

# The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter

February 2018



## For your diary:

**Fri 1st Feb: 17:00-19:00** - Parish Council/SCGB SODC Local Plan drop-in session, Culham School

**Sat 2nd Feb: 09:30-11:30** - Parish Council/SCGB SODC Local Plan drop-in session, Culham School

**Sun Feb 3rd: 11:00** – Parish Communion, St Paul's

**Sun Feb 10th: 16:00** - Remembrance Service, St Paul's

**Mon Feb 11th: 19.30** - Parish Council Meeting, Culham School

**Sun Feb 17th: 16:00** - Messy Church (incl. children's activities & biscuits!), St Paul's

**Mon Feb 18<sup>th</sup>: 17:00** – Closing date for responses to Local Plan

**Sat March 2<sup>nd</sup>: 19:30** – Friends of Culham Church Quiz, Europa School



## **Talking Point by Revd Jon Roberts, Curate in the Dorchester Team**

We've been watching and reading CS Lewis' fantastic story, 'The Lion, the witch, and the wardrobe', a fair bit over the last couple of months. We had a 'Narnia advent calendar', we have the old BBC film, and a couple of different versions of the book. My son's really been enjoying this story, and playing with the characters in a lot of different ways.

One of the things I like about the lion, the witch, and the wardrobe is how the characters wrestling with the seasons reflects the arc of the story. When our four young stars of the story first enter Narnia, they have to battle against the elements; its not that pleasant a place to be. Bitterly cold, knee deep in snow, not to mention the fear because 'even some of the trees are on the witch's side'. Yet, slowly but surely, the snow begins to melt, the rivers begin to flow... and then (something I loved as kid as much as my son does now), Father Christmas shows up! And with presents! Shortly following this is the end of winter completely, the trickle of spring becomes a torrent. And Aslan is here, the culmination of everyone's hopes!

The beginning of 2019, like the start of any new year is always a time which beckons possibilities, offers so much in hope and dreams as to what might be this year; but it's also one of the most miserable times of the year! February and March are still very much in winter; cold, wet, dark (we wish we had snow!), and no longer with Christmas to look forward to.

But spring's not far away. Even as I write this I've seen daffodils and snowdrops poking their heads above the ground, there are catkins of the hazel trees, and by the time you're reading this there could be blossom on the trees, frog spawn in the ponds, and we might have even seen a bumblebee or two. Soon this trickle will turn into a torrent, just as in Narnia, and before we know it spring will be in full swing.

For the inhabitants of Narnia, those animal creatures I'm sure we all love, the thought of Aslan their hero has kept them going, kept them hoping for many a year, even without the possibility of Christmas.

I wonder what's kept you going this winter? Or what still keeps you going? I wonder what hopes and dreams you have for this new year which might sustain you as we go forward. And I wonder who's going to be your Aslan this year?

God bless you this Spring and this new year.

### **Events in the Abbey:**

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 7.30pm** Reading Phoenix Choir and Aldbourne Band Gold and Brass Joint Concert!

The evening will include choral music by Thomas Morley, Anton Bruckner, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Ola Gjeilo and Bob Chilcott. You will also hear brass music by Chick Corea, Billy Joel and that great composer of film music, John Williams. The band and the choir will combine together to deliver some great favourites: Handel's Halleluiah chorus from the Messiah, I was Glad and Jerusalem by Charles Hubert Parry and John Williams' Hymn to the Fallen. Tickets from [www.readingphoenixchoir.com](http://www.readingphoenixchoir.com).

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> March 7.30pm** Corona Strings Best of Britain

Two great classics of British music for strings, Ralph Vaughan Williams's inspired Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis along with Edward Elgar's magnificent Introduction and Allegro, form the backbone of this programme. We give a rare performance of the magnificent Sea Sketches by Welsh composer Grace Williams and Gerald Finzi's beautiful Eclogue with piano soloist Anita d'Attellis and the programme is

completed with Elgar's intensely moving Elegy and Peter Warlock's own arrangement of his highly popular Capriol Suite of 1928. Tickets from [www.ticketsoxford.com](http://www.ticketsoxford.com)

**Tues March 5<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm** University of South Dakota chamber choir

Chamber Singers is the premiere vocal ensemble at the University of South Dakota. It is comprised of graduate and undergraduate students selected through audition from the entire university student body. Known to critics for "creating a choral concert of stunning beauty and musical understanding," its repertoire, which is primarily a cappella, includes music from the Renaissance to the present in a wide variety of styles. Free concert. All welcome

### **Church service times**

#### **Culham**

Sun Feb 3rd 11:00 Parish Communion

Sun Feb 10th 16:00 Remembrance Service

Sun Feb 17th 16:00 Messy Church (incl. children's activities & biscuits!)

