

Present	Mr C Broad	Chairman
	Dr J A Berry	
	Mr C Clements	
	Mr F Dumbleton	
	Dr M Hansard	
	Mr J King	
	Mr M Urso-Cale	
	CLlr H Gascoigne	VWH District Councillor
	Mrs M E Morris	Parish Clerk (Retiring)
	Dr J E Berry	Parish Clerk (New)
	1 member of the public	

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Dr D Dewhurst and Ms S Povolotsky.
2. **Declarations of Interest** None
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** were agreed and signed as a true record.
4. **Appointment of New Clerk**
Mr Broad introduced Jacquie Berry to the members of the Parish Council and her contract was signed at the meeting.
5. **Area Beat Officers' Report**
Mr Broad attended a drop-in session held by the Wantage Neighbourhood Police Team, hosted at Chilton Garden Centre on 18th August 2024. This team is now responsible for a wide area including Chilton. Two PCSO's were introduced (Tom and Jamie) but their role has changed and they will only provide reactive support and there will be no further Area Beat Officers' Reports. Their e:mail is: wantageneighbourhoodpoliceteam@thamesvalley.police.uk.
Members were reminded that all non-urgent phone enquiries should be made via 101. It was agreed these contact details should be included in the next Chilton Chronicle.
Action: Clerks to ensure an update and new contact details are included in the next Chronicle.
Action: Clerks to remove Area Beat Officer's Report from future Agendas.
6. **Open Forum**
The following issues were raised:
(i) Concern about the deep gully that has formed on the side of the road at the bottom of Hagbourne Hill (Chilton Road) and how it led to a serious accident resulting in an overturned car 3 weeks ago. TVP did attend the incident and it has also been reported to OCC.
(ii) A complaint about the lack of maintenance of the paddock adjacent to the allotments and the detrimental effect it is having on the allotments. This was discussed by the members. Previously warnings have been sent to the tenant to maintain the land but there has been no subsequent maintenance work done to the paddock. Members agreed that the tenant is now in breach of their contract and this should be terminated.
Action: Clerks to write to the tenant to terminate the contract.
7. **District Council Report**
A formal report had not been received but Hayleigh Gascoigne gave a verbal report of ongoing activities:
(i) Hayleigh confirmed that she is working as a member of the Liberal Democrat party whilst Deborah and Sally are now operating as independent councillors.
(ii) Joint Local Plan - consultation on the final draft will open shortly. There will be a 6-week consultation period. The council aim to submit the plan by the end of December 2024. Hayleigh confirmed that there has been no new housing allocation in the plan.

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- (iii) The Boundary Commission review - Hayleigh was informed that The Parish Council object to this proposal as the Council has strong established links with the Campus and would like to see the status quo retained. The Clerk confirmed a written response has already been sent.
- (iv) Reservoir Consultation - Hayleigh confirmed this was being led by Sally Povolotsky. The Clerk confirmed a response has been sent.

8. County Council Report

None

9. Planning

- (i) Applications to be considered by the Parish Council

None

- (ii) Applications Determined by the Vale

Permission for development to accommodate Data Research Centre. Land at Road 8 RAL P23/V2077/FUL
 Permission erection of ionosonde mast, associated antenna and hut with associated fencing. Land north of Upper Farm Road Chilton. P23/V2078

- (iii) Other Planning Issues

Mrs Andrews emailed regarding the erection of high fencing at Warren Piece (Upton Parish). This is agricultural land and fencing thought to be illegal. The Enforcement Officer has been informed. Land behind The George pub in Upton (Upton Parish). Members brought to Hayleigh's attention that there appears to be non agricultural activity at the site and suggested this was also raised with the Enforcement Officer.
 Gore Hill Farm - an enforcement case has been raised.

Action: Cllr Hayleigh Gascoigne to check that the Enforcement Officer has received the e:mail from Mrs Andrews concerning Warren Piece and ask whether an endorsement case has been raised. Similarly, whether he is aware of the activity on the land behind The George pub in Upton.

Action: Cllr Hayleigh Gascoigne to check progress regarding the enforcement case for Gore Hill Farm.

10. Matters Arising

- (i) Natalie Weston of the Highways Engagement Team will be visiting Chilton on 24/09/24 at 10:30. It is proposed to raise two issues. Firstly, the installation of white lines on Church Hill to remind drivers that it is narrow and to drive carefully. Secondly, to discuss the verge adjacent to the Post Office where the trees need to be cut back. This was previously done by OCC. It was agreed that she should also be told about the pothole issue on Hagbourne Hill and asked to advise who the Parish Council needs to speak to at OCC regarding the ongoing flooding issues in The Lane.

