



# Aynho Annual Village Report, 2026

## Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting, 2026

By Dawn Willis, Chairman, Aynho Parish Council

### Introduction and Welcome

Welcome everyone to the Aynho Annual Parish Meeting.

I would like to begin by thanking all existing Council members for their continued commitment. A reminder to everyone, that all Councillors serve voluntarily, giving their time for the benefit of the village. I would also like to thank Richard and Emma for their time served on the Council, they have stepped down due to family commitments leaving two spaces available. Their contribution has been greatly appreciated. We also would like to take this opportunity to encourage any potential new Councillors to join us, as there are currently two vacancies.

A huge thank you once again to Perry Tree Farm for the extremely generous donation of the village Christmas tree, and to everyone who helped erect and decorate it. Following welcome feedback from recent years, we decided to purchase more lights for the tree this year. I think the tree set off the village magnificently over the festive period and was well received by virtually everybody. Thanks to David and Ray for regularly changing the Christmas tree battery for the lights. This was done at least two or three times a week. People may not realise once a tree is up there is ongoing work ....



## Maintenance and Improvements

New equipment has been purchased using Community Funds and a donation from the Village Fete. Recent installations include: a new disability bench and table tennis table at the Sports Field and a sand pit table at the Playpark. Thank you to Ray for installing this equipment. New toddler swing seats have also been purchased and installed by APC and WiFi has been installed at the Pavilion.



Thank you to everyone who helped. Ray has also carried out extensive maintenance at the Playpark, including painting and repairing the spring rides. A bench for the Playpark was kindly donated by the Grandson of Chris Savings, in her memory. Thank you to Ray for installing the bench with a plaque, which includes the lovely message: "I'll come and sit down in a minute".



A successful Village Spring Clean-up Day was held in March, which was well supported by the community, including some new faces to the task. We would especially like to thank the hard-working team from RH for their help on the day, tackling Station Road, a challenging area to keep clean. They did a sterling job and collected many bags of rubbish during the morning's work.

## Roads, Footpaths & Reporting

We have made numerous reports via Fix My Street, including: potholes and road repairs, installation of new waste bins on Croughton Road and Portway. Repairs have also been made on Black Path and Charlton Road. Footpaths around the village have also been improved, including the removal of hog weed.

Further restrictions have been requested for Little Lane to prevent access by delivery vehicles, which have caused a nuisance. A grit bin was requested for The Square and adjoining roads and lanes. This is currently under consideration.

## Traffic Management

A new Community Speed Watch camera has been purchased, allowing year-round use. Volunteers will be needed for one-hour slots between now and September. Please contact myself or Ray if you can help with this worthwhile venture.

Following requests made by APC to WNC in 2023, the zebra crossing has finally been installed; a new VAS camera has been erected at the top of Cartwright Gardens, with another planned for Roundtown. We understand that two new street lights will also be installed on Station Road and Roundtown.

## Events & Projects

We held the first Aynho Classic Car and Motorbike Show in 2025, which proved hugely popular. There were over 70 entrants and £400 was raised for the APC Playpark fund. Following the many positive comments we received from exhibitors and attendees alike, we are planning to repeat the day in 2026. We are currently aiming to hold the event sometime in September.



We are currently in discussions with playpark designers to explore improvements and the installation of new equipment. Fundraising and grant applications will be required for this project.

We are also looking into opening the footpath behind the Deer Park to create a circular village walk.

## Notices & Updates

Polite notice regarding the bus stop:

This is maintained by a small number of volunteers. Please do not leave bric-a-brac, toys, puzzles, or DVDs. Leave only books, please. I would also request that you remove boxes or bags which you may have used to transport the books to the book stop.

Unfortunately, there has been no interest or support for the Neighbourhood Watch or Car Share Scheme. If anyone would like to help revive these initiatives, please contact APC. Les Horley will be addressing this later in the meeting.

