

New Issues	
A	Resident contacted Clerk explaining (just for information) that he was scammed by an advertising poster that was on one of Kennington's notice boards.
B	PCSO Maddie Highmoor contacted the Clerk: <i>'I have received a phone call from a member of the public, regarding vandalism occurring at the Cemetery off Sandford Lane. They advised me that they had reported the issue to Kennington Parish Council, who informed her that they had reported this to Police. Therefore, I just wanted to touch base with you to ask whether this was something that you had been made aware of?'</i> Clerk responded that she had heard nothing. Maddie assumed the parish council owned the cemetery – Clerk explained that it was the Church's land giving contact details.
C	Resident reported that her neighbour's verge, which was on the list for being cut by BGG, had not been cut – Clerk contacted BGG and got assurances that this would be carried out at the next cut.
D	Worried residents contacted Clerk about proposed HMOs at Nos 1 and 3 Cranbrook Drive. It would seem Planning Permission to change the use of the property to an HMO is required for 7 or more people. It is understood that No 1 Cranbrook Drive proposes 5 Bedroom and No. 3 Cranbrook Drive 3 bedrooms. These properties would require an HMO licence if it is rented out to 5 or more (unrelated) people.
E	The Abingdon & Oxford Anglers Alliance Water Officer contacted the Clerk asking who owns Fiddlers Elbow, where the Kennington Angling Club used to fish. Clerk contacted Oxfordshire Preservation Trust (OPT) to ask if they are aware of the owner. OPT responded - they did not know who owned this land, but was aware it was tenanted so suggested speaking with the tenant or Sandford lock keeper. Clerk informed the water officer.

Continuing issues	
F	Lease relating to Forest Side playing field between the parish council and St John's College has been signed and is leased until 25 March 2043. Informed the Play Area Working Party.
G	Contacted company that had advertising poster outside St Swithun's School on the safety fence and asked him to take it down, explaining that if he did not the parish council would do so for him.
H	RoSPA carried out its annual inspections of the play areas and Forest Side and The Links on 9 July and forwarded the resulting reports to all councillors
I	Mr Dockar-Drysdale is having tree works carried out in the woodland next to Sandford Lane during mid-August.
J	Contacted Manager at Kennington Village Hall to pass on concerns the council has with regard to the sycamore growing up against the stone wall, next to the hall, tree will eventually break up the wall, which is a original part of the St George's Field wall. Suggested a tree surgeon spray <i>Pro brushwood killer</i> onto tree would solve issue.
K	The community bulb planting events planned for October, being planned by Wild about Kennington (WaK) was under the impression, it was covered under council's insurance. The Clerk and Chair have suggested Cllrs. Andrews and Gamble join the Events Committee and work with WaK in organising, including producing a risk assessment for this Community event. The Events Committee is not happy with involving children as young as 8 years in this event. A risk assessment (RA) needs to be prepared, after looking at the RA from St Swithun's School Bike ability events. Information regarding Community Litter picks, sent by VoWHDC also to be taken into account when preparing RA, and safety document for volunteers to read and sign. Regarding the more regular activities of WaK, these would not be covered under the council's insurance. Clerk written informing WaK of the £500 grant awarded to them.
L	Contacted internal auditor confirming the council's wish that he carrying out the 2024-25 council audit.
M	Reported via FixMyStreet (Ref:6242120) the issue of drivers not being able to see when turning right out of St Swithun's Road onto The Avenue. Explained that there are same issues at both Simpsons Way and Playfield Road. Requested vegetation is severely cut back as a matter of urgency. Received response: <i>Thank you for your enquiry. Following a site visit, a work order has been raised and is with our contractors.</i>
N	Ordered a second battery along with additional clips for SID, received invoice before delivery, together with an additional invoice for delivery at £235. This delivery charge had not been communicated to the Clerk, which she had requested. Clerk put a stop on the delivery as soon as she was aware.
O	Mick Herring reported a faulty/bent reinforced rope (for The Links) had been delivered – has had to return it – will be a further two weeks before delivery. Requested he use nylon whipping cord around the shackle at end of existing rope at a cost of £25. The Clerk instructed Mick to go ahead. Reinforced roped has now been replaced,

