

## EAST HAGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DULY CONVENED AND HELD ON THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024

#### 1. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

Present were Chairman I. Duff, Vice Chairman P. Dixon, Councillors R. Jaboor, N. Milner, D. Rickeard and C. Shaikh

Apologies were received from Cllr C. Gover, and District Councillors B. Manning and A-M Simpson.

In attendance was L. Lloyd (Clerk).

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

#### 2. PUBLIC FORUM AND QUESTIONS: None

#### 3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were approved by Council and signed by I. Duff.

#### 4. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS:

I. Duff confirmed receipt of the District Councillors' Report. It is largely focused on activities for younger residents over the summer period, along with details of the current Capital Grant Funding Scheme. See attachment 2 for the full report.

#### 5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- a) **Public Art funding from the Deanfield development:** I. Duff, N. Milner, D. Rickeard, C. Shaikh and L. Lloyd met with the Arts Development Officer Abigail Brown from SODC and Jade Wickens from SOHA on 16<sup>th</sup> July, for an introduction to the Public Art funding process. A very useful presentation explaining the usual process for commissioning art, along with examples of previous projects, inspired those present and was forwarded to all councillors following the meeting. R. Jaboor asked what timeframe this funding was available for; it was confirmed that the end date is 2034. Actions suggested following the meeting were to establish a steering group and to meet with Abigail and Jade again for further discussion in September. A number of councillors have expressed interest in being involved and it was agreed that all councillors should have an informal meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> August to discuss next steps as there is a lot to consider. It was agreed that it would also be appropriate to advertise the fact that the Parish Council has this funding available to inform parishioners early on of this exciting opportunity – with further engagement as the process moves forward.
- b) **Pavilion Lease update:** D. Rickeard reported that there remain some unresolved queries, and it is likely that legal assistance will be required at a later stage to facilitate whichever management model is chosen. Further information has been provided to Tessa Hall at CFO about the complexities of our land ownership in relation to the Pavilion Lease. It is hoped that there will be feedback to inform further discussion in September.
- c) **FP4 resurfacing feedback:** I. Duff confirmed that the path resurfacing was completed in mid June and the new path has been well received by members of the public. TOE visited the site shortly after its completion and noted concern over the placement of spoil on the bank of the stream by the allotments. This concern was fed back to OCC and they confirmed that Aztec would return and further compact the soil and add grass seed to alleviate the risk of sliding into the water channel.
- d) **SODC's Deep Cleanse:** I. Duff asked that councillors consider areas within the parish that would benefit from SODC's deep cleanse which is scheduled to commence on 14<sup>th</sup> October. The priorities list must be submitted 3 weeks in advance of the start date, so there is a good amount of time over the summer period to consider this. N. Milner asked that notice of when particular areas are being cleaned be given as this would be very useful so cars can be moved. L. Lloyd noted that she would ask for advanced notice of major cleaning areas when returning the priorities form. In terms of general village tidiness, concern was raised over grass cuttings being left on paths and in the road. Collection of the strimmed/mown grass could cost considerably more than the current contract agreement, but it was agreed that L. Lloyd would remind BGG of the need to 'tidy up' after the verge cutting.
- e) **Oxfordshire Councils' Charter:** D. Rickeard and L. Lloyd virtually attended the OALC AGM on 15<sup>th</sup> July, for the official launch of the Charter. D. Rickeard circulated a report ahead of the meeting stating that the meeting was not easy to follow, because it was set up mainly for the face-to-face audience, so those speaking from the room appeared only with a 'County Hall' label. Cllr Liz Leffman from OCC gave a very generic talk, mainly thanking people and was followed by Jonathon Owen, the CEO of NALC who continued in similar vein. He said the objectives of the Charter were to make residents' lives easier and make communities stronger and cited some problems like climate change, social housing that needed cooperation between different councils - but said that a driver was the disfunction seen in a small number of councils over the past year or so. He hoped that if everyone signed up to the Charter and to the Civility and Respect Pledge problems and

behaviour would improve. So, a lot about NALC, a one-size-fits-all national approach and very little about Oxfordshire or OALC so it is not clear why parishes were encouraged to attend. L. Lloyd noted the later discussion around possible fee increases for OALC membership, although from the discussion at the meeting, the likely impact for EH parish is not likely to be greater than 10%, so probably less than £30.00 per year.

