

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL (ARPC)

MEETING: 12th June 2019 7:30PM

KINGSTON BLOUNT VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs. A.Bernstein, M.Day, T.Hill, M.Priestley, P.Tinson (in the chair), S.Sowerby, J.Wyatt.
D/Cllr. L.Lloyd

	Minutes	Actions
1	APOLOGIES:- T.Lambourne (Clerk) Annual Leave	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:- Steven Sowerby - cricket club planning application (P19/S0842/FUL) Lawney Hill - cricket club planning application (P19/S0842/FUL) Adam Bernstein - Strutt and Parker proposed building application Lawney Hill - Woodway Farm planning application (P19/S1338/FUL)	
3	MINUTES OF MAY MEETING: The minutes were approved.	Clerk to publish.
4	MATTERS ARISING: 1. Salt Bins - position to be finalised on the Icknield Close site. 2. Drop Box for approval on planning applications has been set up.	Cllr Sowerby to arrange
5	REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS:- The position regarding the SODC Local Plan is not clear; the change in the balance of power on the Council may mean that the Plan is withdrawn. It is currently with the Examiner. A meeting of the Scrutiny Committee will discuss the Plan on 20 June before it is discussed by the full Cabinet the following week.	
6	OPEN FORUM: 1. A Member of Public asked if developers have approval to put signs up advertising builds. It was noted that they should apply beforehand & get approval before signs are erected. 2. A Member of the Public asked why the venue of the Parish Council meeting had changed. They were advised that the meeting venue had not been changed. The June and July meetings are always held in the Church. The venue was published on the agenda and in the parish notes. It was noted that a flyer calling for people to attend the meeting had not included the venue but that the flyer was not produced by the Parish Council . 3. Simon Handy from Strutt and Parker gave a brief presentation on a proposed planning scheme in Kingston Blount. The meeting was advised that the Parish Council cannot express a view until a planning application has been submitted but can ask questions of the developer. A question and answer session followed the presentation as detailed in the Appendix to these minutes.	
7	PRESENTATION by Strutt and Parker – See minute 6(3).	
8	PLANNING Applications as follows to be confirmed/discussed: <u>P19/S1339/LB</u> - Ferndale House, High Street Kingston Blount – Should be approved. <u>P19/SS1551/HH</u> - Chiltern Cottage, The Green, Kingston Blount - still open for consultation. Neighbours are happy with the plan. Comments have been received – Should be approved. <u>P19/S0842/FUL</u> - Aston Rowant Cricket Club, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant. It was noted that this was not an amendment to the existing scheme but a new application. If the application was refused, the existing approved planning application remains in force. Comments required by 27th June. Cllr Day advised that he would arrange public meetings and seek an extension to the deadline if required. <u>P19/S1338/FUL</u> - Woodway Farm, Aston Rowant - Variation of conditions amendment to planting scheme, amendment to planning application and erection of two agricultural buildings. Comments required by the 20th June. <u>P19/S1654/FUL</u> - Windrush, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant - demolition of part of the existing dwelling. Comments required by 20th June. <u>P19/SS1669/HH</u> - 8 Crowell Road, Kingston Blount - new windows mindful of conservation area – Should be approved.	Clerk to respond on SODC planning Portal. Cllr.Day to arrange public meeting(s) & extension.