## Planning

The Baynards Green warehouse project has been given the green light. APC will continue to monitor developments closely. The Cartwright development scheme has also been passed. A series of meetings were organised and attended by residents, to discuss various options. It was decided not to trigger the Asset of Community Value clause at this stage in the proceedings.

## Financial Report – Annual Parish Meeting 2026

This year represents a strong and stable position for the parish council's finances. Through prudent financial management and careful budgeting, the council was able to hold the parish precept at the same level, avoiding an increase for residents while continuing to maintain and improve parish facilities.

The council maintains healthy financial reserves, in line with guidance from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). Maintaining appropriate reserves ensures that the parish council is able to manage unexpected costs and continue investing in the long-term upkeep and improvement of community assets.

All accounts are available for inspection under the usual rules governing public funds (clerk@aynho-pc.gov.uk).

This report is prepared based on the guidance set out in "Governance and Accountability for Local Councils: A Practitioners' Guide."

Important note: These figures have been prepared on a RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS basis.

Finances are checked each year by an Internal Auditor. This year, the auditor particularly thanked the Clerk for his contribution, in a statement to the Chair of the Council:

I completed the year-end audit review of Aynho Parish Council remotely which included an online meeting with the Clerk between 1st April and 10th April 2026. . . . All was found to be in good order, . . . for which the Clerk and councillors should be congratulated. - *Comments made by the Internal Auditor.*

The full report made by the Internal Auditor can be found on our website, under Transparency, Internal Audit Reports, or by [clicking here](#).

All comments regarding the report can be made to:

The Clerk

Email: clerk@aynho-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 01869 934164

or by using the online form on the Contact Us page at [www.aynho-pc.gov.uk](http://www.aynho-pc.gov.uk)

## Parish Council Income

Aynho Parish Council is responsible for the financial governance of the parish of Aynho.

Our funds primarily come from:

- The Precept, a supplement added to the council tax of every household in the parish.
- Income from renting parish council owned assets, particularly the Pavilion and Sports Field.
- Fundraising events and donations, often organised by residents and community groups for the benefit of parish facilities.

Over the years this has included activities such as car boot sales, the village lottery, the fete, quiz and curry nights, and car show. The council greatly appreciates the efforts of residents and volunteers who have supported the parish in raising funds for community facilities.

## Use of the Precept

The precept funds the day-to-day running costs of the parish council and the ongoing maintenance of parish assets.

This includes:

- Maintenance of the Play Park and Sports Field
- Grass cutting and verge maintenance
- Street lighting
- Emptying dog waste bins
- Routine maintenance and operational costs associated with parish facilities

These services ensure the parish remains well maintained, safe and attractive for residents and visitors.

## Sports Field and Community Facilities

The Sports Field continues to generate strong income, which plays an important role in supporting the ongoing maintenance and improvement of this important community facility.

This income, together with generous donations and support from residents, has enabled the council to continue investing in improvements and new equipment for the Sports Field.

These contributions from the community are invaluable and have allowed the council to maintain and enhance facilities in ways that would not be possible from the precept alone.

Looking ahead, the parish council is now planning significant improvements to the village playground, ensuring that facilities for younger residents continue to be modern, safe and enjoyable for families in the village.

The parish council would like to thank all residents, volunteers and community groups who continue to support parish facilities through fundraising, donations and volunteering. This community spirit plays a vital role in helping maintain and improve the shared assets that make Aynho such a special place to live.

## Aynho Gardening Club

The Aynho Gardening Club follows a programme of events for the year which is published at the November AGM of the previous year. These events take place on the second Wednesday of the month from February through to November. The meetings are held in the Village Hall and involve a talk about a garden/plant related topic. This is followed by refreshments and time for a chat. Once a year a day trip to a chosen garden is arranged. A local/village event is also arranged in the summer. The AGM takes place in November, followed by entertainment and 'bring and share' Buffet. We are a friendly Club with around 40 + members. The yearly subscription for Membership to the AGC remains at £12. Guests are welcome to come on the evening for £3.

