

New Issues	
A	Resident contacted Clerk to ask if the parish council could help her as she has great concerns about the large trees that come over her property within The Avenue. The trees are in St Swithun's Church grounds. Clerk explained that it would be the Church she would have to contact, she says she is getting no response from them. Clerk contacted the Church Warden on resident's behalf. Isabel Baggott responded, will make contact with the resident.
B	Two branches snapped off a Leylandii tree at the top of Forest Side playing field, one, being half snapped off some 10ft from the ground. Arranged for Richard Upton to cut both down and take away as an matter of urgency (in agreement with the Chair). Asked Mr Upton his advice on what should be carried out on these trees.
C	Combination lock on the defibrillator cabinet outside Kirlena doesn't work every time, took Clerk five attempts to open the cabinet. New lock purchased and replaced by Cllr. Feather. Replacement battery ordered for the defibrillator at Playfield Road pavilion.
D	Resident reported to Cllr. Russell that a tree is growing out of the old stone wall between the Village Hall and the private residence next door. It can be difficult to walk passed, if you have a stick or in a wheelchair, because of the tree one has to walk on the steeper fall in the pavement. Clerk informed the Village Hall Management Committee and reported on FixMyStreet (6136398). Private resident has trimmed tree back. Tree needs taking out as will eventually break up the stone wall which is part of the original St George's Field.
E	Resident contacted clerk reporting the old broken chair in the Village Hall carpark and also the broken off barrier end, asking if the council could remove this rubbish. Clerk forwarded issue to the Management Committee.

Continuing issues	
F	Uploaded the new Fire Safety Policy onto the website and updated the Document Schedule
G	Received letter from ENRYCH thanking the council for its grant of £100. <i>'It is very much appreciated, and I would be grateful if you could pass on our thanks to the other members of the Parish Council. The money will immediately be used to continue the very much needed services we offer in the Kennington area'.</i>
H	Mick Herring has taken down the flat swings at Forest Side. He is not going to carry out the other maintenance tasks at Forest Side until after the RoSPA inspection. He will carry out the other maintenance tasks itemised for The Links. Clerk attached notice at Forest Side play area explaining why the flat swings were no longer there. This was posted on the website, Facebook and in July's Chronicle.
I	Resident emailed Clerk: <i>At the Sandford Lane end of this footpath there had been untreated water oozing under the fence from property owned by Thames Water treatment plant. This situation is steadily deteriorating, and the water is forming a large puddle by the industrial centre. The public use this path a lot and are having to wade through this. I contacted Thames Water by email last week and they haven't even had the courtesy to reply. This is a health hazard affecting all who use the path and I would be grateful if the parish council would contact Thames Water accordingly.</i> Clerk responded explaining that the parish council is in communication with Thames Water (TW) and Oxfordshire County Council (OCC). TW has reassured the council that the water from TW's site is not sewage and that it is water coming from a winterbourne. The council is communicating with OCC as highway authority to solve this issue. Received email from OCC Highways letting the council know that the spring at the end of the footpath in Sandford Lane (next to Thames Waters' pumping station) is going to be looked at next week (4 & 5 July 2024). Ask who should be contacted if an informal diversion through the Cemetery, were to be arranged. Clerk gave Rev'd Rob Glenny's details. Rev'd Glenny has agreed to this informal diversion.
J	Responded to resident concerned about the illegal parking in the village following response received: <i>'Thank you and the PC for a reply on the matter of "illegal" parking; I quite understand the dilemma faced by the PC under the restrictions that you mention. That said, I repeat that it must be the PC that is proactive on this otherwise the situation will degenerate further. If there is disregard for "illegal" parking then what are the double yellow lines for? The highway code states "no parking at any time" and that is cut and dried. Therefore the Police and the County Council need to be bombarded with letters of complaint until they give in and act! The PC could easily lead the charge on this and get a petition signed by as many as one can get. If a death or accident occurs, what will be the feelings of residents and the PC. Historically, I recall that it was a fatal accident on the bend opposite The Tandem that brought about the double yellows in the first place. Sorry to moan on but I firmly believe that the PC has to be the Leader in this matter, they have some teeth surely?'</i>