## 6. ITEMS FOR DECISION:

- a) **To approve renewal of the Parish Council's annual subscription to Parish Online at a cost of £96.00:**  
Councillors approved the expenditure
- b) **To approve expenditure of up to £500 for the Hagbourne Oaks Tree Planting Project along FP16 and FP17:** D. Rickeard confirmed that adjacent landowners/tenant farmers have been consulted and are happy with the proposal. OCC's Tree Planting Submission form has been sent to Luke Rowland including a request for assistance with FP17. Timing-wise, ordering the trees and ground preparation will begin shortly, with the intention to plant in November with appropriate guards in place for protection. D. Rickeard confirmed he would update us on the progress and would welcome any offers of help with the planting. Councillors approved the expenditure.
- c) **To consider membership of the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association (OPFA) at a cost of £47.00:**  
D. Rickeard confirmed that membership was suggested by Tessa Hall of CFO, but an initial enquiry as to whether they would be able to support the Parish Council has not received a reply yet and as such it was agreed not to proceed at this time.
- d) **Parish Path Wardens - to appoint one or more councillors as Parish Path Wardens:** Following discussion, no councillors volunteered to be a Parish Warden at this stage due to concerns over the extent of expected involvement with the path maintenance and vegetation cutting. Some councillors may be willing to share the duties in the parish and it is noted that there may be added benefit in terms of alternative methods of communication with OCC. It was agreed that L. Lloyd would ask for some clarification on the expectations ahead of a decision, whether it be Parish Councillors who take on the responsibility or approaching parish residents who may be interested.
- e) **To appoint a contractor to carry out the resurfacing works along FP12 Fieldside to the Causeway:**  
C. Shaikh reported on the very recent communication from James Smith, Team Leader for Countryside Access Delivery at OCC who confirmed that the spec is comparable with OCC's in-house specs, although he recommended a coarser aggregate surface and also asked for confirmation that all contractors have RAMS and Public Liability Insurance. All contractors are able to use a coarser aggregate if necessary although there would be an increase in the end cost price. Councillors agreed to appoint SCS Oxon Ltd for the resurfacing of FP12. P. Dixon agreed to contact James Smith for final clarification on the specification before instructing the works.
- f) **To approve expenditure of up to £50.00 for a reprint of 50 Welcome Booklets:** Councillors approved the expenditure.
- g) **To consider granting a donation of up to £100 to MyVision Oxfordshire:** Councillors discussed the merits of MyVision Oxfordshire and agreed that the benefit for East Hagbourne Parish is not clear, so declined to award a grant on this occasion.

## 7. ITEMS FOR REPORT:

- a) **Planning Applications:** I. Duff confirmed receipt of an amendment to P24/S1468/FUL for the new build at Lower Cross Farm to include a Flooding Report. It was noted that the property is not in the floodplain, and councillors agreed that no further comment is required from the Parish Council.
- b) **East Hagbourne Sport and Recreation Committee:** Nothing to report.
- c) **Cemetery Committee:** R. Jaboor confirmed he had circulated a summary of the July Cemetery Meeting:
  - Drainage - The committee confirmed that the cemetery would cover the initial survey by CDS (recommended by The Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management) and would undertake the initial survey of the ground and provide measure to mitigate flooding of the site. Remedial actions are likely to require support from both the East and West Hagbourne Parish Councils.
  - Waste Management - It was agreed to proceed with the path works between the wheelie bin location and the Lych Gate using the preferred quote from J Williams Garden Services with the aim for it to be completed prior to the end of the summer.
  - Grass Cutting - After a damp start, the cutting regime in the cemetery is progressing well and positive comments received.
  - Wildflower Meadow - The wildflower meadow has thrived this year with the HUGS annual open event in June being well attended. It was highlighted that 40 orchids have been counted. Further work is required to manage the grasses in the area using Yellow Rattle for which the committee is happy to support once a source and costs are identified.

