



## Minutes of West Hagbourne Parish Council Meeting held at Hagbourne Village Hall on Wednesday 3 November 2021 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs M. Butler, H. Lewis, M. Telford, O. Doogue, Cllr J. Murphy, Mr. A. Wise (Clerk) and 17 residents.

	MB opened the meeting at 19:30 hrs	
21/571 Apologies	Cllr A.M. Simpson	
21/572 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None received</li> <li>Chair to advertise councillor vacancy in the next edition of the Newsletter again, as no one has come forward yet as of this meeting. The Chair will also approach some suitable candidates to encourage them to volunteer.</li> </ul>	MB
21/573 Planning since the meeting of 01.09.2021	<p>Chair led a discussion in how the village would like their Parish Council to formally respond to planning application P21/S4337/0 – Land to the North of the Horse &amp; Harrow Pub, Main Street. Having canvassed opinions from the attendees, the Chair invited the dual councillor, Mrs Murphy to address the room. She went on to explain that if the Planning Officer in charge of this application decided to approve it, she would call it in, which would then result in the application going to Planning Committee at SODC. The chair will now in consultation with fellow councillors draft the PCs formal response for the Clerk to then respond to the planning officer by the comment's deadline of 11.11.21. Jane Murphy then offered to meet with 4 or 5 residents to help with the drafting of individuals responses to the planning application before the comment's deadline of 11.11.21.</p>	MB
21/574 Report on OCC and SODC activities	<p><u>SODC Report</u> – See appendix 6. <u>OCC Report</u> – JM explained her views on planning application P21/S4227/O.</p>	
21/575 Hear representations from members of the public	<p>Val Brownsword handed over the Poppy Wreath to the Chair and asked for a volunteer to lay the wreath on Remembrance Day as since the passing of Dickie Allen a new person was required. The Chair kindly offered to do this year on the proviso that a new volunteer was found for next November.</p> <p>Julie Hornsby passed on her thanks on behalf of herself and her neighbours in Moor Lane, for the recent work done by BGG which was financed by the Parish Council and has resulted in a much tidier Moor Lane for the benefit of walkers and cyclists alike. She committed to keeping up the maintenance with the help of the Leishman's and with a donation of plant seeds from HUGS.</p>	
21/576 Approve the minutes of the meeting of 01.09.2021	It was proposed by MB, seconded MT, that the minutes be signed as a true record. Carried nem con.	
21/577 Consider matters, not take elsewhere, arising from the minutes of the meeting of 01.09.2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All action items had been completed</li> </ul>	
21/578 Receive reports from Parish Councillors and the Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Broadband Update</b> – HL reported that he will make another effort to try and increase the villages current pledges of 18 which represents 37% of the grant money required for Open Reach to commit to installing full fibre broadband to properties. HL will work with Councillor Murphy to try and get some pledges form local business located in the village.</li> </ul>	HL

# West Hagbourne Parish Council



21/579 Financial matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of payments. It was proposed MB, seconded HL, and carried nem con that the following invoices be paid Parish Clerk's wages. Expenses, PAYE, Grass Cutting, Moor Lane clearance work, CAB donation and Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal donation</li> <li>Current financial situation. AW presented the current financial situation – attachments 2 &amp; 3.</li> <li>Clerk took the councillors through a proposed draft budget for 2022/23. Clerk made a note of the alterations required by the councillors and will bring a revised budget to the Jan'22 meeting for sign off and for the precept to be agreed for 2022/23.</li> <li>Vice Chair to contact Barclays Bank to start the process of adding himself to the list of councillors who have signing rights for the online banking account in addition to MB &amp; AW who currently are the only ones who can make and approve payments.</li> </ul>	AW HL
21/580 Highways and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JM explained that at the 19/10/21 OCC Cabinet Meeting a proposal was approved for villages and towns to apply for 20mph road signs for their road. In this case this was felt appropriate for Main Street with a sign placed at each end of the village. JM encouraged WHPC to apply for the road signs and possible funding to pay for them.</li> <li>JM to email clerk with a link to start the process of applying for Highways to pay for and install 2 x 20mph road signs for each end of the village.</li> <li>Councillors instructed Clerk to start the process of applying for 20mph road signs with OCC Highways.</li> <li>Chair to email over his photos and meeting notes to Councillor Murphy for her to escalate the requirement for the painting of white lines at each end of the narrowing work carried out 3 years ago in Main Street with OCC Highways.</li> </ul>	JM AW MB
21/581 Risk assessment	MB signed off appropriate parts on the current Risk Assessment Checklist - attachment 5	
21/582 Chairman's Report for Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair will send a report to Editor Sue Totterdell before the end of the month in time for the next edition of the Village Newsletter.</li> </ul>	
21/583 Respond to Communications as the Chairman may direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
21/584 Attend to any other business at the Chairman's discretion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair proposed a pay rise of £75:00 per annum for the clerk, to be effective from 01.01.2022. It was proposed MB, seconded HL, and carried nem con that this salary increase be enacted.</li> <li>Clerk to update the 2022/23 budget entry and the HMRC PAYE system accordingly.</li> </ul>	AW
21/585 Date of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday 5 January 2022 in Hagbourne Village Hall</li> <li></li> </ul>	
21/586 Meeting Closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MB declared the meeting closed at 21:00 hrs.</li> </ul>	

