



TOWN NEWS

A NEWSLETTER
PRODUCED BY
WANTAGE
TOWN COUNCIL

UPDATES ON PROGRESS...

NEW LINK ROAD

The Wantage Eastern Link Road (WELR) is 'anticipated to open early December once all safety and quality checks have been completed'.

More details:
weir3project@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Looking towards Kingsgrove Estate

PORTWAY CAR PARK

Improvement work with rainwater management system almost finished with total parking spaces 121, disabled spaces 7 plus motorcycle spaces and electric vehicle charging points.

More details:
carparks.southandvale.uk@sabagroup.com



A Christmas message from the Town Mayor



There are some great events that take place in Wantage at this time of the year.

The Wantage Christmas market will take place on 1st December, this is a lovely time to get some gifts.

Dickensian evening is always a great start to the Christmas season, come and enjoy the atmosphere and activities. I love visiting the stalls and the church to see



what is happening. Remember the shops that are in the streets around the market square and dress up if you would like, that always helps the evening.

Come and join me at the 'Mayor's Carols' at the parish church on the 4th December. Wantage has some very talented choirs and music groups.

Enjoy the festivities and have a very merry Christmas!

Councillor Angela Dunford,
Town Mayor of Wantage



TOWN CHRISTMAS EVENTS



1 December Christmas Artisan Fair & Market, 10am to 3pm Market Place

4 December Mayor's Carols, 7.30pm Parish Church

6 December Dickensian Evening, 4pm to 9pm Market Place

24 December Carols in the Market Place, 6.30pm Market Place

26 December Wantage Mummers, 12pm The Bear forecourt



OBITUARY

Richard Fitzjohn

Wantage Town Council is saddened to announce the death of Councillor Richard Fitzjohn who sadly passed away on Sunday, September 15, 2024, after a short illness.

Richard Fitzjohn's contributions were highly recognised within the council. His rich experience and unparalleled expertise were cornerstones of his contributions. Mayor Angela Dunford says "We were very sad to hear the news of Richard's untimely death. He was a very thoughtful and well-respected member of the council since May 2023. His great experience was invaluable; we will all miss him."

Flooding support

Residents in Charlton and other affected areas were visited by County Councillors Jane Hanna and Jenny Hannaby to offer support and guidance during recent floods.

Various points of contact and support were suggested for anyone facing difficulty or needing further information including:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk and www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/ for flooding help and advice.



Extensive flooding in Charlton Village



TOWN CENTRE EVENTS: YOUR VIEWS

Over the last few years Wantage Town Council has either managed or supported various events in the Market Place. These have included St. Georges Day, AlfredFest, Wantage Food Festival and Artisan Markets.

The Town Council would like feedback from residents on what they think about these events. Also, any ideas on other possible events. Please send your views to Tony Gilhome, Chair Promotion, Communication and Events at email:

tony.gilhome@wantagecouncil.co.uk



The Vale Islanders at Alfredfest, in October



LoveWantage makes Christmas shopping simple!



Need Christmas shopping ideas? LoveWantage shows you the best of our town's shops, restaurants, and events. Browse our website;

www.lovetwantage.uk or join us on Instagram and Facebook to discover local Christmas markets, festive menus, and unique gifts from Wantage businesses.

Skip the stress of wondering what's happening around town this December. One quick look at LoveWantage tells you where to find everything from handmade presents to festive family activities. We share updates about special offers, seasonal events, and creative gift ideas from your local shops.

Make this Christmas extra special by shopping in Wantage. Visit LoveWantage today and see what's happening right on your doorstep!



The Winter Fuel Payment:

A message for all Vale pensioners

If you have been worrying about the announcement from our new Chancellor, Rachel Reeves, concerning the change in qualifying rules for the Winter Fuel Payment please do contact VCI (Vale Community Impact).

We have trained advisors who can help with benefit checks, budgeting and debt management. We can help with completing benefits forms such as Pension Credit.

We know that there are pensioners out there who do qualify for Pension Credit and are missing out.

Please do not worry in silence – we are here to help and support you.

Contact: 01235 765348 or help@vci.org.uk



Coming Soon!

The retailer is 'aiming to begin construction in early 2025'

More details: pressoffice@lidl.co.uk



No Fishing!

A gentle reminder that fishing is not permitted in Letcombe Brook especially where old fishing tackle can endanger children and wildlife.

Thank you

Do you have a BIG voice?

Town Crier vacancy

Wantage Town Council is seeking a Town Crier.

This is a voluntary position which helps to maintain the heritage of the town.

Auditions will be held at the Dickensian Evening on Friday 6th December.

Please contact the Clerk to register your interest.

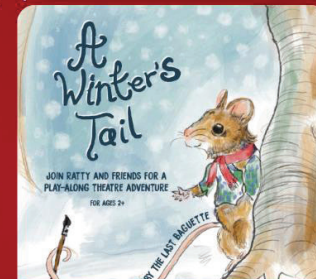
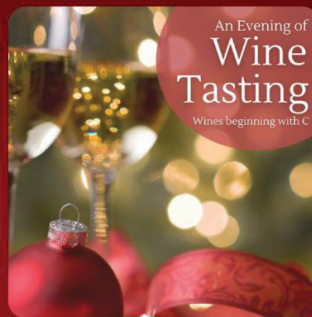
**clerk@
wantagetowncouncil.
gov.uk.**



SCAN ME

Christmas at The Beacon Wantage

It's Your Beacon



Visit beaconwantage.co.uk or scan the QR code for more information



FREE NHS HEALTH CHECK

At The Beacon and local surgeries for anyone between 40-74. Helping prevent diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, stroke and dementia. It just takes 15-30 minutes. Commissioned by Oxfordshire County Council. For further information contact:



healthchecksoxfordshire.org or telephone **0800 122 3790**.

Wantage Town Council Employment Opportunities

Vacancies exist for the following:

Market Manager

A part-time role of 25 hours per week.

Town Centre Manager

A part-time role of 21 hours per week.

Communications Officer

A part-time role of 25 hours per week with flexible working arrangements.

Voluntary position:

A vacancy also exists for a councillor for Segsbury Ward.

Please contact the Clerk for details on all the above:
clerk@wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk




**WANTAGE, GROVE & DISTRICT
TWINNING ASSOCIATION**
Building friendships and sharing interests with our European counterparts in France and Germany

JOIN US!

For further information contact
jamesmitchellonevoice@sky.com
Tel. 01235 767975

www.wantage.com/wantage.twinning



Wantage Town Council works alongside Oxfordshire County Council and Vale of White Horse District Council. We hope you'll also find these contact details useful.



01235 763459
clerk@wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk
www.wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk



01865 792422
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/contact-council
(for individual departments)
To report street related problems:
fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk



01235 422422
enquiries@whitehorsedc.gov.uk
www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

YOUR FEEDBACK WELCOMED

We hope that you have enjoyed the articles in the Wantage Town Council Newsletters.

Feedback and suggestions are welcome to:

The Town Clerk
Tel: 01235 763459
Email: clerk@wantage.towncouncil.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerk
Email: deputyclerk@wantage.towncouncil.gov.uk

Town Centre Manager
Position currently vacant – please see advert above

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