

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held via Zoom on Thursday 17th December 2020

Attendees	Cllr. James Nettleton (JN) Cllr. Mike Black (MB) Cllr. Peter Ablett (PA) Cllr. Graham Howlett (GH) Cllr. Duncan Howlett (DH) Bianca Rush (BR) (Clerk) Cllr. David Turner (DT) (SODC) Aron Wisdom (AW) (OCC Transport Team) Harry Davis (HD) (OCC Transport Team)
Apologies	Cllr. Lorraine Lindsey-Gale (LLG) (OCC)

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
54/20	Introduction	The Chair (JN) opened the meeting and welcomed all present.	
55/20	Apologies	Cllr. Lorraine Lindsey-Gale.	
56/20	Clifton Hampden Bypass	<p>Aron Wisdom & Harry Davis introductions; HD is senior transport planner; AW is programme lead for HIF schemes (£234m project) including Clifton Hampden bypass. Purpose of schemes is to enable growth in/around Didcot area. A new single carriageway is planned, to be situated between Culham Science Centre and the B401. Proposal is a 50mph road which meets modern standards; originally was 60mph but after consultation was reduced to 50mph.</p> <p>Harry overviewed the project, bringing up various drawings of the proposed bypass which showed the location. Harry explained that all current road routes will still be open to travel through Clifton Hampden, but that that most of the traffic should filter through the new road, bypassing the village. Transport team hoping to negotiate for land but will utilise CPO's if required. Project funding runs out 2024; land must be purchased by then.</p> <p>Harry highlights a study taking place at the Golden Balls roundabout to consider a park and ride, and whether this might be a suitable fit for this roundabout. MB asks if Stadhampton bypass project is likely to go ahead; Harry said project is managed by Homes England so he doesn't have any updates. PA asks about the Oxford to Cambridge expressway; Harry does not have any updates on the project.</p> <p>Clifton Hampden project to be delivered by the end of 2024. Planning app. being worked up now for submission mid-2021. Land negotiations are starting at the same time. Cycling / pedestrian facilities will be added alongside the new bypass. Construction starting 2023, completion Sept/October 2024</p>	
57/20	Minutes of the Last Meeting	Minutes approved and signed by JN.	JN
58/20	Matters Arising	None.	

59/20	Open Forum & Village Matters	None.	
60/20	District Councillor Report (DT)	<p>Local plan has been passed by district council on 10th December. DT voted against it. Disappointed at outcome after a 6-year battle against the Chalgrove development. Application has now gone in, with review delayed until April. DT states that the plan is full of errors and we must object to it on the grounds of all the evidence compiled over recent years.</p> <p>DT: Inspector highlighted several obstacles to the development taking place, which were seemingly ignored. DT expresses frustration that these obstacles were not worked through. DT highlights errors in the plans, such as the noise of engine testing, for which the site would be 150m from the new homes in places. Talk of judicial review but DT's understanding is that progress can only be made where errors have been made in the plan.</p> <p>PA draws DT's attention to NPC's objection to the Chalgrove development plans, and asks what NPC can do to support the objection. DT suggests we support Ian G and his united opposition to the development.</p> <p>MB asks about the Oxfordshire design code. DT confirms that planning in SO follows the SODC design guide. Code possibly refers to transportation. DT highlights that CIL does not apply to strategic sites, so no CIL funding would be payable if the Chalgrove planning is approved.</p>	
61/20	County Councillor Report (LLG)	<p>PA noticed that LLG highlighted that county councillor officers were planning to work with the parish councillors where the gravel extraction was supposed to be, on the methodology, for how they arrive at the 1.5 million tonnes per year; in essence questioning if this amount is necessary. PA questions if there is room for NPC to get involved in these discussions.</p> <p>JN confirms that there has not been a PAGE meeting since before previous NPC meeting. It has not been formally announced that Nuneham Courtenay site is off the table, so no further developments made.</p> <p>LLG's December report states that she has initiated meeting between the Parish Councillors for Nuneham Courtenay and Sandford-on-Thames with OCC Cabinet Member for the Environment Yvonne Constance to discuss progress on the Minerals and Waste plan on 24th November 2020.</p> <p>LLG's report stated that after the original allocation was successfully challenged by Nuneham Courtenay and Sandford-on-Thames the allocation process is starting again which is going to take months. Serious issue that SG42 is still being referred to as preferred sites, however this is to be changed so that all sites are now referred to as potential options. PA suggests that PAGE/NPC ask to be involved with these discussions.</p>	JN
62a/20 MB	SAD Speed Awareness Device	Pole has gone up in preparation for the SAD to be installed in January.	