#### **Clifton Hampden and Burcot**

Sun Feb 3rd 08:00 BCP Communion

Sun Feb 10th 10:30 Parish Communion

Sun Feb 17th 11:00 Messy Church (child-friendly, children's activities at 10:30)

#### **Long Wittenham and Little Wittenham**

Sun Feb 3rd Long W 09:30 Family Service, crafts and breakfast

Sun Feb 10th Long W 09:30 Parish Eucharist/ War Memorial

Sun Feb 17th Little W 08:30 BCP Holy Communion

Sun Feb 24th Long W 09:30 Parish Communion

# Village News

Village website: [www.culhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.culhamvillage.org.uk)



## SAVE CULHAM GREEN BELT

Thank you very much to those of you who came to the village meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> Jan. If you did not manage to come and would like forms and copies of the handout please contact us via [saveculhamgreenbelt.org](http://saveculhamgreenbelt.org)

### Very important to note:

1. **Closing date for responses: 5pm Monday 18 February 2019**
2. **Your previous responses (i.e. from October 2017) will NOT be sent to the Inspector so it is absolutely vital that as many people respond again.**

A reminder that Save Culham Green Belt / Culham Parish Council are also holding TWO DROP-IN sessions in Culham Primary School to help villagers fill in the intimidating forms on:

- Friday eve 1<sup>st</sup> Feb: 5-7pm (we can stay later)
- Saturday AM 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb: 9.30-11.30 am

Walking tours are offered of the development site by Kathy Rushton and John Storrs as follows:  
Sat 26 Jan, Sunday 27 Jan. Meet 2pm at Europa School bus bay.

### Summary of Local Plan / Culham

A summary of the Local Plan as regards to Culham can be found on our website here:

<https://www.saveculhamgreenbelt.org/key-information/summary-of-sodc-plan/>

Gordon Gibbs in the village holds the village hard copy of the Local Plan (300 pages) and Sustainability Appraisal (1100 pages). You can view this at his house. Contact Councillor Gibbs on 01235 523679 or email [g.gibbs@culham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:g.gibbs@culham-pc.gov.uk).

The full document and all the 50+ supporting documents can be viewed on SODC's website – search for SODC Emerging Local Plan.

On the next page is a summary of what is proposed in Culham (roughly pages 49-55 of the Local Plan)  
**Policy STRAT 9: Land Adjacent to Culham Science Centre: Site Area: 220 hectares (also Policy STRAT8: Culham Science Centre: Site Area: 73 hectares). This land would be removed from the Green Belt boundaries to enable the development.**

Under National Planning Policy rules Green Belt boundaries can only be changed if there are 'exceptional circumstances' (the relevant paragraphs from the NPPF July 2018 can be found on our website here:

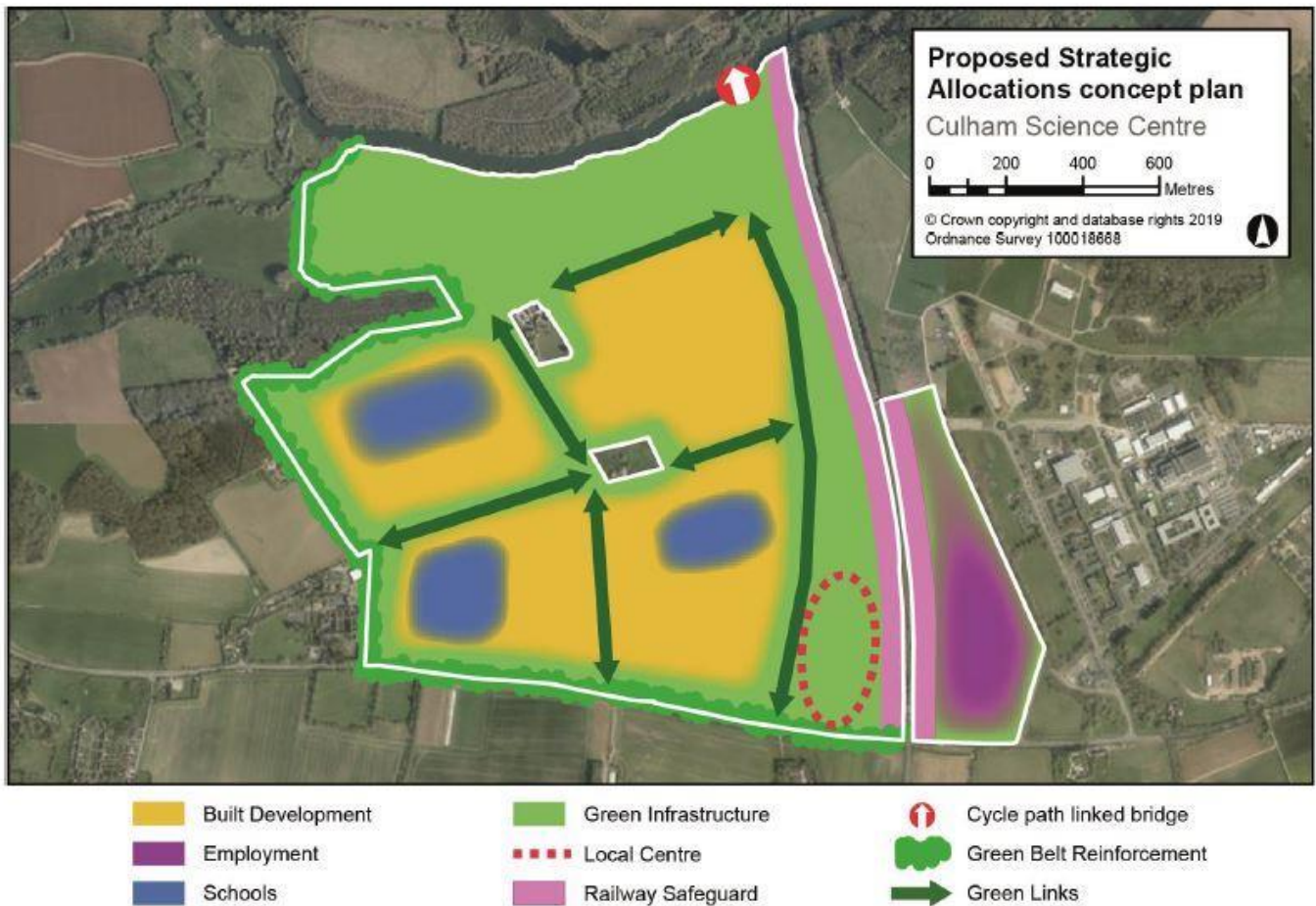
<https://www.saveculhamgreenbelt.org/key-information/green-belt-government-policy/>

