

# The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter

**April 2021**



## **Dates for your Diary**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April    Parish Council meeting    Online – please contact for details:  
[s.caseyrerhaye@culham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:s.caseyrerhaye@culham-pc.gov.uk)

## From the Dorchester Abbey Team

### Talking point

April's Talking Point

The Revd Paul Wignall



A poet once called April “the cruellest month” and for us it’s bringing to a close a cruel year. A year we would not have predicted twelve months ago; a year that’s changed our approach to life, bringing to an end unquestioned ways of doing things, reasserting the temporariness of so much of life, forcing us all to look in the face death, debilitating long-term illness, economic ruin and emotional chaos. And if, in our neck of the woods, we’ve had it comparatively easy compared (say) to the slums of South Africa or the terraced houses of Burnley or Blackburn, still we’ve probably all felt stress and are longing for it all to end.

It was another, much earlier, poet who celebrated April as a time of sweet showers, ending the hardships of winter and bringing new life to the trees and the fields. Then, said Geoffrey Chaucer, in his bouncing medieval English rhythms, “longen folk to goon on pilgrimages... to seeken straunge strondes” – “people long to take journeys, to find new countries”. And judging by the way our TVs and ipads are being bombarded by holiday adverts, things haven’t changed much. I long for that too – to get back to my special places (Wastwater, Florence, in my case) – but I also want to discover new ones – some depopulated Greek island perhaps, or one of the Cumbrian tarns high on the fells. Or even a footpath by the Thames I haven’t walked yet.

Chaucer talked about the springtime longing to take a walk, but a special walk. A pilgrimage. A walk where you don’t just find new people, new places, new pubs and new gift shops, but can also find a bit more of yourself. You don’t have to be particularly religious or spiritual to do that. Alongside the longing to go back to the well-known beach, bar or shop, there’s the itch to try somewhere and something new. You can of course always do both: go back to old places with new eyes. Climb the Clumps and see how many spring flowers are pushing through, listen for the swirl of fallen leaves, the sound of air blowing fast or slow through twigs and branches. Walk through a town or a village looking not just in the shops, but down the side streets – and especially look up (mind where you are walking!) – the history, the lost lives, the beauty of so many places lurks on the upper floors and rooftops of the buildings we take for granted and rarely take time to look at.

So, dodging the April showers, get out and look around. Reconnect with one another sure, but reconnect with the world that’s been waiting patiently for you to turn up again. It won’t disappoint you and might even give you new ideas and dreams to carry into the future.

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### Dorchester Abbey Team News

We are beginning, slowly, to move back to worship in our churches. We are moving slowly because above all we want to keep everyone safe, but we do recognise that for many people the chance to meet together on a Sunday is very important. We will be starting with worship on Easter Day (4<sup>th</sup> April) with a 9.30 service of Holy Communion in St Mary’s, Long Wittenham, a 10.30 service of Morning Prayer in St Michael and All Angel’s, Clifton Hampden and an 11am service of Holy Communion at St Paul’s, Culham. The Culham event will start earlier with a shared, socially distanced breakfast and we plan to hold the service outdoors, weather permitting. Further information about these services and other services later in the month will be advertised on local websites and facebook pages, and of course all the services and events of the whole Dorchester Team can be found on the Dorchester Abbey webpages.

# Village News

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

## St Paul's Church

For up to date St Paul's Church information and activities please see the St Pauls and Culham Village facebook page for details:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsandculhamvillage>

## Charlie Rippington – Obituary

Charlie Rippington was born in 1959 and sadly passed away on March 7<sup>th</sup> 2021. He lived his entire life in Culham. He lived with his parents Lilian and Charlie Rippington and his brother David at 7 the Glebe Culham before the family moved to 25 The Glebe where Charlie lived for the rest of his life.

He attended the village school and really enjoyed his time growing up in Culham. He loved all sports but particularly football and cricket. He spent many hours in the playing field kicking a football with his friends. Many people in the village at the time knew Charlie as the paperboy, taking his first job very seriously.