- Finance - Funds remain balanced with net change <1% from 5th March. Near-term expenditure associated with the waste management and drainage management will commit roughly 20% of the reserves held.

- d) Employment Committee:** The clerk left the room to allow councillor discussion on employment matters. C. Shaikh reported that councillors had unanimously agreed to pay the clerk a Home Working Allowance of £26.00 per month and also had agreed unanimously to an increase of 1 spinal point on the NJC pay scale. C. Shaikh hoped to be able to make these adjustments in time for the July salary payment. L. Lloyd thanked councillors who noted that it was a small gesture of their appreciation.
- e) Butts Piece Allotments:** P. Dixon confirmed that the first Japanese Knotweed treatment was completed on 25<sup>th</sup> June with a second visit scheduled 8 weeks later. There are clear signs of the growth dying back.
- f) Future Oxfordshire Partnership:** P. Dixon recommended that this item be removed from future agendas.
- g) Emergency Plan:** R. Jaboor confirmed that he has had one response from a resident and will update the plan accordingly. N. Milner noted that she has a 4x4 vehicle, as does C. Gover so they may also be able to help in emergencies.
- h) Flood Management:** I. Duff confirmed that land ownership of the land South of Kingsholm Close is under investigation to assist the flood group. L. Lloyd noted that the land registry indicates the latest land value has not been updated in recent years which suggests that the land is still registered to the Locktons, and purchase of the title and plan will likely confirm this. There has been no recent update on the Flood Risk Management funding from Lewis Purbrick (OCC) or Leigh Travers (SODC). L. Lloyd agreed that she would email to clarify if there has been any progress and to see if there is a potential timeline for the works.
- i) Community Speedwatch:** R. Jaboor reported that potential locations have now been sent to the police for consideration. Once locations are approved, Blewbury Speedwatch have agreed to visit with their speed gun to train the EH Speedwatch volunteers. N. Milner asked if one of the locations was along the narrow stretch of Main Road near the pub, and R. Jaboor confirmed that a site by the Tudor House allotments is being considered.
- j) Neighbourhood Plan:** Nothing to report and it was agreed that this could be removed from future agendas.
- k) Housing development adjacent to the village hall:** I. Duff reported that the rental occupancy of the affordable housing is increasing and he plans to visit 5-6 new residents this weekend. There will be an increase in heavy traffic while the site is cleared as the developers approach the end of their site presence.
- l) Matters raised at the Chairman’s Surgery and OALC Councillors Forum:** I. Duff reported that the last Chairman’s Surgery had two visits from residents to discuss future planning applications. The new residents of South Grange Bungalow are planning to build a family home on the site. They also discussed possible boundary fencing as there is a long open stretch adjacent to Grange footpath at present. Other residents discussed the possible building of an agricultural building off Main Road for animal housing. The next Chairmans Surgery is on 26<sup>th</sup> July.  
The OALC Councillors Forum this month was largely focused on complaints about OCC, possible increases to OALC membership fee and also accounting packages for councils. L. Lloyd confirmed that she is still looking at these options for ease of set up and day-to-day use.

## 8. Correspondence:

L. Lloyd confirmed the following items of correspondence:

An ownership query concerning the possible rental of land between Butts Piece and Mowbray fields – referred to SODC as the landowner.

A Didcot resident asking for maintenance works on FP189/17 (in Didcot Parish) and the stream channel behind Loyd Road – referred to Didcot Town Council and given the Countryside Access website information to report.

