

CUMNOR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Cumnor Parish Council
on Monday 2 September 2024 at 7.30pm
held in Fogwell Road Pavilion, Fogwell Road, Dean Court.

In attendance.

Council. Laurence Waters, Vice-Chair, Basil England, Alison Jenner, Paula Lopez, Judy Roberts, Ray Stone, Chris Westcott, Oliver Wright and Tina Brock, Clerk.

County Councillors. Judy Roberts.

District Councillors. Scott Houghton and Judy Roberts.

Visitors. One.

Laurence Waters, Vice-Chair acted as Chair for the meeting.

255/24 Apologies for Absence.

Tom Christophers, Chair, (prior commitment), Dona Foster (prior commitment) and Gary Mason (work commitment). These apologies were approved.

256/24 Declaration of Interests. None.

257/24 Variance of Order of Business. None.

258/24 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council.

Council resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5 August 2024.

259/24 Matters Arising from the Minutes. None.

260/24 Clerk's Newsletter and Addendum. Received

- i. Payment of Accounts. Approved as per minute 261/24.

261/24 Payments of Accounts.

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

Table 1 List of income.

Statutory Power	Receipts received.	Description	Total (£)
9 Local Auth Cemeteries Order 1977	J Vincent	Interment of ashes	135.00

Table 2 List of receipts.

Statutory Power	Payments now due:	Description	Total (£)
58, SO LGA 1972 s112 Contract/Pensions Act 2014	Staff costs		3,130.63
59 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	As New Home & Office Cleaning	July clean of Fogwell Pavilion	96.00
DD Telecom Act 1984 s97	BT	Phone and broadband	204.47
60 Public Health Act 1936 s87	Drain Surgeons	Emptying Eco loo	174.00
61 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Playdale Playgrounds	Swing swivels	306.19
62 Accs & audit (Eng) regs 2011/817	Moore	External audit year ended 31 March 2024	504.00
63a LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	MRH Services	S&F new timber to Sit Up and Traverse wall @ Closes field	2,030.30
63b LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	MRH Services	Install signs at Glebe play park	
63c LGA 1972 s142	MRH Services	Install new noticeboard at Farmoor	
64a Highways Act 1980 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19 Open Spaces Act 1906	Ady Podbery	Grass cutting burial ground, play park and verge. Litter picking and raking sand at play parks	2,321.40
64b LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Ady Podbery	Grass cutting and litter picking at play parks	
64c Highways Act 1980 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Ady Podbery	Grass cutting at play parks and verge. Litter picking and raking pea shingle	

Notes.

- i. After all payments/receipts are accounted for the Unity Bank account will be in credit at £27,628.61.

- ii. After all payments/receipts are accounted for the Santander Community Account will be in credit at £75,189.53
- iii. The Council has the following debtor for 2024/25: HMRC (Reclaimable VAT) £3,647.86.

262/24 Public Presentation. None.

REPORT S

263/24 Report from County Councillor(s).

DC Roberts submitted a written report.

General OCC.

The leaders of the County and City Councils wrote to the Rail Minister inviting him to come and visit Oxford to discuss the current rail projects here. Although a date has not been set, his response was positive.

Traffic and highways.

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

Network Rail announced that it would not meet the deadline of the end of July blockade to replace the rail bridge. This would also mean that the road will not re-open on the 1st November. OCC have announced that they will not now be implementing the Traffic Filters on the 1st November but that they will be implemented when the Botley Road re-opens.

Network Rail are continuing the works as planned on the Western Entrance and Platform 5 as detailed in their latest newsletter. Network Rail's revised plans for the timescale and funding request are still being progressed and then we will await the DfT's decision to continue to fund the project or pay the cost of winding it up with no rail benefits. Until we know the answer and Network Rail tell us when they might be finished, we can't plan the next phase.

The County are looking at alternative arrangements for the area that might be feasible whilst waiting for the answer.

<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 and Thames Water 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 begun and will continue until March 25 with intelligent traffic lights and a one lane closure over Osney Bridge for the whole year. The works on the river area will resume at the end of September.

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:

For our cyclists:

Wantage LCWIP – ends on 19 September 2024

Thame LCWIP – ends on 26 September 2024

Climate Engagement Survey - ends on 31 September 2024

Highways traffic regulation orders and highway public notices gives notice of all planned and emergency work.

This link tells you about planned OCC roadworks and if you press the live roadworks button, it takes you through to One Network where there are all the live roadworks for that day. If you choose a time option, it will tell you all the planned roadworks:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/roadworks/major-current-roadworks>

264/24 Report from District Councillor(s).

16 Cumnor Hill

Councillor Laurence Waters and I spoke at the planning committee meeting on 21st August regarding the application at 16 Cumnor Hill. The committee was somewhat divided and ultimately opted to defer the decision until after committee members have undertaken a site visit. I have not yet received any details on when this might be.