A highlight of the year was the village fete, which was held on the playing field, and Charlie loved all the activities and would always be relied upon to run a stall. He enjoyed going to the village shop and having a bottle of pop and bag of crisps at the Lion with the family. In his teenage years, Charlie attended Abbey School in Berinsfield and later Peers School in Littlemore where he made many lifelong friends. A passion of Charlie's was cricket and he spent many years playing for both Dorchester and later Chalgrove. He was a very popular member of both sides and would always give 100% on the field. He also enjoyed watching England and visited the West Indies on 2 occasions to watch them in action.



In his adult life, Charlie was a much loved partner to Sheryll and father to Andrew. His holidays with Sheryll were often the highlight of his year - planning them several months in advance and counting down the days.

Charlie worked as a warehouse operative for Tesco for the last 30 years and made many friends there. He would spend his days off rising early and watching sport, as well as running errands for anyone who needed help. He took great pleasure in the simple things and always had a smile on his face. He kept his love for cricket his entire life, often waking up in the early hours of the morning to watch England's Test matches in other time zones.

Charlie's funeral will be taking place on Wednesday 14th April at 11am. Due to covid-19, there is a limit on the number of people who can attend in person - however the funeral will also be live streamed.

If you'd like to watch the funeral live, please email [andrewrippington@gmail.com](mailto:andrewrippington@gmail.com) and we'll gladly provide a link for you.

There is also a tribute page for Charlie, just visit the following URL to see the wall of thoughts/pictures, and please feel free to contribute if you knew him.

<https://charlesrippington.muchloved.com>

Charlie was much loved by many, many people and will be sorely missed.

# Culham Parish Council (CPC) notes – March 2021

The CPC website address: <https://www.culham-pc.gov.uk/>

Held online.

The reports from OCC and SODC councillors appear elsewhere in The Mouthpiece.

Firstly, welcome to Siobhan Sargeant who has now joined CPC as a Councillor.

The Morells' consultant for the Waggon refurbishment is still working up the finances for the project prior to further discussions with SODC. Future proposals for the immediate area include a pedestrian controlled crossing at the Waggon site and making Thame Lane one way.

CPC may have to pursue SODC to convert the trackway to the hydro scheme back to a 'farm track' as per the original planning application. Morrells seem reluctant to make the conversion.

Cherwell District Council has been granted a Judicial Review of their local plan. This helps with the SCGB/Biodiversity group request for a JR of the SODC plan.

The latest application for project Swift is 'likely' to be refused.

Regarding the Chalgrove airfield site being partly given over to housing, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) have rejected the proposed construction of houses anywhere on the site due to safety and noise concerns from the Martin Baker company aircraft related testing. If this goes through it will put pressure on other areas to accept more housing.

CPC accounts have been booked in for audit and details will be sent to the assessor.

Neighbourhood Plan – Around 50 replies to the consultation have been received. There is a meeting next week (week beginning 15 March) with O'Neil Homes, the external consultant.

CPC is pursuing the installation of village entry gates on the Burycroft and on the Sutton Bridge approach road.

## **Next meeting**

Tuesday 13 April 2021

This will almost certainly be an online meeting.

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

**Lucy Dalby attended her last meeting for Culham Parish Council in March. She has been Clerk for the Parish Council for more than 11 years and has made a big contribution to the village. We were able to say thank you with a John Lewis voucher and a lovely bunch of tulips, thanks to a collection of £105 from villagers and councillors. The Parish Council has recruited a new Clerk, Jo Denn.**

Sam Casey-Rerhaye  
Chair of the Parish Council

## **Litter Picking**

A grateful thank you to those who litter pick, and it is much appreciated and keeps the village and surrounding footpaths and verges looking neat. We can all help, but please take care and use gloves and or a litter picker.

# Culham Neighbourhood Plan Update

During February, every household in Culham received a questionnaire asking for their views concerning the scope and content of a neighbourhood plan for Culham. We have received over a quarter of all the questionnaires and will collate the responses for inclusion in a future edition. In addition, the group which is bringing the neighbourhood plan into reality was strengthened by new members keen to participate in helping to shape the future of our village. Anyone is welcome to join or help out at any stage. Over the next few months, we aim to complete a draft of the plan and then again ask for comments, hopefully being able to get feedback directly at a late summer event on the green that I am sure we all hope will take place.