## 9. Finance:

### a) Expenditure and receipts since the last meeting and account balances:

**a) Payments since last meeting:** NB: Payments pending are shown in yellow and are not included in the account balance shown in c)

Payee	Item	Online Payment/ Cheque No	Amount	VAT	Total	Date
PWLB	Loan 505533 Repayment	DD	£2,461.17	£0.00	£2,461.17	07/06/2024
Pipes-Wires Ltd	INV1030 Cemetery Tap Replacement	C Gover / D Rickeard	£53.00	£0.00	£53.00	11/06/2024

Dark White Digital	INV 001554 web hosting June 2024	C Gover / D Rickeard	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	11/06/2024
Shield Maintenance Ltd	INV 7671 Dog bin and waste bin emptying May 2024	C Gover / D Rickeard	£125.66	£25.13	£150.79	11/06/2024
Shield Maintenance Ltd	INV 7700 Clearance at Butts Piece Wood	C Gover / D Rickeard	£334.60	£66.92	£401.52	11/06/2024
EHSRC	INV 240504 Pavilion hire for Parish Council meeting 09/05/2024	C Gover / D Rickeard	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00	11/06/2024
BGG Garden & Tree Care	INV 113.24 Parish and Cemetery cuts April	C Gover / D Rickeard	£475.00	£95.00	£570.00	11/06/2024
Hagbourne Village Hall	INV 1740 Q3 Meeting Room Hire	C Gover / D Rickeard	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	11/06/2024
BGG Garden & Tree Care	INV 163.24 Parish and Cemetery cuts May	C Gover / D Rickeard	£425.00	£85.00	£510.00	11/06/2024
Grundon Waste Management	PSI-1080067 Cemetery waste collection May 2024	DD	£86.53	£17.31	£103.84	24/06/2024
L. Lloyd	June Salary	C Gover / D Rickeard	£784.69	£0.00	£784.69	28/06/2024
Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge Q1	Automatic Payment	£18.00	£0.00	£18.00	30/06/2024
Hagbourne Parochial Charities	July Instalment for Butts Piece Rent 2024/25	C Gover / D Rickeard	£447.43	£0.00	£447.43	01/07/2024
SE Environmental Services	INV SN3751 Japanese Knotweed Treatment 1	D Rickeard / C Shaikh	£600.00	£120.00	£720.00	17/07/2024
Dark White Digital	INV 001577 web hosting July 2024		£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	
Shield Maintenance Ltd	INV 7773 Dog bin and waste bin emptying June 2024		£125.66	£25.13	£150.79	
EHSRC	INV 240604 Pavilion Hire for Parish Council meeting 06/06/2024		£25.00	£0.00	£25.00	
BGG Garden & Tree Care	INV 302.24 Parish and Cemetery Cuts June		£355.00	£71.00	£426.00	
L. Lloyd	July Salary		£784.69	£0.00	£784.69	
L. Lloyd	August Salary (to be paid Friday 30th August)		£784.69	£0.00	£784.69	

**b) Receipts since last meeting:**

From	Item	Amount	Date
Plot 17A	Allotment Rent (part rental Jul-Mar)	£8.00	28/06/2024
Nationwide	Instant Access Savings account interest - June	£145.36	28/06/2024
Redwood Bank	35 day notice account interest June	£223.74	30/06/2024
Unity Trust	Instant Access Savings account interest Q1	£391.48	30/06/2024
OCC	S101 Grass Cutting Agreement Payment	£838.04	01/07/2024
Reeves Memorials	Second Inscription C078 Lamerton	£26.00	01/07/2024
<b>Total</b>		<b>£1,632.62</b>	

**c) Accumulated Account Balances (reconciled online 17/07/2024)**

Unity Trust Bank - T1 current account	£16,610.92
Unity Trust Bank - Instant access account	£57,490.04
Redwood Bank - 35 Day Notice Savings	£85,000.00
Nationwide - Instant Access Business Savings Account	£80,531.72

Total	£239,632.68
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**d) The Special Project Balances (as of 17/07/2024) are:**

Community Infrastructure Levy Fund	Received 24/04/19 so requires spending by 23/04/24	£121.40
	Received 30/04/21 so requires spending by 29/04/26	£1,517.73
	Received 27/10/21 so requires spending by 26/10/26	£3,307.90
	Received 27/04/22 so requires spending by 26/04/27	£3,035.45
	Received 28/10/22 so requires spending by 27/10/27	£2,127.82
	Received 28/04/23 so requires spending by 27/04/28	£55,413.82
	Received 27/10/23 so requires spending by 26/10/28	£106,843.63
	Received 26/04/24 so requires spending by 25/04/29	£4,165.09
	Total CIL money	£176,532.84
Community Projects Reserve Fund		£4,712.91
Planned Development Support Fund		£5,303.15
Cemetery		£15,541.30
	Total	£202,090.20

