

CUMNOR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Cumnor Parish Council
on Monday 5 February 2024 at 7.30pm
held in Fogwell Road Pavilion, Fogwell Road, Dean Court.

In attendance.

Council. Tom Christophers, Chairman, Laurence Waters, Vice-Chairman, Basil England, Chris Westcott, Oliver Wright and Tina Brock, Clerk.

County Councillors. None.

District Councillor. Scott Houghton.

Visitors. Ag McKeith, Botley and North Hinksey Parish Councillor and Darren Blaize, Skatepark Campaigner.

30/24 Apologies for Absence.

Alison Jenner (unwell), Paula Lopez (prior commitment), Gary Mason (prior commitment), Judy Roberts (prior commitment) and Ray Stone (prior commitment). These apologies were approved.

31/24 Declarations of Interest. None.

32/24 Variance of Order of Business.

Council approved delaying Item 8 of the agenda 'Update by B&NHPC on the proposed new Botley Skatepark' until Ag McKeith and Darren Blaize arrived.

33/24 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council.

Council resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 January 2024.

34/24 Matters Arising from the Minutes. None.

35/24 Clerk's Newsletter and Addendum. Received

- i. Payment of Accounts. Approved as per minute 36/24.

36/24 Payments of Accounts.

Council resolved to authorise the payments specified in the Clerk's Newsletter and Addendum and reproduced below.

Table 1 List of payments due.

Statutory Power	Payments now due:	Description	Total (£)
105,SO LGA 1972 s112 Contract/Pensions Act 2014	Staff costs		3,091.86
DD Telecom Act 1984 s97	EE	Mobile phone - Dec	6.84
106 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	As New Home & Office Cleaning	Dec clean of pavilion	96.00
SO LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	University of Oxford	Land rent – Fogwell field	25.00
107 LGA1972 s137	Farmoor Village Hall	Grant	900.00
DD LGA 1972 s214	VWHDC	Annual fee garden waste at Burial Ground	60.00
108 Commons Act 1899	Cumnor Conservation Group	Reimbursement of insurance premium & membership – Cumnor Hurst 1 Nov 2023- 31 Oct 2024	178.63
109 LGA 1972 s137	Dean Court Community Association	Pledge	200.00
110a LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	MRH Services	Nov visual inspection of play parks & fit end caps to Burma Bridge @ Pinnocks Way play park	262.00
110b LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	MRH Services	Dec visual inspection of play parks	
111a Public Health Act 1875	Total Pest Control	Quarterly mole control – Mayfield Road	196.60
111b Public Health Act 1875	Total Pest Control	Quarterly mole control – Closes field	
112a LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Ady Podbery Grounds Care	Litter picking, raking sand & pea shingle, clearing bog garden, hedge cutting at play parks	860.40

112b LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Ady Podbery Grounds Care	Clear fallen Leylandi at Pinnocks Way play park	
112c LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Ady Podbery Grounds Care	Clear fallen thorn tree at The Glebe play park	
113 LG (misc prov) Act 1953 s4	Andrew Berry Electrical and Security	S & F new light at Farmoor brick bus shelter	97.86

Notes.

- i. After all payments/receipts are accounted for the Unity Bank account will be in credit at £29,600.02..
- ii. After all payments/receipts are accounted for the Santander Community Account will be in credit at £84,848.20.
- iii. The Council has the following debtor for 2023/24: HMRC (Reclaimable VAT) £11,544.18.
- iv. As of 17 January 2024 the Santander Corporate Notice account held a credit balance of £77,406.57.
- v. BlackRock investments of £39.87 received and sent to COIF deposit account.

37/24 Public Participation. None.

REPORTS

38/24 Report from County Councillor(s).

CC Judy Roberts submitted a written report.

General OCC.

The cheap £2 fares that are on offer at the Park and Rides will continue until April 2024.

Flooding – There have been many flood defence systems deployed during Storm Henk . The floods have now receded but there is a focus on updating all town and parish council's emergency and resilience plans.

The main focus at the County is the Budget and the last set of papers that went to cabinet showed a balanced budget. The budget will go to full council on the 20 February 2024.

Traffic and highways

The A34 underneath the Botley interchange will be closed on weeknights only between 9pm and 6am:

Wednesday 7 to Friday 23 February (excluding weekends)

Botley interchange, including the A420 between Cumnor and West Way will be fully closed between 9pm and 6am:

Monday 12 February until Thursday 29 February

The roadworks at the Botley roundabout should now finish at the end of February 2024.

The website link which will contain up to date information is:

www.nationalhighways.co.uk/a34botley

There is a section on OCC's website that should cover the Botley Bridge Road closure:

The work is now being carried out 24/7 and the bridge will not reopen until November 2024.

