



# SHUTFORD

Issue 247 Jan/Feb 2023

*news*



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



**KEEP SENDING YOUR PHOTOS IN FOR THE SHUTFORD CALENDAR 2024!**  
*These lovely snowy photos of the Church were taken by Ken Jeffs*



## Dear Villagers...

I hope you all had a happy Christmas and New Year!

If you're anything like me, you've overindulged a bit, so why not start walking round our beautiful countryside? There's information on where to walk on page 15 and where you can download free maps for new routes. While you're out and about, don't forget to take some photos for the calendar.

We've plenty to look forward to this year. I'm sure the village will be celebrating King Charles' coronation in true Shutford style, so watch this space or sign up for the weekly emailer for up to date info. The Shutford Festival is back on 8th July and preparations are underway. See page 11 for how to help.

Amazon are winding down their charitable donation scheme 'AmazonSmile' by February 20th, so unfortunately the village hall will not be getting any more donations through your Amazon purchases.

After working on the Shutford News for the last couple of years or so, I need to hang up my Editor's hat, so I'm on the look out for someone to take on the Shutford News. It's a great way to meet people, especially if you're new to the village. You don't need any special skills, just be able to use a computer. Email me at [shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com) for more information.

Remember to keep up with all the village news - simply sign up to our newsletter by visiting **[www.shutfordvillage.com](http://www.shutfordvillage.com)** and completing the on-line sign-up form - we won't share your details with anyone and you can unsubscribe at any time. If you have any stories, just email me at **[shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com)**.

*Angela*



Angela Bliss, Editor

Email: [shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com)

*Cover photo by Tim Edmonds*



## VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

*Please check the website for updates on village activities restarting or sign up to the village newsletter by visiting [www.shutfordvillage.com](http://www.shutfordvillage.com)*



Sarah and Jake would like to welcome you to their arrival of Tommy Roy Blackwell. Born 17th December 2022, and weighing 7lb 14oz. Many of you will know the name Roy comes from Sarah's late grampy Roy Turner.

### Shutford Village Hall 100+ Club Results

#### DECEMBER RESULTS:

First Prize	£50.00	Janice Bailey
Second Prize	£15.00	Joan E Wright
Third Prize	£10.00	Peter Pal

#### JANUARY RESULTS:

First Prize	£35.00	Dawn Gibbs
Second Prize	£15.00	Steve White
Third Prize	£10.00	Huw Jenkins

*The next Prize Draw will take place on 9th February*

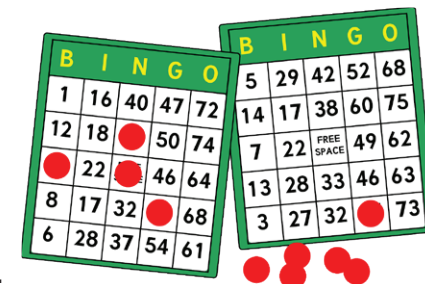
***Brian Ailsby thanks all those who sent him Christmas cards but instead of sending cards himself has made a donation to Katherine House Hospice.***

***He wishes everyone a Happy New Year.***



## CHRISTMAS BINGO

I would like to thank everyone who gave prizes and donations, helped and came to the Christmas Bingo, which was held for the first time since Covid struck. Special thanks to Margaret, Geraldine, Jo, Pam and most of all Roger for doing the calling.



The proceeds will be split equally between Katharine House Hospice and Shutford Village Hall.

It was a great success with £328 being raised.

We had a good attendance and a fun evening, as always, was had by all.

***Joan Wright***

## LOCAL CLUBS

**Arty Crafty Group** - meets every other Wednesday evening at 7pm

**Table Tennis** - Juniors and adults - meets every Tuesday from 6pm

**Yoga** - every Monday at 9am

**Pilates** - every Thursday from 6.30pm

**Film Club** - last Friday of the month at 7.30pm

**WI** - Once a month on Tuesdays at 10am



**VACANCY**

**for Village Hall  
Committee Secretary**

**Please contact Roger or  
Geraldine Bancroft on  
01295 780579 or email  
shutfordVHC@gmail.com  
for more details**



**VILLAGE HALL OPENING OFFER  
EXTENDED TILL 31st MARCH 2023**

The Hall is now open for bookings, subject to the current Covid guidance. We would like to welcome you back to a Covid secure premises. The committee would like to offer

