

**Kennington Parish Council
Oxfordshire
Minutes of the meeting held on
11 July 2024 at 7:30pm in the Village Centre**

Present: Cllr. Andrews Cllr. Cuddy Cllr. Feather Cllr. Gamble
 Cllr. Jempson Cllr. Johnston Cllr. Locklin Cllr. Powles

In Attendance: Two members of the public; District Councillor Diana Lugova and Anne Feather (Clerk)

120.24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr. Brown; Cllr. Buckingham; Cllr. Cobb and Cllr. Russell

121.24 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None

122.24 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS – Cllrs. Andrews and Gamble are Committee members of Wild about Kennington (WaK) and declared their interest in the WaK's request for a grant.

123.24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Parish Council resolved to sign the minutes of the meeting on 13 June 2024 as a true record.

124.24 REPORT OF THE CLERK

New issues during the month

- 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 contacted the Church Warden on resident's behalf. Isabel Baggett 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. He thinks the hedge should be cut shorter, with the branches falling outwards be cut off – in the region of £6,000.

125.24 It was agreed that the council would obtain quotes for carrying out similar work, including topping the trees by 1 metre.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Obtain quotes for this tree work to be carried out.

- 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 purchased 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, one has to walk on the steeper fall in the pavement, due to the tree. Clerk informed the Village Hall Management Committee and reported on FixMyStreet (6136398). Private resident has trimmed tree back. This sycamore needs to go as will eventually break up the stone wall which is part of the original St George's Field. It was suggested that a tree surgeon spray Pro brushwood killer on the tree, as the only way to prevent damage to the wall.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Write to the Village Hall Management Committee with this information

- 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. Both have been taken away.
- F** Uploaded the new Fire Safety Policy onto the website and updated the Document Schedule
- G** Received letter from ENRYCH thanking council for their £100 grant ***'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'***.
- 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. RoSPA sent email highlighting the high risk findings of the timber posts rotting and decayed. At Forest Side play area. Chair decided to close the play area. Clerk has put notices up, locked the gate and re-staked the orange safety fence. Posted on Facebook. The play area will be closed all summer whilst the Play Area working party consider the future options.
- I** Resident emailed Clerk: ***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.*** 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 water from TW's site is not sewage and is water coming from a winterbourne. The council is communicating with OCC as highway authority to solve this issue. During beginning of July OCC carried out investigations into the cause of this issue. Clerk contacted OCC asking if they had found the reason and is it now fixed. Awaiting response. Cllr. Johnston has assurance from OCC and the Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC) that Sandford Lane's issues will be sorted, including the balancing pond within The Lawns development. There are concerns that this was not built to specification, as the pond empties too quickly after rain. Cllr. Johnston has also requested a fence be installed around the pond to protect children falling in. A drainage survey is to be carried out in Sandford Lane on 15 July. Cllr. Johnston reported that a meeting with OCC; VWHDC and councillors from Kennington and Radley is imminent.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Contact OCC; VWHDC (cc Radley Parish Council) asking dates being offered for meeting.

- J** Responded to resident concerned about the illegal parking in the village following response received: ***'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?’ Acknowledged email with a suggestion resident comes along to the start of next month’s meeting. Received the following: **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.***

126.24 It was agreed that the council would write to resident giving details of the department to contact within VWHDC. Cllr. Feather requested additional information from District Cllr. Lugova as to the District’s powers together with its resources to tackle these issues. Posters in the shops need to be displayed.

ACTION FOR DISTRICT CLLR. LUGOVA – Forward link of where residents can report parking issues. Find out what powers VWHDC has in relation to parking and also what resources are in place.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Respond to resident’s email

ACTION FOR CLLR. BROWN – Prepare a sign that businesses can display

K WaK now know where the bulbs are planted of a few years ago. Clerk received a bulb-planting and plug-planting risk assessment and offered Hi-viz vests. WaK are under the impression that it is covered under the council’s insurance policy. Clerk checked with Zurich: **Your insurance policy will only cover activities organised and risk assessed by you, activities organised by a third party will need to be covered under their policy.**

127.24 It was agreed that the council would investigate and organise ways of working for the future.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Investigate and organise ways of working for the future

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. Clerk still to prepare the paperwork

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 of the grant awarded to them to cover the room hire for 2024 – Requested and received invoice from Manager of Village Hall.

