

District Councillors Report to Parish Councils

Watchfield and Shrivenham Ward

June 2021

Vale of White Horse District Council

The Vale will continue to keep Town and Parish Councils informed of any changes to the Covid 19 situation and we would encourage keeping a watching brief on the Vale's website – www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Planning – The Vale Planning Committee at its meeting on 2 June granted permission for 10 dwellings on the former residential and employment site next to STS on Townsend Road Shrivenham. At the same meeting permission was granted to convert farm buildings at Buscot into office accommodation.

There continues to be a significant number of applications submitted to the Vale from Ward villages most of which are for extensions or listed building consent.

Boundary Review – details of the Boundary Commissions proposals for Oxfordshire may be found at <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/6488?postcode=SN68EL>

The Vale will be included in three constituencies namely. Didcot and Wantage, Oxford West and Abingdon and Witney. The Watchfield and Shrivenham Ward will be included in the Witney constituency. Parish Councils are encouraged to review the proposals and make any representations to the Commission by 2 August 2021.

Climate Emergency Advisory Committee – It has been agreed that as well as Task and Finish Groups there will also be informal meetings of which the public are invited. The first of these informal meetings was held on Monday 14 June. The two main items for discussion were the development of the Vale's tree policy and public sector decarbonisation scheme projects. As mentioned in last month's report there is a new webpage which give details of action on climate and nature.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points – The County Council's roll-out of the Oxfordshire-wide Park and Charge Scheme has been slightly delayed and is now expected to be launched in the Vale in late autumn. The delay is partly due to ensuring that the pilot scheme currently being trialled in Bicester will provide the best experience for users.

Civil Parking Enforcement – Awaiting progress report from the County Council. It is still anticipated that the scheme will be operational by then end of this year.

White Horse Community Lottery – The lottery was launched on Monday 14 June. To find out more please go to the Vale's website or Email communityenablement@southandvale.gov.uk

The Beacon Wantage is due to re-open on 6 September. The community centre has been operating as one of four Oxfordshire sites offering symptom free testing and a test collection point. Details of forthcoming events will be advertised in the next few weeks.

EU Settlement Scheme – The deadline for the EU Settlement Scheme is Wednesday 30 June 2021. It is important that those wishing to retain their existing status be advised to go to the Government website: www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme for advice and guidance.

Swindon Borough Council – New Eastern Villages – The works around Gablecross and Sainsbury's are progressing well. These works are primarily dealing with drainage, installation of traffic lights and street lighting. Other road works in and around the White Hart roundabout continue and are on schedule. The work on the Southern Connector Road is also on schedule. We are awaiting a report following the meeting of Swindon and OCC Officers which is due to take place during the month of June.

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

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