The 2025 programme was carried out in full. We had several good talks, along with a day visit to Coton Manor, a beautiful garden - well worth a visit. We now use the local 'Ability' bus for these trips.



*Flower arranging, July, 2025*

In July, on a hot afternoon, an enjoyable afternoon was spent at The Pavilion on the playing fields, where bunches of flowers were arranged using the flowers provided from gardens around the village

and allotments. This was followed by tea and with delicious cakes.



*Flower arranging, July, 2025*

The Flower and Vegetable Show took place in August and despite the lack of rain and the very hot weather, the Committee were pleased to have persevered with holding the Show, which was well attended and enjoyed. This is a village event – anyone can enter the classes, we enjoy seeing the children and their parents to take part. The Aynho Gardening Club Committee work very hard to put on this event and we greatly appreciate and encourage the participation of those living in the village.



*Flower and Vegetable Show, 2025*

The AGC Committee appreciate the Village Hall as a facility where we can hold our evenings and the annual show in a well organised and clean space. We thank the Village Hall Committee for all they do to enable this.



*Flower and Vegetable Show, 2025*

New members to the AGC are always very welcome – members do not require any particular knowledge of gardening techniques or plant names, just an interest in gardening matters. Information about the Gardening Club can be found in the Newsletter or on the village website or ring Annabel Bellamy (810847) or members on the Committee.



*Flower and Vegetable Show, 2025*

Report written by Chair Aynho Gardening Club, Annabel Bellamy

## **Aynho Writers**

Aynho Writers meet in the Mary Cartwright Room in the Village Hall at 10.00 am on the second Saturday of the month. The meetings last between two and two and a half hours. We have three facilitators who take it in turns for four months each to set the subjects and chair the meetings. A further number of older members have left

but we have had a number of lively and interesting newcomers. We could do with a few more men. At each meeting we read our contributions for the group to comment on. We are very welcoming and supportive in our comments. We have a limit of 700 words. In addition we produce an annual publication. We are now in our 2930th year and our publication this year was, What If...?. This year we have invited writers to speak to us about the source of their writing and their publications.

Several members have had work published. Particular thanks to Helen MacKenzie who manages our finances and Jayne Ryman who has produced our last four publications. New members may come to a meeting free of charge to see if it suits them. To join costs £5 membership fee and £3.00 a meeting.

Contact: Keith McClellan

Email: [keithcarolmac@gmail.com](mailto:keithcarolmac@gmail.com)

Tel: 07512437291

## **The Village Almshouses – John Baker Charity**



The Almshouses are run by the John Baker Charity, itself made up of Trustees living within the village and being the representatives of the Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council. Between them the trustees cover the roles of welfare, administration, property

management and financial management. Due to age and health issues of some of the Trustees we will be looking to recruit some new people to join us in 2026. If anyone is interested in taking on such a role, please contact myself or Andrew Bellamy. It is not onerous, I promise you.

The Trustees meet regularly to discuss all matters of the 8 dwellings and are tasked with setting a reasonable rate of contributions to be made by the Residents and to use those funds to defray expenses incurred in the upkeep and improvement of the dwellings.

In 2025, this included the replacement of all front windows with double glazed units. Also 4 chimneys were capped with the remainder scheduled for 2026. Window cleaning and assistance with the gardens has continued as has the provision of garden waste bins.

Villagers who might be interested in a future vacancy for themselves or for a member of their family, or who would like more information about living in an Almshouse, are requested to contact the trustees via the village website where there is background information and the financial reports for the past few years. <https://www.aynho.org/alms-houses/>.

Kathy White Trustee

## Well-Being Walks

There are currently two levels of walks led by several qualified walk leaders so the walks are different each week.



One is a more leisurely pace for approximately 2 or 3 miles and lasts a little over the hour or longer if needed. We walk at the pace which is comfortable for all. The second walk is more challenging and walked at a brisk pace for an average of 6 miles. These walks usually take around 2 hours. However, we would like to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> shorter walk. We are keen to add more walk leaders. If you would like to volunteer as a walk leader, please contact me for an informal chat.



