

**East Hagbourne Parish Council
(EHPC)**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on
Thursday 6th December 2018**

1) Attendance, apologies, declarations of pecuniary interest and vacancies.

Present were Chairman I. Duff, Vice Chairman D. Button, District Councillor J. Murphy and Councillors, J. Elliott, P. Dixon, C. Gover, D. Rickeard and C. Shaikh

In attendance: A. Leigh

Apologies were received from County Councillor S. Clarke.

I. Duff indicated there is 1 vacancy for parish councillor.

2) Public forum and questions. None

3) Reports from County Councillor and District Councillor.

There was not a report from S. Clarke.

I. Duff referenced the November and December reports from J. Murphy.

D. Rickeard referenced the SODC Local Plan. It was noted there is a briefing on the 3rd January. It was noted that both a Parish Councillor and a member of the Steering Group were invited. It was noted that this is the date of the next Parish Council meeting. D. Rickeard will speak to the Steering Group.

District Councillor J. Murphy addressed the meeting. She said that at last there was a chance that the Dicot infrastructure might be able to benefit from some HIF (Housing Infrastructure Fund) monies, potentially £175 million. There might also be £20million for improving the Jubilee Way roundabout. She also was pleased that the Rebellion film studio was coming to Didcot.

4) Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st

November 2018: The minutes of the meetings of 1st November were approved and signed.

5) Actions from previous meetings

2017-03-01: Repairs to Upper Cross: A. Leigh reported R. Noviss confirmed he has finished the work. I. Duff reported that if any cracks widen, the council will contact R. Noviss. It was noted that this action item is completed.

2017-08-01: Action repairs in Great Mead Playground: It was noted that this action item is completed.

2017-09-0-4: The Future of St Anne's Court: The council will follow up with S. Clarke in the January timeframe as to whether Didcot Town Council will be able to take this over in the new financial year. The clerk will send an e-mail to S. Clarke and J. Murphy to follow up on this.

2018-01-01: Defibrillator Training: It was noted that one of the training sessions has taken place. The next one is on the 11th January 2019. It was noted that AL will check as to the infant pads and D. Rickeard has sent some questions to the trainer. It was noted that

the telephone responders usually only considered defibrillators within 300 metres of an incident so that perhaps there should be a defibrillator at the Village Hall which might be even more important with the new houses coming in.

2018-07-09: Fixing of 30mph sign: AL reported that Mark Francis of OCC has indicated this is being worked on. The clerk will continue to follow up as to whether or not it is complete.

2018-04-10: Traffic signs by War Memorial: I. Duff reported that the Give Way sign seems to be in place at the War Memorial. J. Elliott asked if the light on the sign is working.

2018-04-10: Identify need for benches: C. Shaikh is looking into the state of benches in the village.

2018-04-10: Removal/reduction of Grainger fence: It was noted that SODC cannot take this further and the way forward may be ongoing discussions between the appropriate party at Grainger and C. Topping. However, the chairman had just heard from C. Topping that Grainger had not given permission for any fence removal or reduction at their December Board meeting. It is hoped that once the Neighbourhood Plan is in place, it might help further negotiations.

6) Items for discussion/decision

A) Planning Applications

i. Mactaggart and Mickel Update: I. Duff, D. Button and D. Rickeard spoke to Joan Desmond of SODC regarding the development. It was noted that the minutes of this meeting have been sent to Mactaggart and Mickel. They have noted they are working to address points raised by the council.

B) Neighbourhood Plan (NP):

i. Recommendations from the Steering Group to be endorsed/discussed by council: D. Rickeard reported that Allison has now forwarded our response to the examiner's comments to SODC. The consultation period ends on 4th January 2019.

C) Grants from District and County Councillors: J. Murphy indicated there is grant money available. The deadline is the 15th December 2018. C. Shaikh raised that monies could possibly be used for benches and J. Murphy is happy with that.

