



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE
PARISH COUNCILS

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTON TIRROLD AND ASTON UPTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 16th MAY 2022**

12/835 Apologies for absence

Jane Knight (JBK), Jane Murphy OCC (JM)

12/836 Present

Jane Imbush Chair (JI), Simon Young Vice-Chair (SY), Peter Butcher (PB), Henry Weeks (HW),
Nicole West (NW), Anne-Marie Simpson SODC (AMS), Neil Carter (NC), Joanna Hart (JH),
Nigel Hawkey (NH)
Sarah Brown Clerk(SB)
1 Member of the public

Nicole West has tendered her resignation from the PC. The chair would like to thank her for all her support to the council in all matters especially as a representative for the village hall.

12/837 Declaration of any relevant interests

NC for planning application **P22/S1419/HH**

12/838 Minutes

Minutes from the meetings held on 19th April 2022 were then agreed by all and signed by the Chair.

12/839 Public questions, comments, or representations

One concern from a member of the public we had via email was the cost of Astonbury and the concern of the rec not being available to the public if the number of people exceeded that which would put our health and safety plans at risk. JI to email the villager to address the concerns raised. The cost of the event is substantial, and the suggested donation is to help cover the costs of the event with the expectation that it will run for years to come. Moreover, any surplus from the event will be used to support projects at the recreation ground to sustain it for the future of the village. Costs have escalated since the last full Astonbury was run including increased costs to staging, bands and other items.

12/840 SODC and OCC Reports to the Parish Council

Interactive consultation - New Joint Local Plan about far more than housing!

Tackling the climate emergency, sustainable transport, affordable housing, high-tech jobs, and the future of our town centres are among the topics up for discussion as South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse District Councils embark on the creation of a new Joint Local Plan.

The two district councils have launched an interactive consultation to find out what the public thinks are the key issues facing the areas.

The results will help create the new Joint Local Plan, which will guide what kinds of new housing, infrastructure, jobs, green spaces and transport are needed for both districts and where they should go.

This Joint Local Plan is about so much more than just houses. We know how important infrastructure such as transport, schools and leisure facilities are and it will help us understand what we need, but perhaps even more importantly, it means we can outline



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ways we can meet our targets to make our part of the country carbon neutral by setting environmental standards for development.

The two councils are working together to produce the Joint Local Plan. This not only means better value for money for taxpayers as the councils can reduce costs, but also means the two authorities can work together to tackle some of the shared challenges they face and focus on shared priorities. Naturally, challenges such as climate change, traffic congestion and shortage of affordable housing don't stop at district boundaries.

Both councils are committed to tackling the climate emergency and creating a better future for all. By creating a Local Plan together we can ensure we achieve more while working more efficiently."

While enough development has already been allocated in existing local plans for the period up until 2031 for the Vale and 2035 for South Oxfordshire, plus some larger developments that will continue delivering homes beyond this, councils must cover a 15-year period so this new plan will cover the extra years to 2041.

This consultation is the first stage – the public will be able to have its say throughout the process – with the final draft Joint Local Plan going for examination by a Government planning inspector before being put before councillors for adoption, which is expected to happen in 2024.

We're not proposing any new locations for development or asking you how much development the districts should take – that will come later. To begin with we're working out what are the issues the joint local plan should tackle and want to hear your views. Making these plans take time, and your consultation responses will help us understand what we need, so we are starting the process now. This will also allow plenty of time and opportunity for people to get engaged in the Local Plan - we need as many of you as possible to tell us your thoughts so the Plan truly reflects our districts' needs and aspirations."

Anyone wishing to take part in the consultation can visit the [interactive Joint Local Plan website](#).

The consultation runs until 23 June 2022. Once finished, the councils will collate all the responses and produce a summary of responses that will help shape the next phase of the plan-making process when options will be considered to address the issues raised in this consultation.

You can find out more about the Joint Local Plan on the [South](#) or [Vale](#) websites.

A video explaining the new Joint Local Plan and this consultation can be found [via YouTube](#).

Platinum Jubilee celebrations this summer

SODC now has a webpage dedicated to the celebrations, for residents, businesses and our town and parish councils to find out what they need to do arrange an event, what events are happening locally, what's happening nationally and what we are going to be doing as a council to mark this special occasion. These pages will be updated as we get more information, and we will share the details on our social media and regular newsletters. For more information, visit: <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/the-queens-platinum-jubilee-2022/>

Water Safety

Water safety advice is being issued by Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service. Drowning in the UK is amongst the leading causes of accidental death. There were ten water related fatalities in Oxfordshire between 2020 and 2022. There is a useful summary here: <https://www.henleyherald.com/2022/04/25/fire-service-issue-water-safety-advice/>
Accommodation for Ukrainians



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SODC is working with the other Oxfordshire Councils to help Ukrainians wishing to seek refuge here. District councils are responsible for checking that accommodation offered is suitable for those arriving but this can only be done once a link has been established between those offering space and Ukrainians wanting it. Once the new residents are installed, the financial arrangements are put in place.