	Acknowledged email with a suggestion resident comes along to the start of next month's meeting. Received the following: <i>Could you suggest/advise the appropriate section/dept of the Vale that one should complain to about such matters as "their inability to monitor/police parking restrictions? The PC could then advise locals to bombard them with complaints until they do something.</i>
K	Responded to Wild about Kennington explaining that council is not sure who planted the bulbs a few years ago. Received a bulb-planting and plug-planting risk assessment. Clerk offered Hi-viz vests.
L	Responded to Oxfordshire Preservation Trust (OPT) explaining that council is happy in principle to contribute to the restoration of the Memorial plaques in the Memorial field stone walls. Recommending that OPT apply for a community grant from the council – forwarded paperwork. Asked question regarding future maintenance too.
M	Cllrs. Andrews and Buckingham volunteered to carry out the Annual Asset Inspection for the council. Clerk will need to prepare the paperwork for this inspection to take place.
N	Informed Julia Kent that the council felt no search was necessary with regard land around the War Memorial.
O	Informed Kennington OAP Whist Drive that the council awarded them Club a grant to cover the room hire for 2024 – Requested and received invoice from Manager of Village Hall. Payment prepared for July's meeting.
P	Informed Marie Curie that council awarded South Region a £25 grant – payment prepared for July's meeting.
Q	Forwarded the 2023-24 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) to the external auditors. Posted the Notice of Public Rights on the Noticeboard at the Village Centre as well as on the website along with the Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return.
R	Informed by council's internal auditor that there will be an £20 increase for 2024/25's audit.
S	Completed application form to open a Public Sector Deposit Fund account sent recorded delivery
T	Informed Savills that the council's accepts the rent increase for Forest Side playing field. Also informed Knights solicitors that the council is happy with the Forest Side playing field draft lease.
U	Contacted Zurich, the council's insurers, to ask if Cllr. Feather was covered to use a small battery powered saw. The Clerk had requested written confirmation: <i>Based on the information provided, the use of battery powered saws by your organisations councillors/volunteers is not covered by your policy. However, with regard to volunteers and councillors doing general maintenance on behalf of your organisation, this is covered under your Public Liability cover, providing you;</i> <i>Are using small hand tools</i> <i>Are using the correct PPE</i> <i>Risk Assessing</i> <i>Providing training where required</i> <i>Complying with relevant HSE guidance</i> Cllr. Feather has been informed that he is no longer to use this tool.
V	Clerk met with CCTV company for demo at both pavilions – at Playfield Road the CCTV had been switched off, need to make sure it is stressed that no-one touches this. At Forest Side, the CCTV camera had been knocked by a football – it has been recommended to exchange the camera with a vandal proof dome camera. Awaiting costs. The mouse for this CCTV had been dropped and damaged. This cupboard is used for cleaning materials. Recommend council finds a new lockable home for cleaning materials and toilet rolls.
W	Cllr. Cuddy liaising with Chloe from the Highway Engagement Team, to take up offer of a face to face meeting to generally discuss issues and future strategy in Kennington. Would any other councillors like to join Cllr. Cuddy?
X	Wild about Kennington has been doing regular safety checks on the wildlife friendly verges in the village and is pleased to report that there are many more wildflowers in the verges this year, including at least six pyramidal Orchids. It also reported that the grass has grown very strongly because of all the rain. It reported the lack of visibility due to both the length of grass and overgrown and overhanging bushes and low growth of trees along The Avenue. A request has been made for a 2m-wide strip along the edge of the main road be carried out by BGG and also requested that OCC cut back the bushes and tree growth along the main road as a matter of urgency. Clerk asked BGG to cut a 2m-wide strip along the verges and reported via both OCC's Tree Officer and FixMyStreet (Report No:6151916) the urgency of the vegetation to be cut back. Received response from OCC: <i>Thank you for your report. I have visited the location and assessed the trees. I have instructed our contractors to carry out works to the trees described in the enquiry. These works will be undertaken in the coming weeks.</i>
Y	Received more details on the Festival Group's request for some health and safety/Risk Assessment advice.

Z	Resident reported deep/dangerous potholes for cycles and motorbikes along The Avenue. Some outside the school; No 1 and 45/47 The Avenue. Reported via FixMyStreet – these specific potholes have been filled.
AA	Contacted South Central Ambulance Service, who carry out Defib/CPR awareness sessions, they are for a donation of £10 per head for these sessions. Contacted St Johns Ambulance who provide First Aid at Work (FAW) training courses - £390.00 + VAT (all classroom-based) or £381.00 + VAT (combination of online and classroom learning) 1 st Aid courses for the councillors.
AB	Received response from Sustrans regarding the complaints of the extensive cutting back to brambles etc between the Tandem and Sandford Lane, along the Sustrans cycle route. <i>'The Land Manager who looks after this region has confirmed that she believes the works mentioned refer to the work carried out by the electricity company SSE, who have a right to enter to maintain vegetation beneath the power lines. Permission was granted in October last year, but they did not carry out the work until March. There was then further work carried out by SSE in relation to power line work. Sustrans carried out some routine work in March, however this was only light vegetation.'</i>
AC	Reported the overhanging willow trees in front of the Village sign and flower trough at the north of the village, via FixMyStreet (report No: 6153995), explaining the trees have become an issue for people using the footpath. Requested willow is cut back to the boundary.
AD	Wrote to Mr Dockar-Drysdale informing him of residents concerns and asked when he had last carried out a Duty of Care Inspection of the trees within the parcel of land on the south of Sandford Lane, between the Lane and the new Lawns development.
AE	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – the district council is in the process of identifying any anticipated CIL monies that have been paid between 1 April 2024 to 30 September 2024 that can be transferred to the parish council by 28 October 2024. They are reminding the council to ensure that a meeting is held for this to be formally discussed before 30 September 2024, at which the council needs to decide if it wishes the district council to hold these monies on the parish council's behalf, as the usual practice is for parish councils to have its CIL monies automatically transferred