P Informed Marie Curie of the £25 grant awarded to them.

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.

128.24 It was agreed that the council would request the internal auditor carry out the council’s 2024-25’s audit This was proposed by Cllr. Johnston, seconded by Cllr. Feather and agreed unanimously.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Confirm with the internal auditor that council would like to use him for it’s 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. Lease document received. Needs signing and returning.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Get Lease signed and returned to Knights

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: ***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: Are using small hand tools; Are using the correct PPE; Risk Assessing; Providing training where required; Complying with relevant HSE guidance.*** 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 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.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Take to the Playing Fields Committee meeting

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. A date is yet to be agreed but Cllrs. Gamble; Johnston and Powles would like to attend if available.

X WaK has been carrying out 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: ***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.*** Two residents reported to councillor that they are finding it very difficult turning out of St Swithun's Road.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Report again, as a matter of urgency

Y Received more details on the Festival Group's request for some health and safety/Risk Assessment advice.
129.24 **It was agreed** that the council would recommend that the Festival Group's Committee contact the Village Management Committee as lunches are at the Village Hall. The council does not have the capacity to give health and safety advice, but would suggest St Johns Ambulance may help.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Respond to Festival Group explaining the situation and recommend contacting the Village Hall Management Committee and St Johns Ambulance.

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 potholes have been filled.

AA Contacted South Central Ambulance Service, who carry out Defib/CPR awareness sessions, they ask for a donation of £10 per head for these sessions.

130.24 **It was agreed** that the council would arrange a suitable date for a Defib/CPR awareness session, returning to the council with numbers and details.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Contact South Central Ambulance Service and interested residents to come up with a few dates that would be convenient for all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Add onto September’s Agenda for authorisation for costs

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) 1st Aid courses for the councillors.

131.24 It was agreed that the council would discuss at a future meeting, after the Village Warden is in post.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Add onto future agenda

- 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. ***‘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’.***
- AC** Reported overhanging willow trees in front of the Village sign and flower trough at the north of the village, via FixMyStreet (report No: 6153995), explaining trees have become an issue for people using footpath. Requested willow is cut back to the boundary. Received response: ***I have instructed our contractors to carry out works to pollard the trees described in the enquiry. These works will be undertaken in the coming weeks.***
- 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. Response received thanking the council for drawing his attention to the condition of the trees. He confirmed that he was meeting a tree surgeon to assess the required works and will update the council after that.
- 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 Am I to assume same as last year?

132.24 It was agreed that Kennington Parish Council would like any CIL monies automatically transferred to its bank account and not held by South and Vale on it’s behalf. This was proposed by Cllr. Johnston seconded by Cllr. Feather and agreed by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – To inform South and Vale District Council of parish council’s decision – to include minute number and date of meeting when this was agreed.

- AF** Clerk contacted NS&I requesting a change of signatories form. Could Clerk have authorisation from the council to go ahead and add Cllrs. Brown; Powles and Smith as signatories for this account? Cllr. Cobb and the Clerk are existing signatories.
- AG** Cllr. Cuddy investigating correct brackets for the placement of SID on the lampposts before ordering a second battery from the suppliers. Quote received, battery £148.50 – cost of brackets additional £135.52.
- 132.24 It was agreed** that the council would also order the brackets. This was proposed by Cllr. Johnston, seconded by Cllr. Feather and agreed unanimously.

ACTION FOR CLERK – To order battery and brackets from supplier

AH Clerk got price for single and two benches – one for Forest Side need the Beech hedge, the other for the Play Area. Also got the costs for plaques.

133.24 It was agreed that the council would add this onto September's agenda

ACTION FOR CLERK – Add onto September's Agenda for authorisation for costs

AI Response from residents who met with Cllrs. Cuddy and Powles regarding Kennington Road traffic issues. (copies sent to all councillors)

134.24 It was agreed that Cllr. Cuddy, would pick out pertinent facts and post *frequently asked questions* (FAQ) on the website to assist all residents.