D) Resolving to pay for Cemetery Waste Management: The Council agreed to pay for Grundon to take over the Cemetery Waste Management. The annual cost would be just over £500. A. Leigh will contact Grundon to inform them.

E) Royal British Legion Donation: D. Button proposed donating £100 to the Royal British Legion. J. Elliott seconded this and Council agreed to donate this sum.

F) Village Hall Car Parking: It was noted that correspondence had come in advising that cars have been blocking the gates in front of the main doors at the Village Hall. It was noted that no parking signs have been put up on the gates.

7. Items for Report

A) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): A. Leigh reported she had sent a draft General Privacy Notice and Staff Privacy Notice to the council. The council will comment on these and send to the clerk. A. Leigh noted that she will look into encrypting the computer and memory stick.

B) Village tidiness: D. Button and D. Rickeard met to review village tidiness. From the discussions, a document was circulated to the council. It was agreed that a meeting with highways and footpaths might be useful. D. Rickeard will get a name of someone to speak with. It was noted that something should be put in the newsletter on this. D. Rickeard to write something and circulate.

C) East Hagbourne Sport and Recreation Committee (EHS&RC): D. Rickeard noted that that the fire risk assessment is nearly done. It was noted that this will improve procedures and that the fire officer has been very helpful.

D) Cemetery Committee Report: D. Button reported that the committee had met in November and that the minutes would be available after the next meeting in March. He noted that Val Brownsword will be stepping down from West Hagbourne PC in May so D. Button will remain as Chair of the Committee. D. Button has informed V. Brownsword that West Hagbourne PC needs to appoint a new member to the committee.

D. Button reported that the digitization of records has begun. He also noted that the committee needs to review the safety inspection of the memorials.

It was noted that correspondence had arisen as to a missing memorial which has turned out not to be in East and West Hagbourne Cemetery. John Jones, churchwarden, is handling the correspondence.

E) Stream maintenance: D. Rickeard reported there had been a successful work party on this with 8-9 people helping including P. Dixon and his wife. It was reported that the stream is now in fairly good shape, but the concern is re-growth in the spring. D. Rickeard thanked Robert Ainger for his leadership and the volunteers for their efforts on this.

F) Oxford to Cambridge Expressway: It was noted that OCC is preparing a more detailed plan on this which will be available this time next year.

8) Correspondence: A. Leigh referenced that some trees of a resident on New Road will be worked on in January and some of the branches overhang the Recreation Ground. The resident will have branches cut and remove any debris. D. Button will oversee this.

A. Leigh referenced the Statement of Community Involvement from OCC regarding the joint statutory spatial plan (JSSP), known as the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. It was noted that the council does not feel the need to comment.

9) Finance Report

Payments since last meeting

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cheque no.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Date</u>
Allied International Credit Ltd	Castle Water bill	102596	119.31	13.64	132.95	6/12/18
PWLB	Loan payment	Direct Debit	3424.76	0	3424.76	3/12/18
Allison Leigh	December salary	102597	534.52	0	5134.52	31/12/18
Allison Leigh	Mileage and expenses	102598	68.97	4.88	73.85	6/12/18

Edge IT Systems Ltd	Epitaph set up and Training (cemetery database)	102599	144.00	28.80	172.80	6/12/18
Mullins (Reading) Ltd	Supply material for new path lights – Pavilion	102600	448.83	89.77	538.60	6/12/18
BGG	Cemetery hedge cutting	102601	250.00	50.00	300.00	6/12/18
BGG	Hedge cutting at the Village Hall	102602	150.00	30.00	180.00	6/12/18
Dark White Digital	Web hosting	102603	30.00	0	30.00	6/12/18

