

Cricket Club Report to Parish Council

The club is a community-run cricket club that welcomes participation from all members of the local community, whether in playing or non-playing roles. We aim to provide inclusive opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to engage in sport, volunteering, and social activities.

The club currently competes in the Cherwell Cricket League on Saturdays. In addition, we participate in a knockout cup competition played throughout the season on Sundays. We also arrange midweek T20 friendly fixtures, providing further playing opportunities and variety for members.

Training and practice sessions are held weekly on Wednesday evenings, alongside net sessions that are open to anyone with an interest in cricket. No previous experience is required, and the club actively encourages new participants of all ages and abilities to come along, learn the game, and get involved in a supportive and welcoming environment. It is also worth noting that women are eligible to play in the league sides, and young players aged 13 and over may also participate when accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Beyond cricket activity, the club also runs a number of social events throughout the year, helping to strengthen community engagement and club cohesion.

Due to a steady rise in membership, the club was able to field a second XI in the Cherwell League last season for the first time. This represented an important milestone in the club's development, and the team achieved a respectable 5th place finish in the league.

In terms of facilities, the club successfully completed one of its long-term goals this year with the replacement and upgrade of its pitch roller, improving the quality and sustainability of ground maintenance.

Like many local amateur sports clubs, funding remains an ongoing challenge. However, the club was pleased to secure sponsorship support during the previous season, and further sponsorship and fundraising initiatives are planned for the coming summer to ensure continued sustainability and development.

Looking ahead, the club has ambitions to further expand its inclusivity by introducing both a junior section and a women's team. This is a key long-term goal, and the club would welcome the opportunity to work with individuals or organisations who are interested in helping to develop and support these initiatives within the local community.

The club remains committed to providing sporting and social opportunities for the local community and continues to rely heavily on volunteers, sponsorship, and community support to operate effectively.