

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Chairman's Report

Period – May 2023 to May 2024

There follows a report for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Dated: 14th May 2024



Cllr Craig Chapman

Bibury Parish Council

REPORT

1. Councillors

Following the Parish Council elections in May 2023 the following Councillors have comprised the Parish Council with their roles indicated, bodies they represent and status at the time of the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2024:

- Cllr Simon Brownless – Roles - Internal Checker and Representative of Bibury United Charities
- Cllr Craig Chapman – Elected Chairman in May 2022 - Other Role – Highways / TRO Lead (also involved with Parish Plan, Bibury Traffic Working Group and Ablington Manor Group)
- Cllr Ann Haigh – Role – Village Life Representative (also on Parish Plan team)
- Cllr Michelle Holt – Role - Bibury United Charities Representative (also on Parish Plan team)
- Cllr Mike Pini – Role - Village Hall Representative
- Cllr John Phillips – Role - Bibury United Charities Representative (also on Ablington Manor Group)
- Cllr Brian Skarda – Role - Bibury United Charities Representative (also on Bibury Traffic Working Group and in representing the residents of Arlington Row).
- Irena Litton – Clerk / Proper Officer / Responsible Financial Officer.

2. Highways / Parking and Related Activities

2a. Highways Activities

Activities / actions (excluding the ANPR Camera / TRO / parking related, which are covered separately) in the last year included:

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

- Carpark opposite Trout Farm – the coach parking bays have been relined and strong bollards installed to safeguard the Rack Isle wall and pavement
- Resurfacing of crossroads (Winson / Barnsley) on Fossecross Lane
- Wall repair to Rosemary Cottage impacting Awkward Hill, Arlington. Following a significant period of closure (7 months) it is now very unfortunate / concerning that the wall at the rear of Arlington Lodge is also considered unsafe (probably from removal of ivy by the Rosemary Cottage walling contractors) resulting in a further period of closure whilst this is similarly remediated
- Roadway outside Arlington Row – To prevent flooding of the cottages provision of a French drain arrangement has been proposed, although a solution is on hold whilst maintenance issues are agreed with GCC Highways
- Arlington Row – signage to prevent parking in the turning area at end of Arlington Row Cottages
- Replacement (repair is not feasible due to age) of the Automatic Speed Sign on the road into Bibury from the direction of Aldsworth is being progressed
- Repairs to wall alongside The Street / River Coln following the incident when a car was driven into the river
- The issue of flooding of low-lying areas of the B4425 was notified whilst grips (gullies) were dug to take away the flood water (and these were dug out again following later flooding). However, a longer-term solution is required whereas it was previously proposed in 2022 to convert one or two of the offlets to gullies.

2b. Community / APNR Camera

The Council have received a free APNR camera under Gloucestershire County Council's Speed Awareness Initiative. The camera only provides registration numbers on vehicles exceeding the programmed parameters. The Council can now provide the top 10 registration numbers to the police (once a month), the police then write to the offenders (if the same vehicle comes up several times then the police will take further action).

Location of the camera is on the B4425 coming into Arlington from The Pike and operation of the camera has been initiated, with Cllr Craig Chapman starting to assess data generated. The next action is to site / erect Community Speedwatch signage and to start notifying the police of offenders, particularly where persistent (reflecting, it is assumed, locals or regular commuters).

2c. Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)

This is an on-going process which the Parish Council has facilitated / supported and which TRO Limited undertook. Whilst the overall process has been as follows:

1. An Informal Consultation – On the basis of an initial set of proposals an informal consultation with residents via a letter drop (to include detail of the TRO process and reasoning for the proposals) took place in April 2022. The initial intention was that responses were due by 26th May but due to the volume of concerns this was extended to 10th June.