The exceptional circumstances being cited by SODC to justify releasing Green Belt in Culham are (p. 50):

- *'The additional land provides an opportunity to deliver housing adjacent to one of the major employers in southern Oxfordshire'.*

- 'Development in this location is at the heart of Science Vale and supports the delivery of much needed significant strategic infrastructure'.

## The Site



The Plan states that:

Land within the strategic allocation to Culham Science Centre will be developed to deliver **approximately 3,500 homes**, with approximately 1,850 homes within the plan period, as well as **7.3 hectares of employment land** in combination with the adjacent Science Centre and **3 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers** (with supporting services and facilities).

The site is expected to deliver: 2 primary schools, 1 secondary school with 6<sup>th</sup> form, a GP surgery, convenience shops to meet the local community only, as well as communal parks and children's play space.

The development is expected to provide:

- new junctions onto the A415 and 'significant contributions towards' the Clifton Hampden bypass, the Thames road crossing between Didcot Garden Town and Culham (coming out opposite Culham Station), and upgrading the A4074/B4015 'Golden Balls' roundabout (near Nottcutts Garden Centre).
- a bus service between Berinsfield and Abingdon
- contributions to Culham station improvements including longer platforms, a new station building and 'potentially car parking'.
- a new cycle bridge to the north of the site 'and associated connectivity and paths' across the River Thames to connect to Abingdon.

## When?

The timing of the delivery of houses is unclear. The plan states only that 'The number and phasing of homes to be permitted and the timing of housing delivery linked to the planned infrastructure needs to be informed by further evidence'.

**WE NEED YOU – Please be sure to fill in a representation form by 18 February (5pm)**

## What else can you do:

1. Ask your neighbours and friends to respond. Please, please do this.
2. Write to our MP, John Howell. Below is his email address. It is important that you give your ADDRESS because under parliamentary rules he is not allowed to respond unless in his constituency. He has recently been made Junior Minister for Housing, under James Brokenshire, so it is right that we should put pressure on him now: [john.howell.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:john.howell.mp@parliament.uk). Concentrate on the fact that it is Green Belt and that we do not consider there are 'exceptional circumstances' or that it is compliant with National Planning Policy.
3. Let us know if you have good contacts with anyone in the local or national press
4. You can write letters to the trustees of the land to ask them to re-consider selling their land for development as it is Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land and the local community are against the development, concerned about the environment and the legacy we leave for the future.

***Please note that they have a right in law to dispose of their assets as they see fit. We respect that and request that letters/communications to the trustees should be polite. SCGB and the Parish Council expressly point out that we do not encourage anything aggressive or intimidating or anything that would be unlawful.***

The landowners are: The Culham Estate/Morrells Farming Ltd.

The trustees are:

~Jonathan Lovegrove Fielden, Longden Manor, Pontesford, Shrewsbury, SSY5 0XH.

~Anne Catherine Ballard, Caphill, Sandford St Martin, Chipping Norton, OX7 7AL

~ Dr David G. J. Morrell, Sandford Common Farm, Sandford St Martin, OX7 7AE

~Paul Caudwell, The Grange, Drayton, Abingdon OX14 4HY

~Doreen Caudwell, The Manor, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4JD

## Fund Raising

Our committee member, Siri Siriwardene, is helping the campaign with pro-bono legal advice and research. Although other villagers with relevant expertise are also providing key advice pro bono, we are going to incur additional costs for our planning advisor and traffic specialist and we will need to need to raise funds for a barrister to represent us at the 'Examination in Public' with the Inspector. We will contact you later about this, if we may.

## Our Film

Some people wanted to view the short 4-minute film we made locally about Culham (which we will ensure is sent to the Inspector). You can access the YouTube link from the home page of our website:

<https://www.saveculhamgreenbelt.org/>

## **Culham Parish Council (CPC) – December 2018**

A vacancy for a Parish Councillor remains open – please contact the Clerk if you are interested in joining the Council.

A large turkey oak on the playing field has developed a disease of the root structure and needs to be removed for safety.

Tree planting within the village will be instigated as part of the CPC's climate change mitigation measures.

CPC and members from the SCGB group will speak at the upcoming events concerning the pushing through of the SODC Local Plan.

A speed limit of 40mph will be requested for the length of the A415 from Abingdon to the Waggon, and also along the Burycroft.

CPC will give the war memorial outside the church a more prominent profile by raising the stone above ground level on short plinth. (NB – if anyone in the village would like to submit designs for the plinth, please contact the Clerk or any of the Councillors).

A plan for the areas of grass to be cut within the village next year, and paid for by CPC, is in preparation. If anyone in the village is interested in applying for this work, please contact the Clerk.

