

Business Networking Group 'BUZZ'

As part of an initiative to support the businesses in the village, a new group has been formed by leading members of the business community in the village, with support of the Chinnor Parish Council.

We would like to welcome the following companies tonight who are part of the Chinnor Buzz group....

Motec

Shapers Hair & Beauty

Regler & Co Solicitors

MPS Personalised Products

Weights Gym

Ivan Cammack

Steve Gunn & Associates Ltd.

Hobbs Granger Roitt LLP

Bonnors & Babingtons Estate Agents

Look Local

Integrity Wills

Autism Oxford

Chinnor Buzz



Chinnor Parish Council

Annual Reports **Chinnor Parish Council** **2013**



Chairman`s Report 2013 by Cllr Pat Haywood

Welcome to the Annual Assembly. This is an opportunity for the Parish Council to give an account of their work throughout last year but also give the parish an idea of what we are planning for the future. It gives you, as a parishioner, a chance to ask question, suggest items that you would like us to look at and to tell us what you do not like. We try to make this an interesting evening so this year we have invited the Buzz Group along so please meet and talk to them all, this is a group of people who have a business within Chinnor and hopefully they can give ideas and help to one another. So, if you own or run a business this may be of help to you too.

Parish Council: The past year has had its fair share of ups and downs as with everyone else the recession has hit, money just is not available for some of the projects that we would like to do. This has made us work and think hard before going ahead with a project.

Jubilee Celebrations: After debate I am very pleased that we went ahead with the weekend of different events from eta parties to fireworks. There was something for everyone. The only thing I would change was the weather!

August Marquee: It was great to see so many villages enjoying the August marquee events yet again. The weather was kind and each event made money for their organisations whilst offering great entertainment.

We have another great year planned for the marquee with events starting on Tuesday night right through to August Bank Holiday Monday with the Flower and Produce Show.

New Homes: I am pleased to welcome the new residents from Old Kiln Lakes. By now just over two thirds of the site is occupied and I really do hope that we will welcome them to the Schools, Churches and various village clubs. We moved here over 40 years ago and were welcomed by such a friendly village.

What is New? I think most people have now seen the plans for the changing rooms and social club on the Playing Fields – this has been going to happen for so long now that most people have given up hope!

It is going to happen this time though! Plans are approved and grants are being sought to pay for the new build. We all need a building we can be proud of.

All the plans are available at the Assembly for viewing.

I would now like to thank my fellow Councillors for all their support and help through this difficult time that the Country, as a whole, has to deal with. My thanks to all our staff, Liz and Jo in the office who are always bright and cheerful and Trevor and John who work outside, in all weathers!

Pat Haywood
Chairman of the Parish Council



Finance and General Purposes Report 2013 by Cllr Nigel Ambridge

The 2012-13 financial year proved to be challenging for Chinnor Parish Council as it had to cope with extra demands on its resources following the withdrawal of some District and County Council services. However, a minimal, additional amount of precept was collected from each household and this enabled the Parish Council to maintain a good standard of services around the village.

During 2012 we continued to part-fund a Police Community Support Officer for the parish; we employed a Youth Leader to develop a club for local young people; and we provided financial support to the Village Centre, St Andrew's Church, The Silver Band and the Windmill restoration project. In addition to awarding other small grants, we also contributed to the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in the village.

The forthcoming year will be no less demanding as new projects present themselves. These will include investing in a new pavilion for the Station Road recreation ground and developing community links at Old Kiln Lakes with a children's new play area. Although the Parish Council has had to request another small increase in the precept to fund the proposed budget, Councillors believe that residents appreciate the good quality of life to be found in Chinnor and that improvement to local facilities will be welcomed despite the extra cost.

Planning Committee Report 2013 by Cllr Martin Wright

The main event of this year in the planning field has been the adoption by SODC of the Core Strategy, outlining the way the district will develop between now and 2026. Detail is in short supply, but it is likely that Chinnor will have to take up to 200 new homes in this period.

Any development will have to contain 40% social housing.

In the village, planning permission has been given for the replacement pavilion on the Playing Fields, and for an ATM at the Post Office.

The Rectory wall has been rebuilt, and the Old Kiln Lakes hoarding has been reduced in size.

Two pubs in the village have closed, with one, the Royal Oak, being converted into flats.