1) Receipts since last meeting

<u>From</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Patrick Gale	Rent	1465.00	10/10/18
Edward Carter	Tuck Memorial fee	80.00	3/10/18
Barclays	Bank interest	1.05	3/9/18
Abingdon Stone and Marble	Warr memorial	160.00	12/11/18
Reeves Memorials	Bishop memorial	85.00	26/1/18
Chadwicks	Hughes – Exclusive Rights of Burial and interment fees	300.00	26/11/18
Anthony Keefe	Payment of Exclusive Rights of Burial for plot CR65 (for stone placement only)	85.00	1/12/18

2) Accumulated Account Balances (reconciled as of last bank statement through 31/10/18)

Barclays Banks accounts (2) £ 48,978.80

3) The Special Project balances as of 6/12/18 are:-

Neighbourhood Plan	£ 3,348.38
Planned Development Support Fund	£ 5,303.15

B) 2019 2020 Budget/Precept review: D Button presented the draft budget for 2019 -2020.

The issue of website accessibility was addressed and C. Gover is working with Dave Woods on this. The budget allocation for this may need to increase, but grants may also be available.

It was noted there may be monies needed for Village Tidiness.

It was felt that we should leave the precept the same, and D. Button will make revisions to the budget and circulate it prior to the January meeting at which the precept will be agreed.

10) Items for report and inclusion on the 3rd January 2019 agenda:

It was reported that the Employment Committee had 3 interested parties for the clerk position with 2 applications being submitted. One applicant pulled out and one was interviewed. The committee was happy with the applicant and D. Button is awaiting references. The council agreed for the Employment Committee to proceed with choosing the clerk.

It was reported that Sara James would like to work on the dog poo posters with the school as she had done last year.

The council would like the following on the January agenda:

Budget 2019/2020 and precept
Accidents

The meeting closed at 9:40pm. The next meeting is on the 3rd January 2019 at 7:30pm in the Pavilion.

Signed.....Dated.....

ATTACHMENT 1 ACTION LIST

Action No	What	Who	Status
2017-03-01	Repairs to Upper Cross	AL	Completed
2017-08-01	Action Repairs in Great Mead Playground	AL	Completed
2017-09-04	Progress St Anne's Court Transfer	AL	In Progress
2018-01-01	Arrange defibrillator training	AL	In Progress
2018-07-09	Fixing of 30mph sign	AL	In Progress
2018-04-10	Traffic signs by War Memorial	ID	In Progress
2018-04-10	Identify need for benches	CS	In Progress
2018-04-10	Removal/reduction of Grainger fence	ID	In Progress

SODC A Conservative District Councillor's View
(Or What The Council Is Doing)

November 2018.

Planning

Renewable energy workshop for neighbourhood plans

District councillors and neighbourhood planning groups are invited to attend our Renewable Energy Workshop on Wednesday 21 November.

The event, run in association with the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE), will be a fantastic opportunity to discover how neighbourhood plans could take advantage of renewable energy and address the issues of climate change. It will focus on:

- identifying potential renewable energy resources in the neighbourhood
- expressing support for specific forms of renewable energy
- identifying suitable sites
- promoting a more sustainable future

The workshop is being held in our offices at 135 Eastern Avenue between 1pm and 4.30pm.

We expect this event to be popular, so are working on a first come, first served basis. Anyone wishing to attend should register online before 5pm on Wednesday 14 November at:

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=74&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsurvey.southandvale.gov.uk%2Fs%2Frenewable%2F&a=0>

BBC article on Great Western Park

You may have seen a story on the BBC last week critical of transport and access issues on new housing developments, which mentioned Great Western Park. The article stated that residents there have difficulty getting on and off the estate and suggested residents were forced into climbing a fence to get around. The report also incorrectly suggested there was no access through to Milton Park, despite the recent re-opening of the foot tunnel under the railway line.

We're investigating the issue raised about the fence to see if it's a genuine issue and one we're able to influence with the developers, but we also wanted to let you know that, despite the BBC article being critical, the report it was based on actually praised Great Western Park and its transport and other community facilities. You can read the full report the article was based on [here](#).

