



BECKFORD

PARISH COUNCIL

- Beckford - Grafton - Little Beckford -

Newsletter

Winter 2024-2025

Armistice Day Remembrances

On November 11th Parish Councillors Diane Colvin, Anne Worrall, and Alison Cort joined members of the Women's Institute and residents to lay wreaths and commemorate those who lost their lives in active service.



Attendees spoke of recollections and the representation of fallen heroes, after which two minutes' silence was observed.

Following the informal service, all progressed through the churchyard to look at the poppy cascade display. This beautiful and poignant tribute featuring red, purple, and white knitted and crocheted poppies was created by members of the WI. Red flowers represented fallen servicemen and women, white ones those in auxiliary roles who lost their lives, and purple flowers fallen animal helpers.

Our thanks and congratulations to the WI for creating this stunning and moving remembrance presentation.

Silver Jubilee Bus Stop Seat

You might have noticed that the Silver Jubilee bus stop bench near the village hall in Beckford has disappeared. Unfortunately the old bench had reached the end of its life. The wooden slats had been replaced many times, but it was recently discovered that the fixing holders set into the concrete ends had become unusable. Replacing these would have come with significant labour costs and risk of damaging the concrete.

County Cllr Adrian Hardman kindly offered to support a replacement using his individual Council discretionary fund. A seamless transition wasn't possible but the new, fully wooden, bench should be delivered within weeks.



Safe Avon Water Testing Project

Although we had agreed in principle to join the Safe Avon water testing project District Cllr Beverley Hardman has suggested a second scheme, funded by Wychavon. We are exploring both projects with Cllr Anne Worrall and one member of the public booked in for training under the Wychavon programme.

We would love to hear from anyone who would be interested in volunteering to help regularly collect and test water samples from the Carrant Brook.

Features:

Armistice Day Remembrances

Silver Jubilee Bus Stop Seat

Safe Avon Water Testing Project

New Councillor

Community Speedwatch and Roads Matters

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 6 Jan 2025 at 7pm in Beckford Village Hall – all are welcome to attend

Contact:

clerk@beckford-parish-council.org.uk

07950 1168355



New Councillor

Having struggled for some time to find willing volunteers to join the Parish Council, we are pleased to announce the appointment by co-option of a new Council member. Dieter Cottrell, a Grafton resident, formally joined our group at the last Council meeting.

This is the first time in several years that the Parish Council has been at full strength, with eight unpaid volunteer Councillors from Beckford, Little Beckford, and Grafton representing the Beckford and Grafton wards.

We hope this will enable us to achieve more as a Council, as well as providing greater stability for functioning.

Roads Matters

Beckford Community Speed Watch.

Beckford Parish Council are assisting and working with Safer Neighbourhood Officers from West Mercia Police in the creation of a Community Speed Watch group.

The group has been given the go-ahead to monitor the speed of vehicular traffic at four designated positions within Beckford.

The group currently consists of the minimum of six volunteers but we are looking for others.

Should you wish to find out more about being a volunteer, then please contact the parish clerk or one of the councillors.

Roundels and white lines

We're pleased to report that since our last Newsletter there has been some success on these issues.

The 30mph speed limit roundels on Back Lane in Beckford have been restored, and new white lines have been painted at the junction of Blacksmiths Lane and Cheltenham Road in Little Beckford.

Early reports suggest that the new lines are having a positive impact in reminding drivers to reduce speed and remain on the left side

of the carriageway as they round this corner.



Grit Bins

These were all checked before the recent snow, and the Parish Lengthsman is monitoring supply levels – but if you notice that grit is running low in one of the bins, please report it and help to keep our roads safe to use. The grit in the yellow bins is provided by Worcestershire County Council and is meant for highways use only.

Please report shortages directly to WCC at <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/travel-and-highways/report-road-or-path-issue>.

A46/M5 J9A

The public consultation for the proposed M5 J9A and new A46 routes (all of which converge on Teddington Hands) ends on 2 December 2024. You may still have time to comment via <https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk/engagement9.com/junction-9>

The members of Beckford Parish Council:

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