CPC will place an objection to the newly installed wooden fence along the footpath by the Sutton Courtenay pools.

## **Culham Parish Council (CPC) – January 2019**

After a presentation by Danielle Wyatt-Bond, working on behalf of the Morrell family, CPC agreed that a flyer concerning the development of the Wagon and Horses site could be circulated within the Mouthpiece magazine. The flyer should give details of how to respond to the development proposal.

The turkey oak on the playing field has been severely reduced in height as a response to a potentially fatal fungus recently found in its root system. As part of this, CPC has agreed to fund a survey of all the village trees before putting together a plan for future tree planting around the village.

There will be a visit to the playing field on 28<sup>th</sup> Jan to assess the requirements for the replacement/renewal of the equipment.

The process of converting the speed limit on the A415 between the Waggon and Horses and Abingdon, from a 60mph to 40mph limit has been started. The Burycroft speed limit will also be reduced to 40mph.

CPC is waiting for a quote for replacing the fencing on the playing field between the playing field and the Reilly-Collins' land.

Plans for the future areas of grass cutting within the village have been drawn up and quotes will be requested for up to four cuts per 'season' from March 2019.

**Next meeting:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 19:30 at the school.

As ever all villagers are welcome to attend - please come along even if you have no specific items to present/discuss.



## **District Councillor's Report January 2019 – Sue Lawson**

SODC had a full council meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December to vote on the Local Plan and it was indeed agreed by a majority. Myself and a small number of fellow district councillors voted against it and I wanted to send you the speech I gave to the Council on the night to explain the reasons for my decision to vote in this way. You may have also heard on the local news that we have now been suspended from the party for the time being. This suspension will not affect our work as councillors within our ward's it simply means that we cannot attend group meetings. We can however, still vote at council meetings. I thought in light of this you might like to read what I said at council. I can't guarantee that this is verbatim as I will have talked around some of what I have written below in more detail however, it will give you the gist of what I was saying.

There are a number of points I would like to make regarding the Local plan before us this evening and the reasons I will not be supporting it.

1. Housing Numbers – the SHMA figures need updating. Over the past 2 years, I have observed that between my fellow councillors the consensus has been that our housing need requires reassessment. Without updated figures we should not even be contemplating putting strategic sites forward. I firmly believe this will be the conclusion of the Inspector if this plan gets passed this evening. However, we are wasting everyone's time not to mention taxpayer's money in not securing a true housing need at this stage before submitting the Local Plan.
2. The Green Belt – I am so disappointed and saddened by the lack of value that this cabinet and our Leader Cllr Murphy places on protecting the green belt in our district. It hasn't gone unnoticed that no member of the cabinet represents a ward in the green belt or lives within it. I think this is wrong and is something that Cllr Murphy should have addressed and ensured there was a balance with all types of wards within the district represented when she chose her cabinet members. I would like to think that there was at least some understanding and desire to appreciate what the green belt and the many rural and semi-rural villages within it contribute to South Oxfordshire and indeed the city of Oxford. However, I believe there is a disregard within this council for its protection. I have seen no appetite to explore or understand its value and instead a desire to find any loop hole with which to over ride government policy. The main criteria for meeting the exceptional circumstances required to build on greenbelt appears to be Oxfords unmet housing need. We can all agree that this 'need' requires more in depth understanding. Once again, I come back to Cllr Murphy to put it to her that she should have been working closely with Oxford City Council over the past few months to fully understand their housing need. I don't believe this has happened.
3. Urban Sprawl – Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys covers a large area of urban development on the South Eastern boundary of Oxford City. By developing land at Grenoble Road and Northfield sites, this council will be paving the way for one of the largest housing estates in Oxfordshire. Forget the housing numbers of 1700 and 1800, everyone knows that the capacity is far higher and if market needs arise, we could be looking at 6-8000 + being built there. This is urban sprawl on an enormous scale on greenbelt land. Greenbelt land which is there to prevent urban sprawl and to be the lungs of the city.
4. Infrastructure – We do not have the road infrastructure with which to support the enormous number of houses on these green belt sites. I travel around Grenoble Road almost every day at peak times and I can tell councillors that it is often gridlocked. The volume of traffic pouring out along Grenoble Road going either South along the A4074 or under the bridge into Sandford on Thames is considerable. There is no possible way any additional main roads can be added to this congested area. There is a misapprehension within the cabinet that because Oxford is a city, then it must have infrastructure that can sustain this level of development. This is not correct. What we would be

creating with the greenbelt sites at Grenoble Road, Northfield and Culham is a triangle of development with all routes funneling North and South along the A4074. This is not viable. We have villages along that route that have been completely forgotten about in this plan such as Nuneham Courtney. This village is not only in the greenbelt, it is also a conservation area. Houses along the A4074 do not have foundations and are already suffering from structural damage caused by the sheer volume of traffic passing through it.

What are we doing to our district? We are disregarding a properly assessed housing need, the greenbelt, conservation areas, a lack of infrastructure and the inevitable urban sprawl which will harm both Oxford City's historic setting and South Oxfordshire.

