



Minutes of West Hagbourne Parish Council Meeting held at Hagbourne Village Hall on Wednesday 7 September 2022 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs M. Butler, H. Lewis, M. Telford, Mr I. Leishman, Mrs M Leishman and Mr. A. Wise (Clerk)

	MB opened the meeting at 19:30 hrs	
22/653 Apologies	O. Doogue, D. Tozer, Cllr A.M. Simpson & Cllr J. Murphy	
22/654 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None received 	
22/655 Report on OCC and SODC activities	<p><u>SODC Report</u> – See appendix 6 for AMS Report.</p> <p><u>OCC Report</u> – None received</p>	
22/656 Hear representations from members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ian Leishman offered thanks to the PC on behalf of the village for the recent repairs to both village benches. He also went to thank the PC for the recent highways works in Main Street and York Road. Margaret Leishman announced that the village association had taken receipt of a donation of a suitable tree which will now be planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. 	
22/657 Approve the minutes of the meeting of 06.07.2022	It was proposed by MB, seconded HL, that the minutes be signed as a true record. Carried nem con.	
22/658 Consider matters, not take elsewhere, arising from the minutes of the meeting of 06.07.2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All action items had been completed. 	
22/659 Receive reports from Parish Councillors and the Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
22/660 Financial matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, Bench Repairs, OCC Grass Cutting Grant Refunded, Grass Cutting and Village Hall Hire. Current financial situation. AW presented the current financial situation – attachments 2 & 3. Chair to update the PC's Standing Orders in time for the changes to be approved at the November Meeting in regards of online banking. 	MB
22/661 To note decisions made with respect to planning applications dealt with since meeting of 06.07.2022 and consider outstanding applications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning applications reviewed - attachment 4 	
22/662 Highways and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk reported that the posts for the VAS units, repairs to the kerbside in Main Street as well as safety work to the entrance to York Road were completed during w/c 22nd August 2022. Highways are now just awaiting the delivery of the VAS Units which will be fitted by Westcotec as soon as they take delivery of them. 	

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22/663 Risk assessment	MB signed off appropriate parts on the current Risk Assessment Checklist - attachment 5	
22/664 Chairman's Report for Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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 to include a reminder for parishioners to cut back overhanging bushes that are situated next to footpaths.	
22/665 Respond to Communications as the Chairman may direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clerk read out an email from Jane Blond reporting that the footpath from the pond to the railway line steps by the gate, are now very worn and could do with a handrail. Councillors all agreed that something should be done on safety grounds but that it was the responsibility of the landowner – Mr and Mrs Lay. ML kindly offered to speak to Mrs Lay in the coming days to discuss that they could do to rectify the situation.	
22/666 Attend to any other business at the Chairman's discretion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parish Clerk reminded councillors that he will be on holiday from the 17 – 24 September 2022.	
22/667 Date of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wednesday 2nd November 2022	
22/668 Meeting Closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MB declared the meeting closed at 20:20 hrs.	

Signed:

Date:

Attachments:

1. Agenda
2. Financial Statements
3. Expenditure against Budget 2022-2023
4. Planning Applications
5. Risk Assessment
6. SODC Report

Title	District Councillor's Report
Author	Cllr Anne-Marie Simpson
Parish	West Hagbourne Parish Council
Date	7 September 2022

5 Year Housing Land Supply

SODC has published its 2022 5 Year Housing Land Supply (1st April 2022- 31st March 2027), in which it is able to demonstrate that it has a supply of **5.58 years**. The full 201-page report including all of the evidence that underpins this figure can be downloaded at [here](#).

Cost of Living Crisis – Information and Support

We know that many residents are already struggling with the increasing cost of living, even before the expected rising energy costs later this year. The Council has set up an area on the website to provide information and advice for anyone in financial difficulties, and a link has been added to the Home Page to make it more prominent. This resource covers financial and housing support as well as health and well-being. If you know of anyone needing help because they are struggling financially or are just finding life difficult, the SODC Community Hub can help. Whether it's practical support or just advice, get in touch:

Tel: 01235 422600

Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Can you do more to help with Climate Change?