**Shutford Residents a discount until 31st March 2023.**

**Hire charges will be reduced to HALF the normal price.**

Rate	Residents	Non-residents
Regular Hourly	£8.00 (£4.00 until 31 March 2023)	£10.00
One-off hourly	£12.00 (£6.00 until 31 March 2023)	£14.00
4 hour sessions	£30.00 (£15.00 until 31 March 2023)	£50.00
Full day (9-5 pm)	£60.00 (£30.00 until 31 March 2023)	£100.00
Full use of Kitchen	£5.00	£5.00

**Please contact us at [shutfordvhc@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordvhc@gmail.com)**

Banbury Hill, Shutford, Banbury OX15 6PE | [shutfordVHC@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordVHC@gmail.com) | [www.shutfordvillage.com](http://www.shutfordvillage.com) | Charity No. 304364



## Shutford Village Hall 100+ Club Membership 2023!

**Thank you to everyone who supports the 100+ Club Membership. (Proceeds from the 100+ Club go to the running and maintenance costs of our new Village Hall.)**

**Club Membership costs only £10.00! You then get entered into a monthly draw where you could win up to £55.00!!**

**We will leave membership details on or around:  
Saturday 18 February.**

**You can either drop the cash / cheque back to the address on the note or pay by BACS, please ensure you leave your name or membership number as a reference when paying by BACS.  
Here are the BACS details if you want to pay in advance:**

**Sort Code: 30-90-89 Account No: 37346560  
Cheques or Cash (cheque payable to Village Hall - Shutford)**

**Not a member and want to join?  
Please email: [shutfordvhc@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordvhc@gmail.com)**

**Please note subscriptions need to be paid on or before  
31 March 2023 or they won't be entered in the draw.  
Remember you need to be in it to win it!**

**Thank you for your continued support.**



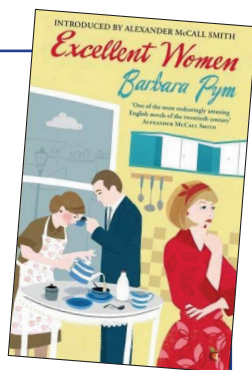
## The Shutford Book Review

### EXCELLENT WOMEN BY BARBARA PYM

The November book was *Excellent Women* by Barbara Pym, a book hailed by critics in two different eras - when it was written, in 1952, and again in the 1970s, thanks to a favourable review by none less than Philip Larkin.

Mildred Lathbury is a clergyman's daughter and a do-gooder spinster in 1950s London. She is labelled as a prime example of "excellent women" - the smart, supportive, endeavouring women who men take utterly for granted. As she gets embroiled in the lives of her new neighbours - with barely a likeable character among them - the novel presents snapshots of human life as actually, and pluckily, lived in a dreary, post-war world of repressed desires and dreams.

*Excellent Women* is often rated as one of Barbara Pym's richest and most amusing comedies. It's even compared with Jane Austen. However, our members gave it an average of 3.5 out of 5. We appreciated the social commentary but, in our modern world, found much of it dreary and tedious rather than comic, even though there were lots of funny episodes, encounters and one-liners.



**Films for 27th January, 24th February  
and 31st March 2023**

**7.30pm in the Village Hall**



## KEEP SHUTFORD GREEN AND TIDY

Join the **GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN** between 17th March – 2nd April 2023 or start now and rid our village and local country roads of litter all year round.

See some litter pick it up and all day long you will have good luck and help keep the locality green and tidy!

*Ken Jeffs*

### Local markets

- **Banbury** - every Thursday & Saturday
- **Banbury Farmers Market** - 1st Friday of the month
  - **Chipping Norton** - every Wednesday
- **Deddington Farmers** - 4th Saturday of the month

**Please contact Chris Bull (cmb1963@hotmail.co.uk)  
if you would like to join.**

## LETTER OF THANKS TO THE PEOPLE OF SHUTFORD

I hope you all had a splendid Christmas and New Year's Eve celebrations. I wanted to publish this letter to thank all the people of Shutford for their kindness and help over the past year.

I had to sell my house in Ivy Lane early this year. I needed somewhere to live. I wanted to stay in Shutters so I posted a flyer through every door in Shutford, not every door. I didn't bother the Cadburys, probably no room! The feedback was fantastic. People offered to put me up till I found a place. Others told me about potential places to rent. Others gave me tips; 'try asking so n so, he's moving' and 'What's his/her name has property' ask him/her. Eventually I was offered a house to buy. The nice family kindly moved into temporary accommodation before moving to their next home so I could move in.

