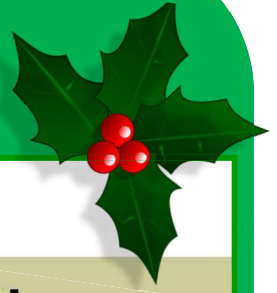


Newsletter



WARNDON PARISH COUNCIL



Charity Christmas Tree
recycling schemes
- See inside



Winter 2020



Chair's Message

There may not be a lot we want to remember from the past year, one thing however will continue to inspire me in the future – from the applause for the essential workers on Thursday evenings to the regular collections for the food bank – it has been your reaction to the pandemic, the feeling of community which has become more apparent over these unprecedented times. I am more than proud to be a member of the Parish Council which has served residents over the last year.

I'd like to take this opportunity to record my thanks to all the essential workers who live or work in the villages. Throughout the pandemic, City Council employees managed to keep services running; dog and waste bin collection, mowing and ground maintenance, and the weekly bin collections.

On a more sombre note, our thoughts go out to those who have lost loved ones.

The Parish Council has struggled to complete some of the projects we were looking forward to delivering this year, including the installation of the additional benches promised earlier and the outdoor table tennis tables. I'd like to thank my colleagues on the Parish Council who have come together and overcome the challenges that each has faced in putting the technology in place to hold meetings over Zoom or Teams and that the background has been just so.

We have all benefited from the green spaces throughout the Villages during lockdown. The Parish Council continues to work with the Worcester Environmental Group and City Council in increasing the number of wild-flower areas that are planted; hopefully these plans will come to fruition in 2021. A plea to dog owners however; please be considerate to your friends and neighbours throughout the villages and clean up after your

Chair's Message (cont'd)

pet, disposing of any waste in either the dog or waste bins across the villages, or taking it home.

You may be aware that recently the parish has been the target of unwanted night-time activity, with sheds and cars being the predominant targets. If you have been the unfortunate victim of this activity I urge you to report the incident using **999** if the crime is in progress and use 101 or log it online even if you feel the police will not be able to do anything. By making a report it provides the police with the intelligence they need to catch these criminals. Many residents have CCTV these days and they may ask you to supply this to help them with their enquiries. The police did make an arrest during the most recent criminal activity, however due to insufficient evidence they were not able to proceed with the prosecution. So, please may I remind everyone to ensure your vehicles and property are secured and you do not leave valuables in your vehicles.

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a merry Christmas, and here's looking forward to a happy and prosperous 2021.



Date for your diary

Parish Council Annual Open Meeting

will be held on

Wednesday 19th May 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

at the Lyppard HUB

An opportunity to meet your Parish Councillors & find out what the Parish Council has been doing during the last 12 months.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Warndon Parish Residents Food Drive

In May this year, during the first lockdown, the Foodbank collections in Battenhall and St Peters were being well supported by local residents; I felt that a similar initiative could also work in Warndon Parish. The proposal was for residents to place donations (supermarket gift cards, non-perishable food items, cleaning products and toiletries) on their doorstep during the weekly 8pm “Clap for Carers” on Thursday, for local collectors to retrieve and transport to Worcester Foodbank.



After floating the idea in a post on The Warndon Villages Community Facebook Group, I took the idea to the Parish Council. The support from the Parish Councillors was unanimous, and we quickly got to work building a team of collectors and printing leaflets.

We are now on our second batch of leaflets and have had roadside ‘reminder banners’ printed with support from Warndon Parish Council. Our collectors now cover over 60% of the Parish and have delivered over four tonnes of donations to Worcester Foodbank!



I would like to thank everyone for their donations, the dedicated collectors, and my fellow admins **Andrew Cross** and **Jo-Anna Hine** who have made this initiative so successful.



Worcester foodbank



To donate items, please refer to the instructions on the leaflets you receive, as weekly collection days & times vary per area. To get involved or to start a new collection area please contact:

Emily Bond on **07789 764673** or **Andrew Cross** on **07587 184039**

Visit our Facebook Group “**Warndon Parish Residents Food Drive**”, or go to **Warndon Parish Council website**.