- A new Climate Action Website has been launched for Oxfordshire as a one-stop-shop. Climate Action Oxfordshire: climateactionoxfordshire.org.uk lists measures people can take and rates them according to effort, impact, and cost. It also gives people an idea of what financial savings they can make and includes tips and links on how to get started.
- Tree Planting: Communities and groups across South Oxfordshire are being urged to put plans in place now, so they are ready to plant trees in record numbers during the annual tree planting season, later this year. If you are involved in a tree planting project or wish to get involved in being part of a record planting season, please visit southoxon.gov.uk/treeplanting for advice and support.

Grant to help improve the quality of life for people and communities

Voluntary and community organisations in South Oxfordshire can now apply for up to £75,000 of Capital funding for projects that help improve people's quality of life.

The funding comes from the latest round of the South Oxfordshire District Council Capital Grant Scheme. The council has a total budget of £320,000. Projects can receive a minimum of £1,000 and up to 50% of their total costs.

The grant gives organisations a financial boost towards capital expenditure such as making improvements to buildings or play areas.

Applicants must show how their projects will support the council's Corporate Plan priorities including 'protect and restore our natural world', 'action on the climate emergency' and 'improved economic and community well-being'.

Organisations eligible to apply are:

- Town and Parish Councils
- Non-profit businesses and Community Interest Companies
- Community based organisations

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The Capital Grant Scheme is now open for applications until midday on Friday 21 October and more information can be found on the council's website [here](#).

Survey opens on our Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

We know that everyone's personal circumstances mean they experience the world differently, and sometimes people need organisations like ours to go that bit further to help them. That's why we've launched a consultation to help us to create our Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

We're asking residents for their views on how we can make it easier for people with different needs to access our services. We already do what is required of us legally, but we want to go further to help ensure everyone is able to find out information they need in the best possible way.

[The survey is open on our website](#) and will run until 11.59pm on 19 September. Posters, Easy Read leaflets, paper copies of the strategy and survey will be available in local libraries, District Community Centre on Great Western Park, The Beacon and Cornerstone from 15 August. Alternative formats and languages are available by contacting haveyoursay@southandvale.gov.uk or calling 01235 422 425.

District councils to be temporarily based in Abingdon

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils will soon be moving on from the office building that has been our home for the past seven years.

At the end of September, to significantly reduce unnecessary costs, we will be moving to some temporary office space in the Vale's Abbey House building in the centre of Abingdon where we plan to stay for a couple of years while South Oxfordshire District Council completes the development of a new office building at Didcot Gateway.

We've been based at Milton Park since the summer of 2015, a few months after an arson attack at our headquarters at Crowmarsh Gifford, near Wallingford.

The vast majority of council staff now have hybrid working arrangements meaning they can work from home or other remote locations, or in the office. This means we need significantly less office space than before, and so the building we're occupying at Milton Park is now much too big for our needs.

We've therefore taken an opportunity to bring the lease to an end now, meaning we'll save significant sums in rent while operating out of the much smaller office space at Abbey House, which is owned by the Vale.

Most of that building is being leased by Oxfordshire County Council, but there is a small amount of available office space on the ground floor, which we last used as part of our emergency arrangements the immediate aftermath of the Crowmarsh fire.

While Abbey House will be a suitable office location for the short term, over the longer term, the councils will need more collaboration and non-desk based space, in a more energy efficient building. This will help us meet our targets to become carbon neutral councils and will also help both councils to continue to improve our financial sustainability and offer the flexibility we need to recruit and retain staff in an increasingly challenging jobs market.

The doors will open at the Abbey House offices on Monday 3 October. We will be reminding customers through our website, social media accounts, newsletters and the local press and media.