

## **Templeton Parish Council Chairman's Report 2026**

This has been a productive year for Templeton Parish Council, and I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the work achieved within our community over the past year.

Firstly, we said a sad goodbye to David Leeming, who resigned due to poor health. David dedicated many years of service to the Parish Council, and his contribution to the village has been greatly appreciated. He is very much missed, and we thank him sincerely for all his hard work and commitment over the years.

We were pleased to welcome Councillor Val Hopley to the committee this year. Val has already proved to be a tremendous asset to the Council, successfully organising the village Bingo fundraiser in support of the parish defibrillator fund. The event was both enjoyable and highly successful.

We had a wonderful Bluebell Walk incorporating Templeton footpaths with William and Alison Withers kindly allowing us to explore Knapp Woodland. The colony of bluebells and wildflowers were spectacular, the bacon rolls and cakes at the refreshment stops were also greatly appreciated.

Templeton is fortunate to have such a strong and supportive community, with the Village Hall, Social Club, and St Margaret's Church PCC all playing vital roles within village life. The Parish Council continues to work alongside these organisations to support parishioners and

contribute where possible to the wellbeing of the community.

This year, the Parish Council has taken on responsibility for the maintenance of the Air Ambulance Landing Lights at the Village Hall. With the generous purchase of one defibrillator by the PCC (St Margaret's Church Committee), we now have four defibrillators throughout the village. This ensures that everyone has quick access to these invaluable lifesaving devices.

We are also delighted that the village telephone box has now been fully restored to its former glory. A huge thank you goes to Reg Coffin and Don Plumb for all their hard work and dedication in completing this project.

Councillor Sara Stone has continued to oversee the Snow Warden Scheme working very hard to put together an emergency plan and ensuring that grit has been distributed throughout all areas of the village during adverse weather conditions.

Road safety remains an important issue for the Parish Council. We continue to seek solutions to reduce speeding through the built-up areas of the village, particularly in locations where children walk to catch the school bus and where families and residents regularly use community spaces. This remains an ongoing priority for the Council.

The Parish Council has also supported repair works at the Village Hall and hopes to continue contributing towards future improvements and maintenance projects.

Sadly, this year we also lost three previous Parish Councillors who played important roles in both the formation and running of the Parish Council. Val

Greenfield, Frank Saunders, and Ken Reid all made significant contributions to village life and will be remembered with gratitude and respect.

Finally, I would like to thank all Parish Councillors, volunteers, and residents who continue to support the work of Templeton Parish Council. Your dedication and community spirit help make Templeton such a special place to live.

**Laurel O'Brien**

**Chairman**

Templeton Parish Council