ACTION FOR CLLR CUDDY – Post frequently asked questions regarding traffic issues in the village on the website

135.24 CORRESPONDENCE AND REQUEST FOR GRANT AID

Requests for grants

A Friends of Kennington Library (FOKL) request for a £1,000.00 for Kennington Library to ensure the village library stays open during the coming years.

136.24 It was agreed that the council would request FOKL re-apply for a grant, requesting funding for community events such as the Arts and Craft sessions for children, in place of requesting a grant for the salaried post within the library. This was proposed by Cllr. Locklin, seconded by Cllr. Cuddy and agreed unanimously.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Contact FOKL requesting they re-apply for a grant in September explaining that the council would be very supportive of any community events grants

B WaK request a grant of £500 to help with its autumn project of planting bulbs in the grass verges along the west side of The Avenue from Playfield Road, ending just before the War Memorial.

137.24 It was agreed that the council would give WaK a grant to help with its autumn project of bulb planting in October. This was proposed by Cllr. Johnston, seconded by Cllr. Locklin with 4 agreed; 1 against and 2 abstentions, being Cllrs. Andrews and Gamble who did not contribute to the debate but were there to answer any questions.

138.24 A proposal was made by Cllr. Johnston to grant the sum of £500, which was seconded by Cllr. Locklin with 4 agreed; 1 against and 2 abstentions.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Inform WaK of council's decision. Prepare for payment in August. Informing WaK about insurance cover.

C MyVision Oxfordshire's Community Engagement Project – would request the council consider supporting this project with a grant, ensuring as many people as possible can access vital services and support.

139.24 It was agreed that the council would give MyVision a grant to help ensure Oxfordshire's Community Engagement Project continues. This was proposed by Cllr. Johnston, seconded by Cllr. Gamble and agreed unanimously.

140.24 A proposal was made by Cllr. Feather to grant the sum of £25, which was seconded by Cllr. Johnston and agreed by all.

141.24 It was agreed that the council would also write to MyVision explaining the council's policy when awarding grants to charities outside of the village. If MyVision could show how many residents in Kennington this charity had helped, the grant could have been larger. Recommend this be part of next year's request for a grant

ACTION FOR CLERK – Inform MyVision, explaining the council's Community Grant Policy

Correspondence for discussion/action

D Formal consultation on the proposal by Oxfordshire County Council to designate certain streets as traffic-sensitive under the Street Works (Registers, Notices, Directions and Designations (England) Regulations 2007).

142.24 It was agreed that the council would respond – ‘*In principle the council is in favour of this action, but this does not affect Kennington parish*’.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Respond to the consultation

E Road sign cleaning – volunteers being requested by OCC, through parish councils.

F Safety of Lithium ion Batteries and e-bikes and scooters – would council like to support this campaign?

G Active Buggies – Kennington – from South Oxfordshire District Council

143.24 It was agreed that the council have no issues with Active Buggies using either Playfield Road or Forest Side playing fields, but would request that it is informed of when they would be taking place.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Respond to the Active Families Co-ordinator of South Oxfordshire District Council

Correspondence forwarded to Councillors for information

H The Abingdon Bridge (TAB) - what we delivered in 2023/2024

I OALC - Training in July and new date for the AGM

J Invitation to a Community Conversation on Climate Change and Health: 27th June 19:30

K Message from CEO regarding the situation with SSE

L New FixMyStreet updates on report: 'In location of Trash Screen at Sandford Lane'

M District Council encourages people to take part in Thames Water reservoir consultation – posted on website and Facebook

N Appeal for witnesses to criminal damage– Oxford – posted on the website and Facebook

O CCTV image released by Thames Valley Police following theft – Oxford – posted on website and Facebook
P the website but will post nearer the date on Facebook

Q Vale Press Release: Rain garden part of a range of improvements at Wantage car park – posted on the website and on Facebook

Newsletters

R The Rural Bulletins

S Community First Oxfordshire Newsletter

T RSN Rural Funding Digest - June 2024 Edition

144.24 FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Bank Accounts as at 30 June 2024

Community Account	500.00
Business Premium Account	193,678.83
National Savings & Investment Account	85,681.57
Total	279,860.40