134 Cumnor Hill.

I have been informed that the decision to refuse planning permission at 134 Cumnor Hill has been

appealed. All representations made to the original application have been passed on to the planning inspectorate. If there are any additional comments, or modifications to be made to previous representations, this can be done online at <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>. All representations must be received by 1st October 2024. Any representations submitted after the deadline will not usually be considered and will be returned. The Planning Inspectorate does not acknowledge representations. All representations must quote the appeal reference, which is APP/V3120/W/24/3347990.

Joint Local Plan Update.

An updated Local Development Scheme has been published, linked below. This sets out the timetable for the work to be done, the highlight being that the proposed Joint Local Plan will be published in October (or possibly November). The public will have a 6-week opportunity to comment on whether they think the plan meets all the relevant technical requirements. The aim is to submit the Joint Local Plan for examination in December 2024.

<https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/planning-and-development/local-plan-and-planning-policies/lds/>

New Ward Boundary Consultation.

A reminder on a consultation I mentioned last month which is still open. New boundaries are being proposed for council wards in Vale of White Horse. The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and local organisations think about the proposals. A 10-week consultation on the proposals will run until 16th September 2024. The link to the consultation is below. <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/vale-white-horse>

The proposal for Cumnor is a two-member Cumnor ward similar to the existing arrangement, but with the addition of Appleton-with-Eaton and Besselsleigh parishes which currently comprise the eastern end of the existing Thames ward.

Free Places at Green Skills Courses.

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils have funded 82 places for 'green' building and construction courses from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. These courses at Abingdon and Witney College, include Installation and Maintenance of Heat Pumps, Understanding Domestic Retrofit and general awareness courses. For more information visit: [Free courses in Green Skills and Care - Abingdon & Witney College \(abingdon-witney.ac.uk\)](https://www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk/free-courses-in-green-skills-and-care)

265/24 Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies. None.

TRAINING/EVENTS

266/24 OALC Training Programmes.

No councillors were available to attend the virtual OALC Councillor Forum on Tuesday 10 September 2024 at 9.30am.

COUNCIL

267/24 Meadow Close Play Park.

Council considered a request from a resident to use a corner of the play park for the installation of a shed. Council resolved that permission would not be granted to install a shed on the council's land as it is not council policy to sub lease council land.

Council would request that the resident reinstates fencing along the boundary of the park for the health and safety of the young children using the park.

268/24 Parish Council Domain

- i. Council resolved to approve changing to a .gov.uk domain name and agreed the name of the domain name to be either .cumnorpc or .cumnorparishcouncil and to continue to own the domain name.
- ii. Council resolved to appoint an appropriate .gov.uk Approved Registrar to register the new domain name and provide support.
- iii. Council reviewed the current provision of the website hosting and resolved to remain with the current website provider.

269/24 Consultations.

- i. Council resolved to appoint Chris Westcot, Judy Roberts and Clerk to respond to the [Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/ministry-of-housing-communities-and-local-government-proposed-reforms-to-the-national-planning-policy-framework) proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system consultation which

closes at 11.45pm on Tuesday 24 September 2024. The draft response would be circulated to Council and considered at the Planning Committee on Monday 16 September 2024.

FINANCE

270/24 Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2024.

- i. Council noted that Moore, External Auditors had completed their review of sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance Return, and in their opinion the information supplied was in accordance with the Proper Practices and no other matters had come to their attention to give cause for concern that the relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.
- ii. Council resolved to approve and accept the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2024.

271/24 Expenditure.

- i. Council resolved to approve the estimate from MRH Services of £350 to fit a man made noticeboard at Pinnocks Way, Dean Court.

ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES

272/24 Ad-hoc grass cutting of verges in the parish.

Council resolved to approve cutting the verges at Glebe Road, Cumnor, corner of Arnolds Way/Hurst Rise Road, Cumnor and Oxford Road/Meadow Close, Farmoor footpath.

273/24 Update on other current matters.

- i. Cumnor Fit for the Future. Alison Jenner reported back on a meeting with Roselle Chapman, Nature Recovery Officer, Climate and Biodiversity Team, SO/VWHDC and Clerk. Land owned by VWHDC was discussed and the possibility of reducing the mowing of these areas. The green space at The Glebe was suggested as the site had great potential with Bee and Pyramidal Orchids already growing along with an old multi-stem Ash tree. The Vale's maintenance team who manage the area will handle the comms with residents and the decision whether to mow or not. Other green spaces discussed were Pinnocks Way, Dean Court and Robsart Place, Cumnor. Roselle would visit the sites to see if there were any viable flowers.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN.

274/24 Cumnor Neighbourhood Plan refresh.

