

BLEWBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Meeting of the Parish Council

held in the Vale Room on Wednesday 11th October 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Councillors present: Mr C Lakeland (Chair), Mrs J Gibson (JG), Mr M Shayler (MS), Mrs L Inglis (LI), Mr M Penington (MP), Ms Miriam Jacobs (MJ), Mr David Lomas (DL), Mr Mark Blythe (MB), Mrs Charlotte Cameron (CC) **Also present:** Michelle Taylor (clerk), Mr David Hollick (Lengthman)

Matters resolved:

1. Parish Council Insurance renewed for another 3 years
2. Grant application signed for 'Awards for all'
3. A decision was made to pursue discussions with Mike Evans and David Flynn as to whether it was feasible for them to take on the running of the clubhouse
4. It was confirmed that £6,500.00 S106 MUGA money from the Vale of White Horse District Council had been approved for use on a fitness trail.
5. Audited annual return approved and accepted.

Actions arising from the meeting	Target date
1. Clerk to email County Councillor Fox-Davies regarding grant funds towards tree which was felled on Bohams Road.	As soon as possible
2. Lengthman and Cllr Shayler to obtain quotes for matting replacement at the Play Space	By next meeting
3. Lengthman to email Clerk with a list of items required for service and renewal at the Play Space and TFF.	As soon as possible
4. Clerk to contact White Horse Horticultural to discuss when the spraying of the paths will be complete.	As soon as possible
5. Lengthman to trim down rose bushes at TFF	By next meeting
6. Cllr David Lomas and the working group to formulate a letter of intent to Mike Evans and David Flynn reference the Blewbury Clubhouse, and to liaise with CIC existing directors-Clerk to be kept fully informed of all matters especially financial and copied in to any proposals	As soon as possible
7. Cllr Gibson and Cllr Lakeland to review and update emergency plan.	As soon as possible
8. Lengthman to trim back overgrown vegetation around benches at the Play Close.	As soon as possible
9. Cllr Mark Blythe to contact Ed Hall reference updates on the gallops, along with a possible monthly/quarterly update	By next meeting
Urgent Actions to be followed up at next meeting	
1. Safety matting	

11/10/17 1. To receive apologies for absence. Apologies County Councillor Fox-Davies and District Councillor's Janet Shelley and Reg Waite.

11/10/17 2. To record declarations of interest. No declarations were made.

11/10/17 3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 13th September 2017
The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.

11/10/17 4. To receive the County Councillor's report. County Councillor's report was circulated prior to the meeting. See Annex A. **Action:** Clerk to email County Councillor Fox-Davies regarding grant funds towards tree which was felled on Bohams Road.

11/10/17 5. To receive the District Councillor's report. District Councillor's report was circulated prior to meeting. See Annex B.

11/10/17 6. To receive the Lengthman's report. The report was circulated prior to the meeting. See Annex C. Further concerns have been expressed about the safety matting underlying swing equipment at the TTF play area, along with the safety matting on the approach to the zip wire ramp,

and also the safety matting at the bottom of the tube slide. **Action:** Lengthman and Cllr Shayler to obtain quotes for matting replacement at the Play Space TFF. Concerns were raised about the condition of the seats for both the zip wire, and long swings at the play space. **Action:** Lengthman to email Clerk with a list of items required for renewal at the Play Space and TFF. It was reported that the paths around the village had not been sprayed ready for the winter season. **Action:** Clerk to contact White Horse Horticultural to discuss when the spraying of the paths will be complete. Concerns were raised over the height of the rose bushes at TFF. **Action:** Lengthman to trim down rose bushes at TFF.

11/10/17 7. Open Forum. -Nothing discussed.

11/10/17 8. Matters arising

8.1. To report back on actions arising at previous meeting. All actions were taken, apart from Safety matting.

11/10/17 9. Village hall redevelopment

9.1 To receive an update on the progress of the working party and fundraising if available. Updated documents from Ridge and Partners were received, along with West Waddy. Meeting has been arranged with West Waddy Thursday 18th October 2017 to discuss future plans and costings of refurbishment project for the village hall.

