Appendix 1 October 2020 Report of the Clerk

New issues during month

- A Facebook post from resident regarding the resurfaced area of Upper Road, requesting that the white lines are reinstated. Clerk reported on Fix My Street.
- **B** Vandalism of stone wall at Playfield Rd took place, as well as the table under the play house being removed and thrown into the waste land behind the pavilion and the sand box being further damaged, making it unsafe. Clerk arranged for sandbox to be made safe but will need further attention. Incident has been reported to the police.
- **C** Email from resident regarding playing fields:

"I got my ... dog at the beginning of "lock down" and have been walking around both rec grounds since.

I used to be a substance misuse nurse in London and have noticed drug use, drug dealing and paraphernalia at both rec grounds. It is nowhere near as bad as other areas that I work in now (multiple needles in the playgrounds every day), or the areas I worked in London, but seeing the vandalism of our playground wall I wonder about mentioning it to you at the Parish Council and perhaps the PSCO?

The drug dealing has been via car drivers meeting another cars occupants or men on foot on three occasions, all at dusk. I suspect that I saw class A use on one occasion. I had to walk through a group of youths smoking strong skunk recently at the memorial field gate (they were pleasant to my dog and me). Might it be worth installing cameras? I guess they might be vandalised though?"

D | Email from resident regarding fly tipping on Bagley Wood Road:

"I would like to bring to the attention of the Parish Council the issue of fly tipping along the verge in Bagley Wood Road between the A34 and St Swithun's Road. For the third time this year I have had to report to Fix My Street rubbish being dumped along that bit of road. This week it was a cloakroom basin and toilet left on the verge. A mattress has also been dumped not far from the Forest Side footbridge over the A34. I have not reported that."

E Email regarding tree in copse adjacent to Sandford Lane:

"sorry to disturb on a Sunday, but I noticed a large damaged tree branch this morning. It is in the copse between Sandford Lane and the Main road through the village. The break is high up and the section above the break is large and could cause serious damage when it falls. It appears to be propped up by other trees currently. The view below is from Sandford Lane, but the limb may fall onto the main road through the village. Sorry to push this to you - I'm not really sure who should be informed."

Clerk forwarded information on to the landowner.

- F 'Voke' graffiti has returned on the bus stops near Sandford Lane. Clerk has asked the Village Warden to remove
- **G** | Email from resident regarding anti-idling campaign:

"I would like to further explore the possibility of putting up some posters at key places in the village about car idling. A few residents have written to me over the past few months to raise the issue, most specifically at the school end of The Avenue, Grundy Crescent and around the Co-op. We have done some research to see what has been done elsewhere, and have found a series of excellent banner /poster campaigns attached to railing/lamposts to remind people not to idle their cars.

As the weather turns, and things get colder, more and more people leave their engine running whilst waiting in their car. For October 8th's Clean Air Day, the Kennington Environmental Group is focusing on anti-idling and getting clear and helpful information out to the people of Kennington. However, it seems that elsewhere in the UK (and Oxfordshire in particular) banners and posters are being used to help spread this message. Could you let me know the process we would need to go through to be able to put up banners/lampost signs like this at three strategic points in Kennington?

Might it be possible to raise it with the parish council to see if they would support this action (particularly through the winter months).

I am attaching links to:

- 1) The recent winning banner from the Oxford City Council/Friends of the earth air pollution banner competition (displayed at Windmill School): https://www.thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/news/18724563.windmill-primary-school-wins-pollution-banner-competition/
- 2) An example of this kind of banner taken by a Kennington resident on a visit to her family in Leeds
- 3) The RAC's official anti-idling banner: https://www.rac.co.uk/drive/advice/emissions/idling/
- 4) Red Funnel's amazing and informative anti-idling campaign: https://www.redfunnel.co.uk/en/corporate-info/environment/anti-idling/"

H Facebook message received regarding Playfield Rd:

"Just wanted to say how sad I was to read about the vandalism that has taken place at Playfield along with other residents of Kennington. What is also of great concern bring a parent to young children that want to play safely in the park and play football and train for Kennington on the pitch is the number of dog owners that allow their dog into the park play area when there are signs that clearly state dogs not allowed and dog that are not on leads. I was watching my son doing his football training this evening who seemed to have 3 dogs not on leads and one approached my dog who was stood calmly next to me on a lead and growled at him and made physical contact. I asked the owner to take control of his dog as I didn't want my dog to come to any harm or any of the children. He replied that his dog was not aggressive and I was overreacting. Having just had a vet bill for £2K for a recent eye injury to my dog which involved intense medical treatment and hospitalisation I would highly recommend that dog owners take responsibility and I wonder how many of our dogs frequenting Playfield without leads are insured as every deserves to feel safe in our community. Is there any way that this can be followed up as we are so lucky to have such wonderful facilities in our village and incidents like this are not acceptable and if left unsaid concern it will lead to an accident before long."

I Email from resident regarding tree in Sandford Lane:

"[I have] just been for a walk down to the lock and there is a large Oak tree with a few of the large branches broken off, I'm worrying that maybe the whole tree is dead therefore dangerous. This is in the Radley side of the lane, I'm not sure who I should report it to. The tree is almost to the bottom of the lane on the opposite side to the flood boards, I think is probably private as I did try to report it on fixmystreet and it said it wasn't in their area."

J Chairman has received a request from Small World Nursery for access from the footpath to the playing field for creating a pre-school garden.

Continuing issues

- **K** Clerk has asked Village Warden to monitor the litter at the playing fields and weed the play area at Forest Side before the play bark is delivered.
- L Speed Indicator Device has been installed and clerk shared results of first few days with councillors and on Kennington Connected. Clerk has asked permission from Oxfordshire County Council for this to be installed occasionally on Sandford Lane and has ordered some more brackets.
- M Clerk has written to Head of Planning at district council regarding notification of requests for works to trees with Tree Preservation Orders, copying in Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils.
- N Clerk has emailed Lynne Bromley regarding the idea for a bench commemorating her parents and is waiting to hear back.
- O | Clerk has arranged a Zoom meeting to discuss the Remembrance Day service this year.
- **P** Ben from BGG has been emailed, requesting a quotation for the work to the trees on Cow Lane, and clerk is awaiting a response.
- **Q** Proposal from Wolvercote Cricket Club has been explored and is looking positive. Clerk has circulated a draft hire agreement and is waiting to hear back.
- **R** Clerk has added links to BBOWT webinars and supporting information to the village website.
- S Clerk chased up Thames Water regarding the work to the drains on Forest Side and this has been escalated. Clerk will chase again if a response is not received.