## UPDATE FROM SAVE CULHAM GREEN BELT

The dreaded SODC Local Plan 2035 was adopted following the fateful vote on 10 Dec 2020.

In a cruel irony, on 16 Dec every national newspaper published news of the Government U-turn on housing number algorithms and their insistence that brownfield and urban areas will be prioritized. It was galling to read that Government conceded that the Covid-19 pandemic has 'created a generational opportunity' for repurposing offices and houses for urban renewal. We were not even allowed to *mention* the word Covid in the farcical 'Examination in Public' of the Local Plan.

We understand from Council Leader, Sue Cooper, that SODC intends to try and quickly get a new Local Plan under way, jointly with the Vale of White Horse, which should be able to take into account the reduced housing numbers. On the other hand, a new plan means a new 'Call for Sites'... Need I say more?

### LEGAL CHALLENGE

MEANWHILE, as many of you know, a new Community Interest Company, Bioabundance, has been set up and submitted a claim for statutory review (Judicial Review) of the SODC Local Plan 2035 (SOLP2035), naming also the Secretary of State, Robert Jenrick, on three main grounds:

- The unlawful pressure put on councillors to adopt the local plan in December 2020;
- technical errors in calculating the plan's housing numbers which overstated housing requirement;
- the impact of housing overprovision on climate change.

There may be quite a wait to hear whether the case is accepted by the High Court. Meanwhile Bioabundance is fundraising with a target of £35,000. They have a crowdjustice site:

<https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/southoxonlocalplan>

Bioabundance now has a fast-growing membership, currently 70 members including six or so Parish Councils. Please read more about Bioabundance and its very positive aims and action at [www.bioabundance.org.uk](http://www.bioabundance.org.uk) or here for all their online platforms: <https://linktr.ee/bioabundance.cic>

### Good news from Cherwell campaigners

In the meantime, Cherwell campaigners, Cherwell Development Watch Alliance, who launched their own Judicial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan Partial Review, which proposes 4400 houses on Green Belt. They filed back in October 2020 and heard just in mid-February that Judge, the Hon. Mrs Justice Lang has granted a full High Court hearing. Cherwell Council and Robert Jenrick, together with 4 landowners will have to defend:

[challenged in High Court | Oxford Mail](#)

[Council plan to build on green belt](#)

Although this is no indication of the final outcome, it bodes well for acceptance of the Bioabundance challenge to SODC's Local Plan. Both challenge the number of houses for Oxford City and on Green Belt.

## Oxford-Cambridge Expressway cancelled (official)

And more good news: A huge win today (18 March) for the various No Expressway groups as Transport Secretary Grant Shapps has today (18 March 2021) announced the cancellation of the Oxford-Cambridge (Ox-Cam) expressway, after analysis confirmed the proposed project was not cost-effective.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway-project-cancelled-as-transport-secretary-looks-to-alternative-plans-for-improving-transport-in-the-region>

The Government still has massive aims for what it terms the '*Oxford-Cambridge Arc, home to cutting-edge research, globally renowned science and technology clusters and some of the most productive places in the country*'.

If anyone has the stamina to read more, check out this document: [Planning for sustainable growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/94422/planning-for-sustainable-growth-in-the-oxford-cambridge-arc.pdf)

## FINALLY

Are you interested in the idea of having **solar panels** installed on your roof. Andy Tunstall (Green Group Director) gives regular presentations about the system and installation procedures. Please look at:



<https://www.iddea.co.uk/what-is-solar-streets/> for more information.

The basic concept is that for a group of houses in a community (they like to work in batches of 10, but will go with 3-4), they will install 12 PV solar panels on a suitable roof, and they produce 4kW. They come with an inverter to convert from DC to AC current. There are optional extras such as battery storage. The basic cost is £4000.

If you are interested, please contact any Parish Councillor.