9.2 To receive a report from Macfarlanes LLP. A confidential report was given.

11/10/17 10. Recreation Ground

10.1 To receive an update from working group on the future of the clubhouse. A proposal was discussed that the CIC in some form would continue the running of the Clubhouse. A decision was made that BPC explore the possibility of Mike Evans and David Flynn taking on the running of the Clubhouse **Action:** Cllr David Lomas and the working group to formulate a letter of intent to Mike Evans and David Flynn reference the Blewbury Clubhouse, and to liaise with CIC existing directors- Clerk to be kept fully informed of all matters especially financial and copied in to any proposals.

11/10/17 11. Planning & Housing

11.1 To receive the planning committee report. See Annex D for the planning report.

11.2 To approve responses to current applications:

P17/V2281/LB

Hall Barn Close Chapel Lane Blewbury Didcot OX11 9PQ

Proposed alterations. **Parish Council has no objection.**

P17/V2280/HH

Hall Barn Close Chapel Lane Blewbury Didcot OX11 9PQ

Proposed alterations. **Parish Council has no objection.**

11/10/17 12. Finance & Administration

12.1 To receive an update on S106 contributions. It was confirmed that £6,500.00 MUGA money from the Vale of White Horse District Council had been approved. It was expressed that BPC can apply for further S106 funds, for which can be used for individual Capital projects over the next 10 years.

12.2 To approve and accept the audited annual return- Approved and accepted.

12.3 To approve payments to be made under ancillary powers and within budgeted amounts

All payments were approved.

PAYEE	Description / Power to spend	Amount
E de Ridder	Clerk's salary and expenses	£248.72
M Taylor	Clerk's salary and expenses	£689.57
D Hollick	Lengthman's salary and expenses	£256.79

NEST	Clerk's pension	£61.48
Post Office Ltd	PAYE & NI	£1,060.96
BT Payment Services Ltd	Clubhouse line rental and Wifi	£27.00
Biffa Waste Services Ltd	Waste services	£76.74
BDO LLP	Audited Annual Return	£480.00
PWLB	Loan repayment	£4,890.00
Ridge & Partners LLP	Payments relating to the Village Hall refurbishment	£5,280.00
Blewbury Hall Executive Management Committee	Grant towards Post Office rent	£300.00
Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens Advice	Grant from BPC	£150.00
Jenks Oxford Ltd	Felling of dead tree adjacent to cemetery	£630.00
Total		£14,151.26

11/10/17 13. Risk Management

- 13.1 05/01/17 To receive an update on resurfacing and replacement of safety matting at the Play Space. No quote has yet been received for the replacement of safety matting (**Action brought forward Lengthman**).
- 13.2 11/10/2017 To review our Emergency Plan. It was agreed that Cllr Jane Gibson, along with Cllr Lakeland would review and update Blewbury Parish Emergency Plan. **Action:** Cllr Gibson and Cllr Lakeland to review and update.

11/10/17 14. **To receive an update on any issues relating to the Environment.** Nothing to report.

11/10/17 15. **To receive an update on any issues relating to Footways, Footpaths, rights of way and open spaces.** Concerns were raised over the vegetation around the metal benches on the Play Close. **Action:** Lengthman to trim back overgrown vegetation around benches. Concerns over the landscape of the gallops within Blewbury were raised. **Action:** Cllr Mark Blythe to contact Ed Hall reference updates on the gallops, along with a possible monthly/quarterly update.

15.1 Update on FP24. Clerk reported the tree has now been felled.

11/10/17 16. **To receive an update on the outdoor Gym Equipment.** It was reported that the MUGA money will be based on a quote for 6 items at TFF.

11/10/17 17. **To receive an update on any issues relating to roads, road safety and public transport.** Local Plan 2 meeting was raised. Cllr Gibson and Cllr Inglis to attend on the 15th November.

11/10/17 18. **Village Hall Management Committee.** *To receive an update from the VHMC.* -Nothing to report.

11/10/17 19. Correspondence

19.1 Items requesting a reply & consultations

19.1.1 National Highway and Transport Public Satisfaction Survey - Member Consultation (Completed)

19.2 Items for information that have been circulated

19.2.1 Right of Way Email -Definitive maps

13/9/17 20. **Any other business.** *Exceptionally to deal with business received too late for inclusion in agenda.*

Nothing discussed.

13/9/17 21. **To set the date of the next meeting.** The next Parish Council meeting will be on 8th November 2017.