<b>e) General Reserve (as of 17/07/2024)</b>	£37,542.48
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- b) Review and approval of pending payments:** The Council reviewed the pending payments and noted that all had prior minuted/regular payment approval this month. It was noted that the salary figures will alter following the adjustments noted under item 7.d)
- c) Q1 Bank Reconciliation:** P. Dixon confirmed receipt of the Q1 internal control documents. These were sent without the usual notice due to a glitch with Nationwide’s online banking statement requests, so he has not had the chance to complete the review. Therefore this item will be included on the September agenda for confirmation.
- d) Q1 Budget Review:** I. Duff confirmed that the Q1 Budget monitoring report had been circulated to councillors for review ahead of the meeting with notes. N. Milner queried the small amount of CIL monies that were due to be spent in April, and it was noted that they will be included in the CIL money spent when the FP4 project is invoiced. See Attachment 3 for the full report.
- e) Progress with Unity Bank change of signatory:** L. Lloyd confirmed that the signatory change process has been completed and confirmation of the 4 signatories has been received from Unity Trust following a request, for audit purposes. R. Jaboor is waiting for his paper documentation to enable first log in – if this does not arrive in the next week, it was agreed that L. Lloyd would chase for a second set to be sent out.

**10. Items for report and inclusion on the September agenda:**

- Oxfordshire Councils Charter
- Pavilion Lease
- Footway Accessibility
- Parking and Traffic Management discussion

The meeting closed at 9.26pm.

Items for consideration for the September agenda must be received by the clerk no later than Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

The next meeting will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at the Pavilion, Great Mead, East Hagbourne.

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

**ATTACHMENT 1: ACTION LIST**

Action No	What	Who	Status
2023-03-01	Deanfield Homes Car Park Land Transfer	LL	Transfer documentation signed at meeting on 26 <sup>th</sup> March. Still awaiting confirmation of transfer from solicitors.
2023-06-02	Parking and Traffic Management on Main Road	NM	This is being revisited, NM to circulate initial thoughts to councillors on the current issues, ahead of discussion on the September agenda
2023-06-03	Footway repairs in the parish	ID/PD/RJ	Prioritise potential repairs for OCC to review
2023-10-01	Disabled Parking spaces in the village car park	LL	Research options and costs
2023-10-03	Weed management on Main Road	LL/ID	Awaiting feedback from SODC and a quote for weed treatment from BGG. Main Road could be a priority for the SODC Deep Cleanse in October, but this does not cover removal of weeds and moss on roads, only the footways.
2023-12-01	Footpath 4 surface improvements	LL	Resurfacing complete. Following site visits by OCC and TOE, Aztec returning to ensure the stability of the spoil alongside the brook.
VARIOUS	<p>Footpath accessibility:</p> <p>2023-12-02 FP10 MFL to West Hagbourne</p> <p>2023-12-03 FP12 Church Lane to Fieldside</p> <p>2023-12-04 FP13 Parsonage Lane</p> <p>2024-01-01 FP1 West Hagbourne to Didcot</p> <p>2024-03-01 FP12 Fieldside to the Causeway</p> <p>2024-03-02 FP15 Grange Footpath</p> <p>2024-03-03 FP8 Bakers Lane to The Croft</p> <p>2024-04-01 FP30 Village Hall</p>	LL/CS/PD/ID	<p>Chasing OCC for a meeting between OCC/EHPC and WHPC to assess FP10 and FP1 and for approval for potential works to FP12, FP15 and FP8. Approached R. McNaught for assistance as A. McEwan-James has not been able to respond to recent requests.</p> <p>2024-01-01 – Seeking advice from District Councillors as to whether the DGT funding may support improvements to FP1 – this is not on the LCWIP list of paths for improvement so have been referred back to OCC for advice.</p> <p>Volunteer labour is available for FP8 aggregate laying subject to OCC approval</p> <p>Agreement in principle to spend CIL money on FP12, FP15 and FP8 improvements</p> <p>3 revised quotes for potential works for FP12 and FP15 received.</p> <p>Field owner approved final spec for FP12 and reviewing options for FP12 between the Causeway and the Church</p> <p>11/07/2024 S. Tabbitt (AM-J line manager) contacted for support with footpath 12 approval as a priority. Responses received from both S. Tabbitt and J. Smith on spec.</p> <p>18/07/2024 SCS Oxon Ltd selected to carry out works to FP12. Clarify with J. Smith regarding aggregate ahead of instructing works.</p> <p>Chase quote for FP13 from OCC Highways, investigate obtaining comparison quote</p> <p>FP30 – initial review of possible surface improvements needed</p>
2023-12-09	Community Speedwatch	RJ	<p>Potential speedwatch locations sent to police for review.</p> <p>Blewbury Speedwatch to train EH volunteers once locations confirmed.</p>

