

Parish Council news

Damaged 30mph sign at the junction of Manor Road and Parker Road

One of the things parishioners expect is at the parish council will get things done when they themselves have tried without success – but even the parish council does not always succeed, as this story shows.

In May 2017, as I understand it, a parishioner observed a delivery vehicle reverse into the 30mph sign at the junction of Parker Road and Manor Road, and reported it immediately on FixMyStreet.

Contractors came out to make it safe and this picture, taken a year later, is how it has looked ever since.

I contacted the County Council repeatedly. I finally pulled strings by involving the County Council's Parish Council Liaison Team and in June 2018 I thought the problem was going to be tackled. The County Council wrote to me on 14th June saying: "The traffic team have agreed that the replacement sign will just be a non-illuminated speed limit one on a parallel post. The illuminated Give Way is not necessary, the road markings are adequate by current standards for this level of road hierarchy and it is part of the reduction of sign clutter and energy use reduction.

The old signpost stub will be disconnected and removed as part of a batch of similar works, apologies it is taking so long but we still only have a temporary 'emergencies/urgent works' contractor at the moment."

Not too bad a result, I thought. But less than a fortnight later, I received this message from an unnamed person on behalf of the County Council: "I have visited the site and assessed the problem that you have identified. Unfortunately, it doesn't meet our current intervention criteria, so I cannot arrange a repair."

It looks as if the village will be stuck with this minor eyesore for a very long time! But at least it probably is not dangerous, unlike some of the other things the parish council is trying to get sorted.



The Parish Records

After Maggie Rawcliffe resigned from the parish council, bringing to an end 19 years of exceptional service, she passed over to me many of the records of the parish which had been in her care.

I have now started to deposit these in the Oxfordshire History Centre to ensure their preservation but also to provide full public access.

At the heart of the parish records are minutes going all the way back to 1894 when the 1894 Local Government Act first created parish meetings and parish councils.

But there are other items recording how the parish arranged celebration of the present Queen's Coronation in 1953 and how South Hinksey prepared for a possible invasion of Britain by Nazi Germany in World War Two.

David Wilkins

Longstanding residents will, I'm sure, be sorry to hear of the recent death of someone who played a role in the life of South Hinksey for well over 40 years: David Wilkins, Clerk of the Parish from September 1962 to April 2007.

His son Ian telephoned me on Monday 9th July after the funeral to say that his father had suffered a fall last month and that had led all too quickly to his death on 26th June at the age of 79.

The name Wilkins Court in the village was chosen by the Council as a tribute to his long service to the parish.

His remains are to join those of his wife, who died in March 2014, in the parish burial ground.

*Geoffrey Ferres
Parish Clerk*

Maggie Rawcliffe

On behalf of us all in the Parish I would like to extend our sincerest thanks to Maggie for her unstinting service on the Parish Council over the last 21 years.

Maggie and I served together for a number of years on SHPC. I was Chairperson for a time until I ran out of steam and Maggie then went on to complete the marathon. We would often jest that we had been handed the poisoned chalice. Contrary to what some might think, the job of Parish Councillor does not come with a variety of mysterious powers and privileges. It is often a thankless task wherein you are damned if you do and damned if you don't and everything that doesn't suit is your fault! It takes stamina, devotion and a love of community to serve as Maggie has done and she has these qualities in abundance.

Few will know that it is Maggie who has given parishioners a voice. In the early days, parishioners were obliged to sit at the back of the hall and could neither address the meeting nor place items on the agenda. Maggie worked hard to overturn this archaic procedure and now the Parish Council is somewhere where you can express a point of view, place an item of importance on the agenda and voice issues of concern about our community. This and so much more is down to the efforts of Maggie over this impressive passage of time.

Being a Parish Council Chairperson is not just about attending a monthly meeting. The demands on personal time are harsh given the amount of additional work required on other Committees, attending a diverse range of

workshops and projects and keeping an eye on the wellbeing of parishioners. Maggie has served selflessly and, although now retired from SHPC, is still active in so many ways on behalf of us all, and, as a community, we thank you Maggie!

Phil Saugman

An update from the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme

It has been an exciting few months for the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme team. We submitted the planning application for the scheme to Oxfordshire County Council in March. The submission included our detailed design drawings, Planning Statement and the Environmental Statement. Oxfordshire County Council carried out a public consultation which ran for 5 weeks until mid June 2018, and the public commented on the application. If you are interested, all the information is still available to view on the Oxfordshire County Council planning application website (reference number MW.0028/18). The Council is now considering the application and we are hopeful a final planning decision will be made in the autumn.

As most local residents will be aware by now, the scheme will run through the existing floodplain from just north of Botley Road, down to south of the A423 near Kennington. We will lower the natural floodplain in this area so it can carry more floodwater. We will remove material to create a natural looking watercourse which will always carry water, and a wider shallower area to the side of this, which will be planted

with vegetation and will only carry water in times of higher flows. This “two-stage channel” imitates the natural floodplain whilst making more space for water to flow during flooding.