Meeting closed 20:58pm

Annex A:

REPORT TO BLEWBURY PARISH COUNCIL OCTOBER 2017
FROM CLLR MIKE FOX-DAVIES

GENERAL OCC REPORT

OXFORDSHIRE GROWTH BOARD BACKS INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING BID

The Oxfordshire Growth Board* has provided unanimous support for an application to the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) as part of a package of investment to deliver transport infrastructure. The funding bid for up to £500 million was submitted on 28 September by OCC as the county's transport authority. Money is sought to bring forward infrastructure investment to pump-prime three major development schemes:

1. Didcot Garden Town – £171m is bid for transport improvements including a Didcot Science Bridge and A4130 dual carriageway, a new river crossing at Culham and Clifton Hampden Bypass. This would support the delivery of over 22,000 homes in Didcot, Culham, Harwell and Berinsfield. Additionally up to £70m of cycle and other sustainable transport improvements are proposed for inclusion in the bid plan.
2. West Oxfordshire Garden Village – £135.4m is bid for further upgrades to the A40, building on existing schemes and based on the approved A40 Long Term Strategy including development of the Rapid Transit network and additional highway capacity on A40 transport corridor. This would support the delivery of over 10,000 homes in Witney & Carterton, and around Eynsham.
3. North of Oxford – £152m is bid for the development of Rapid Transit lines on upgraded A44 and A4260 corridors, a new Park & Ride, and strategic cycle infrastructure plus. Support is also sought for additional education requirements (as yet un-costed). This would support the delivery of 5,570 homes in Woodstock, Begbroke/Yarnton and the Northern Gateway.

The bids submitted to the £2.3 billion Housing Infrastructure Fund are ranked as above according to the Government's scoring method, with the guidance that the strongest bid be put first. The Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy, commissioned by the Growth Board, was used to identify infrastructure priorities that offered the prospect of a step-change in housing provision in a defined area. The Government will consider Oxfordshire's bids along with those from other areas and the highest ranking schemes will go through to a second stage in Spring 2018, with final funding awards announced from Summer 2018.

The HIF funding bids complement other work being conducted by the Growth Board to secure investment in transport, schools, hospitals and other infrastructure needed to support the predicted growth in population, and meet the future needs of Oxfordshire families, their children and grandchildren in terms of jobs and homes across the county to 2040 and beyond. This includes discussions with the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) over the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Growth Corridor. It also involves linked discussions with Government - supported by both Oxford Universities - over a Housing and Growth Package for Oxfordshire to help unlock the benefits of the county's strong and growing knowledge-intensive economy.

*The Oxfordshire Growth Board comprises the six councils: Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, Oxfordshire County Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council, together with the county's Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP).

TENTH PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED

Oxfordshire's Director of Public Health has published his tenth Public Health Annual Report. It is an independent report about the state of health in Oxfordshire and the challenges facing the county and its residents. It is written in a very readable style and can be found here <http://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=148&Mid=5106>MORE

MORE CHANCES FOR OPEN ACCESS CHILDREN'S SERVICES START-UP FUNDING

The council last year opened a £1m Transition Fund to help schemes for nought to five-year-olds get off the ground at locations formerly served by children's centres. To date a total of 27 projects have been awarded funding – in addition to open access sessions at the council's network of eight family centres. The final round of applications ended earlier this year, with £232,000 remaining unallocated. OCC's Cabinet has agreed to reopen the applications process to enable new groups to come forward with their plans. The funding criteria will be broadened to allow groups to apply for grants in locations not previously served by children's centres, or where a children's centre has been repurposed – for instance, as a nursery. Community groups interested in finding out more about the Transition Fund and running open access children's services should contact localities@oxfordshire.gov.uk

NEW ERA FOR DAYTIME SUPPORT IN OXFORDSHIRE

A new system of delivering daytime support services in Oxfordshire came in to operation on 1st October. Eight new centres** will provide support for more than 500 older people or people with a learning disability who have been assessed as having an eligible need and some other people who do not have an assessed need. The changes follow a consultation with service users and their families in late 2016 in which they were given the opportunity to have a wide-ranging input in to how the new service should take shape. Within the council's new £4.5m service there are 1,600 days of support per week (3,200 sessions) being provided across the eight locations. Each centre will have its own fleet of family-size vehicles, some of which will be adapted. These will be used to transport people to and from the centres and will be driven by staff from the Community Support Service. There will be a number of options for meals, including: staff supporting people to eat out at a local café, cooking as part of a small group, paying towards a group meal prepared by others, a simple hot meal prepared by staff, and people bringing in their own pre-prepared meal or light lunch if they wish to.

