



COOKHAM PARISH
COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PLAN

2023-2027

Our Vision for Cookham Parish Council

Community, Place, Voice

Introduction

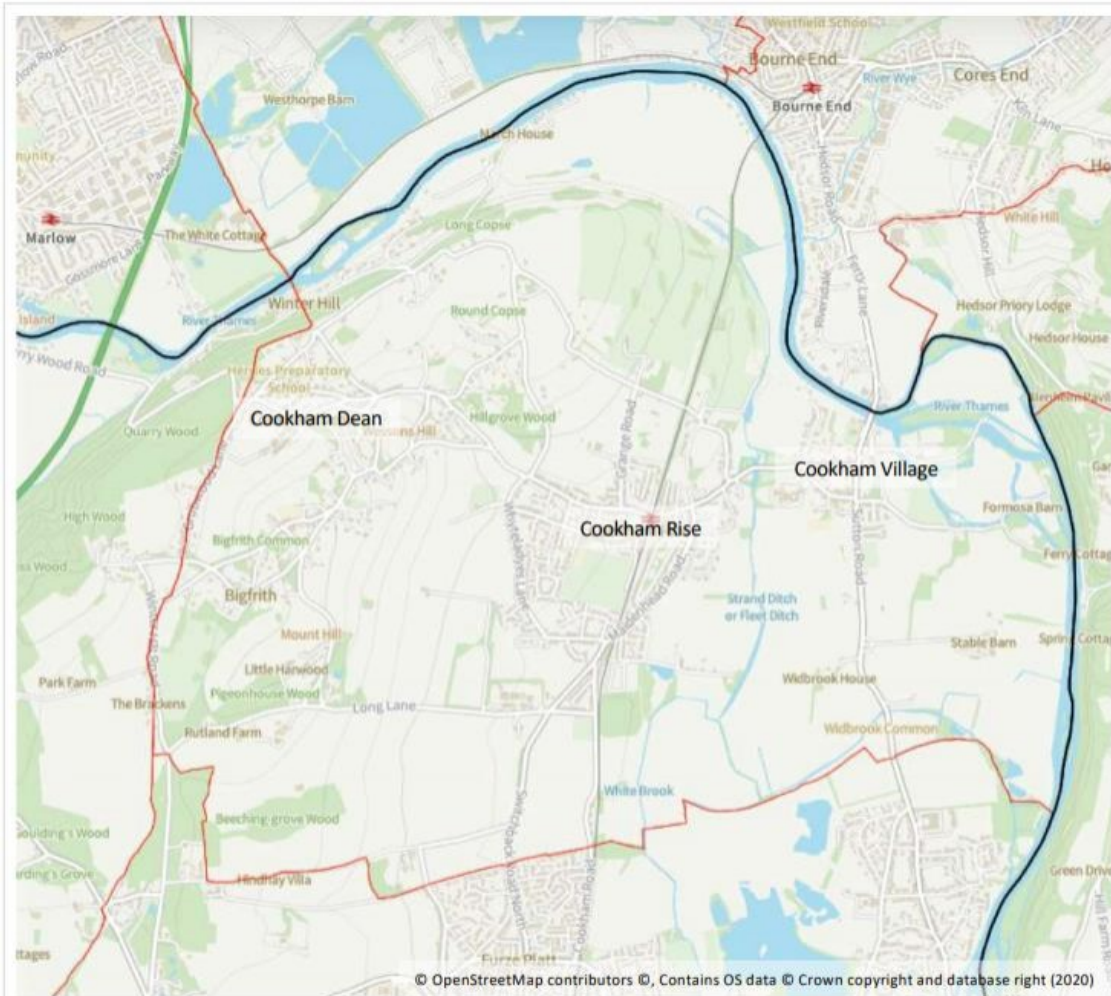
This is Cookham Parish Council's Plan for 2023 - 2027 .

This Strategic Plan sets the Parish Council's vision for the Parish, its purpose, values, objectives and key priorities until May 2027.

The aim of the Plan is to give a clear understanding of what the Parish Council is trying to achieve, either directly or indirectly by working with other bodies such as the RBWM.