	together with other maintenance requested on both the flat and basket swings. Cllr. Powles requested that Mick take down both the baby swing and the chains on the walking frame to dissuade children from going in Forest Side play area. Baby swing has been taken down, chains still on walking frame.
P	10 July – attached Closure Notice on the fence at Forest Side play area and locked the gate, with cable ties. 20 July – found notice had been ripped off and cable ties cut off. Replaced notice. Locked gate with cable ties on 22 July. Cllr. Powles locked gate again with cable ties 24 July. Clerk has posted on both the website and Facebook not to use this play area. 25 July – Notice and cable ties ripped off again. There is now a lock and chain on the gate, with Closure Notices on all four sides of the fence(stapled to the fence). All notices were ripped off during August, Clerk replaced at the beginning of September.
Q	Received email from local resident reporting a further rip in the wire covering the walkway in The Links play area, which has since been fixed. They also asked about <i>'the sandpit and whether it would be possible to have one again as it was so popular?'</i>
R	Wrote to MyVision Oxfordshire informing them of £25 grant awarded to them, suggesting any future requests have details of the number of Kennington residents are helped, as this would give the council more flexibility when granting amounts of grants. MyVision Oxfordshire replied explaining: <i>I've just checked, and we've supported 10 Kennington residents in the last 12 months – I will, of course, include an updated figure next time we approach the Council for funding. Thank you for advising on this.</i>
S	Received progress report from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), Highway Schemes after their officers were unsuccessful with their investigation regarding the discharge of water from the Thames Water station at Sandford Lane: <i>'I'm now arranging for a pipe to be installed to catch the waters and take it into the large culvert that runs alongside the road in the path. I'm hopeful of getting that done before the resurfacing is done in late September. It will be a similar scenario, i.e. we'll have to send walkers through the Church yard again. On a recent visit I note potholes are developing again so I've copied in the Cyclic Team to arrange some remedial repairs'.</i> These works have been completed with one resident commenting: <i>'The repaired area at the bottom of the footpath from Poplar Grove to Sandford Lane is wonderful. First class job, well done'.</i> Clerk passed on his thanks.
T	Informed Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC) that the council would like any CIL monies automatically transferred to its bank account and not held by South and Vale on its behalf.
U	Wrote to the Festival Group explaining that the council does not have the capacity to give health and safety advice, but would suggest St Johns Ambulance, and also to contact the Village Hall Management Committee as their lunches are provided at this venue.
V	Responded to the formal consultation on the proposal by OCC to designate certain streets as traffic-sensitive under the Street Works Act, that: <i>in principle the council is in favour of this action, but this does not affect Kennington parish'.</i>
W	Wrote letter to SSE regarding the invoices received since January, as the council has been expecting a credit - when Clerk rang SSE to ask when the credit was to be added onto the council's account, Clerk was told that there was no record of any phone calls and that the account was up to date. After reasonable period since Clerk sent complaint letter, she rang again. Was told that the case number she was quoted did not exist. Was put through to complaint department. Holding email has been received.
X	Received further email from the external auditor: <i>Please note that the treatment for the maturity and re-investment of a long term asset is not in line with the required accounting treatment and therefore boxes 3 & 6 are understated. This has led to the higher of income/expenditure being greater than £200k and therefore we are required to ask further questions as part of our intermediate testing which are for Councils where the higher of income/expenditure is greater than £200k. Please see below a list of these questions: Provide: i. A confirmation that the notice of completion of the prior year's audit was properly displayed; and ii The location of the display(s); and iii. Provide evidence of its publication. Provide: i. A confirmation that the internal auditor does not undertake tasks outside of their internal audit role, such as processing transactions or being involved in decision making, which may compromise their independence ii. An extract of the minutes showing appointment/re-appointment of the internal auditor. Provide: i. Evidence of where issues raised within internal and external audit reports received during the period (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024) have been considered by the Council; and ii. An extract of the minutes where</i>

	<i>revised procedures have been adopted during this period. iii. Copies of agreed action plans to implement recommendations.</i> Clerk responded same day.
Y	Informed the Waste Technical Officer at VoWHDC that the dog poo bin at Playfield Road playing field (on the far side of the field) is rotten and requested it be removed. There is a general little bin next to it so that can be used instead. Parks team has removed bin.
Z	Cllr. Jempson has reported that the dog poo bin has been reposition to the other side of the road. The dog poo dispenser is still in its original position. Residents are now using the dispenser as a poo bin! Clerk to organise its repositioning to the other side of the road next to the dog poo bin.
AA	Responded to the Active Buggies events, being organised by South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC), explaining that the council had no issues with them using either playing fields to run these events, but would ask for the dates and times they would be running. Response received: <i>'I would like to start the session from Thursday 3 October 11am – 11.45am and they will run weekly until Thursday 24 October. I will come and have a look in Kennington and see which field would be suitable and will also get back to you with a risk assessment along with a poster to help promote the sessions if possible. I've attached a copy of the council's public liability insurance'.</i>
AB	District Councillor Diana Lugova forwarded a Landsec Link for grant applications – Clerk forwarded this information to Kennington Village Hall Management Committee, the Play Area Working Party, Cllr. Feather for the proposed pavilion and Kennington Youth Club (through Cllr. Feather).
AC	OPT responded regarding the restoration of the war memorial plaques in the memorial field stone wall. They are planning to request a community grant from the council and in answer to the question of who would pay for maintenance, OPT would take responsibility.
AD	New Village Warden (Mr Justin Satchell) recruited and starts his role on 2 September 2024. Clerk requested Calber stop their bin emptying and pavilion cleaning at the end of August.
AE	The legionella monitoring company reported that the double doors to Playfield Road pavilion were open when they made their monthly visit, assuming that there had been a break in. Cllr Feather and the Clerk went up to check the damage, no damage done to the door, checked with Mark Baker if there should have been tuck in kitchen, nothing had been taken. Assumption that doors had not been locked. The lose door frame has since been fixed.