## **County Councillor's Report January 2019 - Lorraine Lindsay-Gale**

### **Budget Proposals**

Tough decisions taken since 2010 have created a route to financial stability at OCC as the council plans to set its 2019/20 budget at a time when all councils face financial challenges. The main budget proposals are:

- Investment of almost £6m by 2023 to increase care packages to meet assessed needs for adults with learning and physical disabilities. (Adult Social Care)
- An increase of £5.8m is proposed to be added to the budget in 2022/23 in adult social care to meet projected increased need as a result of the aging population. The council's existing planning up to 2021/22 already includes provision for budget increases of £5.0m in 2019/20 and 2020/21 and £5.6m in 2021/22. (Adult Social Care)
- Invest £3.2m up to 2023 (£800,000 per year) to support the increasing number of children qualifying for school transport – in particular children with special educational needs. (Children, Education and Families)
- Invest £17m to support the predicted increasing numbers of children in care, including more permanent care staff (Children, Education and Families)

With regard to Council Tax, the council's plan – agreed at the last budget in February 2018 – to raise Council Tax by 2.99 per cent in 2019/20 and 1.99 per cent in the years thereafter remains the same in the new budget proposals. However, funding for local government beyond 2020 is currently uncertain, with councils waiting for funding decisions from central government which will not be known until late 2019.

### **Delivering An Older People's Strategy For Oxfordshire**

Living longer and living better is the drive behind a new Older People's Strategy for Oxfordshire. The strategy sets out how OCC and Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group will deliver a positive future for the county's older population. It was developed following feedback over a three-month period.

Residents, health and charity organisations, professionals, businesses, the public sector and community groups were engaged in the strategy development so it could be grounded in what people tell us matters most to them. The strategy's vision and priorities were specifically co-produced with a wide range of people whose work and lives it affects. The strategy will be used to inform the planning, commissioning and delivery of services across Oxfordshire and will be monitored by the Better Care Fund Joint Management Group reporting to the Health and Wellbeing Board. To read the strategy and have your say online visit here <https://consult.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/consult.ti/OPLLLB/consultationHome> or request a paper copy of the strategy by calling 01865 334638. The closing date for comments is Feb 1, 2019.

### **Daytime Support Sustainability Grant Awards**

Twenty-nine organisations have been recommended to receive grants from the county council's adult social care Sustainability Fund. The fund was established last year as part of measures designed to enable the ongoing delivery of daytime support services in Oxfordshire. A grant pot of £250,000 was approved for 2019/20 and community and voluntary organisations were invited to apply for the fund between September 12 and November 2. To allocate the funding to as many organisations as possible, a panel of county councillors and people representing daytime services recommended that a maximum level of 70 per cent of the amount awarded in 2018/19 should be made where applicable. Among those services recommended for funding are Day Break Oxford (£50,000), Age UK (£27,500), October Club (£14,000) and Aspire (£12,500). Applications totalling £244,847 went before Cabinet on December 18.

### **Send Sufficiency Strategy Gains Approval**

Plans to create significant new provision for Oxfordshire children with special educational needs (SEND) have been agreed by councillors, with a £15m investment set to create 300 new places which will involve a major rebuild for Northfield School in Oxford. The county council has conducted a wide-ranging review of its special educational needs provision in light of the large increases in the numbers of children with such needs entering the educational system in recent years and the forecast for continued increases in the future. The rebuild of Northfield School would be accompanied by a new school at Bloxham Grove in North Oxfordshire (due to open in 2020) and at Valley Park, Didcot (target date 2023) as part of a free school application process. At a national level, the Department for Education will be rolling out a new assessment approach for pupils with complex disabilities, from 2020. DfE has said "The statutory assessment will replace P scales 1 to 4 and will be based on the '7 aspects of engagement', an assessment approach that focuses on pupils abilities in specific areas like awareness, curiosity and anticipation". A guidance and training package will be developed and delivered to schools, local authorities, Ofsted and parents prior to programme roll out.

### **£10 Million Programme Delivering Road Repairs Gets £7m Boost**

Journeys on Oxfordshire's roads have already been significantly improved in recent months thanks to an extra £10million being spent by OCC this year on repairing and improving road surfaces. Government announced in November that OCC would get £7.4 in additional funding to top-up this activity. A range of different methods of road repair and sealing are used to extend the life of county roads and reduce the likelihood of potholes forming which include resurfacing, patching, Dragon-patching and surface dressing.

### **OCC Welcomes Government's Waste Strategy**

OCC has welcomed the government's new Waste and Resources Strategy for England, describing it as "ambitious", with the potential to "transform the way that waste is viewed and managed." Key points within the strategy include:

- Introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers to improve the amount recycled when out and about (known as 'on the go' recycling)
- Improved and extended redistribution of surplus food from businesses, and mandatory food waste collections from businesses and households.
- A national recycling target of 65 percent by 2035 (current national recycling rate is 45 percent)

OCC is committed to protecting the local environment as part of its Thriving Communities initiative.

## OCC Best Performing County Council In England For Its Recycling Rates

Oxfordshire has been named the best performing county council waste disposal authority in England for its recycling rates during 2017/18. The success reflects OCC's commitment to work with districts to protect the environment. Figures published on Tuesday 11 December by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) show that Oxfordshire is the highest performing disposal authority, ahead of Buckinghamshire and Cambridgeshire.

Oxfordshire is 'top of the pops' in two categories:

- The highest proportion of waste which is reused, recycled and composted (57.2%)
- The lowest amount of general waste (non-recyclable waste) produced per household (430kg).

All Oxfordshire Councils recycled over 50% in 2017/18, (the national recycling rate is 45%). The county has seven Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs) that provide recycling facilities for a wide range of items, from batteries to clothes, fridges to plastic garden furniture. They accept over 350 different waste streams, recycling around 60% of the waste accepted.