Article Contributed by Emily Bond



Some of the younger helpers in our community collecting for Worcester Foodbank

As the economic crisis unfolds as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, day to day life is becoming much harder for people across our city. It is really important that we work together as a community during these uncertain times to support people in hardship. Foodbanks across the country saw a 47% rise in demand during the first 6 months of the pandemic.

The Worcester foodbank is run by local people and relies on the community's support to ensure it can continue to stop people going hungry. Big or small, every gift you give helps transform lives. Worcester foodbank is part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. If you feel able to support the Worcester Foodbank by making a donation or helping fund-raise go to **www.worcesterfoodbank.org.uk** for more information

Worcester Foodbank | Helping Local People in Crisis

Here2Help



HERE 2 HELP
WORCESTERSHIRE



Here2Help is a community action response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) set up by Worcestershire County Council at the start of the original Lockdown to offer assistance to help during these difficult times.

This site provides a central location where you can request help and support and find useful resources.

Are you in need of help?

If you are vulnerable and need help during this difficult time but are unable to seek help from family, friends and neighbours, please complete the online form and a helper will contact you:

Become a Here2Help volunteer

We have received many kind offers of help and support from individuals, groups and businesses across Worcestershire during the pandemic. We would love to hear from you if you could help as a volunteer.

Help for those without the internet

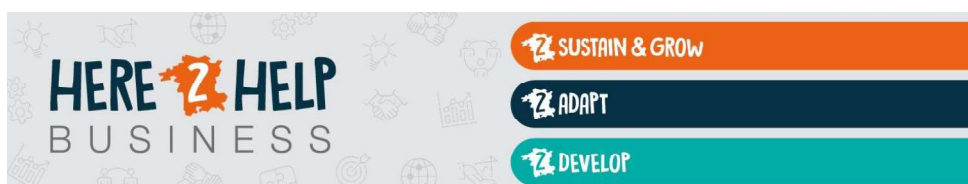
A phone number has been set up to help those who can't access the internet, to help them fill out the form.

The dedicated number is: [01905 768053](tel:01905768053).

The **Here2Help** opening hours are
Mon-Thurs 9.00am to 5.00pm and Fri 9.00am to 4.30pm.

You will also find useful information and links on this website such as school closures and support for businesses.

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2helpbusiness



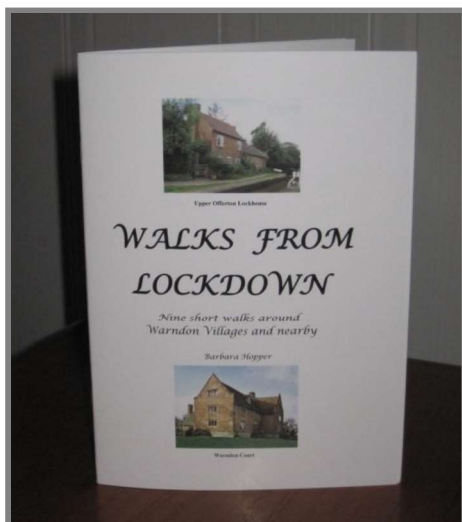
Walks in the parish

Local author Barbara Hopper has produced a new booklet called **Walks from Lockdown**. This is what Barbara had to say about it:

“ We, in Warndon Villages, are surrounded by beautiful scenery, woods, fields and lovely old tracks, many of which go back centuries. During Lockdown people were encouraged to take an hour's exercise every day and many families went out to breathe fresh air which lifted their spirits. Some people did not go out because they did not know where to walk, others perhaps only knew a limited area. I decided to produce a new booklet of walks for everyone. My previous booklet had walks that were too long for many so the new one has nine walks varying in length from 1½ miles to 3 miles.



It costs £ 4.50 and is available from the **Lyppard Hub** or the **Tourist Information** (next to the Guildhall), or from **Barbara** who is contactable on 01905 731618. I am afraid that some walks are not suitable for pushchairs or buggies because of steep hills, barriers and the occasional steps, but for most people a little effort is what exercise is all about. ‘Lockdowns’ and ‘Tier restrictions’ hopefully will soon be a thing of the past, but the walks will still be there to enjoy and as we once again look forward to longer days, what better time to explore what is on our doorstep!



