



**Parish Clerk's Report – 01/10/25**  
**Abbey Barnes**

**Social media**

As of 30 September, the parish council Facebook page has 63 followers, this is an increase of 3 from the previous month. Posts for October will include autumn / cold weather tips, changes to postal vote registration, invasive weed control (Middle Level Commissioners) and information on free local heritage talks.

**Council drop-in sessions**

I attended the Community Lounge on Wednesday 24 September. As always this was well received. Residents spoke in particular about anti-social behaviour, ensuring younger residents have activities they can partake in and how residents can help keep the village clean and tidy.

I will attend the Community Lounge on the following dates:

Wednesday 29 October

Wednesday 26 November

**Grant Funding Opportunities**

I have been looking into funding opportunities for the community allotment idea the parish council were keen to pursue. There is one fund available that we meet the criteria for. Part of the application process for this grant requires for the council to demonstrate that it is something the community has asked for / is supportive of. I posted on social media about the initiative on 26 September to try and build an evidence base, but unfortunately the post has not yet resulted in any engagement.

**Assertion 10 Requirements**

After discussion at our September meeting regarding the use of .gov.uk email accounts I contacted SLCC and was advised:

*'There is no requirement for local councils to provide equipment of this nature (council provided devices) for councillors. It cannot be justified, particularly for the smaller councils with very limited financial budgets to spend quite significant sums of money to do this. It wouldn't be transparent and it wouldn't be a justifiable use of public funds.'*

*In your situation, I would refuse to reply to any councillor email coming from a non parish council provided email address and instead reply to the address provided by the council. All correspondence should be sent to the council provided email address.'*

Please can all Councillors ensure their .gov.uk email account is fully functional by 1 December 2025. Please let me know if you have any issues and I will try my best to resolve these, a password re-set may be required by me.