		JN suggests that we put a notice up on the noticeboard to share the good news about the device being installed . All agreed to wait until install date is confirmed.	All
62b/20 DH/GH	CommLiaison/ Notice Board	No updates.	
62c/20 DH/GH	Planning Applications	No new applications.	
62d/20 PA/MB	Church Revival	BR overviewed recent quinquennial report which identified a number of urgently required repairs to church. Possibility this might delay the community improvements. MB spoke to Thames Water about connectivity costs; TW will survey church and get back to us. MB expresses concerns on behalf of a local resident about potential parking next to The Lydes. DH confirms that access road will not be impinged, and highlights that the area of land alongside The Lydes would only be available to contractors working on the church on occasion with his permission; it is not a permanent solution. JN expresses desire to keep church alive; thanks group for work.	
62e/20 MB/JN	Event Co- ordination	No events planned due to Covid-19.	
62f/20 BR	Website Management	No updates.	
62g/20 PA/MB	Neighbourhood Plan	No updates.	
62h/20 MB/GH/ PA	New Highways/ Potholes	GH expresses frustration that a pothole at the top of Holcombe Lane has broken down all the way to the bottom layer which was put down in 1952. GH to take it up with LLG and meet highways up there to discuss the pothole. MB highlights a water leak that was highlighted outside The Lydes layby. MB spoke to TW who fixed the issue within 1 week. Thanks to MB for expediting this repair through liaison with TW.	GH
62i/20 JN	Responsible Financial Officer	Reviewed cashbook. All satisfied with current position.	
62j/20 DH	Footpaths	No updates.	
62k/20 BR	Upcoming Training	None.	
63/20	AOB	All cheques approved. PA raised, MB seconded. PA would like to propose a Christmas bonus of £100 to the clerk for support this year. MB seconded. GH proposes NPC send a letter of thanks to Andy the postie for his help with distributing the local newsletter.	
64/20	Date of Next Meetings	Thursday 18 th Feb 2021 Thursday 15 th April 2021 Thursday 20 th May 2021	Thursday 22 nd July 2021 Thursday 16 th September 2021 Thursday 18 th November 2021

Signed: Chairman

Date:

REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS – DECEMBER 2020

BY COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE

The Government has confirmed that **Oxfordshire will move into the high COVID-19 alert level (tier 2) from Wednesday 2 December**. This means changes to the rules around working, socialising and running a business.

From 12.01am on 2 December, the following will apply:

- People must not meet socially with anybody outside their household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place.
- People must not meet in a group of more than six outside, including in a garden or other space.
- Non-essential shops can reopen, as can personal care businesses such as hairdressers, gyms and the wider leisure sector. All businesses and venues that reopen must ensure that COVID-secure measures are in place.
- Hospitality venues will be allowed to stay open until 11pm – with last orders at 10pm. However, only those that serve substantial meals can operate, and alcohol can only be served with substantial meals.
- Collective worship, weddings and outdoor sports can resume, with restrictions in place.
- Everyone who can work from home should continue to do so.

Oxford vaccine trial

Interim analysis of the Phase 3 results of the Oxford vaccine have been published. It showed that the vaccine is 70% effective - with tests on two different dose regimes showing that the vaccine was 90% effective if administered at a half dose and then at a full dose, or 62% effective if administered in two full doses. The vaccine, like that of Pfizer/BioNTech, still needs regulatory approval. But, if approved for use, then it will bring us a step closer to tackling the global pandemic. At a time when cases of coronavirus have passed 1.5 million in the UK and 55 million worldwide, this is indeed very welcome news, as well as a source of great pride that this scientific breakthrough has taken place in Oxfordshire.

Vaccination programme

The Government has asked the NHS to be ready to deliver a vaccination programme for England from December so that those who need it most will be able to access vaccinations as soon as they are available. Detailed planning is underway nationally and locally to ensure as many people as possible get the vaccination in a timely way. The NHS is working closely with partners across Oxfordshire and across the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire & Berkshire West Integrated Care System (BOB ICS) to develop the implementation programme for our area. A multi-agency vaccination cell has also been established to help support this work locally, which reports to Oxfordshire System Silver.