**The centres are located at Audlett Drive, Abingdon; Neithrop Avenue, Banbury; Launton Road, Bicester; Britwell Road, Didcot; Agward Stone Road, Horspath Driftway, Oxford; High Street, Wallingford; Charlton Village Road, Wantage; and Moorland Road, Witney.

FREE ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING OFFERED AS THE WINTER MONTHS APPROACH

People in Oxfordshire who have electric blankets to keep them warm on chilly nights are again being urged to get them tested free by OCC Trading Standards & Fire and Rescue Services. In 2016, 21% of blankets tested failed to meet safety requirements. Blanket testing this year is taking place at the following locations during October:

Oxford - Monday 2 October
Banbury - Tuesday 3 October
Witney - Wednesday 4 October
Wallingford - Thursday 5 October
Abingdon - Friday 6 October
Oxford - Monday 16 October
Bicester - Tuesday 17 October
Chipping Norton - Wednesday 18 October
Thame - Thursday 19 October
Wantage - Friday 20 October

To book a safety check appointment call 01865 898642
or email: communityengagement@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Specific issues relating to Blewbury

Steventon Bridge, now unlikely to be any start on the construction before April 2019.

Annex B: **Blewbury Parish Council**
District Notes for Parish Councillors on Wednesday, 11 October 2017
from Cllr Janet Shelley & Cllr Reg Waite

-0-0-0-0-

Apologies:

Cllrs Janet Shelley and Reg Waite tender their apologies for absence due to them being summoned to a full Council Meeting.

-0-0-0-0-

Enforcement Investigations:

VE17/559 – Flat Favonia, Church Estate, Blewbury OX11 9HE

Reported: 27 September 2017

Alleged breach: Without planning permission the conversion of a garage building to a separate dwelling.

Case Officer: Anne Wilkinson

6 week target date – 8 November 17 12 week target date – 20 December 2017

Site visited: 26 October 2017. Under investigation

VE17/494 – Chailey House, Bessels Way, Blewbury

Reported: 24 August 2017

Alleged breach: Landscaping not undertaken in accordance with the scheme approved by P15/V0471/FUL.

Case Officer: Heather Rowe

6 week target date – 5 October 17. 12 week target date – 16 November 17.

Site visited: 7 September 17. **Still under investigation.**

VE17/451 – Chailey House, Bessels Way, Blewbury

Reported: 8 August 2017

Alleged breach: Breach of condition 12 of P15/V0471/FUL – no occupation of dwellings prior to completion of access and highway works.

Case Officer: Heather Rowe

6 week target date – 19 September 17. 12 week target date – 31 October 17

Site visited: 15 August 17; 7 September 17 and **27 September 2017.**

Still under investigation

VE17/289 – The Red Lion, Chapel Lane, Blewbury OX11 9PQ

Reported: 25 May 2017

Alleged breach: Without planning permission the erection of a building.

Case Officer: Anne Wilkinson

Site visited: 8 June 2017

6 week target date – 6 July 2017. 12 week target date – 17 August 2017

Retrospective planning application submitted 14 Aug 17 – P17/V1951/FUL/

Consultation 23 Aug – 27 September. **Planning application submitted.**

VE17/223 – Unit 3, Eastfield Farm, Woodway Road, Blewbury

Reported: 21 April 2017

Alleged breach: Unauthorised change of use of an agricultural building to B2 industrial use.

Case Officer: Robert Cramp

Site visited: 4 May 2017

6 week target date – 2 June 2017. 12 week target date – 14 July 2017

Still under investigation.

-0-0-0-0-

Joint Housing Delivery Strategy:

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have identified the need to build a significant number of new homes over the next 14 to 16 years. This represents a considerable challenge for both districts.

The number of new homes we need, and the areas where they will be built, are detailed in the [South Oxfordshire](#) and [Vale of White Horse](#) Local Plans.