As consultee's on planning applications, the Parish Council will continue to try to ensure that SODC take into account local knowledge of the area when determining applications.

Environment Committee report 2013 By Mark Scarborough

Despite the doldrums of the economy, it has been an eventful year of change for the Parish, there have been a number of new and exciting project developments and plans which have occupied the Parish Council Environment and Asset committee which have, and are intended to, improve the facilities provided for as many different interest groups as possible within the councils limited funds and capability. What follows are the main focal points of the committee:

New Sports and Social Pavilion

Long outstanding, the plans for replacement of the Sports and Social Pavilion are well under way. The existing building has long been past its sell-by date, and after structural survey it proved that it was beyond economical repair, and that a new build was the only practical way forward. Led by the CPC, Playing fields trustees and members of CPFMC, a new build plan has been developed and approved and funding is currently being sought to complete the build.

Kiln Lakes Development

Some 97 of the 180 houses have now been built on the Kiln Lakes site and it is expected that the remaining houses, commercial units and care home will be completed in 2014. As part of this, landscaping, planting and path construction for the open areas around the lakes will be completed and specialist management put in place to continue to develop and protect these areas. A new area is on the plan which will provide a sports field, parking and changing rooms, and the council are considering taking on management more of this land for further community use.

When complete, the Kiln Lakes site will be a significant addition and attraction for the village with wide open spaces, water and stunning views of the Chilterns.

Whites Field

The existing building on Whites Field is heavily used by football, and youth groups throughout the year and the council have been considering a number of options to try and extend or enhance the space to make this a more practicable amenity for the village, especially the Youth Group which is really too large for the space available. With the current 'big build' focus on the new Sports Pavilion, limited funds are available for this. However, we are progressing with a plan to re-organise the internal space and consider renovation of the existing kitchen facilities in the coming year.

The Windmill project has been supported by the Parish Council for some 30 years, but has made leaps and bounds in the last year now that the main body has been lifted onto the base and access stairs provided at the back allowing easier visitor access. A lot of work has been put into the internal workings too by the merry band of volunteers, and plans are underway to manufacture the sails which will really be the icing on the cake and make this a truly remarkable Chinnor Landmark!

The hedges that border the field on the roadside had fallen into disrepair. Some of the bushes had died off, and others past were past their prime, and it was also full of years of junk and rubbish. A wonderfully detailed plan was presented by the Greening Campaign Group, which was adopted and funded by the CPC. The Greening Group organised two days during the Winter when volunteers from the Group, CPC and other local volunteers cleared the hedging area and re-planted with bird friendly bushes and many new Daffodils which will be enjoyed by all in the years to come.

Hill Road Recreation area

In my view, this is an underused and underappreciated facility for the village. Actually specially designated as the 'Village Green' despite being on the out limit of the Village it has a large playing area and wonderful views across the Oxfordshire plain. In order to provide some more useful amenities for any groups that would want to use it, the CPC have made a few renovations to the changing rooms with new, safe electrics, improved toilet area, and new shower units. Rubbish and ivy has been cleared from around the changing rooms too to reduce the damp. More minor changes are planned to improve the look at feel of this building in the coming year.

South Oxfordshire District Council report by Cllr Lynn Lloyd

I have had an interesting first year working as one of the two District Councillors for Chinnor. During this time I have been:-

*Working with the Chinnor Business group, "Chinnor Buzz" who are presenting this evening. Providing links with SODC Economy, Leisure and property Department, to identified grants that are currently available.

*Leading discussions, to ensure that the agreed future requirements of the Kiln Lakes Interim Development Order are being progressed.

*Arranging an information update, at a Parish Council meeting by the SODC Housing team, on the process of allocation for Social housing. The ongoing support provided for residents of social housing was also covered.

*Arranging discussions between SODC and Chinnor Parish Council, about the processes for Neighbourhood planning and Housing Allocation. Providing regular feedback to both groups, on these subjects.

*Dealing with and assisting Residents, with issues relating to:- the provision of social housing, mobility and care issues, support for the elderly and young families, maintenance of Housing Association boundaries, arguments between neighbours, leisure group concerns, asbestos clearance, garden waste scheme issues, traffic and road maintenance issues, failed street lighting and supporting the provision of new bus shelters.