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

2. A Statutory Consultation then took place (fire, police, parish council, county councillor, LHM, ambulance etc.)
3. Revised Proposals - The result of the feedback received from the Informal / Statutory Consultations was a substantial revision of the proposals. In summary, amendments following consultation were as follows:
 - 3.1 B4425 Western Extent – proposed double yellow replaced by single yellow lines (on left driving towards Bibury) whilst proposed double yellow lines on right are maintained. A comment from the Parish Council regarding concerns expressed by the owners of Kingsbury House was accepted so that the yellow lines were extended on both sides of the road from Arlington Fields, heading towards Cirencester to where the bus stop, notice board, and bench are situated.
 - 3.2 Car Park and Bridge – proposed no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) to be removed. Proposed limited waiting 8am-8pm, 3 hours retained. Proposed disabled parking bays removed.
 - 3.3 Ablington Road – no change. Proposed double yellow lines maintained.
 - 3.4 The Street – Amended to include disabled parking bays close to road bridge. Limited waiting removed. Proposed loading area outside Post Office retained.
 - 3.5 Cemetery Lane and Church Road – Double yellow lines in Cemetery Lane retained. All other restrictions in Church Road removed to include proposed disabled parking close to Church.
 - 3.6 Salt Way - no change. Proposed double yellow lines maintained.
4. A Notice of Proposal (Public Consultation) then took place from 25th May 2023 closing on 16th June 2023:
 - a. Notices and plans were placed on street furniture.
 - b. The process was advertised in Village Life with details on where to find the current proposals.
 - c. The proposals were also indicated on the GCC and Parish Council websites.
5. A report was then written outlining the process and making a recommendation on how to proceed which was sent to the Council and approved / signed off.
6. Detailed Designs have now been drawn up and sent to the site team (Ringway) who will install the various measures. Jason Holt has chased on behalf of the Bibury Traffic Working Group and indications are that delay is down to the 'commissioning process' and that this should be resolved soon (with a precise timing still to be confirmed). Progression of the TRO is

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

important with respect to enforcement as the existing yellow lines are becoming unclear and consequently, cones have been placed in certain areas as a temporary measure.

2d. Parking / Enforcement

1. Bibury Traffic Working Group / Meeting at the Swan Bridge

This group was set up in October 2023 to develop a longer-term Action Plan to present to the Parish Council as how to best manage the parking / traffic issues we face, with Jason Holt leading and with Parish Cllr Brian Skarda, District Cllr David Fowles and resident Mark Honeyball as members.

In November 2023 Craig Chapman and Jason Holt attended a meeting opposite the Trout Farm at the Swan Bridge organised by County Councillor Lisa Spivey with representatives from traffic enforcement, the TRO, police and GCC Highways. This proved to be a pivotal meeting in that issues relating particularly to coach movement / parking were apparent and observed. Consequently:

- An ANPR survey of traffic movement across the Swan Bridge was commissioned (see below)
- A commitment made to increased enforcement (See below)
- In addition, a proposal was made to provide an alternative area for coach parking and as a consequence create more parking opposite the Trout Farm. This will require a TRO and will be progressed once the current TRO (see 2.c) is in place

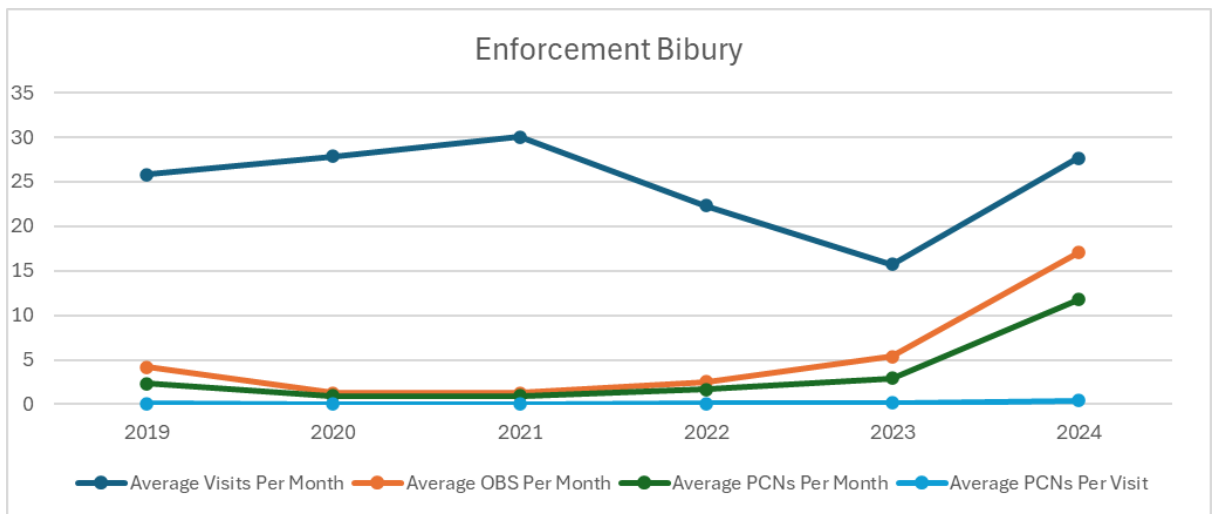
2. Increased Enforcement / Swan Bridge Traffic Survey by ANPR Camera