The new Joint Housing Delivery Strategy will work alongside our local plans to guide how we will meet our housebuilding targets by proactively working with landowners, developers, local communities and infrastructure providers, helping to bring sites forward and working with existing and new partners to develop innovative housing solutions.

Have your say on our draft Joint Housing Delivery Strategy

You can now have your say on the draft version of our Joint Housing Delivery Strategy. This consultation is open until midnight on Monday 23 October.

- To view the document please click on - [draft Joint Housing Delivery Strategy \(5.4 MB\)](#) 
- To have your say please click on - [Joint Housing Delivery Strategy Consultation](#)
- To view the equality impact assessment of the proposed Joint Housing Delivery Strategy please click on - [Equality Impact Assessment \(103.0 KB\)](#) 

How the new strategy will work

It is important that developers are given clear guidance on the councils' priorities for delivering new homes of the right type, in the right place and at the right time, and which meet required housing standards.

We also recognise the need to actively seek out opportunities to buy land and explore partnerships to help us expand the range of housing options available to local residents in both districts, and/or secure the level of development required.

The principal aim of our strategy's ten-year action plan is to ensure we achieve the rate of housing delivery required to meet the growing need, as set out in the South Oxfordshire Local Plan and Vale of White Horse Local Plan. The action plan will allow us to initiate, develop and progress a range of initiatives that will encourage new house building that more closely reflects the aspirations and needs of people currently living, or wishing to live, in our districts.

-0-0-0-0-

Vale Local Plan 2031: Part Two:

A new housing site at Dalton Barracks will help meet the need for new homes in the Vale of White Horse and contribute to the requirement to assist with Oxford's unmet housing need.

That's according to Part Two of the Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 which the district council will publish on 11 October and expects to submit to the government for examination in early 2018.

Vale of White Horse District Council adopted part one of its Local Plan last year, in which it allocated the majority of the homes the district needs for the next 15 years, along with identifying the infrastructure the homes will need. A number of these houses are already built or have been granted planning permission.

The district council is now using part two of the plan to allocate space for the remaining 2,200 homes which will help address Oxford's unmet housing need.

The publication draft Local Plan: Part Two identifies the location for 1,200 homes at Dalton Barracks along with 600 homes adjacent to Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor (within Fyfield and Tubney Parish) and smaller sites at East Marcham and East Hanney.

The release of the site at Dalton Barracks was announced by the MOD. It is large and predominantly brownfield. Developing Dalton Barracks would provide an opportunity for a sustainable development, providing a new community with a range of services and facilities, including new schools, a local centre and opportunities for employment, all within easy reach of Abingdon and Oxford.

Allocating homes adjoining Kingston Bagpuize would provide an opportunity to re-route the A415 out of the existing village, effectively providing a bypass, and deliver a range of local infrastructure, including a new primary school.

As well as addressing Oxford's unmet need the Local Plan: Part Two also sets out policies relating to Didcot Garden Town and development management and proposes the allocation of an additional 1,400 homes to support Science Vale.

Based predominantly at Harwell Campus, these homes will help to ensure that housing is located close to new jobs and public transport. Following feedback on the previous draft, proposals for a development West of Harwell (100 homes) and North East of Marcham (400 homes) have been removed from the plan.

The council is mindful that the government is consulting people on 'Planning for the right homes in the right places', which considers how housing need is calculated. However, it is required to work on the existing housing needs figures until any new government guidelines are finalised and published and must also consider economic growth, affordable housing and the need for new infrastructure.

Local Plan 2031: Part Two will be released on Wednesday 11 October.

The Vale is organising events for residents to find out more and submit comments. These will include an exhibition from 4pm – 6.30pm followed by a public meeting at 7pm at –
- Wootton – Monday, 6th November at Dry Sandford Primary School
- Faringdon – Tuesday, 14th November at Corn Exchange
- **Harwell – Wednesday, 15th November at Harwell Village Hall**

Also see TODAY'S latest press release at the end of this report.

-0-0-0-0-

Time running out to apply for Vale community grants - £175,000 available to improve local facilities:

Communities looking to improve local facilities have just two weeks left if they wish to apply for a share of £175,000 available from Vale White Horse District Council.