11. Finance

- (i) Expenditure

Cheques

24. Mrs Morris - July salary, expenses and postage	412.52
26. Parish on Line renewal	45.00
27. Mrs Morris - Chronicle 514	165.60
28. Bibby Financial Services (Tactical Facilities) July bins	96.66
29. Mr Urso-Cale - Amphi-Fest expenditure	735.18
30. Ms K Adams - Community room cleaning	300.00
31. Mrs M Leigh - Material for Village Hall curtains	1459.92
32. Helpful Hirings – generator for Amphi-Fest	525.24
Total	3740.12

- (ii) Income

SA Clothing Bank

110.57

Returned Petty Cash

62.21



VAT refund (up to end June 24)
31381.68

31554.46

Balances

Treasurers Account	500.00
Instant Access	6486.22
Business Account	215367.43

- (iii) The external auditor asked for a breakdown of funds into restricted and ring-fenced funds.
- (iv) Sawscapes have inspected the wooden climbing logs. Their report has been circulated and was discussed at meeting.
- (v) The Amphi-Fest fund was 1463.95, there was expenditure of 1172.88, leaving a balance of 291.07.
- (vi) Grass cutting in Village is a bit behind as Lee Collins has been in hospital.

12. VHMC Report

Mr Broad reported that the VHMC have accepted a quote for redecorating the Main Hall. This includes the replacement of the suspended ceiling, removal of the wooden pelmets and painting the pine cupboard doors. Work is expected to be done during October half-term. The quote has been accepted for fitting the electronic key lock to the existing Village Hall door. The simplification of the Bookings Policy is in progress. Mr Broad confirmed that the patio has been 'parked' until next year and may request use of 106 funds. The next meeting is on Monday 16th September.

13. Play Equipment Inspection

Following the report from RoSPA identifying that 4 logs on the wooden climbing logs needed replacing Sawscapes have also inspected the equipment and they identified 8 logs needed attention. Their estimates for replacements were around £1.5k for 4 or £2.5k for 8 logs. There was discussion about the level of use of the piece of equipment, it was noted that the equipment was over 10 years old, and suggested it might be better to remove it rather than repair it. A balance of £3,048 is still available from the play equipment grant. It was noted that the board from the spring rocker still needs to be refitted.

As discussed at the previous meeting it was agreed that following the resignation of Mr Girling the Chilton Fields Councillors would take on the inspection of the Chilton Field gym equipment and toddler play area.

Action: The Clerk will re-send the latest report received from Mr Girling and the Sawscapes template for the playing field inspection to Chris Clements as examples that can be adapted for Chilton Fields.

Action: The Clerk to write to The Landscape Group asking them to strim round the tube slide and the rocker boards area.

Action: Clerk to request estimate from Sawscapes for the removal of the climbing logs and to ask them to refit the board to the spring rocker during their next visit in October.

Action: Frank Dumbleton to do the next playing field inspection and one of the Councillors on Chilton Fields to do the Chilton Fields one.

14. Correspondence

- (i) E:mail received from Mrs Andrews regarding the erection of high fencing at Warren Piece (Upton Parish). Discussed under planning.
- (ii) Paddock behind allotments, grass is getting very long in places - discussed during Open Forum.
- (iii) Parish on Line – next time the Clerk logs on, the Aerial Photography Great Britain licence needs to be updated.
- (iv) Salt bins - status.
Action: Clerk to respond regarding the current status of salt bins. Members requested to check bins by Garden Centre and on South Row.
- (v) Vale deep clean in Chilton 19th November - discussion about how previous deep cleans had led to damage to paving.
- (vi) Responses sent to Boundary Commission and SESRO re reservoir - discussed during District Council Report.

- (vii) Virtual Planning Training session on 3rd or 8th October.
Action: Anyone wishing to attend should notify the Clerk.
- (viii) Joint local Plan – soon be a further consultation - discussed during District Council Report.
- (v) Mr Broad reported that he and Mr Clements are looking into the use of a robot mower on the large Public Open Space in Chilton Field. There was discussion regarding potential issues relating to vandalism. It was suggested that examples of the use of such mowers by other Local Authorities for similar purposes should be sought. Edinburgh City Council was suggested.
Action: Clerk to write to Nurture to request an estimate of their cost for grass cutting the large open space to enable a cost comparison to be made.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

