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## Chair's Report – November 5, 2025

Recent weeks have highlighted the dedication of our village volunteers. Last Saturday, teams efficiently maintained the church grounds and prepared for Fireworks Night, supported by others providing refreshments. These efforts demonstrate that volunteer support is readily available when approached in advance and properly acknowledged.

I attended two significant events:

1. **Unitary Council Proposals:** Parish, district, and county councillors met to discuss three proposals affecting 48 villages under the Greater Oxford Unitary Proposal. The majority favoured a single authority, citing concerns that rural parishes would be disadvantaged by the Greater Oxford solution. The proposals will be submitted to the government on November 18, with public consultation to follow. Parish participation in this consultation is strongly encouraged.
2. **NALC Planning Framework Session:** The session addressed the impact of the new planning framework on rural parishes, particularly those in the Green Belt. Maintaining an up-to-date Neighbourhood Plan is essential for opposing large-scale housing developments. The proposed planning bill may reduce committee oversight, granting more authority to planning officers. Further details will be provided in the Village News.

Finally, I am pleased to announce the approval of our application to reduce the speed limit on the B430 to 30mph. This achievement is the result of persistent efforts by Graham Barnett and the speedwatch team, whose data collection was instrumental in this success.