

The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th September 2020 at 7.30 p.m. by Video Call

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

In attendance: Cllrs. C. Webber, R. Webber, Mr David O'Hara, Anna Clarke (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None

3. Matters raised by members of the public

None present

4. Attending Councillors and MOD

Cllr Catherine Webber

Portfolios - there has been a big shake up at the Vale with portfolios being replaced by themes. Cllr Webber is now the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency & Environment. Planning has been split into 3 themes.

White Paper Consultation, Planning – there will be a lot more ease for developers and people will be able to do more without requiring planning permission.

Vale's lease - will soon be coming to an end on Milton Park. Options are being reviewed, with a lot of people now working from home. The options are to move to The Gatehouse, New Abbey House or remain at Milton and try and reduce the lease.

Fyfield Development of 600 houses is very controversial. The Inspector said that the development should solve the issue of Marcham AQMA and one suggestion has been that HGV's should take an alternative route through Gozzard's Ford and past the Airfield. Cllr Bahu put in an objection to this, on behalf of the PC. The obvious solution would be the Marcham Bypass, however, it could be 10 years before this is built. Cllr R Webber noted that the net result is likely to be that the Fyfield development will be objected to, as it is not financially viable.

Dalton Barracks Supplementary Planning Document – Cllr Webber has been told by Planning that that the PC will be allowed to have a forum to speak on the development and should be contacted by the Vale soon. However, this raised concern that the Vale has already made a start on the SPD. Cllr Page noted that the PC had made a lot of difficult compromises but in return, had been promised by Andrew Maxted, at a meeting attended by Cllrs Page & Parkin, that the PC/NPSG would be members of any group put together to work on the SPD from the get go. The PC is now concerned that the process has begun without their involvement, at the stage where they could have the greatest input. Cllr Page to write to Adrian Duffield referencing promises made and to ask that the PC be included without delay. Cllr Webber to chase up with Planning where the SPD is up to and reiterate the need for the PC's involvement.
MP/CW

Car Park Charges will likely remain the same.

Cllr Richard Webber – Barrow Road – Cllr Webber is considering ways to help. One consideration is a 1-way system down Elm Tree, so it could only be accessed from the other way. The likely impact is more traffic down Barrow Road in the short term but, if that created queues, it may be that people will stop using Barrow Road as a rat run in the long term. Cllr Webber to provide the PC with details of someone senior in Highways to deal with.
RW

MoD

Fireworks - Two residents wrote to the Station Commander to complain about the Fireworks. He will formally respond directly to them.

It may appear that there is more going on at the Airfield, however, the schedule is just catching up from the break during lockdown and so there are more events in a shorter period of time than usual. The Army is very aware of the noise and tries to keep it down as much as possible.

Car Boot Sales – they are adapting according to new legislation. Environmental & Public Health have attended and were happy with the running of it. 40% of people wore masks. There will be Covid Marshalls to encourage social distancing.

Covid Testing – will take place at Dalton Barracks 2-3 days at a time, but it won't be known long in advance when they'll be there. Access is likely to be through the Barrow Road entrance.

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Speeding - A resident raised the issue of speeding on Old Faringdon Road and Cllr Church requested if the Army would be able to offer any funding to help with temporary measures as it affects the safety of the children of Army personnel too. Mr O'Hara to follow up. DO'H

5. Website

The new website will conform to the new accessibility regulations by the deadline of 24th September. The basic website will be available by then.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs Page & Parkin reviewed and circulated their report. The proposals need to be delivered to the APM by 2021.

7. Matters arising from the Minutes

None

8. Finance and Administrative Matters

a) Accounts for payment

*The Clerk's pay increased from £11.00p/h to £11.30p/h (SCP 21) in accordance with the new NALC payscales and was backdated to April 2020

Payee	Purpose	Total	VAT
*Parish Clerk	Salary August (inc backdated pay increase)	£575	
Parish Clerk	Expenses August	£44	
Norton	Anti-Virus (PC laptop)	£59.99	
BGG	Grass cutting July	£126	£21
Zoom Video Communications	Subs for Zoom Meetings	£14.39	£2.40
Aspire	Grass cutting	£948	£158
Rospa	Annual Playground Inspection	£115.80	£19.30

b) Grants

None

9). Matters raised by members of the Council

Cllr Page noted the sad passing of George Edmonds-Brown. George was the Clerk to the PC from 2010-2015. He was a 'one off' character, a former diplomat, who put his skills to extremely good use for the PC. George will be sadly missed by all the members of the PC who knew him. Our thoughts are with his family.

Phil Painting handed in his resignation after the last meeting. Cllr Page thanked Mr Painting, on behalf of the Parish Council, for his contribution.

10). Sandleigh Road Recreation Ground

The Inspection roster for 2020 is below: Any requests for amendments should be sent to the Clerk.

2020/21			
October	Cllr Lee Church	November	Cllr Lee Church
December	Cllr Caroline Parkin	January	Cllr Mike Page
February	Cllr Vicki Talbot	March	Cllr Richard Bahu
April	Cllr Tom Turner	May	Cllr David Churchouse

Cllr Page went through the correspondence and it was resolved that it be noted.

11). Correspondence

Oxfordshire County Council

National Highway and Transport Public Satisfaction Survey This survey forms part of the picture to better understand and respond to the needs of our customers. This survey will run concurrently with the National Public Satisfaction Survey. The deadline for completion is 30th September 2020.