The new bridge will still have to be put in place during the rail closure at the end of July 2024. We have now been told that there will be a few days completing the pedestrian/cycle paths each side of the new bridge, but they should be available for use by early August 2024.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/roadworks/future-transport-projects/oxford-city-station-phase-2c>

This will have all cycle paths, bus and Network Rail information and various links to other websites posted on there.

This is the website that the latest information will be posted on from Network Rail

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/our-routes/western/oxfordshire/botley-road-bridge-replacement/>

The works by Thames Water to replace the damaged water main to the City have now been announced as taking place from March 24 to March 25 with traffic lights and a one lane closure over Osney Bridge for the whole year.

Library

The Botley library now provides free coffee and tea as part of their warm spaces program. There are also newspapers to read and a jigsaw puzzle to complete.

Consultations

Let's Talk Oxfordshire.gov.uk website:

Eynsham traffic calming measures: the consultation finishes on 16 February 2024.

Wraparound childcare - understanding your needs closes on 25 February 2024.

Vision Zero Draft Strategy Consultation closes on 10 March 2024.

The Vision Zero safe system approach has a simple premise - no human being should be killed or

seriously injured as the result of a road collision; whichever mode of road transport you are using.

39/24 Report from District Councillor(s).

DC Scott Houghton submitted a written report.

Carmelite Priory

The Carmelite Priory planning application went before the planning committee on 24 January 2024. I spoke in opposition to the application and highlighted the statement made by Cumnor Parish Council. There was a fair amount of debate by the committee, with the decision ultimately being to approve the application by 5 votes for to 2 against.

Botley West

VoWHDC is submitting its response to the Botley West consultation on Monday 5 February 2024. This will be published on the Botley West page of the VoWHDC website once it has been submitted.

[Botley West Solar Farm - VWHDC](#)

Boundary Review

A new pattern of wards is being developed for Vale of White Horse. The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and organisations think about their local area. A ten week consultation inviting proposals will run until 18 March 2024. The Commission is interested in:

- Views on which communities should be part of the same ward.
- What facilities do people share, such as parks, leisure centres or schools and shopping areas?
- What issues do neighbouring communities face that they have in common, such as high numbers of visitors or heavy traffic?
- Have there been new housing or commercial developments that have changed the focus of communities?
- And are there roads, rivers, railways or other features that people believe form strong boundaries between neighbourhoods? The Commission will use local views to help it draw up proposals for new ward boundaries. There will be a further round of consultation once the Commission has drawn up those proposals.

People can give their views:

- via Boundary Commission website – <http://lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/vale-white-horse>
- by e-mail at reviews@lgbce.org.uk, and
- by post – Review Officer (Vale), LGBCE, PO Box 133, Blyth, NE24 9FE

40/24 Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies. None.

TRAINING

41/24 Training/OALC Councillor Forum.

Council approved the following training sessions.

- i. Clerk to attend the virtual. Society of Local Councils 'How to engage everyone in your community' Wednesday 21 February 2024 £65 + VAT. (*Clerk's note. Due to family issues the Clerk would be unable to attend this event.*)
- ii. Clerk to attend OALC 'Talking tables training day – community assets) Thursday 16 May 2024 £70 + VAT.
- iii. Chris Westcott would attend the virtual OALC Councillor Forum on Tuesday 13 February 2024 at 12 noon – free.

COUNCIL

42/24 Cumnor Hurst SSSI

Council considered and approved the suggested offer for the purchase of the SSSI site to present to All Souls for consideration. The Chairman would finalise the details for Council approval.

PRESENTATION

43/24 Proposed new Botley Skatepark at Louie Memorial Field.

Ag McKeith, Botley and North Hinksey Parish Councillor and Darren Blaize, Skatepark Campaigner informed Council of the public consultations and surveys that took place to find out if there was a need for a skatepark and the tender process to find the right company. Consultations took place to agree the design prior to a planning application being submitted to VWHDC which was approved in August 2023. B&NHPC have allocated £23,000 from CIL funds towards the project and an

application to FCC Communities Foundation has been submitted for £100,000, a decision would be known at the end of March 2024. Funding is being sourced from national grants and local businesses along with local events to raise funds. Ag McKeith asked if Council would support the project and whether CIL funds of either £10,000 or £20,000 could be allocated towards the project. Council agreed that it supported the project and requested a breakdown of costs and funding raised for Council to consider allocating funds at a future meeting.

FINANCE

44/24 Quarterly Financials.

- i. Council received and Chris Westcott verified the bank reconciliation for quarter 3 at of 20 December 2023.

ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES

45/24 Ad-hoc Grass Cutting of Grass Verges in the Parish. None.

46/24 Draft minutes of the Environment and Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 16 January 2024.

Received.

47/24 Update on other current matters. None.

PLANNING

48/24 SODC & VWHDC Joint Local Plan 2041 – Hurst View Field.

Council noted that Hurst View Field had been included in the Housing and Economic land Availability Assessment (HELAA) reference VH512. Since the publication of the agenda VWHDC had carried out a second stage assessment and found that the site was not suitable for development as it is located within the Green Belt and there is no relevant justification for the release of the land from the Green Belt.

