

Chilton Chronicle

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Vacancy

Liz Morris, the Parish Clerk, is retiring so there is a vacancy for a Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. If anyone is interested please contact Chris Broad 01235 834347 or Liz 01235 834233 for more information regarding the job.

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Bus Timetable Changes

There is a new bus timetable on route X34 between Didcot and Newbury via Chilton. The pattern of service is the same, but all the times have changed! Newbury is still just 22 minutes from Chilton and the bus fare £2 each way. *The new timetable for Chilton is attached to this Chronicle as a separate sheet.*

If you are going to Oxford, there are good connections on Harwell Campus between the X34s and ST1 buses on Mondays to Fridays.

The route 43 bus times from Chilton to Wantage on Mondays to Fridays remain unchanged at 0727 and 0839 from Main Street in the mornings (Garden Centre stop a couple of minutes later) and returning from Wantage Market Place at 1638 and 1738.

For all the recent timetable changes see the Thames Travel website:

<https://www.oxfordbus.co.uk/service-changes-14th-april-2024>

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Chairman's Annual Report

Another year has passed for Chilton Parish Council, its Councillors and Clerk.

This year has seen changes on the Council and we welcomed two new Councillors, Chris Clements and Joshua King. I would like to thank them for volunteering to carry out this important role and for the fresh thoughts they have brought to the Council.

Villages like ours rely heavily on volunteers to keep things running and organise activities that others enjoy. However, a problem has arisen with the operation of the Village Hall and Community Room.

These buildings are owned by the Parish Council and operated on its behalf by the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC). The VHMC has run the buildings successfully for many years but recently a number of people have left the committee leaving a tiny number of people to try to keep the halls running. There are

some temporary volunteers but key roles have not been filled and without more support particularly for Treasurer and Bookings we may have to close the Halls until a solution is found. However, work is being done to simplify the bookings process but this will take some time to complete and the possibility of a paid role is also under consideration.

It won't have escaped anyone's notice that recent months have seen heavy rainfall which has caused problems in Chilton and many other places. In our village there is serious flooding in the underpass by the allotments. This underpass is a key route from the old village to the school and for racehorses for access to their exercise gallops. So far efforts to get it drained have been unsuccessful and the only action following intervention by Thames Valley Police has been the placement of closure barriers. The other major problem is the continual overflow of sewerage in The Lane. This appears to be caused by excess ground water getting into the sewers and overwhelming the pumping station. Thames Waters fix is to use a fleet of tankers to take excess liquids away. This is not preventing sewerage overflow and brings its own problems of disturbance to nearby residents and damage to the unsurfaced byway in Dene Hollow. Thames Water have promised to fix the byway when pumping is finished and clean The Lane but no upgrades to the sewers or pumping station are scheduled. We shall see what is done.

Our village is inevitably affected by developments on the Harwell Campus and part of the Campus lies within the parish boundary. The Parish Council has regular meetings with the Campus management to get updates on current and future developments. Including the Moderna building there are currently four buildings under construction on the Campus. There are two more at the planning stage and one being designed. We are concerned about the potential impact of these developments on local traffic which is already a problem at peak times. The Campus is keen to work with Oxfordshire County Council to develop a strategy to mitigate future problems but this doesn't appear to be easy! The campus has initiated a consultation with Chilton Parish Council on landscape improvements around the D Day Memorial. The construction of the Moderna building and its inevitable impact on the views from the memorial concerned many people but hopefully a redesign of the Memorial area will address some of these concerns.

Planning applications always comprise a significant part of Parish Council work and perhaps the most significant this year was an application to build a 60 bed motel. This was on the piece of land between the north bound slip and the A34. The application was refused mainly because it was felt to be a Major development in an AONB, now renamed National Landscapes, that failed to demonstrate exceptional need. This site has previously been the subject of refused applications for a Service Station and an EV Charging station.

For those residents looking for faster Broadband connections it appears that Gigaclear are restarting work on their fibre to the premises network in Chilton. We are hoping to set up a meeting with Gigaclear soon to get a better understanding of what they propose, when and how it will be delivered and likely charges. There is a question about the monopoly of See the Light for David Wilson homeowners at Chilton Field but it seems likely it will be available to owners of Bovis Homes.

A long running project to add new play equipment and refurbish some pieces in the play area next to the Village Hall has been completed. This Project involved a lot of work by a group of dedicated volunteers. The project was led by Mark Urso-Cale, which was funded by what is referred to as Sec 106 money paid by the developers of Chilton Field and Pegasus Close. The money was lodged with The Vale of White Horse but the process for getting it released to the Parish was complex and lengthy!

Finally, I have to announce that our Parish Clerk, Liz Morris, who has provided outstanding service to the Council and Village for 35 years is planning to retire. The search for a new Clerk will start soon.
Chris Broad
Chairman

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Spring Cleaning our Beautiful Church

We are planning to hold a Spring Clean of All Saints Church on Saturday 15 June between 9am and 12 noon.

