

**To Members of St Helen Without Parish Council**

**20<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of St Helen Without Parish Council to be held at Shippon Church Hall on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, commencing at 7.30 p.m. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend and may make representations under item 5 of the agenda. Anyone wishing to address the Council will be given three minutes to do so. They may then observe the rest of the meeting but will not be able to speak other than at the express request of the Chair.

[clerk@sthelenwithout-pc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@sthelenwithout-pc.co.uk) or Tel: 01865 321555.

**Anna Clarke**  
Clerk, St Helen Without Parish Council

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests
3. Matters raised by members of the public
4. Clerk
5. Attending Councillors and MOD
6. Airfield Noise
7. Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023
8. Matters arising from the Minutes
9. Internal Audit Engagement Letter / External Audit
10. Dalton Barracks SPD / CPRE
  - Progress to Date
  - Masterplan
  - Transport Consultancy
11. Matters raised by members of the Council
12. Finance and Administrative Matters

a) Accounts for payment

Payee	Purpose	Total	VAT
Parish Clerk	Salary September, October & Early Nov	£1422.90	
Clerk Expenses	Expenses September & October, Stamps & Envelopes	£104 £11.89	
Microsoft	*Annual Subs	£59.99	
ICO	*Data Protection Fee	£40	
HMRC	*Fee	£100	
Wordpress	*Domain renewal	£288	

Royal British Legion	*Wreaths & donation	£74.98	
Parish Clerk	Ink cartridge	£64.84	
Norton	*Annual Subs	£64.99	
MRH Services	Playground inspection, playground repairs & SID relocation	£548.36	
BGG	Grass cutting recreation ground / verges	£1140	£190
ST Grounds Maintenance	Bin Emptying September	£20	
Mike Page	Paper	£23.98	
Alan Pullinger	*Woodchip Rec Ground Entrance Path	£200	

\*Paid by Clerk

b.) Grants

### 13. Correspondence

#### Oxfordshire County Council

**Town and Parish Council Charter Summit** on 26<sup>th</sup> October at 6:30pm – 8:30pm, County Hall, OX1 1LT. This event is the first stage of our three-part engagement and consultation plan for the development of an Oxfordshire Local Councils Charter, organised by the Charter Working Group (a collaborative group made up of representatives from the county council, district councils, Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) and parishes and towns). The Charter aims to set out a mutual commitment for Oxfordshire's councils to work together and strengthen partnership working to improve services and outcomes for our residents, with emphasis on working with our 300+ Town and Parish Councils.

#### **Temporary Road Closure at Wantage, A417 Reading Road (jct with Elder Way)**

A request has been received from Imperial Traffic Management for a temporary road closure to apply to a length of A417, whilst essential resurfacing works are carried out from 23 October 2023 up to and including 27 October 2023. This will operate between 21:00 and 06:00.

**Oxfordshire County Council are asking residents to comment on the new draft health and wellbeing strategy which is open for comment until 12 November.**

Oxfordshire County Council are now asking whether it makes sense for you in your community? Get involved and have your say <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/health-wellbeing>

#### OALC

September Update

#### Vale Communications

A new Oxfordshire air quality website has launched today – providing up air quality guidance and resources for across the county. The [website \(www.oxonair.uk\)](http://www.oxonair.uk) which has been created in partnership between Oxford City, Cherwell, West Oxfordshire, South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse, and Oxfordshire County Council - aims to integrate all relevant air quality-related information from all district councils in Oxfordshire under one single platform. The platform replaces <https://oxfordshire.air-quality.info/>, and includes several new features, including:

- Air pollution forecasts up to five days in advance
- Air pollution alerts for Oxfordshire
- Air quality footprint calculator
- Air quality pledges for individuals
- Information on individual council air quality projects across the county

#### **Voter Registration**

This month, all households should have received a letter requiring you to check the voter registration details of everyone over the age of 16 living there. When you receive it, please read the letter carefully and, if you are required to either confirm or update your details, please do so as quickly as possible – this will help to ensure we won't need to contact you again to confirm the information. To find out more, visit <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/local-democracy-and-elections/elections-and-voting/the-electoral-register-and-annual-canvass/check-your-voter-registration-details/>