2024-01-02	Emergency Plan / Flooding documentation Review	RJ/LL	Emergency Plan Approved and now online. Resident feedback and volunteers for emergency contact list now ongoing.
2024-01-04	Car Park Drainage	LL/OCC	OCC to review the car park drainage connection details from OPC Drains along with their own drainage plans for Main Road. Additional jetting arranged by OCC for 15/16 <sup>th</sup> August.
2024-02-01	Pavilion Lease Renewal	DR/LL	Awaiting feedback from CFO
2024-02-04	Flood Management in the Parish	CS/DR/PD	Meetings with OCC, SODC and EA complete. Expression of interest for funding from OCC's Flood Risk Management funding for 2024/25 submitted and acknowledged. L. Travers obtaining quote for works. 23/05/24 – Email confirmation from OCC that EHPC's proposal has been included in the provisional projects list for funding this year, subject to supplying further information. 06/06/2024 – Flood Group has requested full information on watercourse adjacent land ownership in the parish – this will involve land registry requests at a small cost.
2024-03-04	Main Road 20mph limit	OCC	Public consultation complete – awaiting decision
2024-03-05	From APM: Step reinstatement on Main Road/Bakers Lane footpath	OCC/LL	OCC's Carl Stallwood to investigate and progress the matter with SGN (NB: this is an OCC Highways matter)
2024-03-06	From APM: Main Road to Coscote road surface	OCC	An OCC matter as no agreement was made with the developer during the planning process and the S278 agreement to maintain and repair the main agreed access route to the site. The Parish Council has full support from our County Councillor, Jane Murphy, to lobby for repairs and reinstatement.
2024-04-01	CIL Projects Shortlist	ALL	Councillors reviewing and updating project proposals following discussion at the APM

## ATTACHMENT 2:

Title	<b>District Councillors' Report</b>
Councillors	<b>Cllr Anne-Marie Simpson &amp; Cllr Ben Manning</b>
Parish	<b>East Hagbourne Parish Council</b>
Date	<b>18 July 2024</b>

[Booking link](#) for planning surgeries for town and parish councils  
Corporate Plan Performance Report – [Fourth Quarter](#)  
Climate Action Plan Performance Report – [Fourth Quarter](#)

### Capital Grant Funding Scheme now open!

The new capital grant funding scheme for 2024/25, run by South Oxfordshire District Council, opened on 8 July for applications to help build thriving communities and improve the quality of life for people in the district.

The council has a total budget of £320,000 to provide voluntary and community organisations with a financial boost for capital projects. Organisations can request a minimum of £5,000 and a maximum of £75,000 but no more than 50 per cent of their total project costs.

Applicants must show how their projects will help improve the quality of life for people in South Oxfordshire through projects that; improve economic and community well-being, provide infrastructure that meets local need, that protect and restore our natural world; and take action on the climate emergency.

