



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE  
PARISH COUNCILS

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTON TIRROLD AND ASTON UPTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 21st MARCH 2022**

**12/805 Apologies for absence**

Jane Murphy OCC (JM), Anne-Marie Simpson SODC (AMS)

**12/806 Present**

Jane Imbush Chair (JI), Simon Young Vice-Chair (SY), Peter Butcher (PB), Jane Knight (JBK), Neil Carter (NC), Joanna Hart (JH), Henry Weeks (HW), Nigel Hawkey (NH), Nicole West (NW) Sarah Brown Clerk(SB) 5 members of the public

**12/807 Declaration of any relevant interests**

None

**12/808 Minutes**

Minutes from the meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 were then agreed by all and signed by the Chair.

**12/809 Public questions, comments, or representations**

Jo Walsh came to talk about the Ukraine crisis and the possibility of joining North Moreton with their response for helping refugees. The PC suggested that a small working party of people may be the solution to assist in this and that the PC would be willing to support with fundraising for this cause. JI volunteered to be point of contact for the potential working party to liaise with the PC.

**12/810 SODC and OCC Reports to the Parish Council**

**Standing with Ukraine**

Cllr David Rouane, leader of South Oxfordshire District Council, has issued a statement on the war in Ukraine (4 March):

*We all value those qualities of democracy, freedom and security which we in Britain take for granted. We stand by the people of Ukraine in the face of the invasion by Russia and our thoughts are with everyone affected by this action.*

*It's difficult at this stage to predict exactly what may or may not unfold over the coming days and weeks, but we know that our community will want to do whatever they can to support our neighbours whose friends and families are directly affected by the conflict and those we see on our television screen.*

*We will show our solidarity with those affected through the channels open to us as a council and we would urge those who want to help the aid effort to support the appeals issued by established international agencies who are already working in the area, and to be aware of local community groups who are supporting Ukrainian families here in the UK.*

The council is working closely with our partners in Oxfordshire to understand the processes we could use, building on those already in place for COVID, and the potential resources that may be required to support any Ukrainian refugees that are settled with volunteer households in our districts.

It's clear that there will be a lot of work required across the Oxfordshire system, which includes the health authorities and councils but as yet, we have not been asked by government to undertake any specific activity. Both council leaders have confirmed that we



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will do all we can to ensure any refugees coming to our district will have all the support they'll need (see above message).

Details are yet to be formally shared by government on the support options that will be available to us. If people would like to open their homes to Ukrainian refugees, please point them to the national scheme and national websites to register.

We shall share further details with you as soon as we have them, but there is an excellent initial summary document here that people may want to consider if they are interested in making a hosting offer, but please note, this is a fast paced situation and the information available changes quickly and so we will update you further as soon as we know.

Regarding donations, the government is advising people to ensure they "give safely" to registered charities.

Established charities with experience of responding to disasters are usually best placed to reach victims on the ground.

The best current route to donate and support is via the [Disasters Emergencies Committee](#).

The UK Government has said it will match fund up to £20m. DEC works with 15 charities including Oxfam, Christian Aid and Save the Children.

There are a number of other international charities you can support:

- [The British Red Cross has launched a Ukraine Crisis Appeal](#) to support the work of the Ukrainian Red Cross to fund food, water, first aid, medicines, warm clothes and shelter.
- The [UNHCR refugee agency](#) is collecting monetary donations for humanitarian assistance, emergency shelter and relief items like blankets. It will also fund psychological support for refugees.
- The [UN's children's charity, UNICEF](#), is accepting donations to help ensure child health and protection services are sustained and families have clean water and food.

If you're looking to donate to causes working in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, you should make a few simple checks before giving:

- Check the charity's name and registration number at [www.gov.uk/checkcharity](http://www.gov.uk/checkcharity)
- Make sure the charity is genuine before giving any financial information
- Be careful when responding to emails or clicking on links within them
- Contact or find out more online about the charity that you're seeking to donate to or work with to understand how they are spending their funds
- Look out for the Fundraising Badge on charity fundraising materials, this is the logo which shows that a charity has committed to fundraise in line with the Code of Fundraising Practice

#### **Cornerstone Arts Centre – line up!**

The Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot is re-opening with a great splash of entertainment to inspire everyone. The arts centre is due to open its doors again from 21 March, after being closed temporarily for maintenance works.

