

District Councillors Report to Parish Councils

Watchfield and Shrivenham Ward

July 2022

Vale of White Horse District Council

Homes for Ukraine For general Ukraine queries please go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ukraine

Telephone helpline 01865 966444 Open 0845am-5pm Monday to Friday closed weekends and bank holidays

Email: ukraineresponse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

For general queries, housing and community support in the Vale go to www.whitehorsedcc.gov.uk/ukraine

Telephone helpline 01235 422600 Option 1 Open 0830am-5pm Monday to Thursday 0830am – 4.30pm Friday closed weekends and bank holidays

Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Covid – Infection rates continue to rise in the local area. Please be mindful of any guidance that is promoted and do take care.

Planning

The number of planning applications for Ward villages continues to rise. Details for each Parish may be found on the Vale website www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/planning

The application that was submitted for a 64 bed care home in the garden/paddock of Wayside Townsend Road in Shrivenham has been withdrawn by the developer.

Planning Appeals

- 1) An appeal has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for the application of 26 dwellings on Townsend Road in Shrivenham on the grounds of non-determination within the specified timescale. The Appellant has requested that the appeal be held in public at a formal hearing. Date, time and venue to be advised.
- 2) An appeal has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for the application of five self-build dwellings on land at the rear of Swiss Cottage Faringdon Road Shrivenham. The grounds for the appeal are based on the reasons for refusal by the Vale. The Appellant has requested that the appeal be held in public at a formal hearing. Date, time and venue to be advised.
- 3) An appeal has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for a two storey side extension to Acorn Cottage The Green Longcot. The appeal is the refusal of planning permission by the Vale. The appellant has requested that the appeal be dealt with by written representations.

Council Meeting – At the full Council meeting held on 13 July it was agreed that Councillor Paul Barrow would be the Council's Food and Farming Champion, He will help to promote food production, distribution, healthy eating and the environment. The Motion relating to the cost of living was debated and it was agreed to ask the Leader of the Council to write to relevant government ministers and our local MP's to ask for urgent action to relieve the cost of living crisis. Full details of the Motion are on the Vale's website – www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Please note: Future full Council meetings will be held face to face at The Beacon Wantage. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 5 October.

Climate Emergency Advisory Committee – The latest Committee meeting was held on Monday 11 July. Agenda items included Update on the Climate Action Team, Tiny Forest update and performance report for Quarter 4 and annual report for 2021-22. The minutes of the meeting are available on the Vale website.

Swindon CCG/Integrated Care Alliance – We met with the CCG on 29 June and received an update on progress since the last meeting at the beginning of May. There have been a number of staff changes in readiness for the transformation and as a result the expected Newsletter has been delayed. The next meeting has been arranged for 13 September.

Abingdon Outdoor Pool – The pool will finally be open on Monday 25 July for a six week period covering the school holidays.

Climate Action Fund Grants – We are delighted to report that two organisations from within our Ward have been successful with their grant applications from the £50,000 allocated fund for Climate Action projects. Greener Gt. Coxwell have been awarded £1500 and Sustainable Shrivenham £5,000.

On the Move again – The Vale and South Oxfordshire District Councils will be moving from Milton Park to Abbey House Abingdon in mid- October. This will be a temporary move until the new offices are built in at the Gateway in Didcot. More details to follow

Swindon Borough Council – New Eastern Villages

We thought that we would be free of roadworks at the White Hart Roundabout but ... the latest planning application to be submitted to Swindon BC is for the former Madison Hotel site to become a Garden Centre with a Drive-Thru coffee shop and alterations to existing accesses. We await the outcome of this application. Swindon BC has identified a significant overspend on the new Southern Connector Road. This is the road that is due to serve the new Eastern Villages to the south of the A420. Whether the funding shortfall will delay construction remains to be seen.

Local Traffic Issues - The increase in traffic through Shrivenham village via Bourton Wharf/Townsend Road access from the A420 continues. We believe this is due to traffic avoiding the traffic lights and single lane access on the Bypass where the new roundabout is being constructed. We hope that this increase will only be temporary. Additionally Earthline HGV's are continuing to use Shrivenham High Street, the B4000 and other unsuitable country roads to access their Wroughton facility. We

have written to the company and hope that they will consider the damage that their vehicles are causing to local roads and to use the main roads that are available to them.

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

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