Even after the rollout of the vaccine is underway, the threat from COVID-19 still remains real. We are therefore continuing to underline the need for people to follow protective measures to minimise the risk. These include washing your hands, covering your face and increasing ventilation in enclosed settings, and maintaining a distance of at least one metre from others where possible.

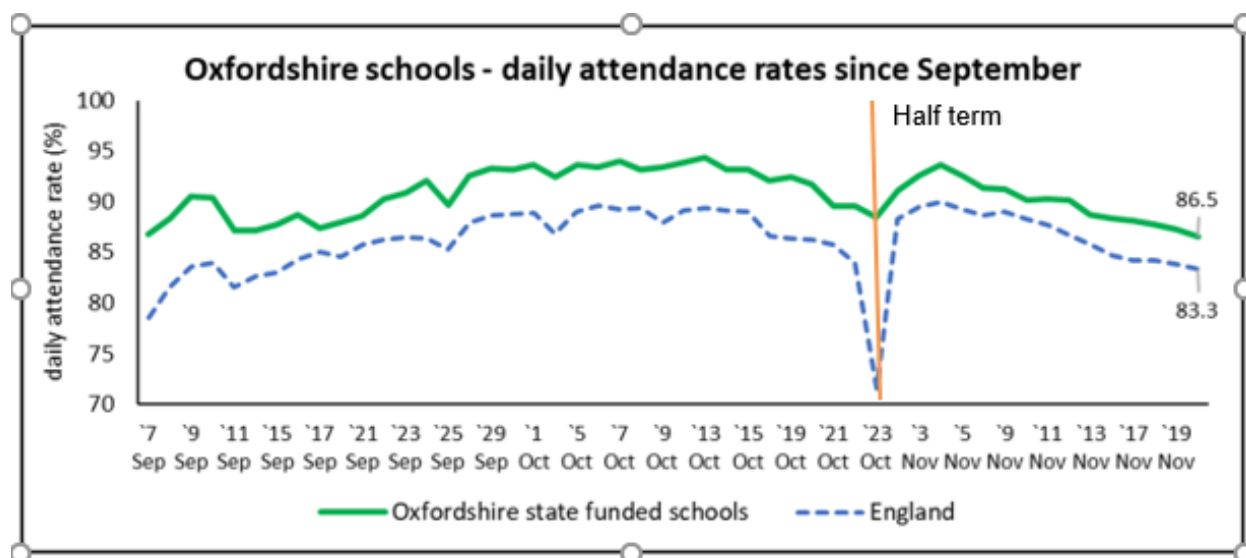
Service update: schools and early years settings

School leaders have been working extremely hard to ensure that schools across the county have remained fully open since the Autumn Term started on 1 September. In total only 8 primaries schools, 1 secondary school and 2 special schools have needed to close and, in all cases, this

was due to lack of staff and not for public health reasons. To date, 3 secondary schools, 3 special schools and 150 primaries schools have not had any COVID cases.

Two members of the Education Team have been deployed to work full time on coordinating support and advice to schools when they have a confirmed COVID-19 case or outbreak; they are supported by two members of the Public Health team.

The overall daily attendance rate in Oxfordshire maintained schools (including academies) remains consistently above the national average, as shown by the graph below:



Daily attendance in primary schools is high at 93%, while the attendance rate in secondary schools has been between 80% and 85% over the last week. Where pupils need to remain at home, education is 'remote' and consists of a blend of text book, work book and online teaching, plus some face-to-face teaching.

Communication and training

Regular meetings and briefings are held by the Education Team to keep stakeholders up to date with key information, including local COVID-19 data, Department for Education (DfE) guidance and interpreting the impact of this in schools, and feedback from meetings with the DfE and with Ofsted. Weekly meetings are held for headteachers, which attract over 150 Heads; monthly briefings are held with School Governors and Trustees, with over 60 people attending; and weekly updates are provided to all schools via the 'Schools News' e-newsletter.

The team are also delivering a range of online training and resources to help support headteachers. These include case studies for online learning, which Heads can use with their staff; and a webinar on resilience and wellbeing for headteachers on 7 December, which will explore the challenges and demands of leading through a crisis and the importance of maintaining personal wellbeing. The webinar will be followed by a weekly follow-up for Heads from a professional coach and mentor, which is part of a framework of ongoing support provided by the team to Oxfordshire headteachers in the months ahead.