Signed:

Date:

# West Hagbourne Parish Council



## Attachments:

1. Agenda
2. Financial Statements
3. Expenditure against Budget 2021-2022
4. Planning Applications
5. Risk Assessment
6. SODC Report

<b>Title</b>	District Councillor's Report
<b>Author</b>	Cllr Anne-Marie Simpson
<b>Parish</b>	West Hagbourne Parish Council
<b>Date</b>	3 November 2021

As this is quite a full report this time, here is a list of headings:

Councils urge global leaders to agree urgent climate action at COP26

What is COP26?

Why is COP26 important?

What does COP26 mean for residents in South and Vale?

How could COP26 affect the work of the district councils?

Council Calls for Action in Removing Barriers to Tackling the Climate Emergency

    Levelling up, sustainability & planning

    Decarbonisation of leisure centres

    Retrofitting homes for energy efficiency

New Council Leader

The Oxfordshire Growth Board is now the Future Oxfordshire Partnership

Oxfordshire 2050 and the OxCam Arc

Capital Grant funding available to help good causes in South Oxfordshire

Move Together

New Tree Policy

Concerns Raised regarding Didcot Sewage



## **Councils urge global leaders to agree urgent climate action at COP26**

With the effects of climate change already having a catastrophic impact across the world, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are urging the leaders attending [COP26](#) to urgently agree on significant global climate action before it's too late.

The councils are also encouraging their residents to watch the proceedings closely and to find out what this hugely important climate conference means for them.

### **What is COP26?**

Taking place in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November, COP26 (the Conference of Parties) is an annual UN conference which brings together leaders and negotiators from across the world with the aim of accelerating action to tackle climate change.

The conference will focus on how countries can achieve the goals set out in:

- The Paris Agreement, a legally binding international treaty that commits all countries to reduce their emissions and to limit the global temperature increase in this century to 2 degrees Celsius, while also trying to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius; and
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which established an international environmental treaty to combat “dangerous human interference with the climate system”, in part by stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.

### **Why is COP26 important?**

We are already seeing the consequences around the world from climate change, caused by global carbon emissions, with extreme weather, flooding and major fires happening more regularly and in more places. If we do not take immediate and significant action to reduce our emissions to strictly limit the increase in global temperatures, the severity and frequency of these events will only increase. This would result in potentially catastrophic consequences for people around the world, and for our nature and environment.

At COP26 there will be significant global pressure on the leaders and negotiators to reach agreements necessary to ensure that meaningful climate action will happen as quickly as possible, setting common timeframes for achieving carbon reduction targets, and making new commitments and initiatives for delivering climate action.

The event will also play a vital role in raising awareness of the climate emergency around the world, and especially across the UK, with different campaigns and events being held across the nation to promote COP26 and bring change.

Countries review their commitments to the Paris Agreement every five years, and ahead of COP26



they are asked to bring ambitious emission reduction targets to 2030.

While delegates coordinate the global response to the threat of climate change, the event will also feature a variety of public workshops, presentations and art exhibitions, most of which will also be streamed live on the [COP26 YouTube channel](#) where people can access content for free.

## **What does COP26 mean for residents in South and Vale?**

The commitments and initiatives reached at COP will be translated into UK policies, which will then impact our lives and decisions happening locally.

This year's conference could result in decisions on funding for local climate action within our communities.

