

## The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.30 p.m.  
At Shippon Church Hall

**Present:** Cllrs. M. Page (in the Chair), V. Talbot, R. Bahu, D. Churchouse, C. Parkin

**In attendance:** Cllrs. C. Webber, R. Webber & Anna Clarke (Clerk)

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr. H. Ayub & Mr David O'Hara

### 2. Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None

### 3. Matters raised by members of the public

None in attendance.

### 4. Attending Councillors and MOD

#### Cllr Richard Webber

**HIF 1** progress has been hit by enormous problems, partly because of changes to the Environmental Bill and rising cost of raw materials, resulting in a shortfall of funding. LEP have put in some funding to reduce the shortfall, so it will likely still go ahead but has a 2 yr extension.

**Reservoir** – OCC has come up strongly against this because of the carbon output. Once built, it will continue to create a large carbon footprint. It will take 20 years to build and blow all the carbon neutral targets for many years to come and will attract approximately 1 million visitors a year. The ONS estimates that the number of people in this country will reduce in the coming years. Thames Water, however, is determined to go ahead with it. The protest group, GARD, the surrounding Parish Councils and Cllr R Webber are vehemently opposing the reservoir. A Public Meeting will be taking place on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 7-9p.m. in Marcham Village Hall.

Cllr Webber – provided a small contribution from the Cllr Priority Fund, towards the new Church handrail in Shippon.

#### Cllr Catherine Webber

**Tiny Forests** – Cllr C Webber to take back the areas of development at the Paddock and Wootton Business Park, which may raise CIL, which could be used for a Tiny Forest at the recreation ground.

**Business Grants** – Over £2.5 million has been made available for businesses struggling through the Omicron variant. [www.svbs.co.uk](http://www.svbs.co.uk)

### 5. Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair.

### 6. Queen's Jubilee

It was unanimously agreed to offer a grant of £750 to WaDS CC towards the Jubilee event, as residents from the Dry Sandford ward of the Parish may wish to attend this as well as anything taking place in Shippon. The Clerk to ask that it also carries the name of SHW PC. Anything that takes place in Shippon will be advertised across the whole Parish. AC

Cllr Churchouse is putting together a Jubilee Committee. The PC would offer financial support and oversee the arrangements, as opposed to actually organise it. Cllr Churchouse to look further into applying for a small Lottery grant; the Lottery Fund are keen that grants go towards something that spans the generations and has long term benefits to the Community. The PC will look to matching any grant.

#### Event Ideas:

- Circle of 7, Tree Planting – for both the Recreation Ground and Long Tow, with a tree to represent each 10 years of the Queen's reign.
- Beacon Tarts for the day that the beacons are lit (2<sup>nd</sup> June)
- Jubilee lunch, possibly applying to close off Barrow Road?
- Providing each household in the Parish with some seeds to plant.

#### Reps from the following groups will be invited to get involved:

- Gurkhas

## The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

- Army
- Schools (The Manor, Dry Sandford & Cothill)
- Churches (Shippon & Dry Sandford)
- Community Clubs (e.g. Friends of Shippon)
- Prince of Wales Pub
- Local Business
- Private Residents
- Stowford House
- Martin Gillett

It may also be worth contacting the Lord Lieutenant.

The official events, which could be reflected in the Parish are:

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Lighting of Beacons

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June – concert at Buckingham Palace

Cllr Page to speak to the Army. Cllr Talbot to suggest a contact for Cothill. The Clerk to find out if the PC's insurance will cover Jubilee events. MP/VT/ AC

### 7. Defibrillator Shippon

Owing to the logistical difficulties and financial implications of trying to install the defibrillator on the corner of Faringon/Cholswell Roads, it was agreed that it would be installed at the Prince of Wales Pub. The Clerk to order the defibrillator. AC

### 8. Dalton Barracks SPD / CPRE

- **Progress to Date** – a meeting will be taking place with the Vale on 27<sup>th</sup> January. Cllr Page has contacted Marybeth Harasz re the PC's continued interest in her consultancy, should funding permit.
- **Masterplan** - In LPP2, the whole of DB is going to be considered for development. Whilst this is far from ideal, the benefit is that it is possible to insist on a higher standard of / eco friendly building, and makes it simpler to negotiate on infrastructure. The Vale are pushing for the standard method of housing density calculation to be used which would reduce the number of houses, however, this would still result in approximately 3-4K houses. Cllr Page is co-ordinating a joint approach to infrastructure from all the surrounding parishes.
- **Transport Consultancy** – The initial quote for a report / strategy is £3k. The PC needs to know what it should be focusing on, so it was unanimously agreed to allow for £300 at this point, to engage the Transport Consultant to help focus on the key areas going forward.
- **CPRE** has a new Chair. They now feel that they should have put in some sort of response to the SPD and are due to send Cllr Bahu a draft.

### 9. Community Governance Review

The PC did not submit anything to the consultation as the Vale has provided assurances that they are not interested in absorbing SHW Parish into ATC.

### 10. Review of Standing Orders & Financial Regulations

- **Standing Orders** – reviewed and adopted.
- **Financial Regulations** – reviewed and adopted.

### 11. Matters arising from the Minutes

None

### 12. Finance and Administrative Matters

#### a) Accounts for payment

Payee	Purpose	Total	VAT
Parish Clerk	Salary December & January	£1039.60	
Parish Clerk	Expenses December & January	£88	
Cleanslate	Grant	£100	
PCC Of Shippon	Room Hire PC Meeting	£20	
Keoghs	VAT payment bus shelter claim	£115	
CFO	Annual Subs	£70	

#### b) Grant Requests

## The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

- **Oxfordshire Citizens Advice** – a grant of £250 was unanimously agreed.
- **Friends of Shippon** – a grant of £500 was unanimously agreed. (Cllrs Page, Parkin abstained due to links with the Friends of Shippon)
- **WaDS CC Jubilee Event** – a grant of £750 was unanimously agreed.