We would love to see as many people as possible come to help even if only for half an hour. There is lots to do: cobwebs to chase, washing insides of windows, carpets to beat, polishing and dusting.

Please come armed with brooms and brushes - telescopic poles especially handy!



ARTWEEKS 2024

Five artists in Blewbury at The Clubhouse
Lin Kerr (from Chilton) - still life oil paintings and quirky floral watercolours and four professional Blewbury artists:

- Yvette Phillips - textile and embroidery art
- Ellie Wong - semi-abstracts in acrylic
- Josie Clouting - expressive landscapes
- Julian March - ceramics for soul food

18 - 27 May

10am - 3.00 Monday to Friday

10.00am - 5.00 Weekends and Bank Holiday Monday

The Clubhouse, (opposite Savages) Boham's Road, Blewbury, OX11 9HF

Another Chilton resident, Tim Kapp, will be exhibiting at Stanford House, 65 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4EL, 11th-19th May (except 15th), 11am-6pm. Tim's painting of All Saints' Church was featured in the April edition of OX Magazine.

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Could you help with our school garden?

Our amazing school garden volunteer, Ruth, is retiring this summer. Ruth has volunteered at Chilton Primary School for more than ten years, creating and maintaining our fantastic allotment garden (which provides produce to the school kitchen), providing gardening lessons and running an after school gardening club. We know that replacing Ruth is going to be a huge challenge, and fully appreciate most volunteers will not be able to dedicate so much time or energy to the school.

We are therefore looking for a group of gardening volunteers who could help maintain our fruit and vegetable garden, from weeding and sowing to watering and harvesting. With appropriate training (and safeguarding checks), volunteers may also like to deliver gardening lessons to small groups of children.

If you'd be interested in regularly volunteering an hour or two each week as part of this team, please contact the school office on 01235 834263 or sbm.2555@chilton.oxon.sch.uk. We'd love to show you around the garden to see whether this is something you could help us with. Thank you!

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May Charity Market

The market this month will be held on Saturday 11th May from 9am until midday on Crafts End Green

and it will be in aid of Christian Aid. On sale will be an amazing selection of cakes, brownies, buns, millionaire's shortbread and of course Liz's now famous chicken and mushroom pies, beef pies, cheese tarts and hot pasties. There will also be pots of marmalade, jams and chutneys. We also hope to have some plants for sale and would be very grateful for any donations of plants.

The April market in aid of "Action Against Hunger" raised an amazing £984.

Thank you.

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News From the Rose and Crown

TOP SCORE

Congratulations to Shea for achieving a top rating of 5 in a Scores on the Doors food hygiene inspection on 27 March.



SUNDAY LUNCH CARVERY

Roast Pork, Lamb, Chicken or Beef and a selection of fresh vegetables.

Served 12.30 to 2.30 pm: £14.95 (£7.95 for under 10 year olds, free for under 5 year olds – one per adult).

Please book on 01235 862992.

STEAK NIGHT SATURDAY

Two steaks and a bottle of wine £35.

Please book on 01235 862992.

FUN QUIZ ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Next quiz Tuesday 30 April

Starts at 8 pm. Teams of 2 to 6 people, £2 per head to enter, drinks voucher for winning team.

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All Saints' Group

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th May. We meet at 7:45 PM in All Saints' Church and welcome visitors.

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Chilton WI

The April meeting will be on Thursday 16th May at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

For this month's meeting we are having a talk on daily life in Tudor times. Martin will be dressed in full Tudor costume and tell us about food, drink and social structures.

We are a very friendly group and look forward to seeing everyone at these meetings and welcoming new members and visitors. For more information, please contact Liz Robbins 834501 or Shona Sugden 831723.

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Oasis Cafe

Oasis Cafe is an opportunity for villagers to gather once a month for a coffee (or tea!) and a convivial chat in relaxed surroundings. The event is held in All Saints' Church on the 3rd Saturday morning of each month, between 10.00 and 12.00, and is free to all comers. See you on 18th May.

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Warm Welcome Cafe

What do you normally do on Tuesdays at lunch time? Do you know that there is a "Warm Welcome Cafe" in the Morris Room in the Village Hall from 11am until 2pm every Tuesday? All are welcome.

Come and meet other villagers over a cup of tea or coffee and a slice or two of homemade cake and biscuits. Over lunch time enjoy some home-baked cheese scones and a mug of soup. There is no charge.

If you are looking for a warm welcome and friendly conversation or you would like to join the jigsaw puzzle team why not come along?

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Monthly Parish Update from Vale of White Horse District Councillors

Cllr Hayleigh Gascoigne and Cllr Debra Dewhurst Hello from Hayleigh and Debra

In March, Didcot Powerhouse held a celebratory presentation evening at the Bee House on Milton Park. What is Didcot Powerhouse? Didcot Powerhouse raises money from businesses and fundraisings events and directs grants to community organisations that are working hard to improve local lives in Didcot and the surrounding villages. Hayleigh sits on the Didcot Powerhouse Advisory group and attended the event. It was great to see representatives from local charities and community groups as well as those individuals directly benefitting from the fund. To hear more about the 2024 recipients, head to [the powerhouse website](#).

