

The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.30 p.m.
At Shippon Church Hall

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

In attendance: Cllrs. R. Webber, C. Webber

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs H. Ayub, Mr David O'Hara, Anna Clarke

2. Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None

3. Matters raised by members of the public

None

4. Attending Councillors & MoD

Cllr Catherine Webber noted that Purdah, in relation to the forthcoming council elections, started today. The Vale refuse disposal and recycling contract with Biffa ends in 2024, but in order to insure a smooth handover, a further 2 year extension to this contract has been obtained.

The Vale has engaged a mediation service that residents can use if they have any difficulties with neighbours. This can be accessed by calling 01494 520841.

The Vale has also made free training available for food hygiene. Access to this can be obtained by email from Environmentalhealth@southandvale.gov.uk

The Vale are supporting an initiative to suspend mowing of grass during the month of May . This initiative is called 'Let It Bee'.

Cllr Webber then outlined concerns that Vale have about the calculations currently in use to determine the level of housing land supply they have for the next 5 years. There is currently considerable debate between the Vale and Oxford City Council over differing methods of land supply calculation.

Cllr Richard Webber, (Oxfordshire County Council), noted that OCC are trying to balance issues affecting the balance between lifestyle and working environment and have, in some quarters, come in for criticism. Cllr Webber wished to underline that all these initiatives are in the first stages of consultation and have some way to go before they reach their final iteration.

MOD

David O'Hara tended his apologies for this meeting, however, Cllr Parkin wanted to point out that the fencing around the main entrance into Barrow Road had become dilapidated and was looking unsightly. Whilst Cllr Parkin appreciated that the Army were facing many demands, she requested that this be dealt with quickly, as it would not involve a lot of work, but would improve the village environment. The Clerk to follow up.

AC

5. Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January 2023

The minutes of the meeting were adopted and signed by the Chair.

6. Traffic Calming Barrow Road

Addressed under the Sub Committee Meeting

7. Annual Review Standing Orders & Financial Regulations

Both the Standing Orders & Financial Regulations were reviewed and adopted in their current form.

It was agreed to look into internet banking as a way forward.

AC

8. Chairs Update

- **Queen's Canopy** – addressed under sub-committee meeting.
- **Coronation of King Charles III** – It has been agreed to plant 3 trees at the recreation ground, on the opposite side to the Queen's canopy trees, to commemorate the King's Coronation. Given the competitive quote provided from Chris Taylor, Arboricultural Services, and the professional standard of the work previously carried out, the PC intends to use them again. It is anticipated that the trees will be planted later this year. There was some discussion about planting trees elsewhere in the

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parish to commemorate the Coronation. Possible sites identified are Long Tow and Old Faringdon Road.

- **Lansdowne Road** – The Chair confirmed that he has sent a lengthy letter to OCC seeking a resolution of this issue.
- **Neighbourhood Plan** - Review ongoing.
- **Defibrillator**- now installed and up and running. Monthly checks taking place. Friends of Shippon are looking into training . SCAS appear to be unable to help at this time. Alternative options are being explored.
- **Forthcoming Local Council Elections** – the Chair asked everyone to complete nomination forms after this meeting.

9. Matters Arising

None

10. WaDS

There was some discussion about the increased energy costs faced by WADS. The PC has indicated a willingness to consider a grant, provided this is supported by a sound business case.

11. Dalton Barracks SPD

No update

12. Matters raised by members of the Council

None raised

13. Finance and Administrative Matters

a) Accounts for payment (In Accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972)

b) Payee	Purpose	Total	VAT
Parish Clerk	Salary February & March	£1,283.40	
Clerk Expenses	Expenses February & March	£104	
CFO	Annual Subs	£70	
Oxfordshire County Council	Archer Tubes, Lashford Lane	£216	£36
PCC Of Shippon	Room Hire PC Meeting January	*£144	
OALC	Annual Subs	£364.81	£60.80
Chris Taylor – Arboricultural Services	Tree Planting	£2360	
MRH Services	Move SID Location/change battery	£42	

*hourly rate raised to £12, paying for the whole year, (6 meetings remaining)

b) Grant Requests

None

14. Correspondence

Oxfordshire County Council

Matthew Barber Police & Crime Bulletin

Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – S14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

A temporary Notice is being made to implement the temporary closure and will operate from 14 June 2023 to 16 June 2023. This will operate between 20:00 and 06:00.

Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan- Update

More information on the 'Call for Sites', along with a Frequently Asked Questions is available on the Council's <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-policy/minerals-and-waste-policy/new-minerals-and-waste-plan-0>

Better Housing, Better Health Survey 2023

We are building a new service to support people staying warm, healthy and independent at home in Oxfordshire and we want local people's ideas:

<http://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/staying-warm-and-healthy-at-home>

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Help us improve sexual & reproductive health services in Oxfordshire

We are looking for confidential feedback from people in our communities who have accessed, or needed to access, sexual / reproductive health services in Oxfordshire.

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/public-sexual-health-survey-2023>

OALC

January & February updates

Vale Communications

Great British Spring Clean

The Keep Britain Tidy Great British Spring Clean will be running again this year from Friday 17 March to Sunday 2 April. www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/litterpicking

<https://publicrightsofway.oxfordshire.gov.uk/StandardMap.aspx>

Hundreds use new website to help shape districts' future

A new interactive website helped ensure communities had their say on the future of South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse.

<https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/planning-and-development/local-plan-and-planning-policies/local-plan-2041/>

If you'd like to receive planning policy consultations and updates (including those about the Joint Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents) and/or general council consultation notifications, you can register here: <https://survey.southandvale.gov.uk/s/consultationsignup/>

Elections Fees & Charges

Central Abingdon Regeneration Framework Project.

We have published a full analysis of the engagement process and outcomes in the **CARF Consultation Report** <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/02/CARF-Consultation-Report-FINAL.pdf>

Landowner Declaration: Land and Properties at Marcham 1770

The owner of the above land has submitted a Highways Declaration to Oxfordshire County Council which prevents unrecorded public rights of way from being legally recorded on the basis of presumed dedication in the future. The application can be found on our website at:

https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/countryside/countryside-access/public-rights-way/information-landowners/protection-against-claims?utm_content=&utm_term=nil

Please note this email is for information only, you cannot object to the application received

Vale sets out a budget for 2023/24 that protects frontline services, funds future-proof projects for climate and communities and helps with the cost-of-living

The council's Cabinet has recommended councillors approve a budget for 2023/4 that shows a financial position that continues to improve considerably. The Vale continues to charge one of the lowest district council tax rates in the country. The budget proposes a below-inflation increase in Council Tax of 3.5 per cent for 2023-24 to fund services delivered by the district council. For a Band D property, this equates to £5 a year (just under 10p a week), bringing a total charge of £151.69 a year (£2.91 per week) - which is more than 25 per cent lower than the national average. At a meeting on 3 February, the council's Cabinet recommended that the Council approves the budget. The Council will discuss and vote on the budget at its meeting on 15 February.

Leisure centres to be greener thanks to £6m funding

Air Source Heat Pumps, solar panels and other energy efficiency measures will be installed at Wantage Leisure Centre and the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre in Abingdon.

EV charging has doubled in first six months of the Vale of White Horse District Council scheme

Household Support Fund closes but help is still available

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have now closed the Household Support Fund and are no longer accepting any new applications for this fund.

Help is still available

Anyone in need of support can contact our Community Hub team during office hours on 01235 422600 or they can email communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

£2 million boost for community and neighbourhood facilities

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have been allocated £1 million each from the government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund to provide better community and neighbourhood facilities and improve public open spaces to help increase the health and wellbeing of residents. whitehorsedc.gov.uk/UKSPF

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Water Companies told to forget the reservoir and focus on fixing leaks - Plans for the future of water supplies in the South East, including a giant reservoir between Abingdon, Steventon and East Hanney, have been strongly criticised by Vale of White Horse District Council.

Other

Kompan Playgrounds

Ecogreen Communities

Enrych support adults who experience isolation and loneliness due to physical disability. We want to spread the word about what a huge difference having an Enrych volunteer can make to somebody's life and to share with you some of the work that we do in your community. Enrych are holding an online Zoom event on 21st and 27th March, to raise awareness of our charity and volunteering opportunities in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

CPRE - Oxford Housing Need consultation - Green belt parishes - have your say
<https://consultation.oxford.gov.uk/planning-services/oxford-local-plan-2040-reg-18-part-2-consultation/>

Image Playgrounds

CFO - Community Emergency Plans (CEP) are simple plans that are maintained by the community to assist them to coordinate local resources to respond to a disruptive event. Community Emergency Plans form part of a coordinated response with emergency services and the local authority.

[community_emergency_plans_complete.pdf \(oxfordshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/community-emergency-plans-complete.pdf)

Age UK Oxfordshire's cost-of-living information campaign

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/about-us/cost-of-living-campaign/>

15. Cllrs reports and items for future agendas

None

16. AOB

None

17. Date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at 7.30p.m. on Monday 22nd May 2023 at Shippon Church Hall.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m

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

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