Happy Walking everyone

From the sales of this book Barbara has so far kindly made donations to The Samaritans and Women's Aid.



Christmas recycling

It is that time of year when we find ourselves with lots of extra waste to dispose of, so here is a guide to help you do it



Christmas trees Artificial Christmas trees cannot be recycled in your green bin. They should be placed in your Black waste bin or taken directly to the Household Recycling centre.

Real Christmas trees can be cut down to size and disposed of in your Brown garden waste bin, or if this is not an option then you can take it to the local Household Recycling Centre.

Alternatively, you may wish to consider using one of the following local charities. For a donation the charities are offering a collection service in the WR4 area.



No tree needles in your car and helping to raise much needed funds for these charities!



The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust are delighted to launch their first ever 'treecycling' campaign which will take place in January 2021. For more information go to

[Christmas Treecycle | Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust \(gkcct.org\)](https://www.gkcct.org)

or contact them **01905 885777** or e-mail: contact@gkcct.org. The charity is also seeking volunteers to help with the treecycling, so if you can spare some hours or can donate a van please get in touch.



St. Richard's Hospice
CARING FOR LIFE

St Richard's Hospice, in Worcester, is preparing to run its fifth Christmas Tree Recycling Campaign. Most trees will be collected on Friday, January 8 – with recycling taking place over the weekend of Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 January. For more information, or to register your tree, visit

www.strichards.org.uk/christmas-tree-collection/ or 01905 958262 or email christmastrees@strichards.org.uk



Christmas recycling



Christmas tree lights If they are no longer working at the end of the festive period they should be taken to a local Household Recycling centre and put into the small electrical appliances or scrap metal containers. Alternatively if they are still in working order, you may wish to pass them onto someone else through one of the local reuse groups on Facebook.

Christmas cards Plain cards are fully recyclable. Glitter is not recyclable; to dispose of a glittery card, rip the card in half and only place the back of the card, without glitter or embellishment in the green recycling bin. The glittery front page should be disposed of in the none recyclable black waste bin. Don't forget the same applies to **gift tags**.

Batteries We get through an enormous amount of these at Christmas with our fairy lights and children's toys but remember **NEVER** put them in your bin. Firstly they are full of valuable resources which can be recycled and used again, and secondly, they can cause dangerous fires at recycling plants. There are lots of battery recycling points at supermarkets or at your local recycling centre. Alternatively consider using re-chargeable batteries.

Christmas decorations Things like baubles and tinsel cannot be recycled and should be put into your black waste bin. However you may like to think about gifting them to a good cause or selling them on a local Facebook site, the following year.



Christmas wrapping The same ruling applies as with Christmas cards. Remove tape and any embellishments i.e. ribbons & tags. Check if it scrunches or tears - if it tears it should be white inside like paper – if it is papery, then it should be able to be recycled. Although anything glittery should go in the black bin, as it should **not** be recycled.

Food Waste Compost vegetable peelings if you are able to. For information on reducing your food waste go to lovefoodhatewaste.com.

Allotment Competition



In our Spring newsletter the Parish Council announced the 'Allotment Competition', which was originally due to be judged at the end of June, but due the pandemic judging was delayed until the end of the summer.

As residents of this parish we are fortunate to have access to an abundance of green space and this proved to be even more important during these unprecedented times.



Being restricted under 'lockdown' has made us all realise how beneficial our gardens, allotments or simply an encounter with nature whilst taking our daily exercise can be. This has resulted in an increased number of residents applying for an allotment, with currently 16 people on the waiting list.

In August, judging of all 49 plots took place by two members of the Parish Council taking into consideration a range of criteria, such as the quality and range of crops, cleanliness and tidiness of the plot, 'environmental efforts' such as composting, mulching and water collection and finally, the 'Wow' factor, which made the plot stand out from the others. Points were awarded for attracting wildlife by providing food and habitat, by installing bug hotels, bird houses and planting flowers to encourage and sustain pollinators.

It was a pleasure to see all the hard work which had taken place during the summer producing some wonderful fruit and vegetables. The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank all the plot holders for making their job so very difficult.