Organisations eligible to apply are:

- Town and parish councils
- Non-profit businesses and Community Interest Companies
- Community-based organisations

The Capital Grant Scheme is now open for applications until midday 2 September 2024.

Applicants apply online through the council's website, [southoxon.gov.uk/grants](https://southoxon.gov.uk/grants) where the full guidance is available to help the applicant submit the best possible application.

## Youth Activities

Cornerstone Arts Centre is opening its doors for a Youth Activities Open Day on Saturday 6 July from 10am to 3pm.

This is a fantastic opportunity for children (ages 2-12) to try out new creative skills, meet the centre's experienced tutors, and find out more about what goes on at the centre, all for the reduced price of £2 per session. There are lots of classes to choose from including drama, art, and street dance, as well as art play and Storytime sessions for younger children.

Plus, if you sign up to one of the classes for the autumn season on the day, you'll be able to get 10% off!

You can find more details on the [Cornerstone website](#), and bookings for the taster sessions are open now. Please do share and help us spread the word, if you know somewhere near you which could put up a poster [please download one via this link](#).

Fun all summer long with free and low-cost activities for kids

Girls' football, fun activity days, skateboarding and pickleball are just some of the free and low-cost activities available for children and their families to enjoy during the summer holidays.

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are hosting activities and events at locations across the area from 19 July to 31 August.

The councils' Active Communities team are providing a series of free Xplorer sessions, 'Born to Move' fitness and dance sessions and lots more for young children.

Girls aged 5 to 11 have the chance to get involved with football, make new friends and have fun during Girls' Football sessions, perfect for those who want to give the sport a go for the very first time or with others their own age.

The whole family can come together to enjoy Fun Days, with activities including tag games, cricket, Danish longball, lawn games and more.

Skateboarding and scooter enthusiasts can enjoy competitions, games, prizes and more at the popular Summer of Skate skateboarding events which take place throughout the summer.

The annual Didcot Garden Party will see lots of events for the whole family taking place from 27 July to 31 August, including musical workshops and performances during Fusion Fest, Communities Come Together Day and Junior Bootcamp sessions.

There will also be a series of Play Days for children, young people and their families hosted by The Oxfordshire Play Association.

The popular Litterbug Detective Trails returns to six locations across the Vale and South Oxfordshire from 19 July to 11 August. Follow the trails and answer the questions about waste and recycling – you could be in with the chance of winning a great prize!

The activities are expected to be very popular so, where required, book now to avoid disappointment.

For a full run down of what's on and details on how to book, visit [southandvale.gov.uk/holidayactivities](https://southandvale.gov.uk/holidayactivities)



Better Leisure Centres across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse, managed on behalf of the district councils by GLL, also have a range of family activities to get involved over the summer holidays. Details about what's available at each centre can be found on [the Better UK website](#) and the leisure centre Facebook pages.

The outdoor pools in Abingdon and Wallingford will also be open for those of all ages to enjoy a swim in the sun.

### Didcot Garden Party

Didcot will play host to a bonanza of free activities as the Didcot Garden Party returns this summer.

The festival begins on Saturday 27 July with a day of events in the courtyard at Cornerstone Arts Centre in Station Road, kickstarting more than a month of fun and excitement around the town.

This is the fourth Didcot Garden Party, which is run by South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils as part of the town's Garden Town status which was awarded in 2015.

The launch party on Saturday 27 July features a host of performances including the Crew and Naughty Flock of Sheep, as well as live music with DJ Strange and a make and take workshop.

Free activities continue throughout July and August at Cornerstone including an open mic night, music workshop, aerial theatre, and community come together day.

Elsewhere in the town, families and individuals can try a host of sports from badminton, to skating, to yoga, and all the sessions are free.

Table-tennis fans can use the tables at Edmonds Park, Ladygrove Park and Great Western Park – just bring bats and a ball.

Those who like to get their groove on can enjoy free dance sessions throughout August at various locations in the town.

There's also a special food event where people can learn how to save money and reduce food waste by using fruit and veg that have seen better days and using parts that would normally be thrown away.