There have been positive results with respect to increased enforcement as summarised in the table below:

PARKING ENFORCEMENT - BIBURY									Improvement over 2023
	2019	COVID			2022	2023	Jan to 5 May		
TOTAL VISITS	310	334	360	268	189	115			
Average Visits Per Month	26	28	30	22	16	28	75%		
TOTAL OBS (Observations)	50	15	15	30	64	71			
Average OBS Per Month	4.2	1.3	1.3	2.5	5.3	17.1	220%		
TOTAL PCNs	28	11	11	20	35	49			
Average PCNs (Tickets) Per Month	2.3	0.9	0.9	1.7	2.9	11.8	304%		
Average PCNs (Tickets) Per Visit	0.1	0.03	0.03	0.1	0.2	0.4	130%		

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Similarly, it was 'positive' that the ANPR survey of the Swan Bridge (see Appendix 1), conducted over two weeks in January / February 2024, indicated the issues of overall traffic movement and particularly that of HGV abuse of the bridge whereby 61 vehicles weighing in excess of 18 tonnes illegally crossed the bridge. Consequently, it is now proposed to install an ANPR camera at the bridge to monitor / track and fine offenders. This will (also) require community approval via a TRO and actions will be progressed to obtain this.

3. Trout Farm and Swan Car parks

The Trout Farm car parks have the following capacity:

Gravel carpark first left: 45-50 cars
Overflow by Thames Water: 150-175 cars

It is also indicated that the overflow next to Shoecroft Barn can take 150 cars although there does not appear to be planning approval for this car-park. Further, the walkway from the Overflow (Thames Water) carpark, which was a condition of planning, awaits installation. Both issues are being followed up with the Trout Farm / CDC Planning.

However, it is not always apparent to tourists / visitors that these carparks exist. Hence, an approach was made to GCC Highways to erect signage. However, as these are private car-parks it was indicated that this is not a GCC matter, whilst the Trout Farm themselves can erect their own signage as long as it is on their land.

The Swan Car Park has not been progressed, although it was tidied and the manager is unable to provide timing for when the work will be undertaken.

3. **Planning Applications – Building Works / Trees / Licenses**

30 applications were reviewed and supported by the Parish Council, with other comment and objections as follows:

May 2023 – 2 x supported

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

June 2023 – 2 x supported to include William Morris Tea Rooms / Post Office

July 2023 – 3 x supported

September 2023– 5 x supported and comment regarding the design of Garth Cottage

November 2023 – 4 x supported

December 2023 – 2 x supported

January 2024 – 4 x supported and 1) continued objection to development of Land and Buildings West of Stonebank 2) No comment on Ablington Manor due to the scale of activity with a request for a site visit and presentation of the overall intended works and plans to minimise disruption to the community

February 2024 – 1 x supported and 1) 2 x objection to coppice / tree works either side of Cemetery Lane 2) Ablington Manor - comment that support cannot be provided until better engagement with the community takes place, whilst referral to the Planning Control Committee was requested via the Ward Councillor 3) Request for an extension so that proper consideration could be given to two applications by the Trout Farm (café/gift shop and glamping pods)

March 2024 – 4 x supported and 1) objections submitted to applications by the Trout Farm for glamping pods, remodelling of fish raceways to form a lake, erection of a covered area (with a request that these applications be submitted to the Planning Control Committee via the Ward Member) and 2 x tree works 2) No comment was indicated with respect to tree works at Ablington Manor

April 2024 – 3 x supported and continued objection to Ablington Manor following submission of additional drawings

- Referring to specific applications with significant community interest:
 - The development of Land and Buildings West of Stonebank, Ablington – where there were similarly significant objections from the local community, as aired during the Public Meeting in January 2024 (ahead of an unplanned Parish Council Meeting), whilst the positive outcome was that this application was refused following objections particularly due to highways concerns and adverse impact on the conservation area.
 - Ablington Manor – a presentation was made ahead of the February Parish Council Meeting relating to the significant development planned at Ablington Manor, by the architects (Fosters and Partners) and engineers (Ridge and Company). This was followed by discussion during the Public Meeting when considerable concern was expressed by the local community relevant to disruption / damage to the local infrastructure (and potential impact on the River Coln) resulting from implementation of the works. Following the meeting a Working Group was raised (lead by Chris Kinder) and this team has now had two constructive meetings with the Ablington Manor project delivery team to discuss ways to reduce the impact

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

on the community, whilst one positive outcome is that a planned underground car-park is to be replaced by a significantly smaller plant-room.