Allotment Competition

In the Chair's own words 'It was a real honour to witness the fruits of the allotment-holders' labours at first hand'

The Parish Council would like congratulate the following allotment holders:

Joint winner - Plot 11b **David Jones** & Plot 10a **John Hodgetts**

Runner Up - Plot 1b **Jo Coggins**

We would also like to give a 'special mention' to **Pat Griffin** of Plot 10b in achieving a very high standard, having only taken over the plot in the last 6 months. Well done all!

Anyone wishing to join the waiting list please email

allotments@warndonparishcouncil.org



Apology: We would like to make an apology for an incorrect statement which appeared in the Spring Newsletter. It was stated the Parish Council had received a request for additional benches in the parish from a local walking group linked to the Lyppard Hub. On further investigation the request was made by a member of Woodgreen Walkers of Woodgreen Evangelical Church. Thank you to the person who spotted this error.

Warndon Villages Heritage Trail

What do you know about the history of Warndon Villages and its environment?

Warndon Villages was a vision of a planned townscape sympathetic to the historical places which it would encompass. It was the largest new urban development in Great Britain in the 1980s and its special wooded character is greatly valued by residents and visitors alike.



Now that the Parish website is fully functional (thanks to the efforts of our Clerk!), we will be adding a new section, “**About and Around**”, to share information we hope will interest both long-standing residents and more recent arrivals.

One of the first items is a new walk, the **Warndon Villages Heritage Trail**, which twists along leafy lanes and tracks, with interesting historical connections and passing several children’s play areas. The route is circular, between the Lyppard Hub and St Nicholas Lane, a total distance of 4.3km (just under 3 miles) and it is designed to be walked in one go or as two separate loops. It’s easy walking, mostly level surfaces but some woodland tracks can be muddy in places; the flights of steps have alternative routes for pushchairs and wheelchairs. Do allow plenty of time to enjoy the sights and sounds of the woodland habitats through the changing seasons, the squirrels in autumn and the birdsong in spring... and to show your visitors the fascinating locality in which we live!

Don’t forget to visit our website WarndonParishCouncil.org



**Consider signing up with Bike register. It's free
and may help identify your bike if it is stolen
www.bikeregister.com**

Police matters

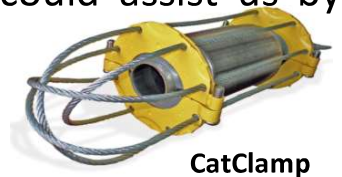


Catalytic Converter Thefts

There have been a series of Catalytic Converter Thefts in the South Worcestershire

We are working to apprehend the offenders but you could assist us by following this advice to protect your vehicle;

Protect your vehicle from catalytic converter thieves



- If you can, park your vehicle in a locked garage when it is unattended.
- If it's not possible to garage your vehicle, park it in a busy, well-lit area as close to your property as possible.
- Consider installing a Thatcham approved alarm to your vehicle. Ones that activate if your vehicle is lifted or tilted are particularly effective.

Use a catalytic converter protection device or marking system.

Catalytic converters control and convert exhaust emissions from your vehicle into less toxic substances. If yours is stolen, you will know because your vehicle's engine will sound different.

If you suspect your catalytic converter has been stolen, report it to us immediately by calling **101**.

If you require any further assistance or information do not hesitate to contact your **Safer Neighbourhood Team**. If you have information about a crime, phone the police on 101 or anonymously contact **Crimestoppers** on **0800 555 111**.

Further information on crime prevention products can be found at the below Police approved websites

<https://www.thatcham.org/what-we-do/security-certification>
<https://www.securedbydesign.com/member-companies/accredited-product-search>



www.catsafe.org.uk





Useful information



How to use a Defibrillator

- Call **999/112*** for an ambulance, and give the emergency operator the number of the defibrillator written on the cabinet.
- The ambulance service will have the code to open the defibrillator cabinet.
- Anyone can safely use a defibrillator. Do not wait for the emergency services to arrive to start treating the casualty.
- The defibrillator will guide you through what to do with simple voice instructions and visual prompts.

It's useful to check how to access your local defibrillator before having to use it. We would encourage everyone to take defibrillator training to ensure they are familiar with the device and ready to act confidently in an emergency. The Parish Council have previously arranged for defibrillator training and if there is sufficient demand, we plan to organise another training session in 2021, once it is safe to do so.