At Didcot library, children can join the fun and free Summer Reading Challenge 2024 and will receive rewards, a certificate and a special medal for reading at least six library books over six weeks. It will also be hosting a variety of free weekly events.

Download the [Didcot Garden Party brochure](#) which contains details of all the events being held.

Find out more about [Didcot Garden Party](#), Didcot Garden Town and Didcot Garden Town Delivery Plan on the council's website.

### ATTACHMENT 3: Q1 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Income	Actual	Budget	3 Months to 30 June			
	2023/24	2024/25	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Variance
Precept	30956	32,838	16419	16419	0	0%
Lease Income	1465	1,465	0	0	0	0%
Wayleaves	54	55	55	54	-1	-2%
Allotments	767	760	760	801	41	5%
Cemetery Contribution	739	800	200	185	-15	-8%
Interest	3358	6,000	1500	1510	10	1%
Pavilion insurance recovery	500	500	500	500	0	0%

Standing Order PCC Gen	4	4	0	0	0	0%
OCC S101 Grass Cutting	0	838	838	0	-838	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>37844</b>	<b>43260</b>	<b>19434</b>	<b>19469</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Expenditure-Revenue items</b>						
Clerk Remun.	9416	11600	2900	2354	546	-19%
Payroll Management Costs	250	270	0	0	0	0%
Bank fees	72	105	26	18	8	-31%
Accounting Software	0	300	0	0	0	0%
Office Expenses & Clerks Travel	169	250	63	45	18	-28%
Subscriptions	426	520	520	490	30	-6%
Website	360	600	150	90	60	-40%
Training Courses	290	750	188	100	88	-47%
Meeting Room Hire	343	350	88	74	14	-15%
Insurance	1362	1362	1362	1356	6	0%
Audit Costs-External	315	400	0	0	0	0%
Audit Costs-Internal	385	270	135	135	0	0%
Legal Expenses	0	1000	0	0	0	0%
PC Election Costs	200	0	0	0	0	0%
Car Park Repairs	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Car Park Electricity	200	150	0	0	0	0%
Play Equipment Inspection	86	95	0	0	0	0%
Pav Repair and Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Pavilion Sundries	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Grass Cutting and Plants	1857	3800	1267	944	323	-26%
Trees and Hedge Trimming	0	1700	425	0	425	0%
Defibrillator Costs	126	300	0	0	0	0%
Dog Bin Emptying	5155	5720	1430	225	1205	-84%
Dog Bin Costs	0	35	0	0	0	0%
Butts Piece Lease	858	960	0	0	0	0%
Allotments	1782	200	0	0	0	0%
Allotment Maintenance	0	750	0	0	0	0%
Japanese Knotweed Treatment	0	600	600	0	600	-100%
Loan Interest	356	229	114	125	10	9%
War memorial repair	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Other	252	0	0	168	168	0%
Covid/Warm Hub expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>24260</b>	<b>32316</b>	<b>9268</b>	<b>6124</b>	<b>3144</b>	<b>-34%</b>
<b>Non regular Revenue items</b>						
Incomings-Village Grants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incomings - Legal	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>Outgoings</b>						
Contingency/Uninsured Costs	N/A	0	0	0	0	0%
Donations and Grants	1144	1000	250	200	50	-20%
Loan Capital	7991	4693	2337	2337	0	0%
	9135	5693	2587	2537	50	-2%
<b>Annual Surplus/(Deficit)-Revenue</b>	<b>4448</b>	<b>5250</b>	<b>7579</b>	<b>10808</b>	<b>3229</b>	<b>43%</b>

**Notes:**

**Income**

OCC S101 Grass Cutting Agreement: Payment received in early July

**Expenditure:** Bank Fees: Change from T1 to T2 account not happening until Sept so no additional payment charges yet

**Website:** No ad hoc expenses in Q1

**Dog Bin Emptying:** Change from SODC to Shield Maintenance

**Allotment Maintenance:** NEWLY ADDED CATEGORY APPROVED 06/06/2024

**Japanese Knotweed Treatment:** Payment made in early July

**Other:** Car Park Drain Clearance Cost