<u>Decisions of S.O.D.C. as follows to be noted:</u>																																																												
<i>P19/S0860/HH – New canopy porch at Meadow Wood, Pleck Lane, Kingston Blount GRANTED.</i>																																																												
	<p>FINANCE:</p> <p>1. <u>The following payments to be noted</u> (Costs include VAT):</p> <table> <tr><td>Clerk April Salary</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: Clerk April salary</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>MK Watts Groundcare (March)</td><td>168.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Robin Leinster (March Litter)</td><td>31.65</td></tr> <tr><td>Robin Leinster (April Litter)</td><td>25.32</td></tr> <tr><td>Ridgeway Rural Services</td><td>1908.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Ridgeway Rural Services</td><td>324.00</td></tr> <tr><td>MK Watts Groundcare (April)</td><td>336.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Ridgeway Woodlands</td><td>60.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Mick Cornfield</td><td>126.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Hillwerke Trust</td><td>72.00</td></tr> </table> <p>2. <u>Receipts as follows to be noted:</u></p> <table> <tr><td>Hillwerke Trust (Grass Cutting Contribution)</td><td>750.00</td></tr> </table> <p>3. <u>The following payments to be approved</u> (Costs include VAT):</p> <table> <tr><td>Clerk May Salary</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: Clerk May salary</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Westcotec Ltd (Parts for ARCC V.A.S repair)</td><td>90.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Chiltern Society 2019 subscription</td><td>30.00</td></tr> <tr><td>T Lambourne (Microsoft Office 365 Subscription)</td><td>79.99</td></tr> <tr><td>Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (3 x Training Courses)</td><td>300.00</td></tr> <tr><td>MK Watts Groundcare (May)</td><td>336.00</td></tr> </table> <p>9 4. <u>The current financial situation as at 31st May:</u></p> <table> <tr><td>Barclays Bank – Community Account</td><td>39144.90</td></tr> <tr><td>Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account</td><td>1093.37</td></tr> <tr><td>National Savings</td><td>11428.55</td></tr> <tr><td>Elections Reserve</td><td>(800)</td></tr> <tr><td>Village Hall Reserve fund</td><td>(690)</td></tr> <tr><td>Play Area Reserve Fund</td><td>(700)</td></tr> <tr><td>Parish Notes Reserve Fund</td><td>(1000)</td></tr> <tr><td>Neighbourhood Plan Reserve</td><td>(5061)</td></tr> <tr><td>Traffic Calming</td><td>(5840)</td></tr> <tr><td>Trees, Footpaths & Environment Reserve Fund</td><td>(7460)</td></tr> </table> <p>5. Budget 2019/2020 v2 – Noted.</p> <p>6. To approve new wireless Printer, Scanner, Copier for use by Clerk It was agreed that a number of quotes should be obtained prior to approval.</p> <p>7. Signing of new mandates for Barclays Bank account and NS&I Investment account. Paperwork not yet received from Barclays, deferred to July meeting.</p> <p>8. A request for funding from Aston Rowant School PTA had been received to assist the School in replacing unsafe equipment. Although there was agreement in principle to assist the School, a decision was deferred until a more detailed assessment has been made of the reserves and potential cost. The PTA are seeking £2000; the anticipated surplus from the School Fete has been included when calculating the amount requested.</p> <p>9. Audit NOT ON AGENDA - The internal audit has been concluded - there were a few minor comments but the full 2018/9 AGAR cannot be signed-off until the July meeting with both Chair and Clerk present.</p>	Clerk April Salary		HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: Clerk April salary		MK Watts Groundcare (March)	168.00	Robin Leinster (March Litter)	31.65	Robin Leinster (April Litter)	25.32	Ridgeway Rural Services	1908.00	Ridgeway Rural Services	324.00	MK Watts Groundcare (April)	336.00	Ridgeway Woodlands	60.00	Mick Cornfield	126.00	Hillwerke Trust	72.00	Hillwerke Trust (Grass Cutting Contribution)	750.00	Clerk May Salary		HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: Clerk May salary		Westcotec Ltd (Parts for ARCC V.A.S repair)	90.00	Chiltern Society 2019 subscription	30.00	T Lambourne (Microsoft Office 365 Subscription)	79.99	Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (3 x Training Courses)	300.00	MK Watts Groundcare (May)	336.00	Barclays Bank – Community Account	39144.90	Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account	1093.37	National Savings	11428.55	Elections Reserve	(800)	Village Hall Reserve fund	(690)	Play Area Reserve Fund	(700)	Parish Notes Reserve Fund	(1000)	Neighbourhood Plan Reserve	(5061)	Traffic Calming	(5840)	Trees, Footpaths & Environment Reserve Fund	(7460)	
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	<p>HIGHWAYS:</p> <p>1. It was noted that the Parish Council will have to raise the funds in order for traffic calming measures to be installed in Kingston Blount. Few of the developments in Chinnor resulted in CIL funding. Cllrs Wyatt and Day will identify potential sources of funding.</p>	Clerk to address																																																										
10		JW and MD to discuss																																																										