A reminder to direct general Ukraine queries please to:

- Website: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ukraine
- Oxfordshire Ukraine helpline: +44 1865 966444 / 01865 966 444 (opening hours: 8.45am - 5pm, Monday to Friday. Closed weekends and bank holidays).
- Email: ukraineresponse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

For housing and community support in South and the Vale:

- www.southoxon.gov.uk/ukraine
- www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/ukraine
- South and Vale helpline: 01235 422600 (press option one). Opening hours: 8.30am-5pm Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-4.30pm Fridays, Closed weekends and bank holidays.
- Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

No Mow May

In addition to existing wildflower meadows, this month SODC will trial leaving additional areas of land uncut for No Mow May, a national campaign aiming to let grass grow long to help boost biodiversity. To find out more: <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/parking-roads-and-streets/grounds-maintenance/grass-cutting/>

Climate Change Action Plan

With all the terrible news about war in Ukraine and the cost of living increase, it would be easy to forget that SODC recently approved a fully-costed Climate Action Plan. This means that we are prioritising projects which will help us to reach net zero carbon in our own operations by 2025 and across the district by 2030 as well as improving nature recovery and biodiversity. This includes improving the energy efficiency of our leisure centres, reducing staff travel by encouraging home working and making it easier for others to plant trees and hedges on SODC-owned land. On top of this, we were able to allocate an additional £500k in the current year budget to kickstart projects which had been delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic. These include appointing experts to provide advice on retrofitting homes for improved energy efficiency, supporting car-sharing clubs and hosting green business fairs to help our local businesses achieve their own ambitions. Look out also for more litter picks, more deep cleans of public facilities and grants for tree and hedge planting by local community groups.

Over half a million pounds in funding awarded to community organisations in South Oxfordshire

Voluntary organisations in South Oxfordshire whose work includes supporting young people, providing vital help and advice for residents, and protecting the environment have been awarded £667,992 in grant funding. SODC awarded the funds to 22 organisations to help them improve the quality of life for the residents and communities they serve, whilst making sustainable plans for their future work. Environmental charities including Earth Trust, River Thame Conservation Trust and Wild Oxfordshire were awarded funds to help with their work in our natural world benefitting nature and residents. All applications for the grant were



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asked to consider how their organisation, activities and services are working towards addressing the climate emergency – a key priority as set out in our Corporate Plan. Supporting vulnerable residents is also a focus of the funding, with local information and advice services awarded funds. For example, Riverside Counselling, a charity based in Henley, with services also in Wallingford, Didcot and Berinsfield, were awarded £45,568 to help them provide counselling services to adults and young people from the age of 12. Organisations wanting to find out more about the grants and support is available at South Oxfordshire District Council can contact communityenablement@southandvale.gov.uk

12/841 Planning

a) **P22/S1419/HH**- development work at the following location: The Old Boot House, Thorpe Street, Aston Upthorpe for a single storey rear extension, enlargement of front porch and fenestration changes. NC was not allowed to make comment due to the conflict of interest. The PC **SUPPORTS** this application.

b) **P22/S1425/HH**- development work at the following location: Winterbrook Cottage 6 Alison's Lane Aston Tirrold. To be deferred to June's meeting on the grounds that the neighbours aren't in residence yet to have a comment and so that a site visit can happen.

12/842 ARC

a) The minutes from ARC meeting held 9th May were approved. Looking at quotes to get the boules pitch re-edged.

b) ARC will investigate more quotes for the installation of a table tennis table. AMS said there is currently a scheme going on for possible funds to put towards this and would forward a link to ARC.

12/843 Finance

a) Payments below Approved

Sarah Brown Clerk fees	£235.20
Simplicity Payroll Service	£26.40
Zurich Insurance	£1692.90

b) April's Financial Statement APPROVED

c) Steve Morant has completed the audit and will fill out the relating paperwork on his return from holiday at the end of June.

12/844 CLP Groups

a) Roads and Traffic-

- The verge outside Bagpuize house is being damaged. Although there wasn't any suggestions on how to stop this due to the size of vehicles and placement of what they're needed for JI will speak to the owners to see if anything can be done to prevent further destruction.
- Noted that the steps at Picks Field are broken again. PB to have a look.

b) Housing and Development- Nothing to report.



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c) Environment Group- NC has emailed OCC again to try to get further clarity on which roads and paths are maintained by them and which ones can be adopted into the village clean up.



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12/845 Jubilee Party

Photo sessions are in progress. The road closure is confirmed from 10am on Sunday 5th - 8am Monday 6th. NW to mention to the village hall committee that there would be intent to use the village hall to house the jubilee party if it's raining.

12/846 Village deep clean date and plans

See above 12/844 C

12/847 Fibre Broadband

Communication with Openreach hasn't been easy but presume that things are underway. AMS to feedback at her next meeting with them.

12/848 Review Monthly Calendar tasks

Jl confirmed that the defibrillator at the village hall has been registered.

12/849 Items for next agenda

There is a small one-off grant available to households struggling with the rise of the cost of living. Please contact the United Charities of the Ancient Parish of Blewbury, Upton and Aston Upthorpe for more information or to apply.

NH mentioned he has reported the plastic broken signs of fly tipping and no motorbikes but hasn't had a response. A suggestion of metal signs was discussed as a deterrent.

Member of public mentioned that there were electrical cables posing what they thought to be a hazard outside one of the village houses. This should be reported on fix my street as an urgent problem needing to be addressed. The homeowner will also be made aware of the possible danger.

Date of the next meeting is at 7.30pm on Monday 20th June 2022 which will be held in the Village hall.