From fun family shows to 80's medleys and gripping theatre aiming to bring classic stories to life in a new light, the line-up is designed to offer something for everyone.

'MARVELus: All The MARVEL Movies... Kind Of' packs a comedy punch for audiences aged 12 and up who are huge fans of the superhero franchise. Their last tour was a sell-out success



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which solidified The Just Us League as an all-out delight to watch. They'll be at Cornerstone for one day only on Thursday 24 March at 7.30pm.

For 80's music lovers a theatre show with a party atmosphere will celebrate the colourful and diverse landscape of music from the 80's. 'Total 80's' is produced by the same company as the popular 'Rock For Heroes'. This 80's concert will be performed by a seven-piece band on Friday 25 March at 7.30pm.

Cornerstone Arts Centre aims to cater to its family audiences in March, bringing to the stage 'I Spy With My Little Eye' on Sunday 27 March at 2.30pm. An enchanting production based on the picture book by Steven Lee this interactive musical celebrates everything great about being a kid - and everything great about having one.

Blackeyed Theatre's fresh adaptation of 'Frankenstein' is also expected to wow audiences. Mary Shelley's original gothic masterpiece is brought to life in this masterfully constructed theatrical production by fusing ensemble storytelling, live music and puppetry. Audiences can attend this event on Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 March at 7:30pm.

The Nourish Café and bar will also be re-opening at Cornerstone Arts Centre along with its gallery. Visitors can find inspiration in the exhibition 'Anticipating Spring: The Art of Oriental Aesthetic' which is on display until April. This exhibition offers a taste of Chinese art and culture focusing on the celebration of spring.

To book tickets or find out more visit [www.cornerstone-arts.org](http://www.cornerstone-arts.org) or call the box office on 01235 515144.

#### **Parking charges**

Important changes will be introduced to parking in South Oxfordshire from next month. Motorists parking in district council car parks in Didcot, Goring, Henley, Thame or Wallingford are advised that from **Monday 4 April**:

- There will be a new charging period, from 8am to 6pm Monday to Saturday\*
- There will be a small increase in parking fees\*
- New and renewed permits will only be valid for the specific car park for which they are issued and will not be transferable. For more information (Questions and Answers) visit [southoxon.gov.uk/parkingchanges](http://southoxon.gov.uk/parkingchanges).

\*These changes will not apply at Goldsmiths Lane in Wallingford, which is part-owned by Wallingford Town Council and a private developer.

#### **Simpler Neighbourhood Plans – Local Place-making Plans**

As a parish council without a neighbourhood plan you will have received an invitation to participate in the simpler approach to neighbourhood planning pilot. Details are on the council's [website](#) together with how to apply at the bottom of the page.

#### **Letter to Rt Hon Michael Gove MP on the 5 year Housing Land Supply Rules**

On 31<sup>st</sup> January all of the leaders of the 6 Oxfordshire authorities (instigated by SODC Leader David Rouane) [wrote to Michael Gove](#) at DHLUC to express their concerns about the 5-yr HLS system, which is in urgent need of review and completely unfit for purpose. All Oxfordshire MPs were also copied and some have responded positively.

#### **Sessions to help health and beauty staff identify victims of domestic abuse**

Free training is now available to help ensure hair and beauty staff know what to do if they suspect a client or colleague is at risk of or suffering from domestic abuse.

The South and Vale Community Safety Partnership and Oxfordshire charity Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse are running a series of free online training sessions for people in the hair and beauty industry to raise awareness of domestic abuse.



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The events, called 'Transformations – changing our response to domestic abuse', are now available for anyone working across Oxfordshire in hair and beauty, including nail bars, tattooists and ear-piercing establishments.

