

## Chair's Report Dec 2025

On Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, I attended the cheque presentation for the grant awarded to the Parish Council for £6,500 for traffic mitigation purposes. Grants were awarded for a variety of reasons. The Social Service grants were humbling, in terms of how members of Oxfordshire's community involved themselves in a range of causes: rehab project for young offenders, Homeless Shelter project including housing and job application support, Women and Girls Safety project, and several projects run by previous offenders who want to help support those recently out of youth offender's prisons. It was an honour to meet these people. The money given out in grants is solely taken from the proceeds of crime, so it felt like a form of justice. There were at least half a dozen grants given for groups like our who want to reduce speed in villages/towns. All of these groups are led by volunteers. Thames Valley Chief Constable Jason Hogg expressed his sincere appreciation for all of the grant winners hard work and commitment to the community. This large cheque was given to us, the Parish Council as recognition of our work in trying to manage one of our most serious concerns.

Looking ahead, the Parish Council needs to focus on firming up our governance documents, planning and agreeing our budget for 2026/7, and increasing the size of the council. There is work to be done in several areas and our stress levels will no doubt decrease with more councillors. It would be helpful if we could all think about the people we know and live near to see if there are a few who could join us.

Although it feels a little early, may I take the opportunity to wish each of you to have a wonderful Christmas with your loved ones. Thank you for the hard work you have put into this council over the past year, it does not go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated by the community.

Enjoy your mince pie!!

Diane