



Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Our biggest challenge in the last year was undoubtedly the weather with two events being held in the torrential rain! Being truly British we carried on regardless for the Kings Coronation on 6 May hosting over 300 villagers at Peter Houseman, the Major and the Deputy Lieutenant (in wellies), we then went and did all again for the Village Show in August. The rain has continued to cause havoc into 2024 with our party in the park scheduled for May 2024 being cancelled due to heavy rain. Our wish for the year ahead is better weather, although not so hot at the village show in 2022!

We ran our usual popular events including the easter egg hunt, front garden stalls and the village fireworks which were all well attended.

We continued our work on the village defibrillators logging monthly checks of the five defibrillators that Oakley is fortunate to have. The ongoing maintenance of defibrillators is costly and we are now holding in reserves £3,500 which is our estimate of what it will cost over a 4 year period to replace pads and batteries in order to keep all equipment in good working order.

We continue to be the central point of communication for the village through the village email and social media, using our reach to publicise and promote local clubs, events and businesses for the benefit of all. Committee members are actively involved in village life sharing information from new groups developed in the year such as the Oakley Wellbeing Forum and Neighbourhood Watch. We also have established links with our wider community including local churches and the parish council to help us ensure we are meeting the changing needs of the village.

We made a deficit for the year of £626 which was in line with our strategy and budget to subsidise all events other than fireworks, helping people at a time when all other costs were rising so significantly. At the end of the year our general reserves after all known commitments and projects are £3,247 with an additional £2,800 held in respect of the Village Show, £3,500 to cover 4 years defibrillator maintenance and £4,500 for the annual fireworks display.

We are grateful for the ongoing commitment and dedication of our nine trustees, three of whom have been trustees since our creation back in 2012. This last year has been particularly challenging for Tiffany and Alex, but despite this they have continued as trustees and are actively involved in all our activities, thank you both.

If anyone is interested in being more involved with OCA either as an active volunteer or as a trustee then please do get in touch, we would also love to hear any ideas you have for future events, please email ocaoakley@live.co.uk

Thank you to all involved in making the Community Association the success that it is.