Expressway update

Following the government's Expressway corridor announcement in September, the Growth Board met to consider its implications for Oxfordshire.

After the meeting, the chair of the Growth Board, Cllr Jane Murphy, wrote to Highways England and the Secretary of State for Transport outlining our concerns about the lack of clarity on the preferred route around Oxford. You can read the full letter on the Growth Board's website.

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=74&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.oxfordshiregrowthboard.org%2Fmore-clarity-on-oxford-to-cambridge-expressway-required%2F&a=0>

Neighbourhood Plan updates

We now have 12 made plans in the district, most recently The Baldons, Warborough & Shillingford, Benson and Watlington.

Referendums will be held for Chalgrove and Little Milton on Thursday 22 November.

The examinations of the Goring, Cholsey and Pyrton plans are ongoing, with the final report for Pyrton expected in early November.

Motions Before Council

- A. Motion proposed by Councillor Ian White, seconded by Councillor Alan Thompson: “That Council agrees the principle that all new housing planning permissions of more than 75 Homes should be provided with an on-site publicly available defibrillator and asks officers to explore whether it is feasible to bring forward the necessary planning policies to achieve this”.

Mrs Mantle addressed Council in support of the motion. The provision of more accessible defibrillators in residential areas will increase the chances of survival. Councillors expressed support for the motion. Housing and population growth necessitated an increase in the availability of defibrillators. This provision would make a positive impact on survival rates and assist the ambulance service and medical professionals.

RESOLVED: That Council agrees the principle that all new housing planning permissions of more than 75 Homes should be provided with an on-site publicly available defibrillator and asks officers to explore whether it is feasible to bring forward the necessary planning policies to achieve this.

- B. Motion proposed by Councillor Lynn Lloyd, seconded by Councillor Felix Bloomfield: “That Council asks officers to investigate opportunities to better promote the River Thames for tourism and leisure activities for all residents especially young people in the district”.

Councillors highlighted the many activities and options available for tourism and leisure activities on the River Thames. A number raised concern regarding access from rural areas, slipways access, overgrown vegetation on the banks of the river and the need for more and improved moorings.

RESOLVED: That Council asks officers to investigate opportunities to better promote the River Thames

for tourism and leisure activities for all residents especially young people in the district.

- C. Motion proposed by Councillor Anna Badcock, seconded by Councillor Nigel Champken-Woods: “That Council recognises the important contribution made by our local health services and requests that the leader writes to the Clinical Commissioning Group to re-state our support for continued joint working with the district council”.

With the consent of Council, the mover and seconder of the original motion accepted amended wording to include reference to joint working with the county council. Councillors noted that an improved working relationship between the sectors could assist with a better understanding of the needs of residents.

- D. RESOLVED: That Council recognises the important contribution made by our local health services and requests that the leader writes to the Clinical Commissioning Group to re-state our support for continued joint working with the district council and county council.

Motion proposed by Councillor Ian Snowdon, with the agreement of Council in the absence of Councillor Paul Harrison, seconded by Councillor Toby Newman: “That Council asks officers to investigate opportunities for adopting new digital communication channels to provide residents with regular updates as part of the council’s long term technology strategy. Officers are asked to consider the scope for joint working with a range of partners, such as parish councils and Oxfordshire County Council, to develop an integrated approach to provision of community information across the district”.

RESOLVED: That Council asks officers to investigate opportunities for adopting new digital communication channels to provide residents with regular updates as part of the council’s long term technology strategy. Officers are asked to consider the scope for joint working with a range of partners, such as parish councils and Oxfordshire County Council, to develop an integrated approach to provision of community information across the district.

- E. Motion proposed by Councillor Bill Service, seconded by Councillor Lynn Lloyd: “That Council recognises the important contribution made by our local police force and requests that the leader writes to the police and crime commissioner to re-state our support for continued joint working with the district council on community safety issues for our residents”

Councillors noted the important initiatives introduced as a result of joint working on the Community Safety Partnership including Pub Watch and Drink Watch.