If you are new to the village or just want to get out and about a bit more and meet some new faces this is the group for you. The walks cover Souldern, Kings Sutton, The Canal, Croughton and everywhere in between. The views are spectacular.

There is no need to pre book, just come along. All new walkers are very welcome. However, the walks are not suitable for pushchairs as we often go across country and over stiles and gates. Sturdy footwear is recommended.



We meet at the Sports Field Pavilion every Thursday and set off at 10.00am come rain or shine. On returning to the Pavilion, there are some light refreshments for sale. A nice cup of tea, a slice of cake and an opportunity to relax is always a welcome sight after the walks.

There is no fee for the walks but we ask for a voluntary 50p towards the running costs of the Pavilion.

This year, the Parish Council has endeavoured to make Aynho Wharf more accessible by foot, and we are pleased to say that we have taken full advantage of

this and have enjoyed adding new options to our range of local walking routes.



Dawn Willis

## Aynho Ladies Group

The Aynho Ladies Group which meets on the 3rd Wednesday in the month held their usual monthly get-togethers of talks and general meetings through the year in our Village Hall. All were happy with the annual calendar, as the idea raised the previous year of having more local speakers and ideas recommended by members themselves was very much put into practice – there are more in 2026. This resulted in fascinating talks from our locals including Kate Angell (Energy Pathways), Tom Duncan (The Grand Tour), Tess Dico-Young (Women's Rights in Far-away Countries), Revd George Frost (St Nicholas) and Faraz Shibli (Misadventures in Mongolia). We also had a talk by The Woodland Trust and another held jointly with the Aynho History Society on Discovering the Invisible (metal detecting at Broughton Castle). Our annual events included our Summer Tea Party for which Tealicious from Kings Sutton provided the refreshments and our Anniversary Lunch. We finished the year

with our Christmassy coffee morning event which had the addition of mulled wine and mince pies.

### Coffee Mornings

Our coffee mornings are open to everyone and are usually held twice a month in the Village Hall with three special ones at Easter, in the summer and at Christmas. In 2025 we had an extra special one in May celebrating VE Day. The Community Fund kindly paid for Tealicious to provide the refreshments for which we were very grateful as it enabled us to donate all our takings of £145 to the Royal British Legion.

We are a friendly, hospitable group and would be happy to welcome new members who feel they would enjoy our companionship and events. If you are not sure come as a guest to begin with.

For details and dates go to the village website at [www.aynho.org](http://www.aynho.org) (Clubs & Societies) or contact Jill Wightman on 811206, email: [jayrw10@gmail.com](mailto:jayrw10@gmail.com).

## Aynho Bridge Club

We play on the second and fourth Mondays of every month at 7 for 7.15pm at the Pickled Ploughman in Adderbury. Bridge play requires four players per table, so we try to accommodate eight, 12 or 16 players on the night. We play contract bridge (not the duplicate method), although some members play duplicate bridge at other clubs. We felt the 2025 bridge year was an outstanding success.

We have persuaded both experienced and new players to join the club and enjoy themselves – it is a very social game.

Bridge playing in 2026 has started strongly at Aynho. We now have a small contingent of bridge players who join us regularly from neighbouring villages. In 2025, we introduced a second bridge night within the month, which has proven very popular.

Almost 30 bridge players and their partners attended the annual dinner hosted by the Pickled Ploughman, which put on a splendid three-course dinner together with some excellent wine. In addition to the usual toasts, fellow villager Faraz Shibli read out a bridge-themed poem in the style of Robert Burns, given the proximity to Burns Night. The words are reproduced below.



The ABC is organised jointly by Faraz Shibli and Kevin D'Silva

Contact: [kevinds@salusinvest.com](mailto:kevinds@salusinvest.com)

### Bridge, in the style of Robert Burns

Fair fa' Kevin's honest, sonsie face,  
Great chieftain o' the bridge-playin' race!  
Aboon them a' ye tak your place  
In myth an' fable.