Both Chris Hood and I wanted to highlight some of the District Council Achievements for this year:

Provide a reduction in the Council Tax District element for the 3rd year with no drop in services; Maintain the District budget at a good level by constantly reviewing areas where savings can be made without an impact in service; Working with Oxfordshire County Council on the provision of broadband, in the South Oxfordshire District Council area; Once again providing grants for the towns and this time for the larger villages in their area (including Chinnor) for Infrastructure improvements/developments over a 2 year period; Funding of the Big Clean by Biffa, which resulted in many messages of thanks from Chinnor residents and Parish Council.

OCC ANNUAL REPORT by C/Cllr Wilmshurst

In giving this report as your County Councillor I would stress that over my period as your elected member this by far has been the most stressful and demanding period largely a reflection of the current economic situation and the subsequent cut backs in financial Government support for Local Authorities.

As an indication of this major changes have been made to organisation structures seeking out efficiencies to reduce expenditure whilst retaining front line services. One indication of this is the reduction in headcount over the past two years amounting to a reduction in excess of 3000 against a current headcount of 17500. Re organisation is an on-going process and is likely to continue for the remainder of 2013. One direct impact is that salary increases have been frozen for some 3 years

On a personal front I am in Oxford on average some 2 / 3 days a week, apart from being Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee I am also a member and joint Chairman of Employees Joint (HR Committee), Strategy and Partnerships, and Adult Services . In addition to my responsibilities centred on County Hall I also attend on a monthly basis Parish Council meetings in Chinnor and Towersey together with responding to individual issues from local electors. On this latter point through a County Councillors fund of some £10,000 I have been able to provide finance on local issues including Chinnor PC Community Services Survey, Chinnor Village Hall. Chinnor Centre and Youth Service.

As with previous years I have worked closely with the Chairman and Clerk's of Chinnor Parish Council, my thanks in ensuring that we continued to have a sound working relationship for the benefit of Chinnor residents

David Wilmshurst: County Councillor Thame and Chinnor Division

Chinnor Village Hall

In 2009 the Hall underwent a refurbishment and extension programme resulting in enhanced hire facilities for any function, be it a Conference, Dance, Wedding Reception, Birthday Party, Exhibition, Craft, Antiques, Collectors Fairs or even a Farmers or French Market. The car park has some 50 spaces and is ideal for Car Boot Sales which could also extend into the Hall with table top options if necessary - weather proof car boot!

Chinnor Village Hall has three separate areas for hire. The Main Hall, which is a practical large area which can accommodate up to 200 persons standing and 150 seated. The Main Hall is an ideal venue for Badminton, Indoor Bowls or the like and has a fully functional Performance Stage. Behind the Main Hall, through the Side Main Entrance, are two additional areas which are available for hire - a Function Room which has a capacity for 80 persons and an upstairs (there is a Lift) Meeting Room with a capacity of 40 persons. The spacious entrance foyer gives access to all three areas. Also available are a dedicated Bar with Servery, as well as a large fitted Kitchen and Toilets.

The Hall has Entertainment and Performing Rights Licences as well as an Alcohol Licence which means Hirers can run their own bar or use any outside Bar Vendor of their choosing.

If you are looking to book any of our halls for a celebration, party or any other event, at very competitive rates, please call us on 07981 920426. Zena will be able to help you with your booking as well as advise you on availability and costs.

Visit our website for more information and booking details <http://cvh2003.simplesite.com/161547054>. Alternatively email your enquiry to cvh2003@hotmail.com

Follow us on facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Chinnor-VillageHall/223492701104862>

If you are interested in joining Chinnor Hall Committee please call our Chairman, Robin Williams on 01844 352276 or 07717 222550

Chinnor Youth Club by Sarah LeGood

We have had a fantastic year at Chinnor Youth Club including lots of activities and trips for our members. We started the year with a Kaya Drumming Session, Multi-Sports activities and a visit from Thame Make Up Bus in which the members enjoyed having theatrical make up sessions. We were really fortunate to be able to take some of our members on various trips last year. We had in May a trip to Longridge where we took part in rock climbing and raft building, in June we went to the Williams F1 museum and had a look at some amazing cars and also a trip to an indoor Gokarting centre with other local youth clubs.

We have been working very closely with Oxfordshire Association For Young People and they have offered us some fantastic competitions to be involved in, we took part in a Anti-Bullying competition, Tape Art competition and some of our members were nominated for awards at the Oxfordshire Youth Awards!