#### **Could you become a tree guardian?**

Oxfordshire County Council is planning to plant thousands of trees on public land across Oxfordshire with hundreds having already been planted. Now they need help to take care of the young trees, which need daily watering and regular weeding in spring and summer to help them establish and thrive. To find out about becoming a tree guardian for a community tree near you see the [Climate Action website](#). If you'd like to find your nearest community tree, get some advice, or just let the Tree Service know that a tree is being cared for then get in touch with them at [tree.planting@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:tree.planting@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

#### **New Cabinet Members confirmed at Vale of White Horse District Council**

The new cabinet has been confirmed as <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/local-democracy-and-elections/councillors-committees-and-meetings/council-cabinet-and-committees/the-cabinet/>

### **Important Information on ShopAppy**

Over the past three years, we've partnered with ShopAppy to provide an online marketplace for independent High Street businesses located in South and Vale. Unfortunately, ShopAppy has notified us as of today (Friday 6 October) they have had no option but to cease to trade. We have contacted all relevant suppliers as a matter of urgency to ensure all advertising is removed as quickly as possible, some of which have already been actioned. However, some of these are still live and until our suppliers take these down, there is a chance that our residents will see these advertisements. The adverts encourage the viewer to click through to the site (which will shortly be taken down). We will also update both South and Vale websites today. If you receive any queries from your residents or local businesses, please direct them to the Economic Development team via [business.support@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:business.support@southandvale.gov.uk)

### **The Vale steps up to help families who supported the UK's military operations in Afghanistan**

An innovative new arrangement will support the welfare of families from Afghanistan who have contributed to the UK's military operations in their country. Families who had put themselves at risk by working and fighting for the UK, were forced to flee their home country when the Taliban regained control. Since then, many of them have spent more time than is suitable in hotel accommodation provided by the Home Office. Once finalised, the new arrangement - which is part of a UK-wide scheme - will mean that currently unused Ministry of Defence housing can be used as temporary accommodation. The Vale of White Horse District Council will lease and manage the properties and be responsible for maintenance and repairs - effectively acting as landlords for our Afghan guests. This will provide a suitable and stable home for around 18 months to 36 months, with the council using that time to help the families find and move into privately rented homes. During this time, the council will be working with county-wide partners to provide all the support the families need to live independently and settle into life in the Vale, including help with language, education and employment - although many are already working. Government grants are funding the accommodation and our support for families from Afghanistan. The first families will be moving into unoccupied Ministry of Defence houses in Watchfield and Shrivenham soon.

### **Community First Oxfordshire – Annual General Meeting 2023**

Wednesday 8 November, Online via Zoom, 13:00-14:30

### **Plans for reservoir continue despite local objections**

Plans for an expanded controversial reservoir near Abingdon have again been criticised by local communities, with Vale of White Horse District Council urging water providers to consider alternative solutions. The council has reaffirmed its [objections to the reservoir in a formal letter to Thames Water](#) following submission of their revised Draft Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) to government. An alliance of the six water companies in the South East, known as Water Resources South East or WRSE, also submitted its revised draft Water Resources South East regional plan to government at the same time. The draft WRMP not only progresses plans for the reservoir, known as the South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO), but proposed to increase the capacity by 50% from 100Mm<sup>3</sup> to 150Mm<sup>3</sup>. Meanwhile, the proposed Severn to Thames Water transfer has been downgraded as an option. A reservoir would also come at the expense of significant carbon emissions which the council argues would impact the district's ability to become carbon neutral by 2045.

### **Residents urged to 'Check it before you chuck it'**

We are urging residents to 'Check it before you chuck it' as part of a drive to increase the amount and quality of recycling in the district. South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have launched a new campaign asking people to check before they chuck items in their recycling bins. An estimated 3,340 tonnes\* – the equivalent of just over 200 double decker buses – of items that residents put in their recycling bins during 2022/23 were not actually recyclable – that's 11 per cent of all the contents of our green bins for the whole year!

### **Online forum on supporting home energy efficiency upgrades**

The council's Climate and Biodiversity team is hosting a free online forum to help town and parish councils and community groups support residents to reduce their energy use and costs. This takes place on Tuesday 14 November at 6-7.15pm. The speakers will talk about the support that is available and some inspiring examples of local projects to help residents. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

[climateaction@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:climateaction@southandvale.gov.uk)

### **Other**

## **14. Cllrs reports and items for future agendas**

**15. AOB**

**16. Date of next meeting**

To confirm the date of the next Parish Council Meeting, which is scheduled for 7.30 p.m. on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Shippon Church Hall.

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