The scheme makes use of this natural channel design and existing streams as much as possible, keeping hard engineering to a minimum. There will be some permanent defences built to protect houses which would otherwise still flood. These include new flood embankments and flood wall at South Hinksey. Once complete the scheme will reduce flood risk to all properties currently at risk of flooding from the River Thames in Oxford.

Building bridges

We have designed new bridges for the scheme area where needed to keep existing footpaths, cycleways, bridleways and access across the new two-stage channel. These will include a new footbridge at North Hinksey and two larger bridges that can carry maintenance vehicles at Willow Walk and the Devil’s Backbone. We have designed these to be in keeping with the surrounding environment as much as possible. We have worked with our partners within local councils to make sure that no bridge is larger than it needs to be, whilst still meeting the strict

Highways Authority standards that are required for new bridges.

The bridge at the Devil’s Backbone will be in the same location as the existing Devil’s Backbone path. The new bridge will have 1.4m high handrails to protect users. The bridge will also meet the requirements for vehicle access, to be used occasionally by maintenance vehicles.

While these bridges are being constructed a footpath diversion will be put in place. We are working with the approving authority to minimise the size of the diversion.

In our 2017 public consultation we presented a number of options for bridge design which all met the Highways Authority Standards for use by vehicles, cyclists and horses, as well as accessibility guidelines for wheelchair users. The public's preferred design choice for the railings was a hardwood handrail and curved profile uprights in corten steel, and this is the design being taken forward. Corten steel has a natural brown colour, which will blend into the natural surroundings. The abutments supporting the bridge on each side will be clad with local stone.

Long term legacy

The scheme will bring additional environmental benefits beyond just reduced flood risk, and how we maintain and care for the scheme area after construction is complete is a crucial part of this. Ongoing maintenance will include regular tasks such as weed clearance and structural checks, desilting, blockage removal and grass cutting, as well as ensuring the scheme enhances the local ecosystems and habitats in the long term. The nature of the scheme means maintenance as a whole is inextricably linked with the landscape and habitat management. For example, the second-stage wider part of the channel has been designed to be grazed by cattle.

We are working to ensure firm maintenance plans are in place for the next 100 years. We have already secured funding for the first 10 years of maintenance. We are currently considering a number of options for managing the land in the longer term.

One possible approach we are exploring is to work in partnership with an established environmental organisation, which would then be able to take the lead in managing the habitat-related maintenance. Such an approach would ensure the scheme continues to function, whilst also creating a focus on additional environmental improvements over the long-term. We will also use our operational budgets and capabilities and permissive powers under the 1991 Water Resources Act to maintain the main elements of the scheme to retain its flood risk role and our wider environmental obligations.

Over the coming months we will continue our discussions around the future maintenance of the scheme with our partners, landowners and stakeholders. With firm funding already in place for the scheme's first 10 years, we are in a strong position to establish the very best plan for the area beyond this. To ensure not only that the scheme is maintained, but that the landscape and habitats of the area see further enhancements well into the future.

Forward look

Construction is currently expected to start in spring 2019 and will take approximately 3 years to complete. As part of the construction approximately 400,000m³ of material will need to be removed from the flood plain and transported to restoration sites. This will unfortunately result in a large number of unavoidable lorry movements. Working hours will be confirmed by Oxfordshire County Council, as part of the planning application decision. Further detail will be shared once our contractor has been appointed and more detailed plans have been developed.

We will continue to update the South Hinksey community about the scheme's progress and if you would like to sign up to our newsletters please email oxfordscheme@environment-agency.gov.uk, or follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/OxfordFAS> or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/oxfordscheme/>

Oxford Flood Scheme

We are changing the way you contact us from 1st September 2018

For appointments or to speak to a clinician please telephone

01865 730911

For administrative matters such as chasing a referral, to check on a result or to update your records please telephone

01865 248719

Botley Medical Centre and Kennington Health Centre

Newsletter

July 2018

Telephoning the Surgery



Dr Chadwick's Retirement



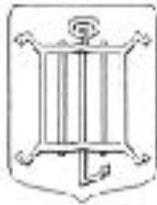
Dr Chadwick would like to thank all those who came to his retirement tea, especially in such heat. He had a splendid time.

*Caroline Jones
Practice Manager*

St Laurence Church – from Fr James Wilkinson, the Vicar

St Laurence, Patron of our Parish

Our celebration of St Laurence is fast approaching, and although his feast day is actually the 10th August we will be anticipating it on Sunday 5th August 2018 at 11am. Our guest preacher at the Eucharist this year is Fr Richard Bastable who is Vicar of St Luke's, Shepherds Bush in London and vocations advisor to the Bishop of Fulham. We have a choir providing uplifting music and a great bring and share lunch back at the vicarage afterwards. Do join us!



The symbol of St Laurence is the gridiron on which he was martyred, and we are reminded as we look at this powerful image where the true treasure of the church and world lies. Not in riches, but in the people around us, especially the poor and vulnerable.

A prayer at St Laurencetide,

Almighty God,
who made Laurence a loving servant of your people
and a wise steward of the treasures of your Church:
fire us with his example to love as he loved
and to walk in the way that leads to eternal life;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory,
now and for ever.

Amen

Service programme

You will see below the programme of services at St Laurence for the next 6 months.