# District Councillor's Report March/April 2021

## - Sam Casey-Rerhaye

### Council Tax Reduction Scheme

With Council Tax rises from both the County and District council in our budgets, I want to remind you about our council tax reduction scheme, as well as other schemes in place, to support those who may struggle to pay their council tax, with further discounts already applied to those who qualify for the reduction scheme. However, with personal circumstances changing in the pandemic, some people may have become eligible for a reduction now who were not previously, so please contact the council if you need help - call 0345 302 2313 or go to: [southoxon.gov.uk/counciltax](https://southoxon.gov.uk/counciltax)

### Covid-19 support is still available

We still have funding available to distribute to those in need – there are supermarket and fuel vouchers available, as well as the direct payment of energy or water bills. The extended deadline for support is the 16 April, so people need to get in touch soon – please contact our Community Hub: call **01235 422600** or email [communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk).

### Helping with Vaccine roll-out for Covid-19

Officers will be helping with this, including speaking to people who have not responded to their vaccine invitation and offering support.

### Business Support

The Economic Development team are still here to help businesses, administering grants and giving advice. So far the team have processed millions of pounds of grants, so if you run a business large or small, please sign up to the mailing list for the latest government grant availability via [www.svbs.co.uk](http://www.svbs.co.uk). There are a number of grant schemes currently open, and we are pressing for more support for those business types which have been overlooked so far.

### Local Plan – Chalgrove site & Judicial Review

You may have seen in the media that a local Community Interest Company (CIC) called Bioabundance has applied to launch a Judicial Review of the decision to adopt the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035. The grounds for challenge are that:

- the worsening effect on climate change of excessive housing numbers is not given adequate attention
- the calculation of housing numbers is not coherent
- at the adoption vote, councillors unlawfully took account of threatened consequences of government intervention, and the vote was dictated by MHCLG

The Council will respond to the claim, and as a Councillor, I respect the right of any member of the public or organisation to launch a legal process of this kind.

You may also have seen the letter from the Civil Aviation Authority's Airfield Advisory Team regarding the Homes England planning application for a new settlement on Chalgrove Airfield. This letter puts the future of this application in some doubt; however, it seems unlikely to affect the 5-year housing land supply which is robust even without the Chalgrove development (which was one of the reasons for the over-provision in the LP2035).

## **2022 Elections**

The Government has now confirmed that local elections will take place in early May as scheduled, and officers are working on the logistics planning needed to accommodate both voting and vote-counting. Counting would be more risky if done under current arrangements where all votes are counted together with an army of specially recruited tellers. Cllr Cooper tried advocating that counting should not be done centrally for these elections. Social distancing is much easier for small scale events. It is also quicker to count smaller numbers of votes! But our polling stations could have different numbers of elections. We all have the Police & Crime Commissioner and a County Councillor to vote for. But some could have by-elections or a Neighbourhood Plan referendum. As with a lot of things at the moment there is much uncertainty. But arrangements for counting are dictated by returning officers, in this case, being mostly about the County Council elections, it is the County's returning officer who takes the decisions.

We would strongly encourage people to consider applying for a postal vote if they are concerned about voting in person (or just because it might be more convenient) – see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote>

## **Garden Waste**

By the time you read this, garden waste collections should have resumed. We had to delay the restart of the service as many of Biffa's bin crews were off sick or are having to self-isolate due to COVID-19. We will continue to provide a weekly update on our [website](#), or I can personally recommend the council's 'Binzone' app for updates.

## **Housing First**

Following the information I gave you about our successful pilot in housing people who have been homeless under the 'Housing First' model, I am pleased to tell you that we will be providing more housing under this model and the County Council are following our example with their endorsement of Housing First.

## **OxCam-Arc**

You may have seen a recent Government press release about the OxCam Arc - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-plan-to-transform-oxford-cambridge-arc-into-uk-s-fastest-growing-economic-region>.