- Trout Farm – several applications have been submitted relating to installation of glamping pods, a lake development (by remodelling fish raceways, indicated to be for fly fishing), a new covered area and tree removal / management. Considerable concern was expressed relating to the transparency regarding development plans and uncertainty that the future focus would be as a leisure / pleasure centre, to the detriment of traditional fish farming. Particularly there is concern that activities at the Trout Farm will move into the evening / night and as evidenced from on-line publicity available involve a ‘partying’ element. Consequently, it was requested that the lake development and covered area applications should be referred to the Planning Control Committee. In addition, concerns have been expressed regarding the damage to the ecology within the Trout Farm and change of use of a tack room (which the Parish Council supported, being farm related) to a cafe / gift shop (which the Parish Council would not have supported, whilst due to non-progression of an extension this was approved without the PC view being considered). The current situation is that whilst the glamping pods application was withdrawn, the lake development and covered area applications which went before the Planning Control Committee and (with Cllr Michelle Holt and Ward Member Cllr David Fowles, supported by Wendy Hazlehurst’s sister, who is an ecologist, speaking against) these two applications were approved. However, the concerns expressed both by the Parish Council and community are a matter of public record, whilst our MP, Geoffrey Clifton-Brown (see 7.), has been briefed and the issues have developed (and will continue to develop) press coverage (for example, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire Standard) so that there is ongoing focus and pressure for appropriate actions to be taken by the Trout Farm.

- Tree works either side of Cemetery Lane / development of land either side of Cemetery lane and below Aldsworth Road for housing / parking.
 - Tree Works - During the Public session ahead of the February Parish Council Meeting considerable concern was expressed by the community relating to removal of trees / coppices in the orchard and allotment areas. Whilst these objections were unsuccessful and the trees were removed.

 - Housing / parking development – a presentation was made ahead of the Public Meeting by Ross Sharpe (Director at Yiangou Architects) & David Keyte (Planning Consultant) relating to a proposed package of works comprising a cottage and car-park south of Cemetery Lane, two cottages with car parking north of Cemetery Lane and a development of 10 properties (to include social housing) below Aldsworth Road.

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

- Green Space (EN3) designation (land either side of Cemetery Lane) – Resulting from the deadline for submission of input to the GCC Local Plan in April 2024, and particularly as a consequence of the (above) tree works discussion, it was concluded that the Parish Council would progress such designation of the land either side of Cemetery Lane. These Parish Council applications were supported by local resident Malcolm James. As a consequence, the Parish Council is unable to support any planning applications resulting from the proposals (as above) for the development of housing / parking in that area (assuming planning is progressed).
- William Morris Tea Rooms / Post Office – works are now accelerating after significant activity (and resultant delay) to stabilise / underpin the buildings whilst the owners indicate they will open before Christmas and no later
- 11 Arlington Row – concern has been expressed / raised, particularly by Cllr Brian Skarda, regarding the nature of the works and whether listing building consent was required and also a raised ‘sun deck’ / seating area which overlooks the Arlington Row Cottages.

4. Other initiatives progressed by the Parish Council included:

- Parish Plan – It was proposed at the June 2023 Parish Council Meeting that a Parish Plan should be developed to represent the current views of the community as to the future of the Parish. Mehdi Mahjour was asked and agreed to lead development of the Plan and, following a notice in Village Life, formed a team in support that started to meet from December 2023 to agree progression. To reflect community opinion a Parish Survey was undertaken over February / March 2024 with 60 households responding. Current status is that the survey findings have been collated and assessed with areas of focus (leadership as indicated) as follows to develop individual action plans:
 - Community – Tim Hastie-Smith / Edward Mallinkrodt
 - Communications and Sustainability – Mehdi Mahjour
 - Facilities – Ann Haigh / Emily Papaloizou
 - Transport, Traffic and Parking – Bibury Traffic Working Group
 - Housing – Bibury Parish Council (Craig Chapman)
 - Tourism – Michelle Holt

Mehdi Mahjour is preparing a summarised version of the results to be presented in the Summer alongside recommendations and a plan to leverage focus groups outputs.