While beginners aye oorselves disgrace

On lowly table.

O bridge, thou tricksy, faithless game,  
Wha mak us howl an' writhe in pain!  
Ye promise wit, ye breed us shame  
Wi' ivery play —

Fae aye the bid that soundit plain  
Gang aft agley.

The bidder struts wi' lifted chin,  
Proclaims a contract bound tae win,  
Then sees the dummy spread — and grins  
Turn swiftly pale;

Fae in that lay — lie doom and sin  
An' certain fail.

The hearts are led wi' blithesome cheer,  
The spades come doon like winter drear,  
An' clubs arrive, uncouth and queer,  
Unkent till played;  
While diamonds glint, then disappear,  
As hope lies slayed.

Yet round the table still we sit,  
Though memory's fled and tempers flit,  
We curse, we laugh, we claim some wit  
Still bides within;  
Fae bridge, though cruel, is laced wi' grit  
An' joy, an' sin.

So pour a dram and deal again,  
Let sense grow dim an' courage reign,  
Fae though the score may bring us pain,  
We'll no repent —  
While cards are dealt an' drink's tae gain,  
We're weel content.

## Aynho Apricots Running Club



We are a social running club that caters for runners of all ages and abilities. We usually meet on Sunday mornings at 9am on Portway for local runs, although we occasionally drive to a run beginning in a

nearby village. Organisation takes place via WhatsApp. Routes and distances vary, but we tend to run around 5-10km on roads and sometimes trails at a pace that is comfortable for all. We sometimes begin by running a few laps of the track at the sports field together, before splitting off into those who wish to remain on the track and those who wish to run on the road or a trail.

We currently have 27 members. Outside of our Sunday runs, we organise the annual Great Aynho Half Pub Run, which involves running a half marathon (13.1 miles), with stops at several local pubs, starting and finishing in Aynho. Some members have also run together in official races, such as the Oxford Town and Gown, Oxford Half Marathon, Deddington Four Farms Challenge and Wolf Run.

Aynho Apricots Running Club is organised by Faraz Shibli.

Email: [faraz.shibli@oxon.org](mailto:faraz.shibli@oxon.org)  
Tel: 07742 906 780

## Aynho Apricots Cycling Club

We are a social cycling club that caters for cyclists of all ages and abilities. We usually meet at 9am outside the Cartwright Hotel on the first Sunday and third Saturday of every month for group rides, often with a stop for a hot drink and cake or breakfast.

We ride on roads, but riders use a range of bikes, including road bikes, mountain bikes, electric bikes, hybrids and even a tandem!

We currently have 32 members. Organisation takes place via WhatsApp. Routes and distances vary, but we tend to ride around 25-30km at a pace that is comfortable for all. A smaller number of

members also ride longer distances together and some also ride together virtually using a stationary bike and an online platform called Zwift. These rides are also organised via WhatsApp.

In 2025, our members took part in Ride and Stride, cycling 60km and visiting 12 local churches to raise over £700 for St Michael's Church and Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust.



Aynho Apricots Cycling Club is organised by Faraz Shibli.

Email: faraz.shibli@oxon.org  
Tel: 07742 906 780

## Dog Walking Club



The dog walking club meets on weekdays around lunchtime, but occasionally at other times and on weekends. Organisation takes place via WhatsApp,

and we usually arrange a time and place to meet on the morning of the walk itself. Walks tend to take place either in the village or a short drive away, in places such as Clifton, Deddington, Kings Sutton and Stoke Woods, and generally take around 45-60 minutes. We currently have 14 members.

The dog walking club is organised by Faraz Shibli.

Email: faraz.shibli@oxon.org  
Tel: 07742 906 780

## St Michael's Church

2025 was a normal year in the life of the Church in the village with the full pattern of services being achieved by the Rector, Reverend George Frost, supported by a Ministry team of retired clergy and lay readers from the local villages in the Benefice. It has been the most normal and satisfying year since COVID with the full panoply of services, feast days, weddings, baptisms and funerals and a year in which we St Michael's Church has always been open and accessible.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) met 4 times during the year and endeavoured to achieve its overarching aims:

- To provide a warm, welcoming, open church, where everybody is and feels valued.
- To offer a variety of well attended services and opportunities for spiritual development for all in the Parish.
- To contribute to community life at all levels.