	<p>2. County Cllr Matelot had queried the cost of the measures. It was noted that the Council may seek alternative quotes for the work but that the contractors had to be approved by the County.</p> <p>3. Correspondence had been received regarding the drainage on Brook Street. The site would be inspected and reported via Fix my Street if necessary. See also 16(4).</p>	Clerk to do also.
11	<p>GRASS-CUTTING & GENERAL MAINTENANCE:-</p> <p>1. A member of the public had written noting that the hedges along the Lanes had become overgrown and were hazardous. See also 16a. It was agreed to add trimming the hedges to the handyman's rota.</p> <p>2. It was noted that there had been an accident at the junction of Aston Rowant Road and the B4009. The lack of visibility due to growth on the tree on the west side of the junction may have been a contributing factor. Thanks were recorded to Richard Lockwood for trimming the excess growth.</p>	Cllr. Hill to arrange.
12	<p>FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES GROUP:</p> <p>Permissive footpath to Crowell. Cllrs had met with the Chiltern Society to discuss the work required to complete the footpath. The Society will be asking for volunteers to help fit the track at a date to be scheduled. The track that would form the base of the footpath is currently available at a discounted price. It was agreed to purchase the required material early in order to get the discounted price.</p>	
13	<p>PLAY AREA:</p> <p>It was noted that the handyman could not carry out all the required repairs. He will be asked for a quote for the elements he can repair; quotes from commercial organisations would be sought for the other repairs. It was noted that these would have to be appropriately insured and approved for such work.</p>	Clerk to action.
14	<p>ASTON ROWANT CRICKET CLUB:</p> <p>1. It was noted that the Aston Rowant PTA fete this year will be held at the Cricket Club on 7th July as use of the Green in Aston Rowant was denied. All profit from the fete will be retained by the PTA fete for dispersal; the Cricket Club will not be asking for a donation for hosting the fete.</p> <p>2. A beer festival is being held at the Club on the weekend of 22nd July.</p>	
15	<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:</p> <p>1. It was noted that, under the proposed Local plan, there was no requirement for villages to take a proportion of the housing requirements; under the previous draft there could have been a requirement to take 17 houses. It remained to be seen whether the Local Plan would go forward in its current form or be withdrawn.</p> <p>2. The Plan was complete with the exception of the Housing Policy which is informed by the</p> <p>3. Local Plan. A number of legal challenges remain; AECOM had yet to respond to the Council on suggestions that their independence was in doubt.</p> <p>4. Cllr Day suggested that there should be more dialogue with those complaining about the</p> <p>5. process. Further dialogue had not been possible due to diary commitments.</p> <p>6. There had been a number of resignations from the Committee due to members moving from the Parish and an appeal for further members would be issued.</p> <p>7. Secretarial support had been requested; an individual had been approached and was considering the matter.</p>	
16	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>1. Emailed request for KB Lanes to be cut back between the old Shoulder of Mutton pub and Brook Street. See minute 11 (1).</p> <p>2. Letter from TV Air ambulance in thanks for our 2019 grant of £110.00. Noted.</p> <p>3. Email from Aston Rowant Church Warden thanking us for 2019 grant of £896.00. Noted.</p> <p>4. Email regarding the drainage on Brook Street. See minute 10(3).</p>	
17	DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Weds 10th July 2019 in <u>Aston Rowant Church</u> at 7.30pm	

Strutt and Parker - Simon Handy

- *In developing the site they have consulted with ecology, conservation, traffic and local architecture.*
- *Nine proposed houses to be built mixture of 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms keeping mature trees adjoining the site.*
- *No plans yet submitted to SODC but they have been talking to the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.*
- *Why build - there is a need for new housing, they are aware of previous appeals, they stated that the village will have to take some growth but this is a small scale development.*
- *SO does not have a housing plan. They want to work with neighbourhood plan committee and local people.*
- *Density is low compared to what could be built on the site. They have left a generous gap between the the adjoining land owners house and garage. They have worked with heritage consultants and it is a high quality development to work with the community.*

Questions from the Councillors

PAT stated that infill in villages reverts back to the legislation of 2011 if plan not approved in SEIT

Q. How big is the site in hectares?

A. 1-1.5 hectares

Q. What is the policy for max site?

A. Area to be built on just below 1 hectare

Q. What is the usual size of the site to be built on for a village the size of Kingston Blount?

A. Usually 1 hectare

From Councillor AB

Q. What is the price of the buildings?

A. Can't say - price varies depending on the development - they have no control of the price.

Q. Traffic and access to and from the site entrance is not safe.

A. Visibility, speed, proposed access point will be safe.

Q. Accuracy of data of presentation - sports facility mentioned?

A. Site analysis some points are incorrect.

Q. Protection of Neighbours

A. Nearest neighbour has contacted. Two deep rear gardens will back onto neighbour

Q. Sustainability of site - lack of public transport

A. Agreed that public transport is poor and cars will have to be used.

From Councillor JW

Q. What amount of affordable housing is included in the build?

A. Scheme is small and does not need to include affordable housing. There are three 2 bedrooms houses in proposed development.