Locations in the parish:

- Dugdale Drive (junction of Fowler Avenue) RHS on the brick pillar.
- Tesco Express Brindley Rd (RHS of main door)
- Lyppard HUB – Ankerage Green (LHS of main entrance)

**112 is a common emergency telephone number that can be dialled free of charge from most mobile phones*



Useful information

The best way to report any environmental concerns is via the following websites using the '**REPORT IT**' option

Worcestershire County Council www.worcestershire.gov.uk **01905 765765**

Street lights/condition of footpaths/ highways /public rights of way and pedestrian crossings, using the location map and providing full details.

Worcester City Council www.worcester.gov.uk **01905 722233**

Overgrown shrubs & trees, fly-tipping, dog & waste bins overflowing, graffiti, vandalism, missing/damaged street name plates.

If you are a victim of domestic abuse and violence, or know of someone who is, there is help available.

West Mercia Women's Aid Helpline (24 hours a day) **0800 980 3331**
westmerciawomensaid.org

Men's Advice Line on (Mon to Fri 9.00am to 5.00pm) **0808 801 0327**

National Domestic Abuse Helpline Free phone 24 hour **0808 2000 247**

In an emergency always dial **999** and ask for police.

Call **999** from a mobile: If you don't speak or cannot answer questions, press **55** when prompted and your call will be transferred to the police. Pressing **55** only works on mobiles and doesn't allow the police to track your location. If you don't press **55** your call will be ended.

Call **999** from a landline: If you don't speak or answer questions and the operator can only hear background noise, they'll transfer your call to the police. Calling **999** from a landline automatically gives the police information about your location.

For more information on Domestic Abuse go to
Worcestershire County Council website www.worcestershire.gov.uk

Useful Information



Register to vote



Local voting was cancelled this year due to the pandemic, however it is expected that voting will take place in May 2021. So now is the time to get prepared and ensure you are on the Electoral Register. Don't lose your Right to Vote!

If you're not on the Electoral Register, you cannot vote. So if you have recently moved house, are about to become 18, or have never registered, you should register now.

For more information go to **www.worcester.gov.uk** and search Electoral Register.

Just a reminder..... if you are using a waste carrier to remove garden, household or construction waste you can check if they are registered waste carriers by searching online, the **Environment Agency's** public register of waste carriers or by calling **03708 506 506**. Otherwise you may be liable for their fly-tipping.

A legitimate, professional waste carrier who wants your business should not object to being asked reasonable questions.

Never pay cash, a legitimate waste carrier will be happy to accept card payments: Get more than one quote and expect to pay a reasonable fee - an unusually low quote should be treated with suspicion: **never accept unsolicited offers to have waste taken away.**



Bin collections over the Christmas & New Year period.

If your normal collection is on **Friday 25th Dec** it will be collected on **Mon 28th Dec** and bins normally collected on **Friday 1st Jan** will be collected **Sat 2nd Jan**.

Please make sure your bins are placed out by 7 a.m. on collection day.

Neighbourhood Plan update



Well..... we think a mini celebration is in order, or at least a pat on the back!

Since March the Neighbourhood Plan Committee have continued to meet embracing technology using 'Zoom', to continue with the process of pulling together the Neighbourhood Plan Policy document and we are pleased to announce we now have a completed draft, which was approved by the Parish Council at their December meeting. It is a lengthy document, but makes very interesting reading and will be available to view shortly!

We would like to thank our consultants, Brodie Planning Associates for helping us achieve this milestone. Sadly, due to the pandemic and the current restrictions in place, they like many other businesses were forced to furlough staff and as a result they have had to cease their working arrangement with the Parish Council.

However, they worked extremely hard to get the project to the finishing line, so all credit to them. The Parish Council would also like to thank the committee members for their continued commitment.

The next step in the process is to consult with all our residents, which under normal circumstances we would engage with them on a 'face to face' level, however with the current restrictions that is not an option. So, at our forthcoming meetings the Committee we will be discussing how we can proceed with the next step of the process.