RESOLVED: That Council recognises the important contribution made by our local police force and requests that the leader writes to the police and crime commissioner to re-state our support for continued joint working with the district council on community safety issues for our residents.

- F. Motion proposed by Councillor Toby Newman, seconded by Councillor David Nimmo-Smith: “That Council agrees the principle that all major planning applications should consider options to facilitate cycle hire schemes where appropriate and asks officers to consider whether it is feasible to bring forward the formal planning policies that would be necessary to achieve this”.

Councillors highlighted the need to encourage more cycling as part of a sustainable transport policy with associated health benefits.

RESOLVED: That Council agrees the principle that all major planning applications should consider options to facilitate cycle hire schemes where appropriate and asks officers to consider whether it is feasible to bring forward the formal planning policies that would be necessary to achieve this.

- G. Motion proposed by Councillor Caroline Newton, seconded by Councillor David Dodds: “That Council asks the leader to write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to urge the Government to intensify pressure on manufacturers to reduce the production of non-recyclable plastic”

Whilst supporting the motion a number of councillors raised the following points: • problems arose with discarded plastics which impact on the environment and wildlife;

- non-recyclable plastics are incinerated to provide energy;
- there remains public confusion regarding which plastics are recyclable

RESOLVED: That Council asks the leader to write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to urge the Government to intensify pressure on manufacturers to reduce the production of non-recyclable plastic.

Business Awards launch

Our Economic Development Team launched the first-ever South and Vale Business Awards on 31 October at Cornerstone.

The launch and networking event explained how you can nominate successful businesses in our region for one or more of the seven award categories.

You can register to find out more information on the awards on the SO Business website <http://www.so-business.co.uk/svba/awards-events-promotion/>

For more information on the work the team do to help businesses in our district email Economic Development at:

economic.development@southandvale.gov.uk or call 01235 422213.

New online services from Thames Valley Police

If you need to get in touch with Thames Valley Police to find out about, or assist with, ongoing cases, or to contact an officer or department directly, you can now do so online by using their new contact form. If you want to speak to someone by phone then please call 101.

To report a crime or missing person you should use this report form at:

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=67&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.thamesvalley.police.uk%2Fcontact%2Fcontact-us%2F&a=0>

Proposed changes to Housing Allocations Policy

We have opened a consultation on South and Vale's Housing Allocations Policy, which sets out how we will assess applications to join the housing register and how to allocate social housing within the districts.

You can read a summary of the proposed changes here

https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=69&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dropbox.com%2Fs%2Fyeh7m2ffj846523%2Fsummary_of_proposed_changes.final2.pdf%3Fdl%3D0&a=0

and the full policy is available here:

https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=69&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dropbox.com%2Fs%2Fz3q8ddbzkrrarkum%2FHAP_DRAFT_final.pdf%3Fdl%3D0&a=0

You can submit your comments online until 5pm on 26 November at:

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=69&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsurvey.southandvale.gov.uk%2Fs%2FHAP2018%2F&a=0>

If you have any further queries on the consultation, please contact the Community Engagement Team on 01235 422600.

Gigabit scheme

Let your local businesses and residents know that they can apply for the government's gigabit scheme that supports communities to achieve a better broadband connection.

The scheme is designed for small and medium businesses to access up to £3,000 worth of vouchers to upgrade their internet connection.

Groups of residents can also apply for a voucher of up to £500 for each domestic connection - as long as a local business is involved in the scheme and is the main beneficiary.

Businesses and residents can check their eligibility via gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/

Modern slavery awareness

As part of Anti-Slavery Day on 18 October, the Community Safety Team have been distributing more of our modern slavery stickers in our public toilets to help raise awareness of the issue. The stickers provide a free helpline number for anyone who may be trapped in modern slavery.

For more information please see our Modern Slavery guidance, this will help you recognise possible signs of modern slavery that you may come across in your day to day work.