From Councillor M

Q. Is it infill?

A. No - logical place to build.

Q. Developer is not then building on infill?

A. Neighbourhood Plan group highlighted this site as a good place to build.

Open to the Public

Q. Two bedroom houses are never built as detached?

A. Don't disagree with the statement but to make the most efficient use of space it can be detached.

Q. The houses do not look like 2 bedroom houses.

A. Just a sketch, not detailed.

Q. There will be traffic increase on the B4009, it is a rat run from Chinnor?

A. Nine houses will not increase traffic.

Q. At the junction of Pleck Lane to Ickniel close the road is very narrow two medium lorries cannot pass. Is there plans to widen the road?

A. Transport at the moment says no but will be looking into this but not at that stage yet.

Q. Who owns the property that is selling?

A. The land is locally owned will be sold to a developer once planning approved.

Q. What is the benefit to the Village?

A. Bringing new housing to the Village will benefit people. There will be a market for smaller units.

Q. Affordable housing is triggered by building on 1000 square metres?

A. Scheme designed not triggers the above rule.

Q. Is the site suitable for development, access is not suitable, mature trees will be damaged, what about the conservation area?

A. The site is adjacent to the conservation area, it is not in the AONB. Trees are valued for the site and will screen traffic from Chinnor. Access for transport will be shown/go to.

Q. Didn't ask all the nearest neighbours, nobody visited owner of the house which will be opposite the site. Concerned re his view that will be blocked and affecting the value of houses opposite the proposed building site?

A. Did not say it would not affect values of near properties.

Q. Saw once, not seen plan since, statement of engagement is not correct.

A. Did send vision document not sure where to. Strutt and Parker do want feedback. Rely on DC old strategy. Core strategy 2026-2034. Lib Democrats will not want to get rid of scheme and will be open to more speculative planning.

Q. Councillors involvement on site view?

A. Open to any engagement - trying to meet with Neighbourhood Plan Committee.

SODC A Conservative District Councillor's View
(Or What The Council Is Doing)

June 2019.

Chinnor Ward Specific.

The new Administration continues to consider its options with regard to our submitted Local Plan 2011-2034 and recently, officers provided a report setting out four options ranging from continue as submitted to withdraw and start again from scratch. Prior to discussion, this was submitted to the Scrutiny Committee with one day's window for reading and review, and as Chair Ian expressed strong concerns regarding this lack of adequate of preparation for submission. All Committee members shared this view and after questions adjourned the meeting which will be reconvened on 2nd July, 6:30 PM at Milton Park with additional documentation supporting the report.

The report suggests all but the first Option proposed, Continue As Planned, may have implications for Chinnor, with reduced protection from speculative applications and appeals. Firstly, we have heard from CPRE that they consider Core Strategy 2012-2034 to be a valid plan, which is already in place. Whilst we would not question their expertise in their field, this assertion has not so far found support from Planning Inspectors at appeal, who have consistently given lesser weight due to the age of the Core Strategy even when the 5 Year Land Supply has been met.

Secondly, we are informed that any option other than Option 1 results in a high risk that the Growth Deal and Housing Infra-structure Funding agreed by the government will be withdrawn. Whilst we do not expect either of these two agreements to directly impact on Chinnor Ward, it means less money for the roads, schools and other infrastructure across the County which will have a knock-on effect.

