

**Minutes of the Chilton Parish Council Planning Meeting held on Monday 3rd February 2025 at
8.00pm in the Village Hall**

Present	Mr C Broad	Chairman
	Mr F Dumbleton	
	Mr C Clements	
	Dr M Hansard	
	Mr M Urso-Cale	
	Dr J E Berry	Parish Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence were received from Dr J A Berry.
2. Declarations of Interest
Members were asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of the interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting. No interests were declared.
3. Open Forum
Nine members of the public attended the meeting, voicing concerns about this specific application and more broadly about issues in the use of Avon Road. They actively participated in discussion with the Parish Council.
4. P24/V2752/FUL for development work at the following location: Land north of Avon Road, Harwell Campus. The application was for the retention of car park and hoarding for a temporary period of 6 months.

There was extensive discussion about this application and about the most effective way to try and influence the outcome. It was noted that there had been no planning application for the car park which had been a change in use of grassland; this application is made for the retention of the car park. The Chair recommended that the Parish Council did not object to the application but requested conditions. The final agreed text for submission to the Vale Planning Dept was:

'The Parish Council does not object to the principle of this retrospective application for the car park and hoarding for a temporary period of 6 months. But we have a number of serious concerns and we want the following conditions to be applied if it is approved.

1. Clarification of the 6-month period requested in the application, its start and end dates. At the end of this period the land should be reinstated to its previous state.
2. The Council seek clarification of the precise boundaries of the car park. It appears to already be operating in a larger area than that identified in the plan and including some of the area designated on the Moderna Project Plans as Not for SISK Parking .
3. The application does not include 'Hours of Operation'- the Council wants a condition added to restrict use to between 7:30 and 18:00 hours (Mon-Fri) and 7:30-12:00 (Saturday) to reduce the noise (vehicles and the on-site generator) and lighting impacts, on residents living on the adjoining Avon Road and Chilton Field Way.
4. The use of this car park has intensified the use of Avon Road. The road is not designed to cope with this level of traffic, it is prone to flooding in places and the heavy traffic is causing the surface to break-up. The traffic is also causing safety concerns for local residents, who include both elderly people and children. Vehicles using the car park have been seen speeding along this 20mph road. More broadly, in the future it is requested that any further applications for the use of this land consider alternative access routes.'

During the discussion several other issues were raised concerning the use of Avon Road and Severn Road. These included:

- Speeding - a resident had accompanied Harwell Campus Security during vehicle speed testing. Speeds well in excess of the 20mph speed limit were noted and one vehicle was caught travelling at 57mph. The speeding is posing a safety hazard to both children walking to school and the elderly residents of Avon Road. Due to Severn Road and Avon Road being private roads, there is no enforcement of the 20mph limit.
- Complaints about the lack of communication and consultation by Harwell Campus and the Moderna development team with Avon Road residents.
- Several residents complained about the noise and lighting associated with the temporary carpark and it was noted that in some cases drivers of delivery vehicles were staying overnight in their vehicles with no sanitation facilities provided.
- Concerns were raised that once the Moderna construction phase is completed the temporary car park will continue to be used for other new developments on Harwell Campus.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would pick these issues up directly with Harwell Campus.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.00pm.