For further information about Oxfordshire County Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres, visit [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste)



### Green Recycling Bins - The Railway Inn



Green Recycling bins are situated at the end of The Railway Inn Car Park. This is to raise funds for Children's Air Ambulance. There is also a green bin for media. All items should be bagged.

## Culham Science Centre - External PA System Testing Schedule 2019

From the start of 2019, testing of UKAEA's external PA alert system will be undertaken on the first Friday of every month, between 10-11am. The test will comprise a siren (repeated short note sound) for 60 seconds, followed by 30 seconds of silence then 30 seconds of a continuous all clear sound.

This system is only designed to alert staff and tenants on the Culham site – and should not be audible outside of the site boundary. However, with a new, more powerful PA system and in certain weather conditions, it is recognised that the siren may be heard off site, by residents and businesses close to the site boundary. Please be reassured, there is no reason to be alarmed. If you have any questions about this testing, please contact Chris Warrick, UKAEA Communications Manager on 01235 464646 or [chris.warrick@ukaea.uk](mailto:chris.warrick@ukaea.uk).

## Parochial Church Council Electoral Roll - Ingrid Reichardt

As a new Electoral Roll for 2019 has to be prepared, I will ask each member of the existing Electoral Roll if they wish to be entered on the new Electoral Roll and a new form has to be filled in. New church members can also apply to be entered. Names and addresses will not be displayed in any way.

Being a member of the church and entered on the Electoral Roll will entitle you to have a voice at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting taking place around Easter when officers are elected. Please fill in the form and return it to Ingrid Reichardt – Fair Green, Abingdon Rd. Culham – Tel. 01235 520534 as soon as possible.

# Friends of St Pauls Culham and Europa School PTA

## Quiz Night

To be held at Schuman Hall, Europa School, Culham

Join us on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 7.30pm

Ploughman's Supper Included  
Bar available for purchase of drinks

## Prizes & Raffle on the Night

Tickets Price £10pp from

email at [stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com) or call  
Philip Owen 01235 555223 or John Ward 01235 525364

Please form teams of 6 or just turn up and  
we will organise you into a team

Parking available in Europa School Car Park opposite main gate  
on A415, Postcode OX14 3DZ

All proceeds to go to Friends of St Pauls, Culham and Europa  
School PTA

## **Volunteer for Advertising Role Needed – The Mouthpiece**

Sarah Carter who currently manages the advertising in the Mouthpiece is leaving the village, and therefore also leaving the Mouthpiece. Firstly, we want to say a big thank you for all her help over the years!

Secondly, this means we are now looking for a new volunteer to manage the mouthpiece advertising.

If you are interested, please contact [generalmouthpiece@gmail.com](mailto:generalmouthpiece@gmail.com)

## **Other News**

### **Neighbourhood Policing Update - PCSO Marie Davenport**



Here is the latest Wallingford Sector neighbourhood update from PCSO Marie Deacon.

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team consists of Inspector Emma Tompkins, Sergeant Robert Maris, PC Simone O'Dell, PCSO Sue Harris, PCSO Marie Deacon, PCSO Sarah Jones & PCSO Clare Beale.

#### **Priorities**

**Burglary:** We have been running Operation Monitor for six months (our operation to combat dwelling burglary) and reports show that in a large proportion of our burglaries suspects have gained entry to properties through insecure doors and windows. Access to the rear of properties has also been made easy by insecure side/rear gates. Are you making it easy for burglars? Please review your security, make sure that all of your windows and doors are locked before going to bed or going out. Lock your cars and keep keys away from doors and windows. Fit a lock on any gates and sheds and install security lighting and CCTV. If you would like any further advice please email the team using details at the bottom of the page.

#### **Rogue Traders**

A reminder that we recommend that you never trade on the door step. Whether it be someone offering to fix your roof or driveway or trying to sell you household items. Should you need any work doing always use someone you can trust or look at trading standards website 'buy with confidence' for safe and reliable tradesmen.

#### **Contact us**

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email [wallingfordNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wallingfordNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk). Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters.



## **CALLING ALL PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS!!**

**Could you use your skills and experience to volunteer?**

**Can you spare 2-3 hours each week?**

***We are particularly seeking volunteers in the Vale of White Horse area***

### **Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire**

is a voluntary home-visiting scheme for families with pre-school children, who are experiencing difficulties. It can offer a hand of friendship, giving support and practical help where necessary.

***A new course of preparation will be held in Spring 2019***

**For more information call:**

**Tel: (01235) 511152**

**HOME-START SOUTHERN OXFORDSHIRE**

**197 Broadway,**

**Didcot, OX11 8RU**

**or e-mail: [homestartso@btconnect.com](mailto:homestartso@btconnect.com)**

*Home-Start is committed to safer recruitment practice as an important part of safeguarding and protecting children and vulnerable adults*

## Sutton Courtenay WI - Tina Wade



Sutton Courtenay WI would like to wish you all a very happy New Year!

We have a busy and exciting programme as always for 2019. Why not pop along and meet us all? You will be made very welcome.

Upcoming dates for your diary are:

- 19<sup>th</sup> February – John Paine, Agra- Not just the Taj Mahal
- 19<sup>th</sup> March- Will be our AM Meeting & Quiz (Members only)
- 16<sup>th</sup> April - Mike Brook, Musings from the Amateur Stage

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Village Hall in Sutton Courtenay at 7.30pm.