Volunteering in the Parish

Due to the pandemic many of the volunteer events have been cancelled or put on hold for the time being. The **Friends of Warndon Villages** volunteer group held their last event in February and sadly due to the pandemic have not been able to continue. However things are looking hopeful to restart their activities in the spring. Please keep an eye on social media or the Parish Council website for more details.

That doesn't mean to say that nothing has been happening in the parish. The one thing the pandemic has given us is 'more time' to explore our local area and the Parish Council would like to say a big '**Thank you**' to a growing band of volunteer litter pickers, particularly an increasing number of younger members of the community.



Well done & thank you for all your efforts

Worcester Environmental Group

Worcester Environmental Group were previously known as **Villages Environmental Group (VEG)**, however as the group have been approached to help out with volunteer work in other areas of the City, they have now rebranded and become **WEG**.



Volunteers at work at Aconbury Orchard

Although Covid-19 has restricted our activities this year, The WEG have still been busy! We manage a wildflower verge on Dugdale Drive with over 25 different species and plans for more around Warndon Villages. Aconbury, Trotshill and Hillwood Meadows continue to thrive with the new 'cut and collect' regime and Steve Whitehouse found over 70 moths when he surveyed Aconbury Field, an Orchard area. We are about to plant more fruit trees at Aconbury Orchard and we owe our volunteers a big thank you for all the work they have done there in preparation. Trotshill Community Orchard has been cleared of undergrowth and will need some pruning work over the winter.

In August, volunteers worked at Warndon Oasis Community Garden, removing invasive acacia and clearing paths to help make the garden accessible to both wildlife and people.



Collecting one of the hedgehog boxes made by the volunteers

The WEG have also made and sold many bird and hedgehog boxes and will have other wildlife boxes available in the near future.

You can place orders and find out what we are up to via email info@theweg.org.uk, on our Facebook page, follow us on Twitter or Instagram or see our website **theweg.org.uk**.

Volunteers are always welcome and we hope to be more active in 2021!

Article contributed by Alison Morgan (a member of **WEG**)

Your Parish Council

Chair

Member of Environmental, Finance & Urgent Business Committees. Represents Parish Council at meetings with the Lyppard Hub

Cllr Robyn Norfolk 07808 392238

E-Mail: Robyn.Norfolk@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Vice Chair

Member of Planning & Rights of Way, Environmental, Finance, Urgent Business & Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committees. Represents Parish Council at meetings with the Lyppard Hub

Cllr Andrew Cross 07587 184039

E-Mail: Andrew.Cross@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Member of Planning & Rights of Way & Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committees

Cllr Andy Taylor 01905 25146

E-mail: Andy.Taylor@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Finance Portfolio Holder

Member of Finance & Urgent Business Committees. Responsible for Allotments and Defibrillators

Cllr Dave Carney 07901 786669

E-mail: Dave.Carney@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Member of Planning & Rights of Way Committee
Town Deal Board Representative

Cllr Jan Scrine 01905 923051

E-mail: Jan.Scrine@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Environmental Portfolio Holder

Member of Environmental & Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committees

Cllr Dawn Merriman 01905 729250

E-Mail: Dawn.Merriman@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Leisure & Community Affairs Portfolio Holder

Member of Environmental, Finance & Urgent Business Committees

Cllr Lucy Hodgson 07879 880384

E-mail: Lucy.Hodgson@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Planning & Rights of Way Portfolio Holder

Member of Planning & Rights of Way Committee. Responsible for Vehicle Activated Signs

Cllr Stephen Hodgson 01905 754724

E-mail: Stephen.Hodgson@WarndonParishCouncil.org

Clerk to the Council Susan Howell

Tel: 07743 623543 E-mail: Clerk@WarndonParishCouncil.org

The Council meets on the first Monday in the month at 7.30 p.m.
(except Bank Holidays & August)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings are taking place online via Teams and will continue to do so, until it is considered safe to return to normal practice.

PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND (ONLINE) AND SPEAK DURING THE FIRST 30 MINUTES BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN.

Please contact the appropriate Councillor(s) or the Clerk on any matter with comments, complaints, or if you need advice or information, including how to join an online meeting.

web site: www.WarndonParishCouncil.org

or follow us on facebook.com/warndonparishcouncil