A fantastic art project 'our place, our space' was also completed in which our members designed and painted one of our walls within the youth club, this project took place over 5 weeks with amazing results.

This year we are already just about to go on another trip Bowling with some members. We have secured funding to complete another arts project over 6 weeks. Currently we are concentrating on recruiting new volunteers and if successful would love to be open another night of the week for our young people. So if you can spare any time on a Thursday evening from 7-9 pm please let us know! We currently have 67 members so are grateful for any time people can offer.



Council Tax 2013/14

Chinnor Parish Council precept for 2012/13 was £256,542 and in January this year a 2.8% budget increase was agreed for 2013/14 resulting in a precept of £263,321

However, Central Government has just recently changed the way that subsidised Council Tax Relief is administered and the billing authority, South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC), will be undertaking this in future. As a result of these changes, SODC was able to award town and parish councils an additional sum. Chinnor will therefore receive £11,805.92 and this has been added to the precept.

By including this funding, the total Chinnor precept becomes £27, 5126.92 and, whilst the additional money will be very welcome to the village, an increase of 6.1% does look alarming and we understand your concerns.

I hope this helps to explain the figures shown on your new council tax bill and you can be assured that we will continue to act in the best interests of the parish.

Budget 2013/14

	Expenditure £	Income £
Admin Salaries, Office Rent, Rates, Utilities, Insurance, Telephone & Professional Fees	99,439	800
Grants Village Centre, Community Bus, Parish Burial Ground, Youth Football	35,750	
Gen. Vill. Maintenance Salary, vehicles, fuel, equipment, flower beds, hedge cutting	42,966	3,000
Litter Salary, fuel, skip hire, dog bins, equipment	28,426	5,500
Play Areas Conigre, St Andrews, Hill Road Rec, Whites Field	9,600	
Open Spaces Trees, Fencing, Property & Bldg Mtce	13,000	40
Allotments		520
Village Events August Bank Holiday, Christmas Decorations	13,000	
Other Services Training, PCSO, Youth Worker, Contingencies	26,000	
Capital New Equipment	5,000	
Totals	273,181	9,860

Precept request £ 263,321

Parish Grants 2012/13

The council has given financial support to the following local causes:

Air Ambulance	To continue Rescue missions	820.00
Church Hall	Roof Repair / Electrical work	2000.00
Historical Society	Projector	250.00
Neighbourhood Watch	New Signs	40.00
Parish Burial Ground	Maintenance & Up-keep	732.46
Playing Fields Management	Maintenance & Up-keep	2766.99
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Parade	104.17
Rugby Club	Mini Team Development	100.00
Scout Group	New Trailer	820.00
Senior Citizens Party Fund	Luncheon	250.00
Silver Band	Roof Repairs at Band House	4000.00
South & Vale Carers	Support to Local Carers	200.00
St John's Ambulance	Training for Volunteers	100.00
Village Centre	Community Bus Repairs	936.30
Village Centre	Annual Grant	7000.00
Windmill	Restoration	498.70
Women's Institute	Anniversary Celebration	100.00
Youth Football Club	New Equipment shed	3500.00
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CHINNOR OPEN GARDENS

Pre Event – Friday 31st May 7.30 pm Chinnor Village Centre

Speaker Edwin Rye will explain how he became BBC gardener of the year 2002. Talk in conjunction with wine and cheese. Tickets £7.50

Chinnor Open Gardens: 8th & 9th June 2pm - 6pm.

Ten gardens open to the public raising funds for the Village Centre.

Saturday 'Plant Sale' 11 am - 4 pm at the Village Centre.

Refreshments until 4 pm

Sunday 'Plant Sale & Refreshments' 11 am - 4 pm

At the Village Hall which includes a Flower Arranging demonstration by Mad of 'Mad About Flowers' at 12 noon.

Mill Lane Community Primary School

Open School Garden which includes chickens, Gruffland, bird hide, vegetable patch, willow dome and a plastic bottle greenhouse. Refreshments offered as well as plant stand. Proceeds towards the school fundraising.

Chinnor allotments

Approximately 100 plots varying in size cultivated for over 150 years. Gates will be open on both days from 10 am onwards

St Andrew's Church: Coronation Flowers

The church will be decorated with flowers with the theme of the Coronation. Tea and scones will be served with proceeds going towards the upkeep of the buildings. Open Saturday and Sunday 14h00 – 17h00