49/24 Draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 22 January 2024.

Received.

50/24 Permitted planning application(s). Noted.

Table 2 List of permitted planning application(s).

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P23/V0508/FUL	Chilswell, Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill, Oxford OX1 5HB <i>Demolition of structures; erection of newbuild structures including central water feature and extensions to existing buildings; external alterations to existing buildings including new and replacement glazing / doors, thermal improvements, roof alterations installation of roof-mounted PV panels and new timber gates; introduction of external store; installation of PV solar array in south meadow; informal overflow parking area with new walkway; new guest parking area; drop-off & disabled parking area with driveway access; new service access to bin store and service area; and hard and soft landscaping works, including new pond, ground alterations associated tree works and boundary treatment (as amended by plans and information received 26 July 2023 and as amended & amplified by information received 07 November 2023 and as amended & amplified by information received 09 November 2023.).</i>
ii	P23/V1890/HH	24 Arnolds Way, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9JB <i>Proposed front, side and rear extensions to the dwelling. (Amended plans rec'd 19/12/2023- reducing the size of the extensions and changes to the roof design.) (Amended plans rec'd 23/1/2024 – omitting error roof light shown.)</i>

51/24 Certificate of Lawful Development application(s). Noted.

Table 3 List of Certificate of Lawful Development application(s).

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P24/V0048/LDP	120 Oxford Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9PQ <i>Ground floor alterations and new external openings, including installation of solid fuel appliance flue.</i>
ii	P24/V0152/LDP	47 The Glebe, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QB <i>Proposed rear single storey extension with lean to roof.</i>
	P24/V0145/LDE	104 Meadow Close, Farmoor, Oxford OX2 9NA <i>Single storey rear extension.</i>
	P23/V2725/LDP	Land to the rear of 8/8a and 9/9a Cumnor Road, Farmoor, Oxford OX2 9NS <i>Demolition and like for like replacement of the 4 x existing garages, to sit within the existing footprint.</i>

52/24 Update on other current matters. None.

53/24 Proposed Industrial installation (Solar Power Station) for the production of electricity on Green Belt land.

i. Proposed 'Botley West' solar power station.

- a. Council resolved to approve the response to the PVDP Phase 2 consultation.
- a. Council agreed to write to Mark Stone, Chief Executive, VWHDC, asking how and when VWHDC will be consulting with Council about the adequacy of the consultation process and, noting the proactive role of WODC, to raise concerns about the lack of VWHDC engagement with Council during the consultation process.

ii. Land West of Red House Farm, Farmoor.

- a. DC Houghton had requested answers to questions raised by the public at the last council meeting and receive the following from Amanda Rendell, Case Officer, VWHDC who at the time had not fully reviewed all the documents.

Cumulative impact assessments. At what stage do other projects need to be before cumulative impact is considered? – The EIA Regulations require an environmental assessment to identify the potential for, and where present, assess the cumulative effects of a project. Cumulative effects can be considered as effects resulting from incremental changes caused by other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable actions together with the scheme. 'Reasonably foreseeable' is interpreted to include other projects that are 'committed'. These should include (but not necessarily be limited to) planned development projects with valid planning permissions as granted by the Local Planning Authority, and for which formal EIA is a requirement or for which non-statutory environmental impact assessment has been undertaken, but the projects have not been constructed.

Visual impact – There is accepted methodology for assessing landscape and visual impact. The application is accompanied by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment which is being reviewed by our inhouse Landscape Architect who will advise on whether the assessment undertaken is acceptable in terms of method. In terms of temporary, each case is assessed on its planning merits as there is no accepted definition. I am aware of a recent appeal decision regarding solar development in the Green Belt where 40 years was judged not to be "temporary". APP/A1910/W/23/3317818 Little Heath Lane, Little Heath, Berkhamstead. This will be material in considering this application.

Green Belt – The proposal will not remove the green belt designation. There is no simple formula on what constitutes very special circumstances.

- b. The developer has submitted a planning application to Oxford City Council [23/02816/FUL](#) to dig up the Botley Road for cable laying. Council agreed that it would respond to the application.

iii. Land at the Hurst/Millennium Field/Harcourt Hill.

- a. No update.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
Exclusion of Press and Public

To move the following resolution, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it is in the public interest that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting, and they are requested to withdraw.
54/24 Confidential Matters. None.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

55/24 Next meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 4 March 2024** at **7.30pm** in **Fogwell Road Pavilion, Fogwell Road, Dean Court.**

Further meeting due to be held on **Monday 8 April 2024** at **7.30pm** in **Fogwell Road Pavilion, Fogwell Road, Dean Court.**

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 7 May 2024** at **7.30pm** in the **Old School, High Street, Cumnor.**

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed..... Date.....2024