Domestic abuse affects 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men in their lifetime, so it's very important that people know how they can support those affected.

For more information and to register visit – [southandvale.gov.uk/youcanhelp](https://southandvale.gov.uk/youcanhelp).

For advice and support on domestic abuse please call Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Service's Helpline number **0800 731 0055** (Mon-Fri 10am-6pm Sat 10am-4pm) or visit [reducingtherisk.org.uk](https://reducingtherisk.org.uk)

#### **South Oxfordshire tree-planting drive**

Tackling the climate emergency is a major priority South Oxfordshire District Council which is aiming to become carbon neutral within its own operations by 2025.

The council's new [Climate Action Plan](#) outlines the steps it will take to achieve this aim, as well as how it will support local efforts to tackle the climate emergency. This includes identifying sites for new tree planting and wilding opportunities on council land or through partnership opportunities on privately owned land to support natural carbon capture. A district-wide tree planting drive began on 6 March in Wallingford where South Oxfordshire District Council has granted applications from [Friends of Wallingford and Cholsey Green Spaces](#) to plant approximately 45 trees at Radnor Road, including a community orchard and walnut, sweet chestnut, oak, rowan and hawthorn trees and also a new community orchard on Wilding Road, which will feature apple and plum trees, hornbeam, oak, field and horse chestnut and a new hedgerow.

The applications for Radnor Rd and Wilding Rd are the first to be approved following the launch of the council's new tree planting policy, which outlines how it will support local tree planting

Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere so this work will play an important role in helping to reduce local emissions.

District councillors are now urging more groups to come forward with proposals for planting trees on council land across the district – for more information visit [southoxon.gov.uk/trees](https://southoxon.gov.uk/trees)

#### **12/811 Planning**

- a) **P22/S0774-** for development work at the following location: Lindens The Croft Aston Tirrold for proposed single storey extension. The PC **SUPPORT** this application with the comment to be mindful of light pollution at night as not to disrupt the local wildlife.
- b) Upthorpe farm development will go to committee on 6<sup>th</sup> April via MS Teams. JI to circulate the PCs response for comment.

#### **12/812 ARC**

The minutes from ARC meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> March were approved.

#### **12/813 Finance**

- a) Payments below Approved

Sarah Brown Clerk fees	£235.20
Simplicity Payroll Service	£26.40



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OALC Membership	£150
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- b) February's Financial Statement APPROVED
- c) VAT return has been submitted. SB to call to see if it's been received and being processed.
- d) Friends of the Ridgeway subscription £15 APPROVED
- e) Reimburse Arc for health and safety, £735.25 was agreed to be paid before 31<sup>st</sup> March

#### **12/814 CLP Groups**

a) Roads and Traffic – Issues of cars parking up spring lane which is proving to be dangerous to other road users.  
With the pub carpark also not being used there is possible cause for concern for the safety of the school children which are waiting for the school bus. JI to draft some words to go out to the village news.  
The first community speed watch is happening this week.

b) Housing and Development- Nothing to report.

c) Environment Group- First draft of the hedgerow and verge management plan was circulated to councillors. SB to chase OCC for a map of which verges they are responsible for maintaining. This map would also help for areas for the village clean up.  
The pathways will be gravelled towards the end of summer.

#### **12/815 Jubilee Party**

HW has come up with some ideas for the Jubilee party. Some key information and ideas:-

- Close Baker Street
- Fancy Dress treasure hunt for the children
- Bring an artefact from last 70 years
- Have Manor Field open for traditional games
- Photograph every house/ household in village and one big group photo
- People to bring their own food and drink

Another update at Aprils meeting.

#### **12/816 Village deep clean date and plans**

SB to chase OCC for a map. The date for the deep clean is 2<sup>nd</sup> April and SODC will provide litter picking.

#### **12/817 Fibre Broadband**

Nothing new to report.

#### **12/818 Review Monthly Calendar tasks**

#### **12/819 Items for next agenda**

Meeting closed at 20:34



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