Other

- Replacement of Notice Board opposite Hawkers Hill – the original notice board suffered wind damage and as a consequence was replaced
- Repairs to fencing of play area
- Progression of a replacement letter box in the wall outside Glebe House which was damaged by one of the Bibury Court vehicles. The wall has been rebuilt / repaired by the owners of

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Glebe House and a standalone letter box agreed on The Square to replace the wall mounted one

- Bus Stops by Arlington Fields/Quarry – it has been queried why the new tarmacked area with kerb modified to indicate / facilitate crossing, has not been taken up as the replacement bustop for the stop with wooden shelter close to The Pike. A response is awaited
- The informal twinning (termed a Friendship Community Relationship) has been put in place between Bibury Parish Council and the Arlington Heights Civic Association of Virginia, USA has received recognition at congressional and local parliament level in the USA
- Grants to be provided towards the 2023 Poppy Appeal and 2024 Bibury Village Show.

5. Flooding - Flood Wardens

Reports / proposals have been presented by Mr Phil and Mrs Wendy Challinor as Flood Wardens and support / specific action taken (by Edward Mallinkrodt) to resolve a flood risk issue resulting from a fallen tree across the River Coln close in the area of the Village Hall.

6. District and County Council Participation

Reports were presented during the year by District Cllr David Fowles and County Cllr Lisa Spivey.

7. Open Meeting with Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown

Whilst not a Parish Council event, an opportunity exists to meet our Member of Parliament at an Open Meeting to be held at the Village Hall on the morning of Saturday 18th May. This meeting was organised by District Council Ward Member Cllr David Fowles reflecting the significant number of topics where there are local concerns.

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

CIlr Craig Chapman, Long Cottage, Arlington, Bibury, GL7 5ND
Tel No 07710 98 68 38 Email craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1 – Swan Bridge ANPR Survey

TOTAL DATA						
				Heavy Goods 18T +	Buses and Coaches	
10 WEEKDAYS	TOTAL - In both directions					
17 Jan to 6 Feb	Car	LGV	OGV1	OGV2	PSV	Total
0000-0600	396	107	11	2	1	517
0600-1200	8577	2259	263	32	108	11239
1200-1800	10724	1943	220	26	144	13057
1800-0000	3201	201	20	1	6	3429
Total	22898	4510	514	61	259	28242
2 WEEKENDS						
17 Jan to 6 Feb	Car	LGV	OGV1	OGV2	PSV	Total
0000-0600	116	14	1	0	1	132
0600-1200	3418	214	25	0	40	3697
1200-1800	5939	191	10	0	60	6200
1800-0000	1239	41	5	0	0	1285
Total	10712	460	41	0	101	11314
OVERALL 2 WEEKS						
17 Jan to 6 Feb	Car	LGV	OGV1	OGV2	PSV	Total
0000-0600	512	121	12	2	2	649
0600-1200	11995	2473	288	32	148	14936
1200-1800	16663	2134	230	26	204	19257
1800-0000	4440	242	25	1	6	4714
Total	33610	4970	555	61	360	39556
AVERAGE WEEKDAY						
				18T +	Coaches	
17 Jan to 6 Feb	Car	LGV	OGV1	OGV2	PSV	Total
0000-0600	40	11	1	0	0	52
0600-1200	858	226	26	3	11	1124
1200-1800	1072	194	22	3	14	1306
1800-0000	320	20	2	0	1	343
Total	2290	451	51	6	26	2824
AVERAGE WEEKEND DAY						
17 Jan to 6 Feb	Car	LGV	OGV1	OGV2	PSV	Total
0000-0600	29	4	0	0	0	33
0600-1200	855	54	6	0	10	924
1200-1800	1485	48	3	0	15	1550
1800-0000	310	10	1	0	0	321
Total	2678	115	10	0	25	2829
AVERAGE DAY						
17 Jan to 6 Feb	Car	LGV	OGV1	OGV2	PSV	Total
0000-0600	37	9	1	0	0	46
0600-1200	857	177	21	2	11	1067
1200-1800	1190	152	16	2	15	1376
1800-0000	317	17	2	0	0	337
Total	2401	355	40	4	26	2825