If you would like more information, please contact our Secretary Val on 01235 847612.



### Chimney Fire Safety

Nearly 50% of all chimney fires in Oxfordshire happen during January, February and March. If you enjoy cosying up in front of a log fire, make sure the sparks don't fly at home this winter.

Have a cosy home not a fire zone.

- Get your chimney swept at least once a year, if you regularly have log fires get it swept more frequently
- If you have a 1<sup>st</sup> floor fireplace check that it is clear of debris
- Store logs away from the fireplace

Find out more at: [www.365alive.co.uk](http://www.365alive.co.uk)



## The Mouthpiece

Please note that any opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the editors. We accept contributions and advertisements in good faith and cannot be responsible for errors therein.

Please send contributions for the March issue of the Mouthpiece by February 15<sup>th</sup> to:  
[generalmouthpiece@gmail.com](mailto:generalmouthpiece@gmail.com)

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Rob Gibbs	c/o 32 High Street, Culham	

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[stuart.morris@ukaea.uk](mailto:stuart.morris@ukaea.uk)  
01235 464904



## LOCAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

<p><b>Larkmead</b> VETS</p>  <p><i>Caring for Pets, Horses &amp; Farm Animal throughout South Oxfordshire</i></p> <p><b>Didcot &amp; Sutton Courtenay 01235 814991</b> <b>Cholsey &amp; Benson 01491 651379</b> <b>Horses &amp; Farm Animals 01491 651379</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.larkmead.co.uk">www.larkmead.co.uk</a></p> 	<p>Excellent operating facilities, including orthopaedic surgery.</p> <p>Extended surgeries, and regular Cat Only clinics available.</p> <p>Appointments available Saturday and Sunday.</p> <p>24-hr emergency care, 365 days a year.</p> <p>Larkmead Vets cover all emergencies; we do not use outside agencies.</p>	
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### Backhaus German Bakers

At Culham (The Lion) every Tuesday from 12 noon until 5 pm.

~40 types of bread: 100% rye - gluten-free & yeast-free breads - 100% wheat bread, with & without seeds.

No chemical improvers or GM products. Salt content ½ that of English white bread.

Rolls and cakes - German sausages - liver sausages - meat loaf - salamis & much more

Tel 0208 9486040

E-mail Backhaus1@gmx.net

### Milton Garden Machinery

**Winter servicing, no charge for collection & delivery**

**Please call or Email for a quotation.**

**Established for over 30 years.**

**We repair all types of petrol driven machinery.**  
Main dealers for: Alko, Briggs Stratton, Countax, Cub Cadet, Echo, Efco, Hayter, Lawnflite, Mitox, MTD, Murray, Toro, Westwood, Wheelhorse. **We repair Stihl and Honda machines too**

**We repair Stihl and Honda machines too.**

Windyridge Farm, Milton Road,  
Abingdon OX14 4EZ

Tel: 01235 555115

Email:

[paul@miltongardenmachinery.co.uk](mailto:paul@miltongardenmachinery.co.uk)

[www.miltongardenmachinery.co.uk](http://www.miltongardenmachinery.co.uk)





**Tonks Brothers Funeral Directors**  
**ABINGDON & KENNINGTON**

*158 Ock Street, Abingdon OX14 5DT Tel*

*01235 539444*

*166 Kennington Rd, Kennington OX1 5PG Tel*

*01865 736144*

[www.tonksbrothers.com](http://www.tonksbrothers.com)

*"Proud to be a family business"*

## Cupcake Baker

Reasons to be cheerful!

Cupcakes, French macarons and celebration cakes.

Weddings, birthdays, parties and corporate orders.

[www.cupcakebaker.co.uk](http://www.cupcakebaker.co.uk) [mail@cupcakebaker.co.uk](mailto:mail@cupcakebaker.co.uk)

6 High Street, Culham. 01235 533370

Supplier to Raymond Blanc's Two Michelin Star restaurant and hotel *Belmond Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons*.

## Shaun Guard TV AERIAL SERVICES

- Poor reception solved
- Internet - extension points & improved wifi
- TV's - hung on your wall or set up and tuned
- Aerials - repaired & supplied
- Extra TV points - for aerial and Sky (also in HD)
- Sky TV - also foreign language TV

**OXFORD AERIALS**

[www.oxfordaerials.co.uk](http://www.oxfordaerials.co.uk)

Call Abingdon 01235 239622



## CHANGES

unisex hair salon

open Tuesday - Saturday

late nights Wednesday & Friday

open all day Saturday

discount for senior citizens Tuesday & Wednesday

free off road parking

*For a professional but friendly service phone*

*01235848453 or call in and see us at*

*8 Milton Road, Sutton Courtenay*



Richard Mathews Florist

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Order online via our new website

[www.richardmathewsflorist.co.uk](http://www.richardmathewsflorist.co.uk)

**THE RAILWAY INN**  
Station Road, Culham



Open 12-2.30pm & 6-9.00 pm for food every day except  
Monday lunchtime and Sunday evening  
Sunday roasts at £9.50

**DOWNLOAD OUR NEW APP**

Visit us at [www.railwayinnculham.co.uk](http://www.railwayinnculham.co.uk)  
or search 'The Railway Inn' on the appstore