Statement of Account of Cambridge & Counties 3 year Fixed Rate Bond as at 30 June 2024

14 June 2023 Transferred from matured bond	89,577.85
Interest rate from 14 June 2023 to 19 June 2024	4,143.16
Recorded (updated June 2024) in council's Asset Register	Total
	93,721.01

Income received in June	£
Bagley Wood Toad Patrol	14.00
Hired Playfield Road pavilion on 28 June 2024	
Barclays Bank	699.75
Bank interest from 4 March – 2 June 2024	

Reference	Direct Debits paid in June	£	Power to Act
DD	Castle Water (Bill No:10002532131) Water for the War Memorial	6.67	War Memorials Act 1923
DD	Castle Water (Bill No: 10002501657) Water for Playfield Road pavilion	30.72	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
DD	EDF Gas supply for Playfield Rd pavilion Between 14 Sept 2023 – 24 May 2024	96.48	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976

Reference	Direct debits to be paid in July	£	Power to Act
DD	SSE Electricity supply for Playfield Rd pavilion (61.08), Forest Side pavilion (29.61) The War Memorial (57.72) + VAT	155.83	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
DD	Virtual Landline July's subscription for virtual landline	8.75	Section 111 LGA 1972

Reference No. 2024/	Accounts to be paid in July	£	Power to Act
064	Mrs A E Feather Salary for June less tax, NI & pension contribution	1,559.10	Section 112 LGA 1972
065	Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund Clerk's and Employer's contributions for June	593.21	Section 111 LGA 1972
066	HM Revenue and Customs Tax and Employer NI	666.01	Section 111 LGA 1972
067	Mr T Fleming War memorial grass cutting for June	41.91	War Memorials Act 1923
068	Mr A Cobb Chair's monthly allowance for June	73.69	Section 111 LGA 1972
069	Mrs A Feather Fasthosts invoice: 76238178 for May's storage 2.40 Fasthosts invoice: 76630344 for June's storage 2.40 Fasthosts invoice: 77188770 for July's storage 2.40 Fasthosts invoice: 2yr renewal of domain name (kennington-pc.gov.uk) 73.20 8 x 1 st class stamps 10.80 1 st class recorded delivery to CCLA 4.60	95.90	Section 111 LGA 1972
070	OX365 Limited 3No. issues during May (INV-6994)	107.10	Section 111 LGA 1972
071	Kennington Village Hall Grant awarded on 13 June (Minute Nos: 78.24 & 79.24) to cover cost of room hire	144.00	Section 137 LGA 1972
072	Marie Curie Grant awarded on 13 June (Minute No: 80.24 & 81.24)	25.00	Section 137 LGA 1972
073	Wel Medical Replacement iPad battery for the defibrillator unit at Playfield Road pavilion	274.74	Section 234 Public Health Act 1936
074	Oxford Tree Surgeons Remedial works to fallen conifer branches	450.00	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976

075	S H Lewis Cleaning Cleaning of the village's bus shelters	180.00	Section 111 LGA 1972
076	Eurooffice Office supplies and 1 st Aid kits for pavilions + eye wash	239.74	Section 111 LGA 1972 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
077	Bryans Lock Services Ltd 1 set of EPS Keys cut for access to Forest Side pavilion and gate & 2 sets of EPS keys for Playfield Road pavilion and gate	129.60	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
078	Calber Facilities Management Ltd Covering Village Warden's weekly cleaning of Playfield Rd pavilion and emptying litter bins at both playing fields and at the village hall - June	686.06	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
079	Adventis Digital Limited Web hosting & website managing for June	31.50	Section 111 LGA 1972
080	Kennington Village Hall Room hire for June	35.00	Section 134(4) LGA 1972
081	BGG Garden & Tree Care Ltd. Verge Cutting on 7 & 28 June 800.00 Cemetery cut on 14 & 28 June 240.00 Forest Side playing field on 7 June 80.00 Playfield Rd playing field on 7 & 21 June 200.00 Links play area on 7 June 30.00 Village maintenance on 7 June 595.00 Plus VAT	2,454.00	Highways Act 1980; LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 Section 214 (6) LGA 1972
082	Turtle Engineering Limited Replacement lock for defibrillator cabinet outside 18 Kennington Road	76.57	Section 234 Public Health Act 1936
083	Mr A Cobb Complete sound PA kit for parish council events eg. Remembrance Sunday	1,729.99	
084	D E Electrical Replace EM light at Forest Side pavilion	100.37	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
085	Grundon Waste Management Ltd Wheelie bins in June - Forest Side 69.02 and Playfield Rd 66.12 +VAT	162.16	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
086	Purely Plants Planting of summer flower baskets + on site planters	1,600.00	Section 137 LGA 1972
087	Savills (on behalf of St John's College) Charges uplift for the Hire of Forest Side playing field for the period 26.03.23 – 28.09.24	950.87	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
088	M R H Services Remove flat swings from Forest Side play area & store	37.50	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
089	Purely Plants Flowers purchased for the War Memorial	125.00	War Memorials At 1923