It also sets out what you should do if you suspect that someone is being exploited.

Purple Tuesday - accessible shopping day

Please help spread the word to local retailers that Purple Tuesday is taking place on Tuesday 13 November. This special day aims to encourage shops across the country to make shopping more inclusive and accessible for disabled customers.

You can find out more information about Purple Tuesday and let your local independent shops know, they can get some guidance on how to make their property more accessible by going to purpletuesday.org.uk.

Waste and Recycling

Reporting missed bin collections

Some councillors have asked for a reminder on how people should report missed bins.

If a resident needs to report a missed bin they should contact Biffa:

- online by visiting southoxon.gov.uk/missedbina before midnight on the next working day after the collection was due
- by calling 03000 610610 before 5pm on the next working day.

Crews will only return to collect a missed bin if it was originally put out before 7am on the scheduled collection day.

There are some occasions when crews can't collect a bin – for example, if the bin was not put out in time. If a resident has put the wrong items in their recycling, or the bin was too heavy or overflowing, then the crew will place a tag on the bin to explain why it wasn't collected and will attempt to collect it on the next scheduled collection.

If there are repeat problems at a property or a specific area, Biffa will investigate. If a collection is missed at the same property on a number of occasions, and the issue is not resolved by Biffa, residents should email waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk and we will investigate.

Reminder; Cooking oil recycling

We've just introduced a new cooking oil recycling service for residents as part of our food waste collections.

After cooking and once it has cooled, any leftover oil can be poured into a plastic bottle no bigger than one litre in size. The bottle and its contents can then be placed into the kerbside food waste caddy, along with other food waste, and put out for the weekly collection. For those who don't want to use a plastic bottle, oil can also be poured straight into the caddy along with other food waste.

One litre of cooking oil can generate enough electricity to make 240 cups of tea!

Editor - Cllr Ian White (Ian.White@southoxon.gov.uk) Twitter feed: @IanWhite_DC

SODC A Conservative District Councillor's View
(Or What The Council Is Doing)

December 2018.

Firstly, let me wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Planning

I expect to issue a separate Planning Newsletter over the next few days, so I am only including a few, more recent items.

Oxford City Council Local Plan

The city council has launched a consultation on the Oxford City Local Plan 2036 - Proposed Submission Draft. We will be preparing a response for this, but please provide any comments that you have to the City as it will affect our District.

You can see the full plan on the Oxford City's website and the Consultation ends on the 28th December.

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=3671&e=82&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.oxford.gov.uk%2Flocalplan&a=0>

Chief planner's newsletter

We've received a planning update newsletter from Steve Quartermain, the Chief planner at Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government.

You can read the [newsletter](#), which features articles on proposals to help support the high street and potential reforms on developer contributions to help raise money for local infrastructure.

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=84&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dropbox.com%2Fs%2Fke5325azmpnjcl%2FChief%2520Planners%2520Newsletter%2520-%2520November%25202018.pdf%3Fdl%3D0&a=0>

Government housing need consultation

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has launched a consultation, which proposes that authorities should use the 2014 based household projections published two years ago when preparing evidence for their local plans and ignore the latest projections based on 2016 population figures.

You can see the consultation [here](#).

We are preparing a response to this consultation, and submitting it to the Ministry in the near future.

Neighbourhood Plan updates

Referenda were held for Chalgrove (passed 773 votes 46 against) and Little Milton (134 votes for and 3 against) on Thursday 22 November. Congratulations to both communities on these results.

Examinations are ongoing for the Pyrton, Goring and Cholsey plans

Andrew Ashcroft has been appointed to examine plans for:

Long Wittenham (review) – consultation ends 13 December

East Hagbourne – consultation ends 4 January.

Berrick Salome Parish Council is inviting comments on their draft plan until 11 January 2018.

Chilterns countryside consultation

The Chilterns Conservation Board are holding a consultation on their management plan 2019-2024.