The PCC's purpose is to support the Rector and enable parishioners to worship God and to help each other on their journey to learn more of the love of God. In striving to achieve our aims and purpose the PCC values being part of the

larger Astwick Vale Benefice involving the neighbouring villages of Croughton, Evenley, Farthinghoe and Hinton in the Hedges. It brings opportunity to worship together and to help, encourage, and support each other.



Recognising the importance of the role the young will have in the future of the Church and in our own Parish life, we strive to maintain our links with the Church school in Charlton. Having children in church with us on Sundays contributes to the feeling of life in the church and is appreciated by our relatively elderly congregation of worshippers.

We have maintained a regular pattern of the services at St Michael's at 3 per month (first, second and 4th Sundays with the 3rd and 5th being a Benefice Sunday at which we take our turn). Services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music, and sacrament. We try to involve the many community groups where we can and it makes sense (e.g Harvest Festival which is so well supported).

The full Annual Report from the Church including its finances is published on the Notice board inside the Church porch and on the Church pages of the village website. Contact details for the Rev George and his office are published on the front page of the Newsletter along with other Church information.

## The Village Allotments



There are 18 village allotments on the Charlton Road between 1st and 2nd crossing. There was 100% occupancy in 2025. Allotmenters are from Aynho or have connections with Aynho and live in nearby villages (Charlton (2) and Bloxham (2)). The plots are a very good size – about 5mx12m – each with their own access path and mostly fenced in to protect from rabbits. It is a little haven as a nature reserve! 2025 was a good year to grow. Each year one or two allotments become available for new allotmenters; watch out for the November newsletter for the contact details. Do drop in and speak to any of the existing allotmenters if you want to find out more information.

The allotments are contained within a hedge, have a central path dividing the whole into two halves; there is an access gate off the Charlton Road and parking for about 8 cars on the verge. Rents remain £5 for a full plot and £2.50 for an half or quarter plot; costs for services were £20 in 2024 reflecting, the water used, and the hedge/ grass cutting . Good value – good exercise – good fun – great veg and flowers.

A N Bellamy, Tel: 07795087874

## Winter Lunch Club

Winter Lunch Club was held on most Thursdays from November 2025 until the end of March 2026 in the Dame Mary Cartwright Room in the Village Hall, 12.15pm-1.30pm, an opportunity for villagers to come together and enjoy a home cooked meal at very reasonable cost once a week. The final lunch took place on Thursday 26 March 2026. After 15 winters I have made the decision to stop. The profit made over this past winter came to £1,687.19 (after hall hire and ingredients costs) which has been donated to the Village Hall to be put towards the next project to help maintain the Village Hall.

I would like to thank my wonderful team of volunteers who helped front of house, Sheila, Glenwys, Shirie and Ailsa, lunch club would not have happened without their help and of course thank you to the villagers who supported WLC over the years.

Amanda Limb

## Aynho History Society

The History Society met six times in 2025 and were host to a variety of speakers covering a wide range of topics. We started the year in April with a humorous talk from Steve Dimmer on Tales & Legends of Northamptonshire providing a light-hearted look at legends surrounding the county and our village. A more specific talk followed this in May as Liz Woolley introduced us to the life and times of Olive Gibbs; a renowned Oxford Counsellor and political activist who was responsible for numerous political achievements in her Oxfordshire constituency. Christine Rose an enthusiastic and highly knowledgeable 'fan' of William Morris gave a well-attended, hugely interesting and

impassioned interactive insight into his broad ranging and multi-talented work in our June meeting.