Governor Services

During the pandemic, the Governor Services team have worked swiftly to adapt their methods of delivery and communication. During the first period of lockdown, all training course content was reviewed, trainers were upskilled, and software was rolled out, allowing the seamless delivery of support to school governors. Since Easter, all courses have been provided virtually. At least one course is being delivered each week; average attendance has doubled compared to last year; and feedback has been very positive, with 94% of attendees saying that the content will help them to be more effective. Shorter 'bite-sized' courses have also been introduced, which can be accessed

at any time, alongside special events – these have included a session on the Service Pupil Premium, which was attended by over 60 governors.

Virtual briefings have also been delivered for Chairs of Governors, which have attracted over 150 governors, with key topics including COVID and teacher wellbeing. The most recent clerks briefing, which again was held virtually, had the highest attendance of any such session in the last 12 months, with attendees providing positive feedback about the online delivery model.

I hope this update has given you a useful insight into some of the great work that is taking place to support our schools and early years settings during the pandemic. I would like to pay tribute to the teams involved for all their hard work, and to staff across the council for their dedication and flexibility in responding to the pandemic and continuing to deliver high-quality services in the most challenging of circumstances.

Mineral & Waste Plan

I was able to initiate a meeting between Parish Councillors from Nuneham Courtenay and Sandford-on-Thames with OCC Cabinet Member for the Environment Yvonne Constance to discuss progress on the Minerals & Waste Plan on 24th November.

The Plan has been delayed yet again. This time because Nuneham and Sandford successfully challenged the proposal put forward to identify a large area between their two villages as the sole new area to provide sharp sand and gravel from the South of the county up to 2031. As a result County officers decided that the only way forward was to go into reverse and start the site allocation process all over again. This is inevitably going to take many months.

An issue of serious concern for the Councillors was that their site – SG42 – was still being referred to as “the preferred site”. It was agreed at the meeting that this would be changed so that all sites in the new selection process would be nominated as “potential options”.

A challenge was made to the size of the Local Area Assessment figure used to determine how much gravel should be extracted each year. It was agreed that officers would work with Councillors to examine the methodology used by OCC and therefore the relevance of the current figure of 1.015 Million Tonnes Per Annum.

It was also stated that a timetable for progress of the Plan would be published after Christmas, with a consultation in March. Decisions would have to be taken after the next County Council elections in early May.

Oxfordshire Stakeholder Briefing

In addition to this report I have sent you the recently published **Oxfordshire NHS and Local Authorities Stakeholder Briefing** document. It provides an excellent overview of the many ways in which we are all working together to help protect our residents. Please take a few minutes to look through it.

REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS – DECEMBER 2020

BY COUNCILLOR DAVID TURNER

ODC Councillor's Monthly Report December 2020

Local Plan to 2035. The Inspector of the Examination in Public's final report has now been published. Details are available on the SODC website. The Inspector has found the plan sound with some modifications particularly in the area of climate change. He has made no changes to the proposed Strategic Sites in the plan which includes Chalgrove Airfield and the ones in the Oxford Green Belt. SODC will now discuss the report and make decisions on the following virtual meeting dates:

Scrutiny Committee on December 7th at 6:30 PM

Cabinet on December 8th at 6:00 PM

Full Council on December 10th at 6:00 PM

If anyone wishes to address these meetings, they should register their interest either by email on the website or by telephone.

Council Cabinets to consider Civil Parking Enforcement proposals. Following a public consultation, a major change aimed at helping to prevent illegal parking could move a step closer in the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire this week. At their respective meetings on 3 and 4 December, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils' cabinets will consider whether to move forward with proposals for Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) which could see responsibility for enforcement transfer from the police to a new team managed by Oxfordshire County Council. Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils enforce parking in their own off-street car parks. However, enforcement for on-street parking in both districts is carried out by the police. This can put unnecessary extra pressure on police resources and leave parking problems unresolved as the police focus on more serious crimes. Local councils can apply to the government to take on powers for Civil Parking Enforcement which allows them to fine motorists who park illegally or drive in bus lanes. The two councils have been working alongside Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council to investigate the feasibility of implementing CPE arrangements within their three districts. This work has included commissioning a specialist parking consultant to investigate the potential benefits, challenges, and financial requirements of the scheme. In order to implement CPE, cabinets at all three districts need to agree to move forward with the proposals. The councils would then collectively ask Oxfordshire County Council to submit a joint CPE application to the government for approval. CPE is already in place in Oxford city centre and in West Oxfordshire. If the application is approved by the government, parking enforcement on-street in South and Vale would then be carried out by a new team managed by Oxfordshire County Council. Cabinet members at Vale and South Oxfordshire will now decide whether to approve the proposals and therefore ask the county council to move forward and submit the application to the government. They will also confirm the financial contribution that the councils will need to make in order to support the formal application to the Department for Transport to implement Civil Parking Enforcement in their respective districts. If all three districts agree then CPE could be implemented by the end of 2021.