The new plan covers a range of issues from biodiversity on wildlife conservations to preserving the character of each local village.

You can read and submit comments to the management plan here.

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=84&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.chilternsaonb.org%2Fmanagement-plan-review&a=0>

All comments should be submitted by 31 December.

Fly-tipping prosecutions

We have successfully prosecuted two fly-tipping cases this month.

An Oxford man was given a three-month curfew and ordered to pay £385 for illegally dumping rubbish on land near Wittenham Clumps in February, while a woman from Henley pleaded guilty to not ensuring her waste was disposed of in the correct way after her details were found in rubbish bags dumped on land at Dorchester-on-Thames. As a result, she was ordered to pay £740.

£100,000 to tackle air quality issues

We've allocated £100,000 to help tackle air quality issues in our district. We're working on a number of projects including studies to install more electric charging points in our car parks and will be running an 'anti-idling' campaign to encourage drivers to switch off their engines whilst parked or waiting at traffic lights.

Funds have also been made available to support town and parish councils to address air quality issues including known trouble spots in Wallingford, Henley and Watlington.

If you know of a project that we could help fund, please contact the environment health team.

env.health@southandvale.gov.uk

South Oxfordshire is to get five new football teams, extra athletics coaching, a new archery judge and new volunteer befrienders thanks to a pilot volunteering grant scheme from South Oxfordshire District Council.

Sports clubs and community groups in the district have already benefitted from the extra help, but they don't have to be the only ones – there is still time for other local groups to apply.

The council launched the pilot volunteering grant scheme with a total of £25,000 to help voluntary and community groups find the volunteers they need.

Small groups can apply for a new volunteering grant of between £250 and £750 to help cover costs, for example, training as a sports coach or additional insurance needed to be a volunteer driver.

So far, the council is helping the following groups in the district:

Horspath-based Oxford City Athletics Club is set to receive £750 towards the cost of training more athletic coaches, which means new athletic coaching groups for young people.

Charity Enrych Oxfordshire is set to receive £750 towards costs for four new volunteers to befriend and support physically disabled adults.

Didcot Casuals football club is set to receive £705 towards the training of more football coaches, which will mean three new football teams in the club.

Wallingford Castle Archers is set to receive a £750 volunteering grant to help with training a new archery judge.

Benson United Football Club is set to receive a £538 volunteering grant, which will mean they can create two new football teams.

Cllr Lynn Lloyd, cabinet member for community services for South Oxfordshire District Council said: "We are delighted to have helped so many local groups already, but there is still more money available. We would urge community groups to get in touch, especially those struggling to find volunteers because costs are a barrier."

The scheme is open to applications until 31 January 2019.

To find out more about the grant, eligibility and how to apply please see www.southoxon.gov.uk/volunteering

Volunteering - give something back

Volunteering to support SOFEA

On Wednesday 21 November, Cabinet members carried out a day's volunteering work sorting food at the young people's charity SOFEA based in Didcot.

SOFEA operate a surplus food distribution centre to provide food that would otherwise go to waste, to homeless charities and foodbanks. Under-privileged and vulnerable young people working at SOFEA benefit from the experience of being in a working environment and receive educational support, training and life and work skills.

Members spent the day helping out in the warehouse, taking orders from the young people running the warehouse and helping unload, catalogue and store a large delivery of surplus food from the nearby Tesco distribution centre. They also helped pick and compile food orders ready to be sent out to local food charities.

If you would like to volunteer in the local community get in touch with our Volunteering Development Officer [Suzi Wild](#), and if you have a volunteering story to share please contact [Communications](#).

volunteer.support@southandvale.gov.uk

Reminder - New online services from Thames Valley Police

If you need to get in touch with Thames Valley Police to find out about, or assist with, ongoing cases, or to contact an officer or department directly, you can now do so online by using their new contact form. If you want to speak to someone by phone then please call 101.

