



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE
PARISH COUNCILS

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTON TIRROLD AND ASTON UPTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 18th JULY 2022**

12/865 Apologies for absence

Jane Murphy OCC (JM), Anne-Marie Simpson SODC (AMS), Nigel Hawkey (NH), Joanna Hart (JH), Neil Carter (NC)

12/866 Present

Jane Imbush Chair (JI), Simon Young Vice-Chair (SY), Peter Butcher (PB), Henry Weeks (HW),
Jane Knight (JBK)
Sarah Brown Clerk (SB)

12/867 Declaration of any relevant interests

None

12/868 Minutes

Minutes from the meetings held on 20th June 2022 were then agreed by all and signed by the Chair.

12/869 Public questions, comments, or representations

None

12/870 SODC and OCC Reports to the Parish Council

Financial Support for Fuel Costs

The £150 payment to homes in council tax bands A-D is now largely complete, and the focus is now on working out a basis for discretionary grants to households in homes Bands E and above. There was quite a lot of pressure on the phones for Capita in handling this matter; with many thousands of homes it takes just a very small proportion with questions and difficulties to keep the phones lines very busy.

Household Support

A voucher support scheme has opened for households who cannot afford to pay for life's essentials. This includes help for children eligible for free school meals through the holidays, as well as pensioner households. With limited funds, preference is given to people who have not had support from it before, but its not restricted to people in receipt of benefits. Details on. www.southoxon.gov.uk/household-support-fund.

Also a reminder that there is an area on the SODC website providing links to support services and other advice on how to deal with the cost-of-living emergency.

YouMove aims to get families active across Oxfordshire

YouMove is a new initiative providing low-cost or free activities for children and families in receipt of benefits-related free school meals in Oxfordshire. Activities available include cricket, swimming and badminton. Find out more about the programme and how to register at southoxon.gov.uk/youmove. Please draw this to the attention of anyone you think may benefit.

Revised focus for Didcot Garden Town

South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse District Councils have recently approved a renewed, ambitious delivery plan for Didcot Garden Town, focusing on providing community benefits, a special retail recovery strategy, encouraging healthy lifestyles and helping to



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tackle climate change.

New Design Guide website adopted to help create high-quality sustainable development

The Joint Design Guide is an up-to-date, innovative, concise, engaging and interactive document that acts as a tool for anyone undertaking a development to ensure it fits with the character of the local area. The guide is a material consideration in future planning applications and replaces the existing individual guides for South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White horse (adopted in 2016 and 2015 respectively). You can find out more and access the guide from our website page here

Quality of water in the Thames in the Benson, Wallingford, Crowmarsh area

South Oxfordshire District Council is working with Thames 21 to assess the quality of the water in the Thames in this area. Thames 21 will be collecting samples from Wallingford as well as at sampling points both up-and down-stream between May and September 2022. The samples together with surveys of river users undertaken in busy periods over the summer and other data will be used to get a better understanding if there are issues with the quality of water in this area. The data collected will be used to inform an application to Defra for Bathing Water Status

which will be submitted in the autumn. Having bathing water status on the Thames here won't solve all pollution problems – but it should force improvements in local sewage treatment so it is treated to a standard suitable for public health.

The ultimate aim of the project is to:

- Make sure that users of this stretch of the River Thames including, swimmers, kayakers, canoeists, rowers and anglers can make informed decisions about their use of the river
- Improve the health of the river for ecosystems by deepening our understanding of the

causes of river pollution in Wallingford

Bathing water status would help in pressuring river stakeholders (including Thames Water, the Environment Agency and Ofwat) to work harder to improve the quality of the river here – for people and wildlife.

12/871 Planning

- a) **P22/S1425/HH-** for development work at Millers Field, Baker Street, Aston Tirrold. To remove hedgerow and replace with post and rail fencing, moving the gateway access to a safer position. This will allow replacement tree planting and felling works to be completed as per planning consents: P21/S5341/TCA- Due to the nature of the plot, The PC supports the application for the basis of maintenance vehicle access only.

12/872 ARC

- a) The minutes from ARC meeting held 4th July were approved.
- b) Quotes for the pavilion flooring were given, recognising the discussion in the Arc minutes it was decided we approve in principle, (noting the disparity in quotation prices) once a decision has been made on which colour scheme Arc confirms.

12/873 Finance

- a) Payments below Approved



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Sarah Brown Clerk fees plus holiday pay minus PAYE tax	£438.34
Simplicity Payroll Service	£26.40
HMRC	£35

- b) June's Financial statement to be approved.
- c) Sid Marlow bequest- The church bell project is taking longer than predicted due to the complexity of the works but still will still be going ahead.
- d) History group grant of £74- Approved
- e) Clerk fees of £235.20 approved to be paid in August as there's not a meeting until September.

12/874 CLP Groups

- a) Roads and Traffic- community speed watch is still ongoing. There was one this week, 84 cars were logged, 7 of which were going 30 or over. Another speed watch is scheduled for week commencing July 25 2022.
- b) Housing and Development- Nothing to report.
- c) Environment Group-Spring Lane step is still broken. PB to chase getting it fixed. There were 600 bulbs planted throughout the village and unfortunately due to miscommunication most of them were strimmed back early, meaning they may not flower again. PC would support funds to replace if they don't regrow.
- d) Footpaths- The path between the church and Baker Street- there is a difference in level at the junction of the path and Baker St by North Lea. This has caused problems for a wheelchair user. The issue has been reported to Fix My Street. PB will take a look to see if something can be done sooner to help alleviate the problem. Silverburn footpath is overgrown, PB will contact the owner of the overgrowth to ask for it to be cut back.

12/875 Village deep clean date and plans

Nothing new to discuss

12/876 Fibre Broadband

BT vans have been seen around but no official update.

12/877 Review Monthly Calendar tasks

12/878 Items for next agenda

Date of the next meeting is at 7.30pm on Monday 19th September 2022 which will be held in the Village hall.

Meeting closed at 20.04