The money can help fund a variety of facilities and improvements like building new skate parks or play areas, upgrading sports pavilions, improving a community hall or purchasing life-saving defibrillators.

The current round of applications closes at 4pm on 15 October and awards will be confirmed within 12 weeks.

Earlier this year the council awarded nearly £25,000 in grants, including more than £21,000 towards improvements to four village halls, and nearly £1,500 to Grove District Guides for camping equipment.

Time is running out, so if a local facility in your area could benefit from some improvement work, speak to whoever looks after it, as they may be able to apply to us for a grant.

For more information, visit www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants or contact the team at grants@southandvale.gov.uk or on 01235 422405.

-0-0-0-0-

Parish Partner Invitation:

I attended this meeting at The Beacon, Wantage last Thursday. Following the introduction attendees were split into several tables with each small group receiving 10 minutes presentation/discussion with the following officers –

- Dominic Lamb, Ecologist
- Paul Bowers, Development Management Officer
- Emma Turner, Enforcement Team Leader
- Avril Williams, Landscape Officer
- Samantha Allen, Conservation Officer
- Matt Gulord, Forestry Officer
- Emily Hamerton & Sarah James, Parish Partners

Parish Partners can be contacted on 01235 422600.

It is anticipated further group meetings with the Vale's Parish Partners will be held early in the New Year.

-0-0-0-0-

Waste:

If you are a **garden waste** customer, you can put out **extra garden waste** (equivalent to one extra brown-bin's worth) in bin liners or sacks on your collection day in the week commencing Monday, 16th October. See the council's website for more information.

Pumpkins – Once the trick-or-treating of Halloween is done, make sure your pumpkins go to good use. If you can't put them to use in the kitchen or composter, please recycle them with your food waste.

Simply cut them up and pop into your food waste bin or leave them out whole on your normal collection day.

-0-0-0-0-

Oxfordshire Growth Board backs infrastructure funding bid to support garden towns and villages

The Oxfordshire Growth Board has provided unanimous support for an application to the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) as part of a package of investment to deliver the transport infrastructure necessary to allow the development of new garden towns and villages across the county.

The funding bid for up to £500 million will be submitted by the county's transport authority Oxfordshire County Council on Thursday 28 September. Money is sought to bring forward infrastructure investment to pump-prime three major development schemes:

1. Didcot Garden Town – £171m is bid for transport improvements including a Didcot Science Bridge and A4130 dual carriageway, a new river crossing at Culham and Clifton Hampden Bypass. This would support the delivery of over 22,000 homes in Didcot, Culham, Harwell and Berinsfield. Additionally up to £70m of cycle and other sustainable transport improvements are proposed for inclusion in the bid plan.
2. West Oxfordshire Garden Village – £135.4m is bid for further upgrades to the A40, building on existing schemes and based on the approved A40 Long Term Strategy including development of the Rapid Transit network and additional highway capacity on A40 transport corridor. This would support the delivery of over 10,000 homes in Witney & Carterton, and around Eynsham.
3. North of Oxford – £152m is bid for the development of Rapid Transit lines on upgraded A44 and A4260 corridors, a new Park & Ride, and strategic cycle infrastructure plus. Support is also sought for additional education requirements (as yet un-costed). This would support the delivery of 5,570 homes in Woodstock, Begbroke/Yarnton and the Northern Gateway.

The bids submitted to the £2.3 billion Housing Infrastructure Fund are ranked as above according to the Government's scoring method, with the guidance that the strongest bid be put first.

The Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy, commissioned by the Growth Board, was used to identify infrastructure priorities that offered the prospect of a step-change in housing provision in a defined area.

The Government will consider Oxfordshire's bids along with those from other areas and the highest ranking schemes will go through to a second stage in Spring 2018, with final funding awards announced from Summer 2018.

The HIF funding bids complement other work being conducted by the Growth Board to secure investment in transport, schools, hospitals and other infrastructure needed to support the predicted growth in population, and meet the future needs of Oxfordshire families, their children and grandchildren in terms of jobs and homes across the county to 2040 and beyond. This includes discussions with the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) over the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Growth Corridor. It also involves linked discussions with Government - supported by both Oxford Universities - over a Housing and Growth Package for Oxfordshire to help unlock the benefits of the county's strong and growing knowledge-intensive economy.