The Plan is a live document that will be reviewed annually, used to drive the budget process, plan activities for the coming year and enable the Parish Council to monitor its progress against key priorities.

Cookham Parish

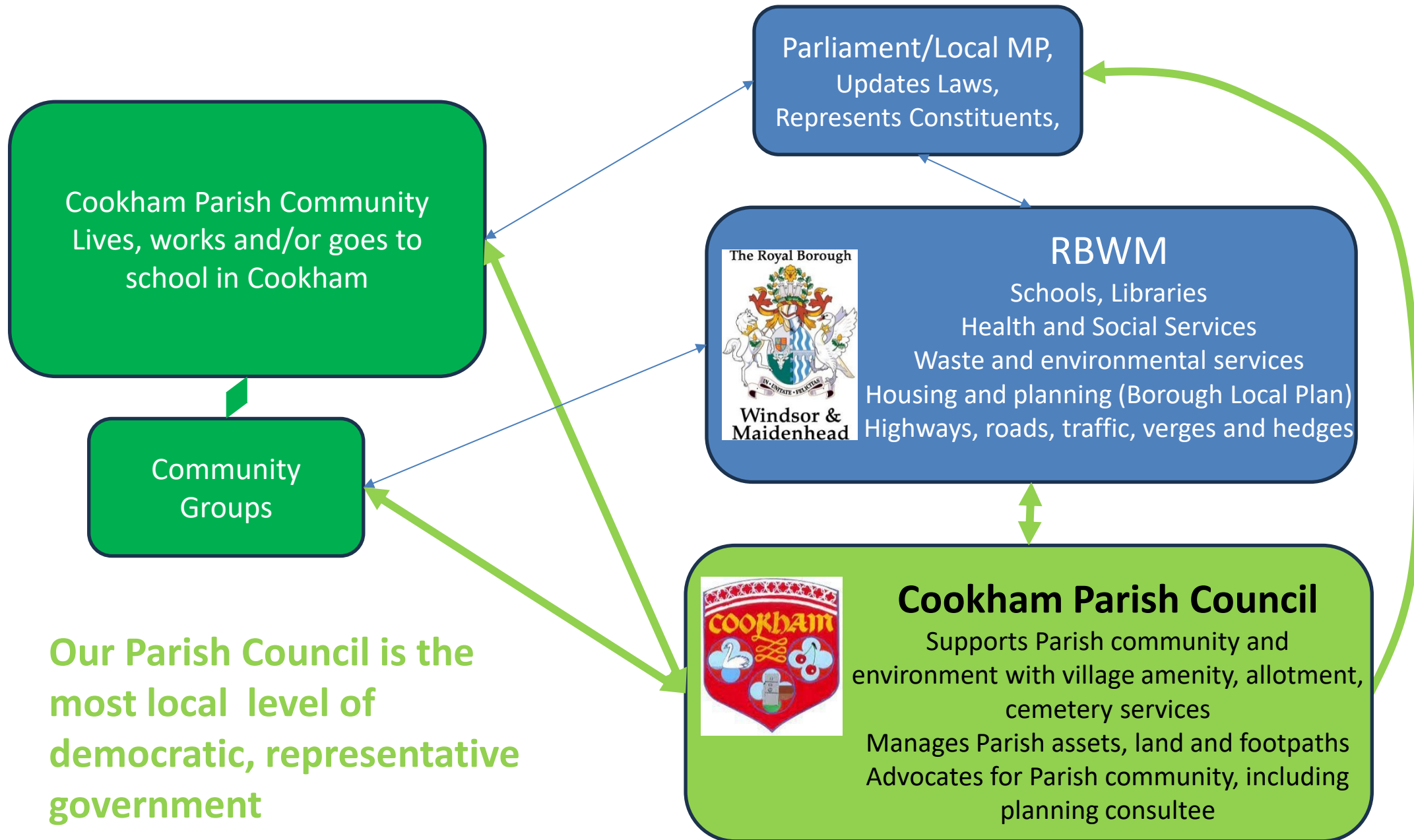


- Vibrant community with a distinct identity
- Historic Thames settlement in beautiful countryside
- Lies within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, outside London

“A Village in Heaven”

Sir Stanley Spencer,
Visionary artist

Where Cookham Parish Council Fits



The Way We Work

All Council members abide by our Code of Conduct. We are always respectful of each other and our wider community.