Total to be transferred in July: £15,478.12

145.24 Reconciliation reports together with the trial balance, cash books and summary income and expenditure (against budget) and copy of annual budget reports were circulated to all Councillors for June.

146.24 The financial report was proposed by Cllr. Johnston, seconded by Cllr. Andrews and voted unanimously.

147.24 POWER TO ACT BY CLERK, CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR DURING JULY AND AUGUST

148.24 It was agreed that the Clerk would have authority (in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair) to deal with regular monthly payments during August. This was proposed by Cllr. Andrews seconded by Cllr. Jempson and voted unanimously.

149.24 MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

The draft minutes from the Planning Committee meeting held on 9 July 2024 were noted.

Cllr. Feather reported the grave concerns from a large number of Colley Wood residents, surrounding 29 Colley Wood, as the owner has applied for a Certificate of Lawfulness to run the dwelling as a nine bedroom/person HMO. The owner originally applied for retrospective planning permission for a nine bedroom/person HMO and this was turned down. He then went to Appeal, with the Planning Inspector also turning the retrospective planning permission down. He applied for an eight bedroom/person HMO and this was granted on 17 August 2022. Now he's asking the council to grant him a Certificate of Lawfulness to run a nine bedroom/person HMO. Cllr. Feather requested District Cllr. Lugova support Kennington residents in their objections to the facilities at 29 Coley Wood.

150.24 MINUTES OF PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The draft minutes from the Personnel Committee meeting held on 20 June 2024 were noted.

151.24 ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

152.24 It was resolved that the Annual Investment Strategy had been reviewed and agreed. This was proposed by Cllr. Johnston seconded by Cllr. Andrews and agreed unanimously.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Upload the Annual Investment Strategy on the Website and update the Document Schedule.

153.24 VOLUNTEERS POLICY

154.24 It was resolved that the Volunteers Policy be adopted. This was proposed by Cllr. Jempson seconded by Cllr. Gamble and agreed unanimously.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Upload the Volunteers Policy on the Website and update the Document Schedule.

155.24 PETANQUE PISTE PITCH

156.24 It was agreed that this would be discussed at September's meeting, when the council begins to think of 2025-26 budgets. There is no budget this year for such a project.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Add onto September's Agenda

157.24 BLEED CONTROL KITS

158.24 It was agreed that this would be discussed at September's meeting, when the council begins to think of 2025-26 budgets. There is no budget this year for such a project.

159.24 COUNCILLORS' SURGERY AT APPLE CAFÉ

160.24 After discussion It was resolved that the council would attend the first Saturday morning in September, October and November, on a trial basis, with two councillors attending each time. Apple Café would be very happy with this arrangement.

ACTION FOR CLLR. POWLES – Send around the dates and slots to all councillors, requesting they all put their name down for one Saturday morning.