Agreements could be reached on policies that directly affect our daily lives, such as new initiatives on energy use, or commitments that change the way we travel, or how we should protect nature and our environment. Agreements could impact how we should plan for new developments or how we approach infrastructure.

The conference may result in decisions that will make retrofitting a realistic option for all homes. Making necessary changes to improve the energy efficiency of homes, through work such as installing insulation, replacing gas boilers or heating systems, and energy monitoring systems, could make a huge impact on reducing carbon emissions locally and at the global level.

There could also be an impact on the way we work and on our local economy, with many world leading science and technology companies based in South and Vale that will be key in the global effort to tackle the climate emergency.

## **How could COP26 affect the work of the district councils?**

COP26 gives government at all levels the opportunity to galvanise action on reducing emissions.

In their respective Corporate Plans, South Oxfordshire District Council prioritises 'protecting and restoring our natural world' and 'action on the climate emergency', while the Vale focuses on 'tackling the climate emergency'. These priorities support the work of COP26 and contribute to achieving the aims of the Paris Agreement and the councils' own carbon neutral targets.

The Climate Emergency is at the heart of all council projects and ongoing work towards sustainability. Climate action is also a major consideration in ensuring the councils invest and procure responsibly and ethically.

For more information about COP26 visit [the official UK COP 26 website](#).

## **Council Calls for Action in Removing Barriers to Tackling the Climate Emergency**



At its council meeting on Thursday 7 October, South Oxfordshire District **Council agreed a series of motions aimed at boosting efforts to address the climate emergency, and to protect and enhance the natural environment and increase biodiversity.**

The motions all highlight the need for government to take action to remove unnecessary barriers which are delaying or impacting measures to tackle the climate emergency at a local level. With COP26 now on, councillors believe these actions will be vital if the UK wishes to lead by example in the fight against climate change.

## **Levelling up, sustainability & planning**

Following a motion proposed by me and seconded by Cllr Pieter-Paul Barker, Cllr David Rouane, Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council, has written to HM Government to call on it to:

- scrap the current proposals for planning reform and instead boost rights of local residents to engage in the planning process.
- asks the government to transform the process into one that assesses the 'climate fitness' of a district and plans for growth within the environmental capacity of that area, looking at carbon emissions, water availability and the pressing need for nature recovery at scale.
- calls for a thorough review of Building Regulations and the National Planning Policy Framework to ensure require property developments to be built to net-zero standards in manufacture and use, and
- reiterates the council's belief that the 5 Year Housing Land Supply measure is flawed and inappropriate, as councils should not be held to account for the actions – or indeed lack of action – of developers, with regard to the delivery of housing on allocated or approved development sites.

Read Cllr Rouane's [letter to Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities](#) about planning.

## **Decarbonisation of leisure centres**

In order to achieve its own carbon reduction targets, South Oxfordshire District Council needs to be able to successfully decarbonise its leisure centres. Funding to carry out this work has been made available by the government through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund. However, so far, the fund has been significantly oversubscribed and the application process made more difficult by stop-start initiatives and significant restrictions on how the money can be provided.

South Oxfordshire District Council believes it would be more effective to resource local areas to deliver their own decarbonisation strategies, meaning long-term funding to boost the future of public swimming pools, potentially decrease the long-term cost of operating pools, and contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions. This would also provide local suppliers with the confidence to invest in staff, skills and the technology.



Following a motion proposed by Cllr Maggie Filipova-Rivers and seconded by Cllr Sam Casey-Rerhaye, Cllr David Rouane, Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council, has written to the department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to highlight the barriers councils currently face when applying to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund, and the urgent need for a long-term approach to decarbonising leisure centres in order to support local authorities to lead the way in the delivery of a net zero future for leisure.

Read Cllr Rouane's [Letter to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy](#), about the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund.

## **Retrofitting homes for energy efficiency**

Following a motion proposed by Cllr Sam Casey-Rerhaye and seconded by Cllr George Levy, Cllr Rouane has also written to the government to urge it to address retrofitting as a priority. The letter highlights the need to recognise retrofitting's importance in achieving our national and international carbon emission targets and calls for adequate funding to be made available for all local authorities in any retrofit strategy.

Finally, the council calls for the government to develop long term support for householders, including changes in relevant laws, guidance and tax regulations, and to encourage businesses and the skills development needed to support retrofitting.

Read Cllr Rouane's [letter to the secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities](#) about retrofitting, which included a copy of the report by the [Task and Finish Group on Retrofitting Homes in the Districts](#).

