seb, Archie, and Martha**.

All winners received a £30 voucher to the RSPB online store as a prize.

You can visit our photo gallery of the exhibition, including the winning artworks, on our website.



# Hedgehog Heroes!



During the October half term, we hosted our second Hedgehog Heroes afternoon!

The event, organised with the Frampton Cotterell Nature Group & Westerleigh Parish Council, included a tombola, crafts activities, and stalls about hedgehogs & hedgehog highways. We also ran a colouring competition and saw the return of our “Great Hedgehog Bake-Off” - both with excellent hedgehog-themed prizes!

30 attendees also received free goodie-bags with hedgehog feeding bowls, food, and an information pack. Donations at the event raised £196 for Hedgehog Rescue!

Learn more about how you can help hedgehogs with Hedgehog Highways & more, at [www.bighedgehogmap.org](http://www.bighedgehogmap.org)





# Scarecrow Trail 2023



This year's Scarecrow Trail, held during the October half term, was a great success! Our parishioners voted for the theme, "Book Characters", and all of the scarecrows created this year were wonderfully imaginative!

During the trail week, we held a public vote to decide on the village's favourite scarecrows.

This year's 1st place winners were the 1st Frampton Cotterell Beavers with their scarecrow Room On The Broom. The 2nd place winners were Imogen & Charlie Ross with their scarecrow, Mary Poppins.

Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's Scarecrow Trail!

## Macmillan Morning

On Tuesday the 12th of September, we held a Macmillan Charity Coffee Morning at the Brockridge Centre. Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to raise £371 for this good cause.

# Climate and Nature Emergency Declaration

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council has declared a Climate & Nature Emergency and approved a new Environment Policy.

This declaration and our new environment policy both tie in with our three-year Climate & Nature Action Plan. Our new policy and declaration reflect the parish council's dedication to the protection of nature, the enhancement of the environment, and tackling climate change.

Included in our plans are targets to become carbon neutral by 2030, and further aims to continue our work toward the improvement and protection of our local environment and local nature.

To read our full declaration, environment policy, and three-year plan, please visit our website, at

[www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk/climate-nature](http://www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk/climate-nature)

## Wildlife Pond

This autumn, we installed an eco-friendly wildlife pond at Centenary Field!

It is our hope that the pond will improve the biodiversity at Centenary Field, benefitting local plant and animal life for years to come.

We are also in the process of building a dead-hedge around the pond with the help of our volunteers! This eco-friendly hedge will help keep the pond safe and create more habitats.

If you'd like to help us build the hedge, please get in touch!

## Nature Sessions

We run monthly Climate & Nature Practical Conservation Sessions in the village, free for all to attend. To learn more, sign up to our nature volunteers mailing list, at

[www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk/climate-nature](http://www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk/climate-nature)



# Wildlife Garden

With help from Frampton Cotterell Nature Group, we have started work on a new Wildlife Garden at the Brockridge Centre.

So far, we have planted over 70 wildflowers and seeds in our aim to “re-wild” the garden! We have also installed new hedgehog and bird houses, kindly donated by a volunteer.

This wildlife garden is free for all to use, with space for picnics and playing.

## Maintenance and Improvements

The Parish Council has been busy over the autumn carrying out maintenance works and making improvements to local facilities and amenities.

Some of our recent work has included installing new lighting at the pavilion at The Park, School Road. This new lighting is designed to reduce light pollution whilst also helping to keep users of the facility safe.

We also carried out some work on drainage and making improvements to the car park.

What else? Well, we’ve sorted out new storage areas in the pavilion building as well as new guttering; placed a new noticeboard and boot scraper at the Park; and installed new fences at both the Park and Jubilee Allotments - complete with Hedgehog Highways! Phew!



# Thank You, Village Action

As their time comes to a close, we would like to thank Village Action for their wonderful work over the years. We will be proudly hosting their Village Diary on our website moving forward.

## Community Awards 2024

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council's Community Awards seek to recognise local people who go the extra mile for the village and its residents. Help us publicly recognise outstanding local groups and individuals by submitting a nomination form.

Nominations will open on **January 1st 2024**, and will close on **March 31st, 2024**.

To learn more or complete a nomination form, please visit our website or contact our office team.

## Youth Clubs

Our FACE Charity youth clubs run every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening during term time.

All young people aged 10-18 are welcome!

We also have a Youth Council which meets at the Pavilion once a month.

Find out more on our website, or FACE Charity's website, at

[www.facecharity.org.uk](http://www.facecharity.org.uk)



# Upcoming Events

## Coffee & Cake

Every Tuesday

11am - 1pm

The Brockridge Centre

Join us every Tuesday at the Brockridge Centre for teas, coffees, biscuits, and cake. Everyone welcome, all ages!

## Crochet & Knit Club

Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month

11am - 1pm

The Brockridge Centre

Come along for some craft-y fun! Whether you are an experienced crafter or a beginner looking for support, all are welcome.

## Volunteers "Thank You" Cream Tea

April

The Brockridge Centre

Our annual Cream Tea event to say "thank you" to our wonderful volunteers and winners of our 2024 Community Awards.

Attendance by invitation only.

# Councillor Vacancies

We currently have vacancies open on the parish council.

We are looking for dedicated individuals to step up and help us make a positive impact on our local community!

If you are interested in or would like to learn more about becoming a parish councillor, please visit our website, at

[www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk/vacancies](http://www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk/vacancies)