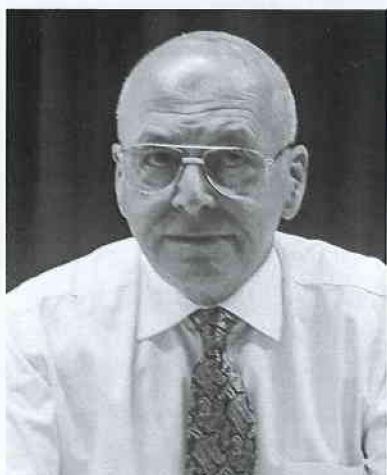


Meet your Parish Councillors



Jim Baines
Chairman
Bleadon Parish Council

I was born in Clifton, Bristol in 1950 and won a scholarship to St. Brendan's College. That was followed by several short-lived jobs before settling into a 37-year career with Lloyds Bank, becoming an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Bankers and a specialist in Corporate Securities managing a team of 24 specialists.

My wife Marion and I moved here in 2006 following my early retirement and I can be seen most days walking my dog, Eric, around the village. As a Councillor I hope to preserve the beauty and autonomy of the village we have come to love so much.



Mary Sheppard
Vice Chairman Bleadon
Parish Council

I am a semi-retired farmer. My mother and grandfather were both farmers before me.

I have lived in or very near Bleadon most of my life and have been a parish councillor for nearly 30 years.

In my time serving as a Councillor I have been Chairman and served on the Youth Club, Open Spaces and Planning Committees.



Ray Bleazard
Councillor

Although relatively new to Bleadon, I have lived in villages for most of my life; and I recognise Bleadon as being a special place in which to live. Recently retired, I now have time and energy to put at the service of our village.

The Parish Council has a key role to play in the future well-being of our village; and it must respond with energy, imagination, and creativity to the challenges that Bleadon will face. It is important that ALL in the community feel their voices can be heard.

With a degree in Economic and Social Studies, majoring in Geography, my career was mainly in education, with some experience of retailing and selling. I have worked with diverse groups of people to achieve goals. I believe one of my strengths is to look at issues, sometimes with a different perspective, and generate ideas to help create solutions.



**Steve Hartree
Councillor**

I moved into Bleadon in 1994, though my wife Barbara was born and grew up in the village. I have been employed in, or associated with, local government for over 40 years (including Clerk to a Parish Council for five years), and was ordained in the Church of England in 1999.

I was elected to Bleadon Parish Council in 2013 and I have served on the Finance & Personnel, Planning and Open Spaces Committees in addition to being Chairman of the Council on two occasions.

Bleadon is an excellent place to live with a lively community spirit. My concern is to serve the parish, to protect and to promote the aspirations of parishioners. I support the establishment of a Neighbourhood Plan both to place planning issues firmly in the control of the parish as well as to explore and document the wishes and aspirations of parishioners.



**Kirsten Hemingway
Councillor**

I moved to Bleadon from Isle of Arran in Scotland in 2003 and got straight in with supporting the Toddler Group, the Hall Committee, the school (as a governor of Lympsham), the pre-school and the Sunday School. As the children have grown up I have had less to do with the village and I am on the Parish Council to support the village, the way of life we have and the people who contribute to that.

I work from home as a writer mainly for NHS organisations but I also write creatively and have published a children's book based on animals that live in Bleadon.

I serve on the Planning, Vexatious, and Communications Committees and I am the councillor for Footpaths and Bridleways as well as our representative at ALCA (Avon Local Councils Association). With Cllr Richardson I manage information for the website and Bleadon News.



**Jo Richardson
Councillor**

I have lived here in Bleadon since 2010 and have come to love not only the rural aspect of my home village but the wonderful community spirit that exists here. I am passionate about retaining this and nurturing it for future generations to enjoy.

Using my adept ability at being able to address people from all walks of life, regardless of age or gender, I hope to be an effective councillor; one who listens and one who enables local parishioners to have a voice.

I strongly believe that the Parish Council should work together as a team with enthusiasm, vigour and passion, be open and transparent, approachable and beyond all else deliver what is best for the people that live here.

My background is in education as I am a professional Space Outreach Educator and I run my own company, working in schools, colleges and community groups across the South West. I am also one of the nine UK Space Ambassadors working for ESERO-UK (the UK space Education Office).



Andrew Scarisbrick
Councillor

I first moved to Bleadon in 1979 as a teenage schoolboy and lived here till 1982 when I started work in Newport. For the next few years I was in the village most weekends eventually moving to Newport but I returned at least once a month to see my parents. Liz and I moved back to Bleadon over 3 years ago and we have no plans to move again.

I've been married to Liz for nearly 24 years and we have 23 year old twin sons, who spent a lot of time with their Grandma in Bleadon as children. I'm a railway signalling engineer, having started with British Rail, and test altered and new signalling before it is brought into use.

I was a Group Scout Leader in Newport for 10 years and still help out as a member of the District Executive.

I enjoy village life, gardening, beekeeping, walking, the village market and village events and I hope to do more in the future.

I believe the Parish Council should represent and work for the good of the Parish as a whole. We should try and protect the best parts of our community but need to be aware that the world is changing around us.



Anne Selway
Councillor

I have enjoyed living in Bleadon for 30 years and recognise that it is a very special place. My background is in finance, payroll, HR and project management and I currently work at an Academy primary school in South Bristol.

I feel strongly that the Parish Council must ensure the future of the village is protected and respond to challenges when they occur. It is essential that all in the community are consulted and their opinions heard on all matters that affect our lovely village.



Gill Williams
Councillor

I have lived in the village since September 2000 although I have been singing in the church choir since 1997 and been involved in the May Fayre every year since 1998.

Although very involved in church activities as choir mistress, editing the magazine for the last 15 years and at various times member, secretary and chairman of the PCC, I have also contributed to village affairs e.g. organising Singalong Suppers, Sausage Sizzles and the Village VE 70 years celebration in 2015. I am currently responsible for the distribution of the Bleadon News.

My hobby is choral singing and I have been a member of Weston Choral Society since 1997, it's secretary for 12 years and am currently its chairman.

My career was in education first as a teacher then as a trainer of teachers. I have a B. Education degree, a joint honours degree in History and Music and an MA in Language Development. I have examined for the universities of London, Birmingham and Durham and, at the time of my retirement, as Dean of Studies at Roehampton University I ran a department of 126 lecturers. Committee and communication skills were key to these jobs and I look forward to being able to offer these skills and my experience to the work of Bleadon Parish Council.



**Marian Barber
Parish Clerk**

I've worked for various organisations, mainly public and third sector, most recently as Head of Economy and Regeneration for North Somerset Council and as Chief Executive for a resource reuse community interest company in Bristol.

I started as Clerk in February and am enjoying the job immensely as Bleadon is a very interesting place with a long history and a bright future. My particular thanks go to Councillors Steve and Mary whose knowledge and tenacity helped me to get up to speed quickly.

The council is now up to full strength and so many of the issues and aspirations of the village can be progressed. Thanks also to my predecessor clerks Tony, Maria and Kevin who kept good records and gave me comprehensive handover notes. I still find the odd surprise but it could have been much worse!

I work 18 hours per week, usually on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and endeavour to answer phone calls and emails within five working days.



The final member of the team will be our Parish Ranger. We are currently recruiting for this position.

Doug and I moved to Weston from Portsmouth in 2003, having moved there from Cornwall in 1997. We have four children and six grandchildren all living in the south west. I'm a member of Weston Rotary (just coming to the end of my year as President), Weston Choral (sing tenor) and Weston Athletic Club (really need to get back into training!).





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