This announced “an ambitious plan to unleash the economic and cultural potential of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, to transform it into one of the world's premier growth corridors and a world-leader in sustainability”. While recognising the contribution made by this region to the UK economy, and the need for a pandemic recovery strategy, at South Oxfordshire we want to see much more focus on a recovery and investment that addresses the other two emergencies – climate and ecological - in developing new skills and jobs rather than focusing on economic growth of any kind. South Oxfordshire is not represented on the Arc Leaders' Group (these seats are taken by the Leaders of Vale and Cherwell districts), but we do use our influence to encourage investment in green jobs, rail projects, digital connectivity, homes retrofitting to save energy (and lower household bills!) as well as ensuring that nature and biodiversity are given equal priority.

## **Task and Finish Group on the Green Homes Grant**

I am chairing this group (under the Scrutiny committee umbrella), which will call different organisations and industry/education reps across the district and county to give evidence and answer questions on the capacity and skills base for retro-fitting homes. This is essential if we are to achieve our carbon targets, as so much carbon comes from heating homes. 'Retro-fitting' is increasing insulation, changing boilers to heat pumps, changing windows/radiators etc as needed – to decrease the amount of heat needed in a house as well as to change the type of heating from fossil-fuelled systems. The government has provided money for households for this via the Green Homes Grants but there has been poor uptake and it has not been managed well. The group will report with recommendations by the summer, and councils across the county



are keen to use our recommendations themselves. It is also, happily, addresses fuel poverty problems by lowering heating bills!

As ever, please contact me for help with any District matters:

[Sam.Casey-Rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.Casey-Rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk)

01235 799489

## **County Councillor's Report March 2021**

### **Lorraine Lindsay-Gayle**

#### **Local Elections 6th May 2021**

On 6<sup>th</sup> May Local Elections are taking place across the country. These will include County Councils, Elected Mayors and Police and Crime Commissioners. I have been your County Councillor for 12 years. I am standing for re-election, and if I'm successful, I look forward to working for you over the coming four years. This area is going to experience significant change, and I would like to be able to support our local communities to see that they gain the maximum benefit they can from the new development that will be happening here soon.

The County Council has experienced severe pressures during this term of office, particularly due to the pandemic, but I am proud that we have managed to present a balanced budget for 2021-2022 that includes investments to provide better services for young people.

#### **Warborough Junction Made Safe at Last**

The residents of Henfield View Warborough have wanted changes to the road markings at the junction with Thame Road for a long time. There was no line of sight to the right, compounded by people parking to use the village stores on the corner. Finally, after considerable pressure from me, the County Highways traffic team have painted new white lines that afford protection to pedestrians, people parking and the Henfield View drivers.

#### **Culham to get a Pedestrian Crossing**

Culham residents have come a step closer to having a pedestrian crossing at the traffic lights on the A415 by the ex-Wagon and Horses pub. The developer who plans to make the pub into an hotel with some housing behind, has offered to part fund the scheme. This is certain to make it easier for the County Council to fund the balance and I shall certainly be pressing for the project to go ahead.

#### **Flooding and Road Safety in Garsington**

The county council has been tunnelling under an area of Garsington in an effort to solve the problem of repeated flooding at the junction of Denton Lane, outside the School. We must wait for some more heavy rain to see if it works. The Council has agreed to conduct a survey into the numbers of people crossing the road in the same location as a first step towards possibly putting in a pedestrian crossing. They have also agreed to schedule a feasibility assessment of the very narrow stretch of road going up the hill to the pub to widen the pavement and put in a small chicane to slow the traffic and protect pedestrians. I am very concerned about these issues and will push for action to be taken as soon as possible. And it has just been confirmed that the road edges along Pettiwell outside the breakers yard are to be repaired in April, and the double yellow lines refreshed. This is great news, which I hope will encourage Police enforcement and prevent the dangerous rking of up to 30 cars in the lane that causes serious disruption to local drivers.

Residents and organisations across Oxfordshire are being offered the chance to help shape the transformation of transport and digital connectivity across the county in a new consultation from 15 February to 28 March on a draft blueprint for the future.

## **Consultation Launched on Transport Blueprint**

With the need for climate action, helping create healthy communities and addressing air quality at the heart of council thinking, the new local transport and connectivity plan (LTCP) sets out a vision for Oxfordshire that will contribute to developing a zero-carbon economy for the county and transform the health and wellbeing of residents.