There are other potential impacts which are documented in more detail in the Reports which are available on the web site for you to review which, in view of the importance of this matter, we urge you to do, and you may like to attend Full Council and make a statement when the Administration bring it forward. Or as we have suggested previously if the ward Parish councils have concerns about this review this could be made in writing, to use should any future developments be made. This underlines the importance of the Neighbourhood Plans and the need for regular review. Recently, our MP, John Howell, wrote to all Parish Councils advising them that a Neighbourhood Plan would not be automatically 'out of date' if the Local Plan is withdrawn. This is because of the three provisions introduced by Gavin Barwell's statement in December 2016, later enshrined in the NPPF under Paragraph 14, with the addition of Condition d regarding Housing Delivery.

There is no issue with John Howell's statement but there are a number of points to bear in mind when relying on the sole protection of an NDP. The first being the age of the Plan and the position regarding review. As illustration, looking at the Chinnor NDP, adopted in September 2017, assuming the current review had not been started, could be regarded as 'out of date' by a Planning Inspector from the end of August 2019.

Much would depend on the Inspector's view on which of the various methods used to calculate to Land Supply. At this time, our calculation shows over 9 years, (see below) but by some calculations, at worst just over 3 years. Appeals have shown that there is no great consistency in the method of calculation used, as demonstrated in the case of SODC in 2016, where at Appeal for Greyhound Walk in Thame, the Secretary of

State found that we had a 5-year land supply. In June later that year, two separate inspectors found we did not, and their view was up-held. Please remember that much of the development that gives this healthy Land Supply comes from speculative development agreed at appeal, (much from Chinnor) and that this type of contribution will reduce now that SODC has a greater degree of planning control. In this circumstance Chinnor would be vulnerable from September 2019 when this two-year provision ends.

Fortunately, Chinnor started a review to take into account the moving goal posts resulting from legislation, Appeals and High Court Rulings, and this is likely to be signed off before the NDP Protection expires. In general terms, in the absence of a review, or a made NDP, there would be a significantly increased risk of more unplanned development for the 18 or so months the work would have taken, if the plan is withdrawn.

Please remember that the present iteration of Local Plan 2011-2034 has been prepared using the best Legal Advice available in consultation with the Ministry and the Planning Inspectorate, and housing numbers were not 'added for luck' as recently suggested by a Cabinet Member on Radio Oxford's David Prever Show!

Other Ward Matters

Within the Ward, we continue to deal with advice to residents on planning matters, both on a specific and broader spectrum. The biggest issue being raised by a number is the layout of the new junction at the Bloor Homes site on the Thame Road. Highways matters are dealt with by the County Council and we are assured that this junction is designed to the required standards. Questions and observations should be addressed to County as the District council is bound to follow their requirements.

We don't yet know the extent to which grant money, and specifically continuation of the Councillor Grant Scheme, are planned. We will let you know once we have this information, but for both of us, it is nice to see that the grant funds that we have been able to support are realising benefits. Examples being the up-grade of the driveway at the Methodist Hall to improve access, refurbishment of the tennis courts, up-grade to (money saving) energy efficient lighting at the Village Hall, provision of net fencing at the Community Pavillion and upgraded equipment at the Village Centre.

Housing and land supply statement

We've published our housing and land supply statement, which gives details of our strong land supply position to help inform decisions on new planning applications.

The statement includes two supply projections:

- against our housing need without a new local plan in place - this provides an annual housing need of 632 homes (using government's new standard method) and gives us a housing land supply for 9.75 years
- against the housing targets set out in our Local Plan - this provides an annual housing need of 775 homes with an additional 495 homes a year added to help meet Oxford's housing need and gives us a housing land supply for 5.17 years

You can see the full statement on our website at

<https://ebtk.co.uk/click/U0JrbEZhcE9JL056WjJ1WFVTQWtoc0N6M1IrejRT1doWXRHSGJBTzZOMzkyNTk5QXZhNlViOFZJUWF5eDVINnIZZVNNK3R1bGNDZW5UMTFERmptRGt3dGRvMTIpK2JQd01Va29LcG5MN3BzWm1rZHUvM3A5WEdzanNnYXY5cmJ4b01YakdtaWJZTWkzdIBONmVqeGoyMjBQbkxsalpDM2dBK2NEMXdWeWfjTR2ZjZY0RqdGk0L2pnPT0/UIJ3ckZnPT0>

Neighbourhood Plan update

Publicity periods for the following pre-submission consultations are currently taking place:

- Chinnor Neighbourhood Plan Review - ends 5 July
- Ewelme Neighbourhood Plan - ends 17 July

Goring will be holding a referendum on their Neighbourhood Plan on 4 July.