## **New Council Leader**

As you will have noted from the letters written to government ministers, a new Council Leader, Cllr David Rouane, who represents Didcot Northeast, was elected unanimously by Council on 7 October, replacing Cllr Sue Cooper who formally stood down as leader of SODC on that date.

## **The Oxfordshire Growth Board is now the Future Oxfordshire Partnership**

The Oxfordshire Growth Board has officially renamed as the Future Oxfordshire Partnership. The partnership's new web address is [futureoxfordshirepartnership.org](https://futureoxfordshirepartnership.org) and their social media accounts have also been renamed. You can view the slides from the latest quarterly briefing on the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's work here:

<https://www.southandvale.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/South-and-Vale-Council-Briefing-2021-09-27.pdf>

This includes a reminder about the purpose of the partnership, an overview of the membership, and information about the current work programme.



## **Oxfordshire 2050 and the OxCam Arc**

The consultations for the Oxfordshire 2050 Plan Reg 18 Pt2 and the OxCam Arc Spatial Framework have now closed. The council has submitted responses to both which can be found on our website page for responses to planning consultations:

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/planning-and-development/local-plan-and-planning-policies/external-planning-consultations-our-response/>

## **Capital Grant funding available to help good causes in South Oxfordshire**

South Oxfordshire District Council is launching a new round of its Capital Grant Scheme next week, with grants available of up to £75,000 for local voluntary and community organisations and town and parish councils.

This grant can fund up to 50 per cent of the total cost of capital projects like contributing to buying a building, replacing or making improvements to long term assets such as play areas and equipment.

South Oxfordshire district councillors recognise the impact of Covid-19 on the finances of these organisations and want to be able to help them with funding to support the opening of facilities post pandemic. Councillors also hope that this grant will enable organisations to focus on long term projects so that they can continue their work in the district into the future.

As part of their applications, organisations are asked to consider how they can enhance buildings and improve the environmental sustainability of community assets to meet local needs.

Voluntary and community organisations and town and parish councils will also need to consider how their project will contribute to at least one of the council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024 priorities, such as 'protect and restore our natural world', 'action on the climate emergency' or 'improved economic and community well-being'.

Previous projects in the district that have been awarded funding from this grant include:

- Tetsworth Memorial Hall who were looking to use their grant towards funding for insulation and air source heat pumps to become even more energy efficient
- Cholsey Parish Council used the grant they were awarded for a purpose-built Happy Hub family centre
- Henley Rugby Football Club were awarded a grant to help with a community training facility upgrade

The Capital Grant Scheme launches on 1 November 2021 and will be open until noon on 17 December (2021). Applicants can find out more on the council's website, [southoxon.gov.uk/grants](https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants).

## **Move Together**

Move Together is a county-wide pathway into physical activity, designed to provide support, advice and guidance to people most affected by COVID-19, helping them to move more and improve their





physical and mental health and well-being.

Support from the scheme can be as simple as being a friendly voice to speak to or one of our Active Communities Team going out with a vulnerable resident for a walk to help them get their confidence back about being outside again.

To find out more about Move Together visit <https://www.activeoxfordshire.org/move-together>

## **New Tree Policy**

We have just launched a Tree Policy which outlines how we will support and enable communities to apply to plant trees on Council land.

The Policy for Planting Trees on Council Land supports our work to tackle the climate emergency and priorities of protecting and restoring our natural world (south) and building healthy communities (Vale).

The background to the policy included five principles on how we aim to protect, plant and manage trees on land we own through planting, caring and maintenance, supporting biodiversity, planning and development and community. The policy itself clearly identifies the process for community members to follow if they are interested in planting trees on council land.

For more see on Trees, including Tree Policy, Guide to Planting Trees, TPOs etc. go to council website page:

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/planning-and-development/wildlife-trees-and-landscape/trees/>

## **Concerns Raised regarding Didcot Sewage**

Cllr Jo Robb, Thames River Champion, has written to Sarah Bentley, Chief Executive at Thames Water, about her concerns regarding the sewerage network in Didcot and to seek clarification on their plans to upgrade sewage treatment capacity at Didcot treatment works. For more, please see Cllr Robb's letter:

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/10/Cllr-Jo-Robb-letter-to-Sarah-Bentley-Didcot-Sewage-Treatment-Works.pdf>