- i. Council received the notes of the meeting with O'Neil Homer Planning for Good on Tuesday 13 August 2024 and feedback from the Teams meeting with Deborah Bryson, Senior Planning Officer, VWHDC on Thursday 29 August 2024.
- ii. Council resolved to approve requesting O'Neil Homer Planning for Good supply a costed proposal for refreshing the Cumnor Neighbourhood Plan. This would involve material modifications that do not change the nature of the plan.
- iii. Council resolved to approve applying for grants from Locality (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government). Grant given to be spent by 31 March 2025.
- iv. Council resolved to agree to delay reinstating the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group as the workload may not require the reinstatement of the group.
- v. Council resolved to agree that Council engages with the process.

PLANNING

275/24 Draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 19 August 2024.

Received.

276/24 Submitted Planning Applications.

The Council would submit the following observations:

Table 3 List of planning application.

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P24/V1617/HH	58 Hurst Lane, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9PR

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
		<i>Erection of detached garage to include self-contained annex accommodation.</i> Support.
ii	P24/V1763/S19	Bradley Farmhouse, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QU <i>Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on application P22/V1333/LB (single storey rear extension and minor internal alterations).</i> Support.
iii	P24/V1764/HH	169 Pinnocks Way, Dean Court, Oxford OX2 9DF <i>Proposed single storey side extension.</i> Support.
iv	P24/1820/S73	60 High Street, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QD <i>Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on application P24/V1022/HH - to make minor alterations to roof light positions, infill a rear window and widen the side bay to the new extension. (First-floor front gable extension, and garage conversion. Two storey rear extension. Replacement windows).</i> Response. • Council again recommends planning permission is granted subject to VWHDC Planning Officers satisfying themselves of compliant: ○ Provision of visibility splays and ability for vehicles to turn around in the front garden and leave the property travelling forwards, given that reversing onto the High Street 20mph zone could prove a health and safety risk with the site located opposite the junction of the High Street and Leys Road and the entrance to Cumnor Village Hall ○ Provision in line with Neighbourhood Plan Policy DBC1 (plus relevant policies in VWHDC Local Plan 2031) of cycle storage and refuse storage • Council notes it was not consulted on the 3rd July amended application and that planning permission for the amended application was granted the same day.

277/24 VWHDC Planning Committee meeting Wednesday 21 August 2024 – P24/V0571/FUL 16 Cumnor Hill. Paper 8a & b.

- i. Council resolved to raise concerns of material misstatements by the Planning Officer in the document prepared for the Planning Committee and in answers to the committee during the VWHDC Planning Committee meeting to Adrian Duffield, Head of Planning and Councillor Max Thompson, Chair of the VWHDC Planning Committee.
- ii. Council resolved to request that a member of the Council attend the site meeting following VWHDC Planning Committee decision to postpone a decision until a site visit had taken place.

278/24 Update on other current matters.

- i. **Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Appeal under section 78.**
APP/V3120/W/24/3347990 134 Cumnor Hill, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9PH – erection of single part 2 storey dwelling house with home workshop. Erection of bin and bike stores/energy hub building. Car parking provision. Improved visibility splays to existing vehicular access. Landscaping of the site. Appeal against VWHDC decision to refuse planning. Council resolved to agree sending further comments to the Secretary of State Inspector.
- ii. **Permitted planning applications.**

Table 4 List of permitted planning applications.

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P24/V1442/HH	56 Norreys Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9PU <i>Full width single storey rear extension, a rear dormer loft extension, and the replacement of the existing 2 storey bay windows with single storey bay windows to the front of the property.</i>
ii	P24/V1378/FUL	56 Appleton Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QH <i>Demolition of existing 4 bedroom dwelling plus garage and proposed replacement with a 5 bedroom highly energy efficient dwelling with a garage.</i>

279/24 Proposed Industrial installation (Solar Power Station) for the production of electricity on Green Belt land.

i. Proposed 'Botley West' solar power station.

- a. Council received the notes from the meeting on Tuesday 13 August 2024 with Stuart Walker, Major Applications Team Leader, VW HDC. Next scheduled meetings on Tuesday 10 September 2024, 15 October 2024 and 12 November 2024.
- b. Council noted that a further round of targeted consultation focusing on a specific change made in the Central Site located on the southern edge of Bladon Heath was running from Thursday 15 August 2024 to Sunday 15 September 2024

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.

280/24 Confidential Matters. None.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA.

281/24 Items for next month's agenda.

Pelican crossing at the top of Cumnor Hill.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

282/24 Next meeting.

Further meetings will take place in **2024** on Mondays: 7 October, 4 November and 2 December and in **2025**, 6 January, 3 February, 3 March and 7 April

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 6 May 2025 venue to be confirmed.**

The meeting closed at 9pm.

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