

District Councillors Report to Parish Councils

Watchfield and Shrivenham Ward

August 2021

Vale of White Horse District Council

Covid – As things have progressed since our last report we are beginning to see a return of some normality. However, we must all be careful and follow the guidance. If there are any changes the Vale will keep Town and Parish Councils informed. In the meantime we encourage you to keep a watching brief on the Vale's website – www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Garden Waste Service – Residents will know that the garden waste service has been suspended for the whole of August. A review will take place at the end of the month to determine when and if the service will re-commence. It was unfortunate that the communication from the Vale gave such short notice. The Vale is recommending that garden waste be taken to one of the Household Waste Recycling Centres or to try composting.

Voter Registration Letter – The annual voter registration letter was due to be delivered at the end of July beginning of August. It is important that residents check the details are correct and take action if required..

Planning – Last month we mentioned a community consultation survey for a small affordable housing development in Shrivenham. To date there has not been any further communication or indeed a registered planning application with the Vale.

Throughout July and the beginning of this month there have been a number of planning applications submitted to the Vale from villages within our Ward. There are two planning enforcement issues that are ongoing and being progressed.

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 – The consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Reg 18 began on 30 July for 10 weeks. The consultation is online at oxfordshireopenthought.org The Plan will set out the framework for future planning decisions on housing and infrastructure needs.

Joint Local Plan 2041- Work on this new local plan has started and more information is available on the Vale website: [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/joint local plan 2041](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/joint-local-plan-2041).

Climate Emergency Advisory Committee – The next two meetings of this Committee have been arranged for 4 October and 10 January 2022.

Electric Vehicles The County Council has arranged promotional events in Abingdon, Henley and Witney during August. It is anticipated that the installation of charging points will be completed by next March.

Civil Parking Enforcement – The County Council are working on identifying suitable locations for on-street parking bay chargers. It is still anticipated that the scheme to be implemented by the end of this year.

White Horse Community Lottery – The lottery was launched on Monday 14 June. The Lottery now has its own website: www.whitehorselottery.co.uk which provides all the information required to participate.

Consultations – There are a number of consultations for people to have their say these include the following:

New Vale Council website feedback and The Vale's Great Green Recycling Bin Quiz. Both of these consultations are ongoing and comments may be made at any time. Details on the Vale website www.whitehorsedc.gov/consultations

New Air Quality Website – Open until 5 September and is accessed via oxford city council's consultation portal

Have your Say on the Ox-Cam Arc - Open until 12 October and accessed via placebuilder.io/futureofthearc

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC'S) – Open until 27 September and accessed via the Oxfordshire County Council's website Let's Talk page

Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OXIS) The strategy provides a framework for infrastructure, investment priorities and potential opportunities for funding and delivery – Open until 31 August and accessed via the OXIS consultation page

Swindon Borough Council Local Plan 2026 – SBC are reviewing its adopted local plan to extend the period to 2036 - Open until 16 September and accessed via swindon.gov.uk/localplanreview

Swindon BC is also refreshing its Local Transport Plan – Open until 17 September and accessed via swindon.gov.uk/local_transport_plan_refresh_consultation

Swindon Borough Council – New Eastern Villages

With effect from Monday 16 August major reconstruction work will begin at the White Hart Roundabout. The works are estimated to last for 12 weeks. The roundabout will not be safe to be kept open to through traffic but access will be maintained for emergency services only. Traffic will be able to use the junction to leave the A419 southbound to join the A420 eastbound or to leave the A420 westbound to join the A419 southbound only. Diversions will be signposted. Obviously these works will have an impact on traffic flow and it is likely that villages will see an increase in traffic in order to avoid any possible queuing.

In addition the westside of the M4 at Junction 15 roundabout will be closed weekdays from 12 August through to 7 September. No access on to the roundabout from the A346 or off the roundabout to the A419 northbound. Both east and west slips will be closed.

The continuing roadworks in Swindon have had a knock on effect to the construction of the new roundabout on the A420. This roundabout is to serve the residents of Cross Trees Park and existing residents of Shrivenham. It is now unlikely that the roundabout will be constructed until late summer 2022.

We have just received notification from SBC that there will be night works on both carriageways of the A420 at Gablecross from 10 August until 13 August between the hours of 1900 and 0600 and on Saturday and Sunday 14 and 15 August from 07.30 to 00.00. Temporary traffic lights will be in place to manage traffic.

Although we don't normally hold surgeries we are always available to deal with any issues.

However, following the success of the event we held in Shrivenham on Saturday 24 July we have arranged another **Meet your Councillors**. We shall be at Watchfield Village Hall on Saturday 18 September from 1030-Midday and look forward to residents joining us for a chat about any concerns they may have or just have a moan about things that irritate them. All being well we shall be joined by County Councillor Yvonne Constance and representatives from the Faringdon Neighbourhood Police Team.

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