

## HIGHLIGHTS



We won the Best Kept Village for the 3rd year in a row in 2024.



The gap land has been gifted to the village, divided into a bench area *The View* and the protected bio-diverse *Turpins Orchard Field*.



The back of the Chapel Graveyard has been landscaped to restore the views and make more land available for graves.

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# Weedon PC News

REPORT 24-25 AND 23-24

UPDATE SEPT 2025

## The Parish Council

Weedon is a small village of 173 homes with a rich built heritage, set in an Area of Attractive Landscape. Over half the homes are in one of the Conservation Areas and 21 are Listed Buildings.

Weedon Parish Council has seven councillor members, elected for 4 years at a time. Elections have just been held in May 2025. The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer is the only paid employee (part-time).

The Parish Council is the first tier of English local government. We care for the village environment and liaise with the "principal authority" Buckinghamshire Council. Councillors attend regular meetings and also undertake (unpaid) management and delivery of projects.

Many residents take on voluntary tasks or give generously to particular initiatives.

### Social and Community Life

Other village organisations are thriving.

### Weedon Village Association

arranges a variety of functions to suit all ages and tastes. Last year's Summer Ball was a resounding success, and provided funds for a free village Summer Party in both 2024 and 2025.



WVA Summer Party 2025

### The Old Schoolroom

(registered charity) is a historic and characterful venue for private hirers and community groups.

**The Five Elms** pub and restaurant, owned by two village families, and run by award-winning restaurateurs, offers a real "public house" welcome with top-class food and drink.

**Wild Weedon** is dedicated to promoting better understanding of wildlife of all kinds, looking after the natural world in Weedon. Its calendar features Weedon nature scenes from all seasons.

Informal community activities abound: exercise classes, book clubs, talks, pop-up cafes, a golf society, voluntary interest groups and many more.

## Best Kept Village Hat Trick 2024

In 2024 Weedon made it 3 in a row of wins in this prestigious contest, which is open to ALL towns and villages in Bucks.

In **2022** we won the **Gurney Cup** (<500 people).

In **2023** we won the **Tindall Cup** (for prior year's winners).

In **2024** we won the **Gurney Cup** again, making it a hat-trick.

The 2024 win meant that we were back in the Tindall Cup category for **2025**. We scored very well but could not outdo Cheddington's outstanding winning total of 197 out of 200.



Bill Chapple presents the 2024 Gurney Cup to Joanna Rose

*Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the vibrant life of Weedon this year!*

**Your Weedon Parish Council**

## The Park & Pond



A wild duck with ducklings by the Weedon pond

**The Park** is owned and managed by the Parish Council. Contractors do grass and hedge cutting and path weeding.

An annual safety inspection of the play equipment is carried out by ROSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) and volunteers Steve and Nathalie Lofty regularly check and clean all the items. Repairs and improvements are carried out by accredited contractors.

**The Pond** and its margins are owned by the PC, and a contractor regularly cuts the grass, trims plants and clears weeds. Steve and Jayne Richards attend to the welfare of the wildfowl and carry out extra vegetation control.

White Aylesbury ducks do not fly or forage their own food, being a domesticated breed, and are very vulnerable to fox attacks. Following many years of re-stocking and hatching eggs funded by

Stockaway residents, the decision has been made to allow nature to take its course. Current Aylesburys will be fed, but increasingly, the pond will be allowed to re-wild with mallards and moorhens.

Volunteers who tend the village **floral displays** at the request of the PC put on a great show—Clare Macdonald (*Village Green Triangle*), Christine and Nic Nicolay (*Pump Trough*) and Margaret Askew (*Old Schoolroom Tubs*).

*“A huge thank you to Richard Bates, Matt & Georgie Palmer and Bob Chapman for their parts in securing the future of the Aston Abbotts Road “gap” for the village.”*

## The War Memorial & Graveyard

The Parish Council manages the **Chapel Graveyard** and the **War Memorial** grounds under a 99-year lease from the Methodist Church.

Weedon residents are entitled to reserve a burial or ashes plot by applying to the PC.