To report a crime or missing person you should use this report form at:

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=67&o=9492&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.thamesvalley.police.uk%2Fcontact%2Fcontact-us%2F&a=0>

Business Awards launched

Please help spread the word that our South and Vale Business Awards are now open to nominations for one of the eight award categories.

Large business of the year
Employer of the year
Early stage innovation award
Established innovation award
Social responsibility award
Business leader of the year
Business space of the year
SME of the year

You can nominate a business in your ward or they can self-nominate via our [SO Business](#) website.

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=84&o=9492&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.so-business.co.uk%2Fsvba%2F&a=0>

Wards could miss out from grants funding

Whilst many of you have applied to your councillor for grants to groups in your areas, there are still places at risk of missing out.

Each councillor has £5,000 to give to projects or services that offer community benefits in their ward area. There is still £130,000 available until midday on Monday 17 December.

If know of a project or group in your parishes that could benefit from a cash boost, please urge them to apply as soon as possible for a councillor grant via our [website](#) or email our [grants team](#); grants@southandvale.gov.uk

<https://ebtk.co.uk/resources/stats/click.php?c=2636&e=84&o=9492&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.southoxon.gov.uk%2Fservices-and-advice%2Fcommunity-advice-and-support%2Fgrants-and-community-loans%2Fcouncillor-community-gra&a=0>

Free parking in December

Please help spread the word in your areas that we are providing free car parking for one day a week in the car parks we own in the run-up to Christmas. This helps to support our town centres and local independent traders and finishes on 24 December.

We're providing FREE parking in our council-owned car parks on the following days up to 24 December:

- Didcot – Mondays from 3 December
- Goring – Saturdays from 1 December
- Henley – Tuesdays from 4 December
- Thame – Saturdays from 1 December
- Wallingford – Thursdays from 6 December

If travelling further afield, car parking is also free at Vale of White Horse District Council-owned car parks in the run-up to Christmas, on the following days:

- Abingdon – Saturdays from 1 December
- Faringdon – Saturdays from 1 December
- Wantage – Fridays from 30 November

Gift donations welcome

We're collecting Christmas gifts on behalf of two local charities in the reception areas at Milton Park and Cornerstone.

Councillors, staff and residents can donate gifts, which we will give to Charity Secret Santa and Sleigh2Give. Both charities will take the gifts and give to vulnerable children and people in Oxford Children's Hospital, hospices and homeless shelters.

If you'd like to donate a gift, please bring in by 14 December - items such as toys, books, toiletries, blankets are welcome or anything that you think would make a great gift.

Waste and Recycling - Reminder

Reporting missed bin collections

Some councillors have asked for a reminder on how people should report missed bins.

If a resident needs to report a missed bin they should contact Biffa:

- online by visiting southoxon.gov.uk/missedbina before midnight on the next working day after the collection was due
- by calling 03000 610610 before 5 pm on the next working day.

Crews will only return to collect a missed bin if it was originally put out before 7 am on the scheduled collection day.

There are some occasions when crews can't collect a bin – for example, if the bin was not put out in time. If a resident has put the wrong items in their recycling, or the bin was too heavy or overflowing, then the crew will place a tag on the bin to explain why it wasn't collected and will attempt to collect it on the next scheduled collection.

If there are repeat problems at a property or a specific area, Biffa will investigate. If a collection is missed at the same property on a number of occasions, and the issue is not resolved by Biffa, residents should email waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk and we will investigate.

Cooking oil recycling

We've just introduced a new cooking oil recycling service for residents as part of our food waste collections.

After cooking and once it has cooled, any leftover oil can be poured into a plastic bottle no bigger than one litre in size. The bottle and its contents can then be placed into the kerbside food waste caddy, along with other food waste, and put out for the weekly collection. For those who don't want to use a plastic bottle, oil can also be poured straight into the caddy along with other food waste.

One litre of cooking oil can generate enough electricity to make 240 cups of tea!

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