Oxfordshire is a great success story, but its ongoing performance must address how we travel in a way that can reduce congestion, improve our health and help develop active, connected communities. The County Council needs and will value your input about how we can best do this, working together, so please take time to review the consultation and offer your views.

The vision has been developed following analysis of engagement work with many organisations and through an analysis of transport data and evidence from a survey in March 2020. This consultation will offer residents a chance to give feedback on the content of the plan.

The areas of focus for the new plan are:

- Commitments to de-carbonise the transport system by 2050
- Reducing the need to travel
- Discouraging unnecessary individual private vehicle use by promoting use of public transport and active travel such as walking and cycling
- A push towards quality digital gigabit and/or full fibre connectivity for all
- Enabling the economy to develop, supporting the Oxfordshire local industrial strategy agreed in July 2019
- Public transport operations and network changes amid the impacts of COVID-19.

A second consultation due later this year will cover the development of the full LTCP including an updated vision and goals.

## **COVID-19**

### **The statistics**

In the seven days up to 5 March, there has been a total of 220 confirmed new COVID-19 cases in Oxfordshire. This is a decrease from 405 new cases in the previous week. This is equivalent to a weekly rate of 31.8 per 100,000 residents and a reduction of 46 per cent over the last seven days.

### **Vaccination programme update**

To date, over 150,000 people living or working in the county have now received their first dose of the vaccine, including all frontline health and social care staff and all older adult care home residents and staff. Over 95 per cent of those aged over 75 have also had their first vaccination, together with more than 90 per cent of those aged 70 - 74.

### **New vaccine outreach programme**

Oxfordshire councils are running, in partnership with GPs and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, a new outreach service to support the uptake of COVID-19 vaccinations.

The service is aimed at reaching out to residents in the top four priority groups who have not responded to their invitation for a first dose of the vaccine to help support them if they want to have the jab. We hope this outreach programme will be a valuable tool in ensuring that everyone who wants the vaccine can be supported to get it and that nobody gets left behind in the rollout of Oxfordshire's vaccination programme.

### **Oxfordshire parents and children offered first choice of school**

As the Cabinet Member for Education I am delighted that in the vast majority of cases parents and children across the county have been offered their first choice of secondary school for 2021/22. A total of 89.99 per

cent (6,371) of applications have been awarded their first choice, and our school admissions team has done an excellent job in achieving this.

This is both a slightly higher percentage than in 2020 when 88.56% received a first preference and a higher number - 6,321 in 2021 compared to 6,048 in 2020. This year the group of primary school children making the transfer to secondary school is 7,103 – as compared to 6,829.

The level of housing development in the County has led to a building programme of nearly 30 new schools and the expansion of many existing schools. The Council is also building three new special schools in Didcot, Littlemore and Bloxham.

### **Target for cutting greenhouse gas emissions exceeded**

Oxfordshire's aim of becoming a zero-carbon county by 2050 has received a boost with news that our target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions was exceeded last year. We cut our corporate carbon emissions by eight per cent from April 2019 to March 2020, beating our target of six per cent. The replacement of boilers and streetlighting with more energy-efficient models, the installation of solar panels and the purchase of more electric vehicles were all factors in the reduction and more savings are soon on the way with the rollout of LED street lighting. The [full story](#) is published in the news section of our website.

### **Filthy Gully Contents can be Recycled**

Now Oxfordshire County Council is recycling in a completely different area – road repairs and gully cleaning. Over a four year period, the approach could potentially stop 1,000 tonnes of CO2 being emitted and save £4.3 million of council taxpayers' money. It will also cut the amount of waste that is sent to landfill sites and reduce the amount of new material that is dug out of the ground.

It's difficult to imagine anything useful being salvaged from the dirty water and solid matter – largely silt – recovered by tankers during the process of cleaning gullies. But you'd be surprised. Oxfordshire County Council contractor Skanska is currently taking part in a trial with the company Combined Drier Technology to reprocess and reuse the waste, thereby reducing the amount that has to be disposed of expensively.

Using purpose-built de-watering bays in the county council's depot in Drayton, near Abingdon, water is removed and filtered. Depending on the quality, the water can be re-used or discharged into the foul drainage network under a trade effluent discharge consent.