161.24 TREES AT THE WAR MEMORIAL

162.24 It was resolved that this be postponed until October's meeting, when quotes can be organised.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Arrange quotes in readiness for October’s Meeting

ACTION FOR CLERK – Add onto October’s Agenda

163.24 REPORTS OF MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

164.24 Cllr. Feather took this opportunity to give council an update on the progress of the Playfield Road pavilion Project. Cllr. Feather plans to organise a public consultation, which may start late summer, Cllr. Feather will keep all councillors informed of possible actions. The architect has flagged up a validation Checklist as part of the planning process which includes a Biodiversity Assessment Survey, which is outside his skill set, another being a heat gain calculation for the building. The architect is in the process of approaching consultants to obtain quotes to carry out the necessary work. District Cllr. Lugova suggested that the council request a pre-planning application with the Vale. A further suggestion was to ask the architect if this project had any *Grandfather rights*.

ACTION FOR DISTRICT CLLR. LUGOVA – Find out whether this project would necessitate a Biodiversity Assessment Survey

165.24 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS

166.24 Cllr. Locklin reported that the dog bin on the far side of Playfield Road playing field has rotted away. The bottom of the bin has rotted away, with the plastic bin falling through the bottom, making it unusable. There is a general litter bin next to it, which can be used for dog bags.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Inform Vale of White Horse District Council that the dog bin is rotten, requesting it be removed.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Post on Facebook that the dog bin is unusable, but that the general litter bin next to it can be used.

167.24 Cllr. Jempson reported a manhole cover not completely on hole at the north of the village, beyond the bypass bridge.

168.24 Cllr. Feather reported that the wall on which the flower baskets sit on at Meadow View Road, looks like it is beginning to fall down, and would like to know who owns it. This wall does not show on the deeds of the owners of the flats, as the red boundary line runs along the back of it. Apparently the stud walls either end of this brick wall belong to Sovereign Housing.

169.24 Cllr. Feather reported that a resident of the Meadow View Road flats requested that the old council notice board which is on her outside wall, be replaced by a free standing noticeboard within the grass triangle in front of the flats.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Add onto September’s Agenda

170.24 Cllr. Andrews reported that Sylvia Vetta is attending a meeting next week with Bagley Wood Manager to discuss her suggestion of wood carvings in the wood.

171.24 Cllr. Powles reported the flyposting on the safety railings at St Swithun’s School advertising bouncy castles

ACTION FOR CLERK – Contact company requesting they take down the advertising poster in the next 5 days after which, if it is still there, the parish council will take down the poster.

172.24 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – Diana Lugova and James Cox

Planning policies changes were declared by new Labour government. At the moment the only thing that came through is onshore Wind Farms ban lift (the ban was introduced by David Cameron government).

We are waiting for further policies changes and will update you when we know more.

Summer holidays. Didcot will play host to a bonanza of free activities as the Didcot Garden Party returns this summer. The festival begins on Saturday 27 July with a day of events in the courtyard at Cornerstone Arts Centre in Station Road, kickstarting more than a month of fun and excitement around the town.

Garden party 24 (southoxon.gov.uk)

Thames Water Reservoir consultation is going on till 28th August - Thames Water has launched a public consultation on the proposed reservoir, which is now even bigger than originally planned and the public have until 28 August to give their views - available here: <https://thames-wrmp.co.uk/sesro>

173.24 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR – Cllr Johnston

The details of the traffic calming have been through consultation and are now fixed. The County's contractor, Milestone, will now carry out the works including the crossing in St Swithun's Road. The County Officers have now agreed that there should be a further site meeting in Sandford Lane to see what finally needs to be done to sort out the flooding issues. They agree that the balancing pond on the Redrow site might be part of the problem. I have had confirmation from the Vale that they are checking as to whether the pond has been built to specification as it appears to empty more quickly than it should. Following a County Council meeting last Tuesday, there is movement on Committee places, I am now on the Planning and Regulation Committee, with the Committee having been asked to approve the Oxford Relief Channel. Lodge Hill Scheme will also be going ahead at the same time. Throughout these schemes Kennington will have access to Oxford City.

174.24 MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

- Replacement Noticeboard in Meadow View Road
- Trees at the War Memorial
- Bleed Control Kits
- Pétanque Piste Pitch
- Bench for Forest Side playing field
- Defib/CPR Session

Meeting closed at 9:34pm

Signed Date