

## **Binton Parish Council Assembly Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

### **Annual Chair's report – Agenda Item 4**

It's been a fairly quiet year for the parish council. There is no end to the continuation of the Ukraine hostilities and the Gaza war and now we have the US and Israel at war with Iran. In addition, we have an "interesting" time in UK politics and by the time of the Parish Assembly we will have had a set of local UK elections the outcome of which will be again "interesting". No elections take place in Stratford in 2026 with the next elections in 2027.

The Parish Council remains very much under strength at 5 councillors from a total of 7. There seems little we can do to improve this.

Parish council meetings have continued in person. The Binton WhatsApp group and the Binton Life Facebook page are active and running well. Many events have continued to take place in the last year around the Village Hall. We have continued to maintain the Village Green as well as possible and the Council supports our local church with a small maintenance grant and the Village Hall with a contribution to the running costs.

The Village Hall Committee continues to run the hall successfully with a considerable number of initiatives. The accounts and the Committee's report on the Village Hall activities follows this report. I would wish to minute my thanks once again to Laura Hamilton and the committee. The committee, chaired by Cllr Finch, must be congratulated by the Parish Council on the continued village activities promoted at the hall. Daffodils have been flowering early this year as part of Binton in bloom funded by the Village Hall.

#### **Parish Council activities**

We do now have speed and traffic volume data for the centre of the village but, as before, the police will take no action to deter speeding motorists as the V85 speeds are not excessive. I do not think we will see improvements until the S78 Shottery Western bypass is completed in late summer this year. The Parish Council attends meetings of the Welford Traffic Summit, a forum sponsored by Manuela Perteghella MP, set up to address traffic issues in our surrounding area.

The parish council, in setting the precept for 2026/27 reduced the precept to £6,000 pa. We did not set aside a budget for unspecified village improvements as there seems little more to do.

My personal thanks to those residents who have attended our meetings, the Parish Clerk, my Parish Council colleagues, the Village Hall committee and thanks to our local County and District councillors. .

Mike Flaxman  
Chair  
Binton Parish Council