RESPONSIBLE

The Parish Council seeks to manage its assets responsibly on behalf of its residents, and ensure fiscal responsibility.

Where services are provided directly they will be managed to a good quality standard, in an efficient, effective and responsive way, at an affordable cost.



ACTIVE

The Parish Council will act as a champion for the local community at all levels of local government and seek to facilitate support networks. Progress will be reported annually.

Where services are provided by others, the Parish Council endeavours to ensure that they are dealt with effectively, and in accordance with the wishes of the community.



PROGRESSIVE

The Parish Council understands the impacts of its actions on the environment and shows leadership on these issues.

We will be a forward thinking council that regularly reviews its structures, processes and community engagement to ensure they are effective in taking the Parish towards the future.



CARING

The Council will work with its residents, local authorities and other service providers, businesses and community

organisations with the aim of achieving a safe, healthy, prosperous and sustainable community.

The Council wants to be approachable, accessible, and make sure all voices are heard.



INCLUSIVE

The Parish Council will build and participate in projects that ensure no one and no part of the Parish is left behind.

We will seek to maximise community engagement with the council, and have accountability and responsiveness to the community it represents.

Mission Statement

▶ **The Parish Council's mission is to ensure Cookham remains a vibrant, inclusive and stimulating place in which our community lives and works, whilst conserving its character and the environment.**

▶ We will do this whilst preserving the atmosphere and charm of our village, and ensure that the residents of Cookham, Cookham Rise and Cookham Dean are represented and included, irrespective of age or social background.

Vision

Community-focused

- ▶ We are, and want to continue to be, a community focused Parish with facilities for all ages, contributing to a safe, secure and close-knit community that recognises and adapts to the needs of all residents.
- ▶ We want to encourage a healthy community by providing accessible outdoor facilities for all ages and abilities.

Environmental

- ▶ We want our villages to be environmentally sustainable by finding innovative ways to reduce the impact of traffic and preserve and protect our local wildlife, monitoring and actively reducing pollution and championing smart and sustainable energy solutions.
- ▶ We want to ensure the preservation of our Heritage and Archaeological sites (Romans, Saxons, Normans, Stanley Spencer) - working with other local societies and groups, English Heritage and National Trust, making a positive contribution to the heritage of our wonderful village.

Vocal

- ▶ We will be bold and adapt to the changing and challenging environment in local government.
- ▶ We will always be prepared to act to protect the interests of Cookham residents and the place in which they live.
- ▶ We will be the voice of the Cookham residents we represent to ensure the best outcomes for our Community.

Parish Themes and Priorities

During our term of office (2023 – 2027) , Cookham Parish Council will strive to:-

Community

Support Cookham's thriving Community

- Enhance the community amenity of PC managed assets/open spaces.
- Improve engagement with our allotment holders.
- Support improved road safety, active transport, community health, safety and flood initiatives within Cookham.
- Proactively engage with community organisations to achieve our goals.

Place

Conserve and enhance Cookham's environment

- Adopt and implement our new Cookham Neighbourhood Plan.
- Adopt a biodiversity policy, and significantly improve the biodiversity value of the open spaces we manage.
- Further enhance the maintenance of our key Parish assets.
- Embrace where practicable new opportunities to enhance our village environment.

Voice

Advocate for Cookham

- Enhance communications both to and from a diverse range of parishioners.
- Clarify processes to advocate for the Cookham community, particularly to the RBWM.
- Increase opportunities for Parish Councillors to interact with residents at village events.

Enable by Excellence

Deliver excellent Parish services

- Ensure appropriate levels of training and office support to enable our council to act strategically.
- Enhance council processes and software to deliver all our activities and services in a timely, efficient, compliant and transparent manner.
- Reduce the carbon footprint of Parish Council assets and activities.
- Plan, raise and spend appropriate amounts of funding to deliver our vision.