<https://www.nhtnetwork.co.uk/isolated/data/scorecard/new/bespoke/349>

Healthwatch Oxfordshire Update

TVP – August Police & Crime Bulletin

OALC

OALC August Update

Vale Communications

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Exciting new amphitheatre being built for Chilton village community - Residents living in Chilton will soon have their own impressive amphitheatre for local shows and performances. It is expected to be completed late summer.

Changes to shielding

As you'll no doubt be aware the government's shielding has now been "paused" and the [guidelines for those shielding has now changed](#). Our Community Hub service is however still available for residents if they need urgent help. The hours have changed due to a reduction in demand to now reflect our standard office hours - Monday to Thursday 8.30am-5pm and Fridays 8.30am-4.30pm. The community hub contact details are 01235 422600 and communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk.

Planning permissions set to change

Rt Hon Robert Jenrick is set to announce reforms to the planning system. When there is detailed guidance from government, we will let you know what this will mean to our planning policies and how it might affect town and parish councils.

South Oxfordshire Local Plan update

The public hearing stage of the examination into the proposed South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2034 ended last week. South Oxfordshire District Council is now waiting for details of any changes the Inspector has identified should be made to its plan. It will then carry out a public consultation about these changes on behalf of the Inspector, before the Inspector makes a recommendation on whether the Plan has been found legally sound and should therefore be adopted. The examination itself stays open until the Inspector has completed his report. If the Inspector confirms it is legally sound then it can be officially adopted, and it would immediately play a key role in determining where in South Oxfordshire new housing, employment and infrastructure will go.

Getting Building Fund - The Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) has been awarded £8.4 million from the government's 'Getting Building Fund' for investment in green 'shovel-ready' infrastructure projects that help to safeguard and create jobs and boost the local economy. For more information, please see [OxLEP's press release](#).

Local Authority Outbreak Control Powers - Local councils have been given powers to try and handle local outbreaks of Covid-19.

Building regulations and permitted development rights

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) have issued an update on building regulations and permitted development rights which are intended to encourage the provision of new homes through the construction of additional storeys on existing buildings.

Event planning - Currently, the government's guidance and legal position states gatherings of more than 30 people are prohibited, and attendees and organisers can face fines. There's updated guidance at <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/business/licensing/temporary-events-notice>

Planning for the Future consultation

The government has started its consultation to overhaul the planning system and reform the way development is allowed. The consultation paper link is below, comments to the Government by the deadline, 29 October 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907647/MHCLG-Planning-Consultation.pdf

New - emergency assistance grant available - There's money available for voluntary and community groups who are helping people who are struggling to afford food and other essential provisions as a result of Covid-19. The money is available in the form of emergency assistance grants of up to £5,000 and if you are working with any constituted groups like voluntary covid-19 community response groups or mutual aid groups, you can apply. You can find out more information on our website - <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/community-advice-and-support/grants>

Business Grant update

Across South and Vale we've given out well over £1.5 million in Discretionary Business Grants. Last Friday was the deadline for applications to the fund and we're pleased to say we've now paid out to all the successful applicants.

New websites go live - At the end of last week, we soft-launched our new council websites to gather public feedback, and we'd love to know what you think of them. Visitors to our existing website will be given the chance to visit the new sites and offer feedback via an online form – if you'd like to try the sites out, please head to <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/news/2020/2020-08/try-out-our-new-website-and-let-us-know-what-you-think>

Do you have any events planned in your area? We manage a local Safety Advisory Group, which has members of the emergency services, county and district councils to help give advice to event organisers to ensure their event takes place safely. events@southandvale.gov.uk

Oxfordshire Investment Plan

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The Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) has finalised its Oxfordshire Investment Plan, which – among other things – promises to deliver 24,500 new jobs to the county.

Rising Covid-19 cases - The numbers of confirmed Covid-19 cases in Oxfordshire continues to rise. In the 7 days up to 14 August, there were 65 confirmed cases in Oxfordshire, which is an increase from 44 cases in the previous week. The majority of the new cases are in Oxford, where the number has risen from 16 to 28. The increase is predominantly among young people in the 18-30 age bracket. Oxfordshire's Public Health Surveillance Unit has picked this up at an early stage and is not considering any local control measures at this stage. But if the situation does escalate, then local control measures will be considered. Clear systems are in place through Oxfordshire's Local Outbreak Plans to manage any local hotspots but prevention is the best approach.

Housing update – ban on evictions - The ban on landlords evicting their tenants in England and Wales has been extended until 20 September taking the total ban to six months. Our housing team continue to work with residents and advise them of their rights in this ever-changing situation.

You can find the full government guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jenrick-extends-ban-on-evictions-and-notice-periods>

Leisure Centres phased opening plans - We're opening the district's leisure centres in phases with our partners at GLL– it's worth bearing in mind that given the changing national situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, the activities and facilities available at a given leisure centre may need to change, be temporarily closed or have occasional changes to opening hours and/or services.

Didcot Gateway

Homes England received 900 comments on its proposals for the redevelopment of the Didcot Gateway site opposite the station.

Changes to the current planning system consultation

The government is also asking people to give their views on proposed changes to the current planning system, including changes to the standard method for assessing local housing need. To find out more and to submit your comments visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system>

Other

Noticeboard Company

Toolstation

Arien Designs

Earth Anchors Ltd

Wicksteed Playgrounds

ROSPA Annual Inspection Report

Playsource Ltd

12).Cllrs reports and items for future agendas

None

13).Date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at 7.30p.m. on Monday 19th October 2020 by Video Call. Access details can be provided closer to the meeting by the Clerk via email: clerkshwpc@gmail.com or Tel: 01865 321555.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.05 p.m

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

Minutes & Agendas can be found on our website at: <http://www.woottondrysandfordshippon.co.uk/>