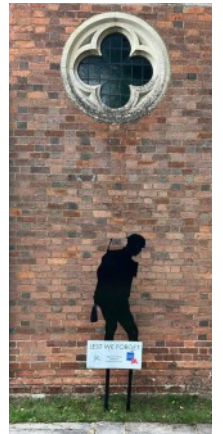
The PC’s contractors cut the grass and carry out other horticultural tasks. Volunteer Paul Winrow

does regular additional tidying and clearing, and we have been lucky on occasion to secure the services of a Community Payback Team.

At the back of the graveyard, the earth spoil heaps were removed. The rear native hedge will be thickened this autumn. In time, the large conifer hedge will be removed.

Marking the centenary of

the end of World War I, the **Silent Soldier** has been restored by Paul after suffering damage—twice!—and moved to a safer position against the red brick of the Chapel wall.



## The Community Assets

The PC looks after **public seats** and benches around the village.



The WVA bench at The View

Thanks to a significant donation by Weedon Village Association, a stunning new four-person seat is now in place at The View.

The heritage-style **streetlight** lanterns are owned and maintained by the PC and fitted with up-to-date LED light-bulbs. This saves on electricity—bought from

a green energy supplier.

The PC provides **litter bins** and **dog waste bins**, which are emptied weekly by Bucks Council.

The village roads are not routinely gritted. Bucks Council supplies salt for the PC-owned **grit bins**.

The High Street **Parish Pump** is a 19th century redbrick heritage feature.

# Roads and Road Safety



Buckinghamshire Council is the local Highways Authority. It has legal responsibility

and public liability for all roads, footways, pavements and footpaths in Bucks.

We work with a Local Area Technician to inform and suggest what we think needs to be done on potholes, drains, signage, kerbs, road surfacing and speed control. We also report issues on FixMyStreet—although any resident can do this, too.

We contribute funds for specific projects. But Bucks Highways make the decisions and do the works.

With Bucks Council, we are

always looking for new proven ways to get drivers to slow down in Weedon. Current measures are helping, but we know we must try to do more.

## ! Community Speedwatch

Run by volunteers. We participated in National Speedwatch Day in July. New volunteers are always welcome.

## ! MVAS Speed Signs

3 Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs. One new-style solar-powered MVAS flashes actual speed in red or green.

## ! Entrance gates

Village gates with speed limit signs.

## ! Bin stickers

30mph wheelie bin stickers

## The Environment

### Planning Control

The Parish Council is consulted on every planning application for building in Weedon, and on tree works in the Conservation Areas. It can respond to Bucks Council (the Planning Authority) with *No Objection*, *Support*, *Comment* or *Object*.

The PC holds a public meeting for each application. We keep abreast of local and national planning legislation.

### Supporting Biodiversity

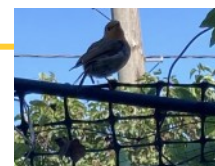
The PC's contractor cuts the grass on road verges within the 30mph limits. The designated wildflower verges, which are allowed to grow more freely on the Aston Abbotts Road, are developing well.

Trees along New Road were planted by the PC with villager contributions in 2012, and we look after them as required.

### The Gap Land

The PC has named the pavement-side bench area at the gap on Aston Abbotts Road *The View*.

The field between the new house at no. 50 and Turpins Orchard was generously gifted to the Parish Council, with a very long leaseback, as a bio-diverse wildlife haven, protected from any and all development.



Little Robbie with only one leg—a picture by Wild Weedon member Janet Fincher

## The Village Media

The secure village **website** is hosted by a local provider and maintained by the PC.

<https://weedonbucks.org.uk>

Community organisations are all featured on the site and update their pages.

This **Parish Council Report and Update** is normally published yearly and a copy delivered free to every home.

The free **Parish Magazine**, produced for the local church partnership, is distributed monthly by email, with printed copies on special request.

A **Parish Council notice-board** is at the High Street crossroads. Official notices are posted on it and on the website.

### Open noticeboards

for use by all are provided at the cross-roads and at the top of East End.