Significant improvement in the local roads and other transport networks are a must if we are to cope with the housing growth Oxfordshire needs. This has always been at the heart of what we believe Didcot Garden Town can achieve. The bid for nearly £250m for the town is a strong one. The Leaders are certain that it will secure the investment needed to give the local economy a boost and to improve the quality of life in our area for generations to come.

The Oxfordshire Growth Board comprises the six councils: Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, Oxfordshire County Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council, together with and the county's Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP).

-0-0-0-0-

Time is running out to apply for rural project grants

Grants of up to £100,000 (up from £75,000 as reported in our earlier reports) are currently available to farmers, foresters, businesses and community groups for projects that support the local rural economy.

Individual projects can apply to the Oxfordshire LEADER programme and, under exceptional circumstances, they may qualify for even more money.

The LEADER programme aims to support a wide range of rural activities including: farm productivity and diversification, forestry productivity, tourism, community services, heritage and culture and small business development.

There's an Oxfordshire LEADER event on Tuesday 10 October at Standlake Village Hall to explain what funding is available for rural projects in and around Oxfordshire including the LEADER Programme, Growth Programme and Countryside Productivity Scheme.

The event will take place on Tuesday 10 October at Standlake Village Hall (OX29 7SB) – from 2-4pm. More information can be found via the website www.oxfordshireleader.org.uk

There is £1 million available but this must be allocated before March 2019 so we urge anyone with a viable scheme to get in touch and start the application process as soon as possible.

Since 2008 the programme has provided over a £1 million and supported a variety of projects including mooring by the River Thames, a microbrewery in an old farm building and a new village shop.

All grants under the Oxfordshire LEADER Programme must be allocated by March 2019. Anyone with a viable idea can contact Oxfordshire LEADER Programme Manager Sophie Milton by calling 01235 422245 or via oxfordshire.leader@sputhandvale.gov.uk

Note:

Money for the Oxfordshire LEADER Programme comes from DEFRA's Rural Development Programme for England and is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

The Oxfordshire LEADER Programme is being administered by South Oxfordshire District Council on behalf of Vale of White Horse, Cherwell and West Oxfordshire District Councils.

South Oxfordshire District Council previously oversaw the successful Southern Oxfordshire LEADER Programme between 2008 and 2013 which saw a total of 61 wide ranging projects receive a share of £1.2million in grants. These included a microbrewery in an old farm building, a cold store for turkey and goose sales, moorings by the River Thames and new village shops. These projects also attracted more than £2.5million grants from the private sector and other funding.

Local LEADER areas are limited to a maximum population of 150,000; however, other parts of Oxfordshire are covered by the Cotswolds, North Wessex Downs and Chilterns LEADER grant programmes.

-o-o-o-o-

Want your community event to be a Christmas cracker? Apply now for grant funding

Groups in the Vale of White Horse looking to hold an event in the run up to Christmas are being encouraged to apply for grant funding from the district council.

Vale of White Horse District Council has over £7,500 available to support local festivals and events arranged by non-profit community organisations.

With many areas looking to hold seasonal events, now is the perfect opportunity to secure some additional funding. Groups looking to hold a community event in 2018 are also welcome to apply.

Grants of up to £1,000 per application are available – they can cover up to 75 per cent of the total cost of staging an event that is open to the local community with at least 100 people due to attend.

Since launching the grants scheme in 2012 the council has helped to support events such as the Abingdon Cycle Festival, ATOM (Oxfordshire Science Festival), and fennel Festival. This year events taking place in Abingdon, Drayton, Faringdon and Wantage have all received a funding boost, including the Wantage Literary Festival and Drayton Village Fete.

Staging an event in your town or village can really bring the whole community together and help to attract more visitors to the area. With many communities planning their Christmas events this is the perfect opportunity to secure some additional funding. Alternatively, if you are planning an event that will take place in 2018 why not apply now so can you have the funding in place well ahead of schedule.

If you need help to fund a local event in the Vale of White Horse visit www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants.

-o-o-o-o-

Councils will return to Crowmarsh

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils have announced they intend to move to a new building on their former site at Crowmarsh Gifford.

The two councils have been in temporary accommodation since the fire that destroyed their offices in an arson attack in January 2015. They moved into a vacant building on Milton Park six months after the fire, where they have been ever since.

