

HAWKWELL PARISH COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PLAN

2023 - 2026

The Mission of Hawkwell Parish Council is:

‘To develop and sustain a sense of community within the Parish of Hawkwell by addressing environmental, economic and social issues and delivering quality services to our Parishioners.’

Our Strategic objectives are:

1. To work with the Police and other authorities to nurture a safe and lawful environment:

- By supporting the police in the prevention and detection of crime;
- By engaging with ‘Community Special Constables’ to support and enhance policing within Hawkwell Parish;
- By engaging with a Private Security company to provide an enhanced security presence for residents in the Parish and in the Parks and Open Spaces that Council is responsible for;
- By ensuring the streets and public areas are well lit and, where possible, designed to minimise crime by engaging in a planned programme of streetlight maintenance, while further ensuring that lighting repairs are carried out within agreed timescales;
- By supporting Community SpeedWatch (CSW);
- By working with local groups and residents with highway safety concerns to put forward relevant schemes to the Local Highways Panel (LHP) to enhance road safety.

2. To work for the improvement of the built environment:

- By identifying unacceptable building proposals and registering our concerns with the planning authority prior to their formal consideration;
- By maintaining and ensuring our bus shelters and other street furniture are in good order and pursuing an appropriate maintenance and renewal plan;
- By working with the Police and Local Authorities to detect and prosecute perpetrators of graffiti or other vandalism;
- By working to minimise the detrimental effects of litter in the parks/open spaces and public areas by having a maintenance regime for emptying and maintaining our bins.

3. To work with Statutory and Non-Statutory Bodies seeking to improve the quality of life for Parishioners:

- By co-operating with neighbouring parishes on issues that affect us;
- By supporting or having association with various ‘Outside Bodies’ and/or appointing Council members to sit on their Committees, as directed by Council;
- By co-operating and working with our local schools, scout groups, sports clubs and youth bodies to improve facilities for the young in the Parish;
- By listening, communicating and engaging with residents to ensure that they have a voice on matters that affect them within the Parish.

4. To further develop the parks and the Nature Reserve in the Parish to provide green and open spaces and to contribute to sustaining bio-diversity within the Parish:

- By maintaining the Nature Reserve at Magnolia Park and by working with the various authorities and agencies to improve the natural environment and sustain bio-diversity;
- By developing the facilities at Magnolia Park for the use of Parishioners;
- By maintaining Spencer's Park, Glencroft Open Space and 'Church Strip';
- By maintaining and improving the children's play spaces, including replacing play equipment on a rolling basis;
- By maintaining and improving the adult gym at Magnolia Park on a rolling basis;
- By ensuring a safe and secure environment regarding our play spaces, by adhering to current Health & Safety regulations and inspection regimes.

5. To aim to make Council carbon neutral by 2030 (or sooner if possible):

- By declaring a Climate Emergency;
- By creating e a Climate Emergency Action Plan following the Eco-Audit, which will be updated regularly with progress;
- By considering the impacts on climate change and carbon emissions when making future council decisions;
- By identifying ways of educating and encouraging the whole community to take interest in climate related matters;
- By liaising with District and County Councils to identify and promote relevant Climate/Environment/Eco related schemes and funding opportunities to the community.

6. To manage the affairs of the Council on an efficient and effective basis:

- By ensuring all decisions are taken on a value for money basis;
- By being a good employer and treating employees as valued members of the team;
- By ensuring all legal obligations are observed and good practice followed in respect of the financial management of the Council;
- By developing and implementing policies and procedures that ensure good governance of the Council's affairs;
- by ensuring that Chairs of Committees take an active role in keeping under review and driving forward the strategic objectives that relate to their Committee, to assist Council to meet its overall mission;
- By adopting and updating appropriate financial policies including the management of reserves;
- By ensuring that Council is fully compliant in relation to General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Adopted: April 2023
Review: 2026