The Clerk to add the payments to the Agenda for the March meeting.

AC

### 13). Sandleigh Road Recreation Ground

The Inspection roster for 2022 is below: Any requests for amendments should be sent to the Clerk.

2022			
January	Cllr Caroline Parkin	February	Cllr Hamasq Ayub
March	Cllr Vicki Talbot	April	Cllr David Churchouse
May	Cllr Mike Page	June	Cllr Richard Bahu

### 14). Correspondence

#### Oxfordshire County Council

OALC December Update

**Oxfordshire County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP).** The LTCP document and supporting strategies for freight, active travel and innovation were approved by the county council's cabinet on the 19<sup>th</sup> October for public consultation. The documents that were approved by cabinet can be found <https://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=24140#mgDocuments> The consultation will commence on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 until the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022. <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ltcp>  
**Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – S14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Temporary Road Closure and “No Waiting” restriction at Foxcombe Hill, Fox Lane.** In the interests of public safety, it will be necessary for Oxfordshire County Council to close the road and impose a 'No Waiting' restriction as detailed above to facilitate patching works. The temporary closure will operate from 01 February 2022 up to and including 02 February 2022 between 09:30 and 16:30.

#### Vale Communications

##### **Councillors call on the government to support ambitious local climate action**

Leader Emily Smith will write to Whitehall to urge the government to establish a programme for domestic retrofitting. A nationally funded and sustainable scheme is needed across the country to make existing homes more environmentally friendly. Ensuring the energy efficiency of existing housing stock, through installing insulation or carbon neutral heat pumps, will give the Vale of White Horse a much better chance of reaching its carbon neutral targets. Cllr Smith is calling on the government to guarantee that at least 2,250 homes per year in the Vale of White Horse are retrofitted. For more information about the CEE Bill visit <https://www.cebmill.uk>

**More research needed before Abingdon reservoir plans can be approved** - More evidence has been demanded by Vale councillors over the need for a reservoir in Abingdon and its environmental impact. Thames Water are developing a proposal to create a reservoir on land south of Abingdon. In the motion agreed at a meeting on Wednesday 8 December, councillors also agreed to recommend to the water services watchdog OFWAT that a “carbon calculation” is conducted on the plans. This would scrutinise the amount of carbon produced, and it is hoped result in Thames Water detailing how it planned to reduce the carbon footprint of its proposal and how quickly it could achieve this. Questions were raised over whether Thames Water should be using public funds to pursue this project if it could not demonstrate the reservoir's need and how it would mitigate any climate impact.

**Code of Conduct: Arrangements for dealing with complaints** - New arrangements for investigating allegations under the Code of Conduct. Both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils adopted the arrangements at their meetings last week with immediate effect. The new arrangements are on each council's website.

**Councils face another cut in government funding** - Public services could be at serious risk if the government fails to provide long-term financial support, the Leader of Vale of White Horse District Council has warned. The government is consulting on a one-year financial settlement for local authorities that does little more than extend the current arrangements for another year, preventing councils from being able to create stable medium-term financial plans. The settlement also amounts to a real-terms cut in funding at a time of significant increased living costs. The government's proposals do not include any increased flexibility on how councils can raise finances through council tax. Cllr Smith wrote to Michael Gove about this subject in November [https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/11/Emily-Smith\\_Michael-Gove\\_Council-Tax.pdf](https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/11/Emily-Smith_Michael-Gove_Council-Tax.pdf)

**Updated Planning Enforcement Statement 2021**

## The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

**Local Plan review** - This plan was adopted in December 2016 and is approaching its 5-year birthday. Planning legislation says the Vale must complete a local plan review five years from the date of the plan's adoption, to ensure it remains effective. The requirement is not to actually revise or replace the Local Plan, instead a 'review' is a preliminary step to consider whether an adopted local plan is in need of 'revision' or 'replacement', or not. Overall, the review shows that five years on, Local Plan Part 1 (together with Local Plan Part 2) continues to provide a suitable framework for development in the Vale of White Horse that is in overall conformity with government policy.

### **Members' Allowances, Vale of White Horse DC**

Following the report by an Independent Remuneration Panel, the Vale of White Horse District Council agreed amendments to its Members' Allowances Scheme. In accordance with one of the specific recommendations, the Council is presently undertaking work on a Parental leave Policy.

Here is the link to the report and relevant minute considered by the Council  
[http://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/documents/s52877/Council\\_Vale\\_October%202021\\_allowances%20report\\_FINAL.pdf](http://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/documents/s52877/Council_Vale_October%202021_allowances%20report_FINAL.pdf) )

<http://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/documents/g2845/Printed%20minutes%20Wednesday%2006-Oct-2021%2019.00%20Council.pdf?T=1>

### **Other**

Kompan Playgrounds  
Toolstation

### **15). Cllrs reports and items for future agendas**

#### **16). AOB**

The Clerk to check the possibility of holding sub committees during the daytime. AC  
Church Handrail – needs reflective tape – Cllr Page to let the Church know that white tape was agreed.  
MP

#### **17) Date of next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at 7.30p.m. on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Shippon Church Hall.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m

Signed.....Date.....

Minutes & Agendas can be found on our website at: <https://sthelenwithout-pc.co.uk/>