As we move into April, we have another consultation for you to have your say. The Vale of White Horse District Council would like to hear your thoughts on our strategic plan for the next four years. Cabinet has set out initial ideas and now we would like to hear your ideas and what you think of them as residents, businesses and community groups. The consultation will be launched on 16th April for four weeks and will be featured on the Join the Conversation website.

There will be a drop-in event residents can come along to find out more on **Thursday 18 April at Didcot Civic Hall between 3.30pm and 5.30pm.**

Information will also be available at a number of other locations, including at The Beacon Arts and Community Centre in Wantage and at the council offices in Abbey House, Abingdon.

Council News

Find your voice - choose your next Police and Crime Commissioner: People living in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse will be able to vote for their next Thames Valley Area Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) on Thursday 2 May.

Empty homes policy:

Our new Empty Homes Policy, approved by both Cabinets earlier this month, will help us to bring more empty homes back into use. You can view the policy on the [Vale of White Horse website](#).

Our housing team, working proactively with owners of empty homes, will use the support on offer through the policy to help homes become reoccupied. The focus will be on making homes available for those that are in most need of housing.

We use these monthly updates to keep you updated on our activities and general council news. We also post on our councillor Facebook Pages:

www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh &

www.facebook.com/Debra4BleburyAndHarwell

Please get in touch with any issues or concerns, either via email:

hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk and

debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

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Parish Council Notices

Please do not use the Village Hall and Community Room car parks for private parking.

PCSO Tim Deane's contact details.

Mobile: 07976 978916

Email: tim.deane@thamesvalley.police.uk

Defibrillators

Chilton has three defibrillators, one is on the wall outside the Village Hall, one is on the wall outside the Community Room on Chilton Field and there is also a defibrillator at Chilton Primary School, which is accessible whenever the school is open.

Oxfordshire County Councillor - Councillor Sally Povolotsky (Hendreds & Harwell Division)

Hello Residents, making more changes, in order not to fill up your fantastic newsletters and bulletins with my ramblings, please find everything you need on my

channels below. I am always around, approachable, and here to listen, just reach out!

Take care and Stay Safe, Sally.

Find Latest News and Information online here.

<https://hendredsandharwell.mycouncillor.org.uk>

Find Daily updates / news and events on Facebook here - @sally4hendredsandharwell

Share your community news on our new Group on Facebook - Search - Hendreds & Harwell Community Official - where we can share events / news and ideas together.

You can WhatsApp / call me on - 07939 912997.

You can email me on

sally.povolotsky@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on **Wednesday 8th May 2024 at 8.00pm. This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting and will be in the Community Room. The agenda will be published on the Council website.** Members of the public are invited to attend.

The Parish Council website can be found at <https://www.parish-council.com/chilton> where you will be able to find out details of all the Parish Council meetings, who your Councillors are and other useful information.

Items to be included in the next Chronicle should be sent to the Clerk (preferably by email) by Wednesday 29th May **Clerk: Liz Morris, 6 Latton Close, 01235 834233**

Email: parishclkchilton@btinternet.com

Parish Council Chairman

Mr Chris Broad

14 Latton Close

834347

Please Note: The Parish Council does not accept any responsibility for the adverts placed in the Chilton Chronicle

Attached to this Chronicle is the annual Statement of Accounts and the revised bus timetable .

Chilton Parish Council Statement of Accounts 2023-24

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Precept	23597	Admin	2608
Land Rent	2250	Allotments	344
Wayleave	42	Chronicle	2243
SA Clothing Bank	839	Clerk	4612
Allotments	608	Churchyard	1212
Magnox Grant	5000	Grass cutting	1686
County Council Grant	3000	Chilton Field maintenance	22163
Chronicle	386	Insurance	7481
VAT refund	13376	Play equipment	7639
Sec 106 play equipment Grant	116295	Donations	240
Bank Interest	2633	Subscriptions	590
		General maintenance	3050
		New play equipment	17402
		Litter clearing	70
		VAT	7767
	<u>168026</u>		<u>79107</u>
Balance b/fw 22/23	245612	Balance c/fw 24/25	334530
	<u>413638</u>		<u>413638</u>
		<u>Breakdown of funds</u>	
		Village Hall Fund	8418
		Equipped Activity Area	114184
		Toddler Area Commuted sum	35262
		POS Commuted Sum	140148
		POS Remediation	5528
		Neighbourhood Plan	136
		County Council Grant	264
		CIL Fund	13317
		Parish Council Reserves	17273
		<u>Total</u>	<u>334530</u>

POS - Chilton Field Public Open Space

Chilton Public Purposes Charity 2023-24

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Dividends	344	Nil	
Interest	62		
Land Rent	737		
Balance b/fw 22/23	5249	Balance c/fw 24/25	
	<u>6392</u>		<u>6392</u>

The Accounts have not yet been audited, any significant differences will be reported at a later date.