Best wishes

Fr James Wilkinson

frjwilkinson@gmail.com 01865 245879

**Parish Church of St Laurence
South Hinksey**

Sunday Services

The pattern is usually the first and third Sundays of the month

**6 monthly Calendar
May to October 2018**

Sun 6 th May	6 th of Easter	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 20 th May	Pentecost	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 3 rd June	Corpus Christi	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 17 th July	Trinity 3	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 1 st July	Trinity 5	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 15 th July	Trinity 7	BCP Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 5 th August	St Laurence	Eucharist at 11.00am

Sun 19 th August	Trinity 12	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 2 nd Sept	Trinity 14	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 16 th Sept	Trinity 16	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 7 th Oct	Trinity 19	Eucharist at 9.15am
Sun 21 st Oct	Trinity 21	Eucharist at 9.15am

passwords and do not enter your user name and password manually, these details can still be intercepted.

To avoid being becoming a victim of this scam, do one of the following:

- * Make sure you are connecting to a trusted Wi-Fi hot spot, operated by the venue you are in - ask staff if you are in doubt.
- * Do not use public Wi-Fi for online banking or anything else sensitive, but use your 3G, 4G or 5G connection instead (data sent over these connections is always encrypted).
- * Use a VPN (virtual private network) when connecting to public Wi-Fi.

Citizens advice

Criminals setting up fake Wi-Fi hot spots - Citizens Advice warning

It ought to be a time of the pleasantest relaxation, that moment when you slump down comfortably into a cosy chair in your favourite coffee bar, get out your cell phone and connect to the free Wi-Fi. But Citizens Advice has warned that just this simple leisurely action can be targeted by criminals, who are setting up their own Wi-Fi hot spots to try to get you to connect to them.

Typically, the fraudsters broadcast a Wi-Fi connection with a vague name like "free_wifi" or "coffee_shop_wifi". If you connect your phone to this, any data you are sending can be captured.

Even if you log into emails using an "app", without typing in the password, the phone will still send your password over the Wi-Fi and it could be intercepted. If you use automated

The updated Little Book of Big Scams at <https://www.met.police.uk/globalassets/downloads/fraud/the-little-book-of-big-scams.pdf> has more details about this and other prevalent frauds.

And if you suspect that you've been scammed, contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or on the Internet at www.actionfraud.police.uk. Alternatively, get in touch with Citizens Advice on Adviceline 03 444 111444, or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice. For locations and opening hours see www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale

Arts and Crafts event

Plans are moving ahead for the first ever **South Hinksey Art and Crafts Event**.

Please save the dates:

NB the times on the Saturday are revised from those circulated earlier on Shinfo.

Friday 5th October, an opening viewing with music a complimentary glass of something and a bar. **Village Hall, 6 to 9pm**. All welcome.

Saturday 6th October, 10 am to 2 pm, Village Hall - a children's event and a second opportunity for viewing.

Many thanks to those who have already committed to enter a piece(s) of work.

Most of us will just be coming to admire, but we would love to hear from anyone else interested in exhibiting. We know there is a lot of talent in the parish. We are looking for work from people of any age, in any medium. You don't have to be a genius, just be creative in some way - painting, drawing, pottery are just some things that come to mind. It is a very local event: all exhibitors will be amateurs, and all will live in, or have some connection with, South Hinksey.

If you are interested in exhibiting or just want further information, please contact one of the people below as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from you.

Louisa -
07894901400, louisanahas@hotmail.co.uk

Pat - 07718923344, phjones200@gmail.com

Linda -
07789862570, linda.bloch2016@gmail.com

Maggie -
07757528655, mstopard1@btinternet.com

Village Hall

Things are going well down at the Hall. Our maintenance programme is up-to-date. The next item is to have the curtains cleaned and floor re-polished, which will happen later this month.

Financially we are secure. Most of our income comes from lettings, and many of these are to people from outside the parish. This is necessary to keep hiring costs down- as parishioners we benefit from lower rates per hour. The only downside to this policy is that the Hall can quickly be booked up for popular dates. It is worthwhile to book early, or at least pencil in a date with the booking secretary.

You will have seen from a previous item circulated on Shinfo that we are keen to see the hall being used for parish events, and it is possible that we may be able to offer free use to parishioners in some cases. The main criteria are that it should be a not-for-profit event organised by a member of the parish and open to all parishioners.

Louisa Nahhas has joined the Village Hall Management Committee and has the job of Social Secretary. She is already having an effect as we direct our efforts to increasing the number of local events.

The **Mock Pub** has been re-constituted under the aegis of the VH Committee and functions about once a month from 6.30 pm on a Friday. It's licensed, legal and good fun. The last was on 20 July. There will not be one in August; there will be one again in September, date still to be decided. All are welcome.

There is to be an **Arts & Crafts** event on October: see the separate article.

Linda Slater, for the Village Hall Management Committee (Peter Rawcliffe, Maggie Rawcliffe, Ann Allsworth, Linda Slater, Louisa Nahhas).

South Hinksey Annual Fete

Sunday 16th September

The field behind the Village Hall

12.30-3.30 pm

Save the date!