Transport South East consultation

The government is looking at creating a statutory local transport body called Transport South East.

The new body would be able to directly influence the government's decisions on transport issues and help deliver their strategy. As part of its proposals, the government is consulting on two documents:

- Background context - quick guide on becoming a statutory body at

<https://ebtk.co.uk/click/U0JrbEZhcE9JL056WjJ1WFVTQWt6OVd6aFlvMnZoNktnSkJjQnE0TzIJZnkwWm84QXVuOVI3c1VJMEcrMEIYNTNZTFpmK2hsbHQzU21uZG1EMVROrRGtKdWNJMXZrZU9XMThRaXZyY2pJN0luYnlvPQ/UIJ3ckZnPT0>

- Draft proposal for consultation at

<https://ebtk.co.uk/click/U0JrbEZhcE9JL056WjJ1WFVTQWt6OVd6aFlrenFGNmRncEJIRUjtWnFKRDEyY1lnV1BEeVY3aFVPQnFwa0ITMXpJeUJicVZla2NpVGkySnFFazJsQmtveFBOUjBnSyt4emNVNXBPTkxJSzQzTzBFT3RQWDB0bWJ6a2RjWnBkak94SW9OakdtbFo1czB4L0RKNWZuMmxDN3FJbmZ0blp5MHIFdz0/UIJ3ckZnPT0>

If you would like to feed into our responses to the consultation, please contact the South Planning Policy team at Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk by 8 July.

OVO Energy Women's Tour success

The rain held off for Women's Tour on 12 June and we had crowds of onlookers and school children gathering all along the route to watch the elite cyclists taking part in the race.

Before the race day, several of our teams worked with the other district councils, the county council and the race organisers to plan, promote and prepare for the race. Our teams also worked with Saba and Biffa to ensure Henley's Grey's Road car park was temporarily transformed into a Cycle Village for the competing teams and the town's roads and routes were clear of waste bins and collection vehicles.

You can see the excitement and spectacle in our collection of photographs and videos taken on the day at <https://ebtk.co.uk/click/U0JrbEZhcE9JL056WjJ1WFVTQWt6OVd6aFkwMHZnS1MzcDVLSGFvRXFKRDEyY1lsSHZud1RmVUxFQ3FWbG82a25OcVFVYkpBeHB2Tg/UIJ3ckZnPT0>

The race organisers have provided us with a spectator survey to help shape their economic impact report for Oxfordshire and the whole tour. The more people that complete the survey, the more meaningful the report is, so please take part and share the link as widely as possible - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2019WomensTour>

Anti-idling campaign launched

We've launched a new anti-idling campaign, called Turn it off, to help improve air quality in our districts. The campaign aims to educate residents about unnecessary air pollution caused by leaving car engines idling - our message is that if you've stopped for a minute or more, then turn off your engine for cleaner air - especially in built up areas.

The Environmental Services team took the campaign to Henley and Abingdon on Clean Air Day - 20 June. Over the coming months, the team will be doing some further promotion around in our districts - we'll keep you up to date when these are planned.

If you'd like to discuss promoting it at a particular venue or you'd like some campaign posters and stickers, please do let us know.

£100,000 to tackle air quality issues

We've allocated £100,000 to help tackle air quality issues in our district. We're working on a number of projects including studies to install more electric charging points in our car parks and will be running the 'anti-idling' campaign to encourage drivers to switch off their engines whilst parked or waiting at traffic lights as highlighted above.

Funds have also been made available to support town and parish councils to address air quality issues including known trouble spots in Wallingford, Henley and Watlington.

If you know of a project that we could help fund, please contact the environment health team.

env.health@southandvale.gov.uk

Safe Places scheme

The Safe Places scheme continues to expand in the district. Registered Safe Places offer support to vulnerable people feeling scared or at risk by providing assistance and by calling a family member, carer or emergency services.

There are now 56 Safe Places in our district, which are easily identified by a logo displayed on shop-front windows. To see all the locations of the scheme, visit the Safe Places website.

<https://www.safeplaces.org.uk/>

Editor - Cllr Ian White (Ian.White@southoxon.gov.uk) Twitter feed: @IanWhite_DC and

Cllr Lynn Lloyd (lynn.lloyd@southoxon.gov.uk)