The de-watered gully waste is then dried, allowing it to be screened and graded, recovering as much of the original waste as possible and removing any non-recyclable contaminants. These recycled materials could then potentially be used in highways works as fill material for resurfacing, topsoil replacement, or be fed into the production of recycled aggregates, subject to appropriate material and chemical testing results and stakeholder agreement. During the trial period, this drying and screening is being undertaken at a third-party permitted facility. However, the equipment used is mobile which would allow it to be deployed to the Drayton depot if the trial proves successful.

Oxfordshire produces approximately 1,000 tonnes of gully waste annually. If successful, the new methods of dealing with it could save up to £27,000 a year and prevent four tonnes of CO2 being released into the atmosphere.

One of the by-products of road and path resurfacing – created as a result of asphalt being removed from a surface sub-base – is known as 'asphalt planings'. Annual maintenance of Oxfordshire's highway network produces significant quantities of this material, which can be recycled. However, approximately 8,000 tonnes of this are classified as 'asphalt waste containing coal tar' (AWCCT), a toxic material which makes it expensive to dispose of safely and difficult to recycle.

### **Motorbike crash survivor helps launch hard-hitting road safety campaign**

One of the County Council firefighters is encouraging motorbike riders to prioritise safety after he was involved in a life-changing biking accident. Nathan Crockford, who is based at Burford Fire Station, suffered severe leg damage after crashing into a car that pulled out in front of his motorbike. Nathan is certain his injuries would have been worse, if not life threatening, without wearing a safety helmet and the correct protective clothing. Further details about Ride Safe events are available on the [365alive website](#). I have been in touch with Andy and hope he can help encourage better behaviour from bikers on the A4074.

## Other News



Mostly Books, 36 Stert Street, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3JP

[www.mostly-books.co.uk](http://www.mostly-books.co.uk)

Tel: 01235 525 880

Email: [books@mostly-books.co.uk](mailto:books@mostly-books.co.uk)

Twitter: [@MostlyReading](https://twitter.com/MostlyReading)

Instagram: [mostlybooks\\_shop](https://www.instagram.com/mostlybooks_shop)

Click 'n' Collect: Call, Email, or Tweet for orders

Next day ordering service available for the majority of titles



### **Mostly Books is Regional Finalist for Independent Bookshop of the Year 2021**

Mostly Books, independent bookshop in Abingdon, has been named South East Regional Finalist in the British Books Award's Independent Bookshop of the Year Award for 2021, for the fourth consecutive year.

Mostly Books was named as one of eight independent bookshops to have reached the final shortlist in the South East region. The shop now moves on to the next stage of judging in the awards that celebrate independent bookshops on the high street.

The judging period highlights excellence from January–December of the previous year, which has been a crucial time for small independents to remain afloat during the pandemic.

Sarah Dennis, owner of Mostly Books says, "2020 has been by far the hardest year we have ever experienced, due to our doors being closed for nearly six months throughout the various lockdowns. We have continuously changed and adapted to keep the business going, and it is really special for our hard work to be recognised by the industry."

### **Mostly Books is One of 410 Indie Bookshops to Share £1m Profit Generated on Bookshop.org as Booksellers Continue to Fight Back in the Pandemic**

Mostly Books in Abingdon is one of the 410 independent bookshops to share in the £1million profit generated in just four months by Bookshop ([www.Bookshop.org](http://www.Bookshop.org)), the book buying site that empowers socially conscious shoppers to financially support independent bookshops when shopping online.

Bookshop.org offers an ethical online marketplace that ensures independent bookshops receive 30 per cent of the cover price from each sale they generate on the platform.



## Over 15,000 hacked email and social media accounts reported in one year.

If a hacker got into your email or social media account, what would they find? Health and banking information? Names and contact details for your friends and family? Private photos and messages? For most people, it's at least one of those.

Your email and social media accounts contain a wealth of personal information about you, which makes them a lucrative target for cyber criminals. **Between February 2020 and February 2021, Action Fraud received 15,214 reports about email and social media account hacking.** The majority of reports (88%) were made by individuals, with 12% of reports being made by businesses. Analysis of the crime reports revealed that Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat were the most affected social media accounts, with phishing messages being the most common tactic used by cyber criminals to lure unsuspecting victims.