**Email** is used for community interest information.



Another Janet Fincher picture

Sign up to the village email list by contacting [joanna@cjrose.net](mailto:joanna@cjrose.net)



# WEEDON PARISH COUNCIL

## WEEDON PARISH CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

**Ruth Millard, Parish Clerk**  
32 Campbell Close  
Linden Village  
Buckingham  
MK18 7HP

Phone: 01280 814739

[parishclerk@weedonbucks.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@weedonbucks.org.uk)

## WEEDON PARISH COUNCILLORS

elected May 2025 for 4-year term

<i>Chair</i>	Joanna Rose	01296 641622 / 07885 201159
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Sarah Gibbs	07545 350035
Tom Jameson-Evans	01296 640845	
Wendy Kett	01296 640366	
Jonathan Hopper	01296 640574	
Thea Bailey	07854 613296	
Geoff Fincher	07736 972899	

[weedonbucks.org.uk](http://weedonbucks.org.uk)

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLOR

QUAINTON WARD

**Phil Gomm**

01296 641343 / 07976 729567

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

MP FOR AYLESBURY

**Laura Kyrke-Smith**

[laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk)

## NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE

AYLESBURY NORTH

Emergency 999 Report 101 or online

## SERVICES

### DIRECT SERVICES

Park and Play Area	Pond and Surrounding Area
War Memorial	Defibrillator
Chapel Graveyard	Floral Displays
The View Land	Christmas Tree & Lights
New Road Trees	Parish Pump
Streetlights	Noticeboards
Street seats and benches	Website
Litter, Grit and Dog Bins	Speedwatch & MVAS Signs

### UNDER CONTRACT TO BUCKS COUNCIL

Grass Verges (inside 30mph) and Village Green Triangle  
Cleaning and minor repairs to Road Signs  
Footpath 12 (New Road to Lilies)  
Monitoring/Reporting Public Footpaths, Roads, Pavements

### AS CONSULTEE TO BUCKS COUNCIL

*On planning applications and Local Development Plans*  
*Liaison on Highways and Speed Control*

## MEETINGS

- ◆ 3rd Tuesday of odd-numbered months
- ◆ January - March - May - July - Sept - November
- ◆ *plus* Planning meetings as required
- ◆ All open to the public with Open Forum
- ◆ Agendas posted on main noticeboard and website with 3 working days' notice

## FINANCIAL

INCOME	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
Band D Council Tax	<b>£69.19</b>	£67.21	£67.21
Precept	<b>£14,448</b>	£14,034	£13,813
Other Income	<b>£7,629</b>	£3,754	£4,672

The Parish Council's main **INCOME** comes from the Weedon parish precept, funded by Council Tax. We decide how much precept we need each year. For 24/25, we reluctantly raised Weedon's Council Tax by 2.99%, having required NO increase for the 12 years up to 23/24.

Other income includes a grant for Bucks Highways devolved services, graveyard fees, agricultural rent, donations from residents and other one-off grants.

RESERVES	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
Year-End Reserves	<b>£9,283</b>	£11,739	£18,318

The PC still has some **RESERVES**. This year, we budgeted for major works to the two large willow trees at the pond., carried out in April. We are investigating renewing some Park equipment and adding a table tennis table.

EXPENDITURE	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
Clerk & Office	<b>£5,766</b>	£4,877	£4,386
Routine Expenditure	<b>£15,747</b>	£14,668	£16,246
Project Expenditure	<b>£3,020</b>	£4,822	£4,536

**EXPENDITURE** includes part-time employment of the Clerk and payment of her home office costs.

Routine expenditure is mainly on repairs and maintenance—looking after the village. This includes streetlight power and maintenance, park equipment, horticultural works to Park, pond, graveyard, verges, footpaths and trees, waste and dog bin emptying. Administration costs cover insurance, meeting room rental, the annual audit and hosting the village website, membership of local government organisations and councillor and clerk training.

Project expenditure varies each year. In **23/24**, it included the Coronation event grant, replacing one litter bin, tree surgery in the Park and Graveyard and the additional MVAS sign. In **24/25**, we paid a contractor to clear the rear of the graveyard and for initial legal fees on the gap land transfer.

## OTHER WEEDON ORGANISATIONS AND CONTACTS

Weedon Village Association	Catherine Rodnight	07941 172118
Old Schoolroom	Shirley Bush	01296 641382
Tuesday Club	Judy Nagele	01296 641278
Methodist Chapel	Sarah Gibbs	07545 350035
Chapel Graveyard	Wendy Kett	01296 640366

Weedon Charities	Wendy Kett	01296 640366
Golf Society	Colin Rose	01296 641622 / 07885 201150
Parish Mag Editor	Saskia Welman	07956 231676
The Five Elms	Andrew	01296 256057
Wild Weedon	Sally Jones	07708 096531