During that time the councils have investigated a wide range of options for their permanent home, and have now concluded that the most cost-effective solution is to move back to the site that is owned by South Oxfordshire District Council.

The councils will now work to prepare the site to build a new, smaller headquarters, which is more suited to their needs. The building will include a new council chamber for South Oxfordshire's committee meetings, while the Vale's committees will continue to take place in The Beacon in Wantage.

-0-0-0-0-

Residents invited to comment on Vale's Local Plan Part 2

Released TODAY – 11th October 2017

Vale of White Horse District Council has published part 2 of its Local Plan and invited residents to read it and send their comments in before 22 November.

The comments will then be submitted along with the Plan to the Secretary of State in the New Year. It will then be examined by a planning inspector later next year.

The council adopted part one of the Plan in 2016, which deals with the main strategic housing sites for the district, and identifies the main infrastructure that would be needed to support the new communities. Part 2 deals with more detailed policies the council will use to decide planning applications over the life of the Plan.

Part 2 also includes some housing sites the council has allocated to help deal with the city council's inability to meet its need for houses.

During the development of both parts of the Plan, the council has received thousands of comments from residents and organisations, which have helped shaped the Plan. Anybody who wants to have their comments submitted to the Secretary of State, should comment at this stage, even if they have done so previously.

This is a more technical stage of the process and the planning inspector will give more weight to comments based on the technical "soundness" of the Plan – the council has created a short video and a guidance note to explain what this means, to help residents provide effective comments.

The Plan, video, guidance note and details on how to comment are available at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/LPP2

The council is inviting residents to come along and find out more about the Plan at a series of drop-in events and public meetings throughout October and November at the following locations:

Exhibitions from 4 to 6.30pm followed by public meetings from 7 to 8.30pm

- Monday 6 November: Abingdon and Witney College, Abingdon Campus, Wootton Road, Abingdon, OX14 1GG
- Tuesday 14 November: Corn Exchange, Gloucester Street, Faringdon, SN7 7JA
- **Wednesday 15 November: Harwell Village Hall, High Street, Harwell, OX11 0EX**

Community Awards:

Last chance to submit any proposed applications – by next Tuesday please.

JS & RWW 11 October 2017

Annex C:

A quiet month . Grass growth is gradually slowing down and footpaths are in good condition.

Tree and shrub pruning has been done in the cemetery and brash taken to the TFF bonfire site. The rest of the cemetery is looking good.

Complete cutting back of the shrub roses in the corner of the Recreation Ground car park has been done and cuttings also taken to the bonfire. Looks much better and will be more controllable next year with good new growth.

Equipment is in good condition except for the Ferris (the Beast) which has an oil leak on the engine. This is booked in for service and inspection of the leak in December.

Playground equipment is good, but we still need to replace the posts on the skate park area. We have these in stock.

The KAP play area has been used for drinking in the evenings by the look of all the cider and beer bottles in the bin!

One slight issue is that the Tennis Club have been dumping leaves from the courts in the TFF car park area.

Peter Cockrell's wild flower area has been cut in TFF. All the fruit trees in the orchard area seem to have taken and are doing well.

David

Annex D:

Planning report for Parish Council – November 2017

Planning Applications

All Blewbury planning applications, decisions and Parish Council responses, including items under consideration, can be found in the 'Parish' section of the Blewbury website (<http://blewbury.co.uk/parish/planning/>), which is updated once a week. Links are also provided to the main Vale Planning site, where full details can be obtained.

Responses from the Parish Council:

P17/V2280/HH Hall Barn Close, Chapel Lane

Proposed alterations.
Parish Council has no objection

P17/V2281/LB Hall Barn Close Chapel Lane

Proposed alterations
Parish Council has no objection.

Decisions from the District Council:

P17/V2270/HH Kerran, London Road

Widen dropped kerb from property.
Granted.

P17/V2336/HH Summersby, Bessels Way

Proposed new single story Garden room (as amended by plans received on 5th and 13th September 2017).
Granted.

P17/V1951/FUL Red Lion, Chapel Lane

Retrospective application for the erection of play equipment in the pub's garden.
Granted.

Enquiries regarding planning in the parish may be sent to blewburypc@gmail.com