**Reward Scheme** Earn 100 points for every £10 spent  
**Bookings** Make bookings for you & family  
**Menu** View our specials & seasonal recipes

Search 'The Railway Inn'

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

Pauline or Roy  
Tel 01235 528046  
[www.railwayinnculham.co.uk](http://www.railwayinnculham.co.uk)

**BURGREY STORES**

120 High Street, Sutton Courtenay OX14 4AX

Groceries	Off-Licence	<i>Monday – Friday</i>
Newspapers	Magazines	<i>8.00am – 6.00pm</i>
Dry Cleaning	Laundry	
Photocopying	Fax Service	<i>Saturday</i>
Post Offices Services		<i>8.30am – 1.00pm</i>

Papers delivered to Culham

D.Patel      Tel: 01235 848227

**A.L.VICKERY AND SON**

Hardware and much more!

**Keys Cut** while you wait,  
**cookshop, housewares,**  
**tools, gardening...**

...you'll save money, time  
and mileage when you try



*Vickery's first!*

5 The Green, Drayton,  
Abingdon OX14 4JA  
Telephone 01235 531497  
**Just park outside!**

**OPEN Monday to Saturday 9am to 5.30pm**

**DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS**



**Most carpets dry within the hour**  
**Unbeatable results, removes almost**  
**all spots & stains**

**GRIMEBUSTERS**

<b>OXFORD</b>	<b>01865 726983</b>
<b>ABINGDON</b>	<b>01235 555533</b>
<b>WITNEY</b>	<b>01993 868924</b>

**[www.grimebusters.co.uk](http://www.grimebusters.co.uk)**



**Culham**  
**Garden Services**

Local, Reliable and Professional

Available for all aspects of garden maintenance and  
clearance

Seasoned logs and kindling for sale

**07857383069**

[James@culhamgardenservices.co.uk](mailto:James@culhamgardenservices.co.uk)  
Regular and one-off services available  
Public Liability Insured    Lawn treatment service

James Rockall  
13 High Street  
Culham  
OX14 4NB

# The Bee & The Dodo



## HOME STYLING

Selling your house or want to update your look?

Need to get things de-cluttered for your sales photographs, sort your storage, or smarten up your style for a dinner party?

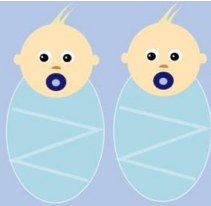
I'll help you quickly create a fresh style to realise your home's potential.



Call me to discuss further!

Kate: 07740507930

[www.thebeeandthedodo.co.uk](http://www.thebeeandthedodo.co.uk)



## Need a babysitter?

**My name is Tom Burchall, I am 15 years old, I am very good with children and have experience with looking after them.**

**I am trustworthy, reliable and responsible.**

**I am looking for work in Culham.**

**Email: [tburchall@icloud.com](mailto:tburchall@icloud.com)**

**Phone: 7551 733087**

# WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM?

<b>CULHAM PARISH COUNCIL</b>			
Sam Casey-Rerhaye (Chair)	s.caseyrerhaye@culham-pc.gov.uk	3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 799489
Andrew Steele	a.steele@culham-pc.gov.uk	27 High Street, Culham	01235 534910
John Thomas	info@culham-pc.gov.uk	40 High Street, Culham	01235 521678
Gordon Gibbs	g.gibbs@culham-pc.gov.uk	32 High Street, Culham	01235 523679
Adrian Morris	a.morris@culham-pc.gov.uk	The Willows, Culham	
<b>CLERK TO PARISH COUNCIL</b>			
Lucy Dalby	clerk@culham-pc.gov.uk	76 Evenlode Drive, Didcot OX11 7XQ	01235 817464
<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR</b>			
Sue Lawson	sue.lawson@southoxon.gov.uk		07899 963236
<b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR</b>			
Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	lorraine.lindsay-gale@oxfordshire.gov.uk	Nut Tree Cottage, The Green South, Warborough OX10 7DR	01865 858976
<b>ST PAUL'S CHURCH</b>			
Associate Team Vicar:	Revd. Michael Lakey		07586 323325
Ordained Local Minister	Revd. David Haylett	familyhaylett@yahoo.com	01865 407382
Hon. Treasurer:	Andrew Churchill Stone	churchillstone27@gmail.com 21 High Street, Culham	01235 533011
Churchwarden:	Roy Epps	14 The Glebe, Culham	01235 537525
Hon. Secretary:	Charles Reichardt	Fair Green, Henley Rd, Culham	01235 520534
<b>FRIENDS OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH</b>			
Chairman:	Philip Owen	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
<b>CULHAM PAROCHIAL SCHOOL (Thames Bridge C of E Federation)</b>			
Head Teacher:	Mrs Lisa Horton	The School, High Street, Culham	01235 521766
Chair of Governors:	Debbie Croft	c/o Clifton Hampden School	01865 407700
<b>LADIES OF CULHAM (LOC)</b>			
Mary Rickford	mary@therickfords.com	The Clock House, Culham	01235 528052
<b>CULHAM COMMUNITY GROUP</b>			
Sam Casey-Rerhaye		3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 799489
<b>CULHAM POOR ALLOTMENTS TRUST</b>			
Gordon Gibbs	grgibbs@btinternet.com	32 High Street, Culham	01235 523679
<b>POLICE</b>			
Neighbourhood Policing Team		Non-emergency Phone Number	101
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