

Burcot and Clifton Hampden Parish Council Newsletter

28.05.2024

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May 2024

SAD NEWS:

Anne Davies retires as PC Clerk

Anne Davies, who has been our Clerk for many years, will be retiring after the Parish Meeting at the end of May.



She says “Although I spent much of career as a lawyer in a County Council, it has always seemed to me that Parishes are the place where the Council can make the most difference to residents’ lives – by trying to keep the area looking tidy, by supporting local activities and social events etc.

Although I am not a resident of the parish it has been a delight and a privilege getting to know so many people, and doing my very best to help in any way I can.

I send you all my very best wishes for the future, and I will be watching the progress of the NDO and the NDP very closely indeed.”

VACANCY

We are looking for a new clerk, if you are interested please click the link for more details

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We offer our heartfelt appreciation for her commitment to our Parish, and wish her well in her retirement.

We are collecting donations to buy a leaving gift. If you wish to donate, or would like to leave a message in Anne’s retirement card, please contact the Post Office.

UPDATES:

NDP



The Neighbourhood Plan has been overshadowed somewhat by the NDO, with consultation for both running concurrently. These two have now been separated, and I am pleased to say that the Examiner's report is now formally submitted to SODC for review. There will be no need for a public hearing, we are waiting to hear back from SODC, and in the meantime The NDP Steering Group Chair is preparing a revised document ready for the referendum. After which, the community will decide whether it is enacted.

NDO



With all documentation now with the Examiner and a provisional date set for the Public Hearing, it's a good time for a community update.

In our article we talk about two aspects:

- The NDO process - What are the steps from the examination phase, where we are now, to referendum and beyond.
- The Parish Council's position on the NDO - Read about the Parish Council's opinion after 1000's person-hours reading documents, listening to opinions and contributing to the discussions improving the plan.

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TRAVEL:

HIF 1



The HIF1 is a £300m+ scheme for a new road linking the A34 Milton Interchange with Golden Balls Roundabout, between Clifton Hampden and Nuneham Courtenay. We have been active members of the Neighbouring Parish Councils Joint Committee, which has campaigned against the road.

Whilst a by-pass for Clifton Hampden would be welcomed, the trade off will be vehicles diverting from the A34, and the existence of the road allowing for massive residential and commercial development in Culham, which will increase traffic through and surrounding the village, and its development will lead to loss of trees and hedgerows.

20 MPH



Plans for 20 MPH through Clifton Hampden are underway. We are through the first stage, the OCC have drafted the plans for the areas proposed for 20MPH. The proposal map is on our website.

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COMMUNITY:

Recreation ground



The wooden children's play equipment has recently been inspected and in need of repair. We hope to get this repaired by the end of May, but in the meantime, it is out of bounds. The old nets on the football goals are also being replaced.

A working party, led by Emma Thatcher, is looking into upgrading the play area, considering use by a wider age range. If you have any ideas about this, please get in touch with Emma or any member of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is very grateful to volunteers who help with emptying the waste bins. A new dog waste bin has been ordered from the South Oxfordshire District Council. Volunteers are also needed to strim around the play equipment and the seats, and other maintenance work. If you are able to help, please contact christine.mcculloch@cliftonhampden.org.uk

Flood group



A Flood Group was established in response to the devastating floods in January that forced some residents to abandon their homes.

The Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) is preparing a Section 19 report, which will document the findings of their investigation into the causes of the flood and identify responsible parties. While some actions have already been taken to address issues on the highway, much more needs to be done to improve prevention and responsiveness in the future.

A steering group, consisting of members from Burcot and Clifton Hampden, has been formed to develop flood mitigation and monitoring plans.

Footpaths



A landowner in Burcot has kindly agreed to allow the permissive footpaths across his land to address existing gaps and provide more circular routes within the parish for pedestrians.

Parishioners are invited to try out these paths (click below to find out more).

Any feedback to on the route can be sent to christine.mcculloch@cliftonhampden.org.uk, before April 2025 when these permissive footpaths will be officially recognised.

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NOTICES

Parish Council Meeting 30th May 2024 6:00pm

Parish Meeting 30th May 2024 7:00pm

Next Parish Council Meeting: 24th June 2024 7:30pm

Vacancies in the Parish Council

There are two vacancies on the parish council.

10 residents requested an election for one of the positions, no candidates have come forward, leaving us in a cycle until someone steps up and an election can be held.

For the other position, we have the option to co-opt a member. If you are interested, please let us know. Don't worry if you don't have experience—OALC provides training for new councillors.

Mailing List

If you would like to receive PC news by email please contact: info@cliftonhampden.org.uk and sign up to our mailing list.

USEFUL LINKS



Wears and repairs

A big thank you to Chris Neill for his vigilance and raising issues with footpaths and damage around the Parish that need attention. These have now been reported.

If you see anything that needs attend please report on fix my street: <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>.