The motivation behind the hacks are varied and can range from financial gain, to revenge or personal amusement. Some victims are extorted for money, whilst others have their accounts used to send malicious links to their contacts. One victim who had multiple email and social media accounts hacked paid over £2,000 to regain access to them. Another victim reported that her hacked Facebook account was used to trick her friends into sending money into a PayPal account they thought belonged to her.

### **Secure your email and social media accounts in just a few minutes. Here's what you need to do:**

- 1: Use a strong and separate password for your email,** as well as other important accounts, such as your banking or social media accounts.
- 2: Enable two-factor authentication (2FA).** It will help to stop hackers from getting into your online accounts, even if they have your password.
- 3: If you can't access your account,** search the company's online support or help pages. You'll find information about how to recover your account.

For detailed instructions on how to reset your password or enable 2FA on your accounts, visit: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/secureyouraccounts>

## 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 May issue of the Mouthpiece by April 15<sup>th</sup> to:

[generalmouthpiece@gmail.com](mailto:generalmouthpiece@gmail.com)

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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>www.larkmead.co.uk</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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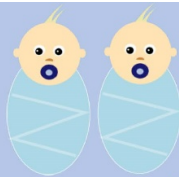
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Phone: 07551 733087

# WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM?

<b>CULHAM PARISH COUNCIL</b>			
Sam Casey-Rerhaye (Chair)	<a href="mailto:scaseyrerhaye@culham-pc.gov.uk">scaseyrerhaye@culham-pc.gov.uk</a>	3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 799489
Andrew Steele	<a href="mailto:a.steele@culham-pc.gov.uk">a.steele@culham-pc.gov.uk</a>	27 High Street, Culham	01235 534910
Adrian Morris	<a href="mailto:a.morris@culham-pc.gov.uk">a.morris@culham-pc.gov.uk</a>	5, Manor Farm Barns, Culham	
Philip Owen	<a href="mailto:p.owen@culham-pc.gov.uk">p.owen@culham-pc.gov.uk</a>	6, The Green, Culham	01235 555223
Siobhan Sargeant	<a href="mailto:s.sargeant@culham-pc.gov.uk">s.sargeant@culham-pc.gov.uk</a>	3, High Street, Culham	
<b>CLERK TO PARISH COUNCIL</b>			
	<a href="mailto:clerk@culham-pc.gov.uk">clerk@culham-pc.gov.uk</a>		
<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR</b>			
Sam Casey-Rerhaye	<a href="mailto:Sam.Casey-Rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk">Sam.Casey-Rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk</a>	3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 799489
<b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR</b>			
Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	<a href="mailto:lorraine.lindsay-gale@oxfordshire.gov.uk">lorraine.lindsay-gale@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>	Nut Tree Cottage, The Green South, Warborough OX10 7DR	01865 858976
<b>ST PAUL'S CHURCH</b>			
Associate Team Vicar:	Rev Paul Wignall		01865 340007
Ordained Local Minister	Revd. David Haylett	<a href="mailto:familyhaylett@yahoo.com">familyhaylett@yahoo.com</a>	01865 407382
Hon. Treasurer:	Andrew Churchill Stone	<a href="mailto:churchillstone27@gmail.com">churchillstone27@gmail.com</a> 21 High Street, Culham	01235 533011
Churchwarden:	Roy Epps	<a href="mailto:stpaulsculham@gmail.com">stpaulsculham@gmail.com</a> 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>ST PAUL'S &amp; CULHAM VILLAGE RE-ORDERING COMMTEE</b>			
Philip Owen	<a href="mailto:stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com">stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com</a>	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
<b>LADIES OF CULHAM (LOC)</b>			
Mary Rickford	<a href="mailto:mary@therickfords.com">mary@therickfords.com</a>	The Clock House, Culham	01235 528052
<b>POLICE</b>			
Neighbourhood Policing Team		Non-emergency Phone Number	101
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