

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### **Parish Council Vacancy**

Sutton Courtenay Parish Council is looking for someone to serve as a councillor. Are you interested in current local affairs, do you wish to serve your community, be part of government and the appointed voice for the local residents. If you are interested in joining the Council, then please contact Linda Martin, Clerk to the Council, on 01865 391833 or email [info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk) to find out more about the role. The term of office would be only until the next elections in May 2019. So why not give it a try for a year.

### **Council Tax Payers who pay by standing order**

The bank details have changed for the Vale of White Horse District Council. This means changes for some council tax payers and business rate payers. A new sort code has been issued which is 20-01-25. The bank account number remains the same. Those residents that pay by standing order are requested to update their payment details with their bank, otherwise payments may not get through. Those that pay by direct debit are not affected, as the new sort code will be amended as part of the direct debit service. Those who wish to change from paying by standing order can pay on line, by phone or by direct debit. Contact the Vale of White Horse District Council's council tax section by calling 0345 302 2315. Or visiting [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/counciltax)

### **Thames Water – Draft Water Resources Management Plan**

Thames Water has opened its public consultation on its water plan. It has the job of providing a reliable supply of safe drinking water to 10 million household customers and 215,000 businesses. Many people think there is plenty of water in the UK, but the South East of England is one of its driest regions and London is drier than Rome, Dallas and even Sydney. The area is designated as seriously water stressed by the Environment Agency. Every 5 years a Water Resources Plan is produced which sets out how Thames Water plans to provide a reliable and sustainable supply of water to its customers. To find more information, to have your say on the plans, visit [www.thameswater.co.uk/yourwaterfuture](http://www.thameswater.co.uk/yourwaterfuture).

### **Planning Appeals**

The public inquiry for both appeals was due to start on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. However on Thursday p.m. 18<sup>th</sup> January, London Regeneration withdrew its appeal for the land rear of Harwell Road. Then, unfortunately the barrister acting for Redrow Homes became ill, so whilst the Inquiry into the Sutton Courtenay East site, commenced, it was adjourned. The Inquiry will commence again on 17<sup>th</sup> July under a new Inspector Mr. Phillip Major.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Neighbourhood planning is a right for communities introduced through the Localism Act 2011 to shape development in their areas through the production of Neighbourhood Development Plans. Legislation provides for the Parish Councils who have chosen to produce a plan to establish a steering group of members of the community who are interested in neighbourhood planning to prepare the plan. The role of the steering group is very separate from the formal functions of the Parish Council. There is a steering group in Sutton Courtenay which is busy progressing through the various stages of plan preparation. It was reported to PC at the February meeting the questionnaire is in draft form ready for scrutiny by VWHDC. It is hoped to distribute the questionnaire to all households in early spring.

### **South Oxfordshire District Council – Local Plan**

Some readers may have seen the programme on BBC TV in January called The new builds are coming: The battle for the countryside which focused on development in Culham. The proposal is to remove a significant area from the protected green belt to permit a housing development comprising some 3500 homes. This has been included in the final draft Local Plan. The evidence, supporting documents and the Plan will go to the Secretary of State, and a planning inspector will then be appointed to carry out an independent examination. The Parish Council has commented on this plan in regards to the road network, and the fact that no account had been taken of recent studies by Oxfordshire County Council which show traffic congestion and the inability of local roads to take more traffic. The Transport Topic paper recognised and promoted wider benefit of transport schemes, but it did not recognise the impact on rural villages which would become a cut through route to link Didcot to the Culham Science Centre and beyond.

### **Land Junction of High Street/Frilsham Street**

The Parish Council has become aware that land at the start of Frilsham Street, that it maintains, has had clearance works done to it. Whilst the Council appreciates the assistance, it would be grateful if anyone wishing to do works and cut back bushes etc, would kindly notify the Council beforehand.

### **The following planning applications have been considered :**

P18/V011/HH Revised application for rear kitchen extension to include parapet wall at roof level and amended lantern arrangement to replace consented scheme at 42 Lady Place. The Council had no objections itself, but was aware of concerns of nearby residents.

P19/V0069/O Residential development of 91 dwellings including access land at Appleford Road. The Council objected to the proposed new access closer to the junction with Abingdon Road. It asked for sight of the CIL information submitted with the application.

P18/V0185/HH Demolition of existing garage and single storey rear extension and 2 storey side extension with front porch at 29 Bradstocks Way. The Council has no objections.

**Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at 7.15 p.m. in the village hall, Frilsham Street. Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham Tel: 01865 391833 or email:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk.**

### **ANNUAL MEETING FOR ELECTORS IN THE PARISH**

This meeting is not a Council meeting, but is a public meeting of Local Government electors in Sutton Courtenay and an opportunity for electors in the parish to raise any items relating to parish matters.

This parish meeting may, by law, discuss all parish affairs and pass resolutions about them.

You are invited to take part.

This meeting will be held on **Tuesday 3rd April at 7.00 p.m.** in the village hall