People urged to support local traders in the Vale and South Oxfordshire as councils confirm free parking days in the run up to Christmas. People in the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire can park for free on specific days this December and are being urged to use this opportunity to support their local shops and cafes in the run up to Christmas.

Each year Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils provide free parking days during December to help encourage people to shop locally for their Christmas presents.

Motorists can park in District Council car parks without paying for or displaying a ticket on the following days in December:

Abingdon – Saturdays (5, 12, 19 December)

Faringdon – Saturdays (5, 12, 19 December)

Wantage – Saturdays (5, 12, 19 December)

Didcot – Mondays (7, 14, 21 December)

Goring – Saturdays (5, 12, 19 December)

Henley – Tuesdays (8, 15, 22 December)

Thame – Saturdays (5, 12, 19 December)

Wallingford -Thursdays (10, 17, 24 December)

Users will not have to display a ticket on the free days.

Motorists can also continue to park for free each day outside of the charging period and during the standard free periods offered by both councils, but must they display a ticket during this time.

For more information about parking and district council car parks please visit whitehorsedc.gov.uk/parking/southoxon.gov.uk/parking

Note. The above arrangements are subject to any change in National or local Covid-19 restrictions.

Councillor grant scheme now available. Our councillor grant scheme, which you are eligible to apply for as a Town or Parish council (or Parish Meeting), opened last Friday and will close at noon on Friday 5 February 2021. Each councillor has a budget of £5,000 to award to projects or services that will benefit communities in their ward. The scheme is also open to other non-profit community organisations. We're especially keen to fund projects that will contribute to our new corporate plan priorities, in particular to protect and restore our natural world; action on the climate emergency and improved economic and community well-being. The funding is ideal for projects which are relatively low in costs and can complete within a year. To make an application, firstly have a chat with your Ward Councillor, and then submit an application via our website. If you have any further queries, please contact the community enablement team.

Brexit. While Covid and Christmas may be taking centre stage at the moment we also have a keen eye on Brexit and in particular the impact it will have on our local businesses. The South and Vale Business Support website has published information and links to the government website on what businesses need to do to prepare for the transition. One thing we're recommending that all businesses do is to use the government's step-by-step self-help tool, which provides a specific explanation on exactly what the business needs to do.

We are working with the county council, OxLEP and other partners, to help signpost local businesses to the self-help tool and the government's other advice and guidance in readiness for 1 January. We will also be working with our partners to share messages about encouraging affected residents that haven't already done so to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme

Business Support update. Local Restrictions Support Grant. So far, we've received 361 applications and are already processing payments to 58 businesses to a total value of £97,000.

This grant is for businesses that pay rates and have been forced to close due to the national lockdown – we estimate we have a total of 1,053 eligible businesses. There is no official deadline for this grant funding.

Additional Restrictions Grant. So far, we have received 207 applications, 175 of which were eligible. We're running some standard fraud checks through independent agencies on these and all future eligible applications before issuing our offer letters to the successful businesses. We've closed 20 applications down because they have either applied to the wrong district, or for the wrong grant scheme – either way we've let them know what they need to do. We're awaiting further information or for eligibility checks on the remaining 12 applications we've had so far. To help raise awareness of this grants scheme, we've been running a radio advert on Heart FM locally since last Friday. Applications for this round close on 4 December, though we will continue to accept applications from businesses who are notified they incorrectly applied for the Local Restriction Support Grant above.

Fly tipped waste costs supermarket more than £7,300. A company director has been ordered to pay more than £7,300 in fines and court costs after waste from her supermarket was found in South Oxfordshire. New Covid Compliance Marshals in Southern Oxfordshire. From 16 November, two new Covid Compliance Marshals have been employed to promote and encourage businesses and residents across southern Oxfordshire to comply with the COVID-19 public health measures to reduce the impact of the pandemic.

David Turner

SODC Councillor (Chalgrove Ward)

December 1st 2020