Following a two-month summer break we resumed in September with an engaging talk from renowned author and biographer Matthew Dennison who introduced us to his latest book The Queen describing the life and work of Elizabeth II. Our joint meeting with Aynho Ladies Group in October was an enjoyable introduction to the work of the Time Team. Our year ended in November with our AGM including wine and mince pies followed by a brief look at some of the local archives retained by the Society including an Icehouse key and several well-preserved fossils remains.

We commence again in April 2026 for a further six meetings starting with A Cornucopia of the Cotswolds. Please do join us – April 22nd; May 27th\*; June 24th – September 16th\* October 28th and November 25th. It is probable that this will be our last year of talks due to falling attendees and rising speaker costs. \*This year we will be holding x2 joint talks with Aynho Ladies. So don't miss our interesting programme!

Helen Mackenzie

## Aynho Cricket Club

The Aynho Cricket Club (ACC) was re-established in January 2023 and has now completed three successful playing seasons as an established club under the charter of the English Cricket Board (ECB) and operates under guidance from the Northamptonshire County Cricket Club. The club has an established constitution and an annually elected board with the mission to play non-league, friendly cricket matches at Aynho (and now with reciprocal matches away) with local and visiting clubs and to actively facilitate the

introduction of cricket to village and local children, from the age of 5.

The cricket club had a successful year in 2025, with more matches and more wins than ever. With 7 matches in total, we won 4 and tied 2 (very unusual for each team to end on exactly the same runs)...only 1 loss and that by just 5 runs! One match was called off due to the weather. We managed to get our revenge v Banbury CC at a very exciting Friday evening game, won in the last over!



#### *Aynho CC v Culworth CC*

Club membership increased to 19 players, which is encouraging as we are a young club, and of course we are keen to expand membership again this year – we offer full, junior and social memberships.

Particularly encouraging is our junior section. Last year saw 24 taking part in All Stars (fully subscribed again for 3rd year in a row!), and it was the first year of 'development pathway' - offering an opportunity for those who have taken part for 2 years of All Stars to enhance their skills and love of the game. We had 15 children sign up for the Under 9s, culminating in small tournaments at Marston St Lawrence and Stoke Bruene. This is a key area of focus for the club and as the children get older we will be excited to continue the enhancement of this offer.

As we look toward the 2026 season – and this starts in May – we have scheduled 9 matches – 6 of these home games and maybe more to be confirmed.

A new initiative is our first ever 'Tour'. This will be in June to Somerset playing three matches over a weekend.

The junior section is looking good for 2026 with the All Stars (nearly full already!), and we are planning more matches for the Under 9s.

In terms of membership we have social, full and junior. It is our aim to be a positive, engaging vehicle for improving physical health and combatting loneliness across the generations and the village, so please if you're interested either playing, helping, socialising or if you have a junior who could benefit from this inclusive and exciting sport, please get in touch with any of our committee members.

Essential to developing and growing our cricket club is the establishment of an ever-improving wicket and outfield. These usually take many seasons to create from start, but the work and dedication of our volunteers has been invaluable. In particular, the wickets (the Square) we have to thank Andrew Bellamy and Tom Haselgrove, amongst others for an incredible achievement to date. In terms of the outfield, Barry Grant has been instrumental and generous in securing and operating the all-important gang-mower as was Charlie Harper for the roller, and Pete Collins for the rolling of the outfield. But many members of the club have helped and dedicated time and resource to getting what we believe will be a ground to be proud of for 2026!

Important also for the development of the Club is continued fund raising and this year we will be featuring the incredibly successful quiz night (raising over £1,000)

and Darts nights.... more to be developed  
– watch out for news of these.

There are other ways to get involved: We  
always need volunteers (square  
preparation/assisting with juniors/match  
teas etc).



*Aynho CC v Horley CC*

Committee – Paul Duncanson, Oshy Ryan  
Pont, Chris Coopman and Chris Wilmer

Contact - [oshy@ryanpont.co.uk](mailto:oshy@ryanpont.co.uk)

## Aynho Classic Car and Motorbike Show 2025