I have a list of thanks for everybody that has assisted me in the last year (a bit like the Oscars):

### TO EVERYBODY WHO;

- Helped me move in.
- Helped me decorate.
- Lent me tools.
- Fed me with dinner etc.
- Invited me for Christmas dinner. Unfortunately, I was Covid positive over Christmas so I could not accept any of the Christmas dining offers including the kind offer of "We know you have Covid but still please join us for Christmas" (stupid buggers)
- The people who have invited me for a post Christmas dinner when I'm negative.
- The multiple offers of a 'take-out' Christmas dinner, from quite a few families.
- For the drinks, outside, (distancing) on Christmas morning freezing in the grey rainy day.
- For the visit with a thoughtful offer of a quick dram Christmas day.

What a place to live! Such nice people, I'm humbled and very grateful. Thanks to everybody that has aided, assisted, abetted, encouraged, bolstered, supported & just plain had my back for a year. I must be the luckiest boy in the world.

*Av Bostin Nue Yerr R'kid.*  
*Bill*

A festive poster for the Shutford Festival '23. The top features a banner with the word "SHUTFORD" in large, bold, yellow letters on a red background, with "Festival '23" in a red script font below it. The banner is surrounded by colorful triangular bunting in blue, red, yellow, and green. Below the banner, the text "Saturday 8th July" is written in a large, bold, blue font, followed by "Hold the date!" in a smaller, bold, blue font. Below this, the text "We would welcome your new ideas or help:" is written in a bold, yellow font. This is followed by a list of bullet points in red font: "• Help on a stall, teas, games or the bar?", "• Provide a raffle prize or sell tickets?", "• Sell evening passes on the gate?", "• Run a stall to promote your business?", "• Help with setting up and/or taking down?", and "• Anything else?". At the bottom, the contact information is listed in a blue font: "Contact: helennixseaman@gmail.com, andrewmcewan78@gmail.com or clare.mcewan@yahoo.co.uk". The entire poster is framed by a red border.



Our December meeting took the form of a 'bring and share' buffet lunch. Before we ate, members took part in 2 quizzes and some games. After lunch Christmas cards were exchanged and presents taken home from secret Santa's sack.

Our first speaker of the year was Dr Jonathan Williams who told us of his work with the HALO Trust (Hazardous Area Life-support Organization) training paramedic support personnel for humanitarian mine clearance. Princess Diana was photographed many years ago in a minefield being cleared by Halo in Angola.

Visitors will be made very welcome at any of our forthcoming meetings, held in Shutford Village Hall on the following Tuesdays at 10am, when our future speakers will be:

- **February 7th: Rev. Neil Bowler - Arrivals & Departures;**  
The story of a coalminer's son
- **March 7th: AGM (No speaker)**
- **April 4th: Susan Drage - Recycling but not what you think**

*For further information on our WI,  
please contact Geraldine on 780579  
or Jenny on 780570*



## VILLAGE DIARY

### FEBRUARY

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1 Arty Crafty Club 7.00	2 Pilates 6.30 & 7.45	3 Green bin	4 Painting 9.30	5
6 Yoga 9.00	7 WI 10.00 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30	8 Arty Crafty Club 7.00	9 100 Club draw Pilates 6.30 & 7.45	10 Brown & blue bin collection	11	12
13 Yoga 9.00	14 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30	15 Arty Crafty Club 7.00	16 Pilates 6.30 & 7.45	17 Green bin	18	19
20 Yoga 9.00	21 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30	22 Arty Crafty Group 7.00	23	24 Brown & blue bin collection Film Club 7.30	25	26 Breakfast 9.30
27 Yoga 9.00 Book Club 7.30	28 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30					

### MARCH

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1 Arty Crafty Club 7.00	2	3 Green bin	4 Painting 9.30	5
6 Yoga 9.00	7 WI 10.00 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30	8 Parish Council 7.30	9 Pilates 6.30 & 7.45	10 Brown & blue bin collection	11	12
13 Yoga 9.00	14 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30	15 Arty Crafty Club 7.00	16 Pilates 6.30 & 7.45	17 Green bin	18	19
20 Yoga 9.00	21 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30	22 Arty Crafty Club 7.00	23 Pilates 6.30 & 7.45	24 Brown & blue bin collection	25	26 Breakfast 9.30
27 Yoga 9.00 Book Club 7.30	28 Table Tennis 6.00 & 7.30	29 Arty Crafty Club 7.00	30 Pilates 6.30 & 7.45	31 Green bin Film Club 7.30		



## Time to get walking again!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Oxfordshire ([walkinginengland.co.uk/oxfordshire](http://walkinginengland.co.uk/oxfordshire)) has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Oxfordshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

**Contact John Harris for more information**

**[john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk) [www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)**



While walking down from Jesters Hill to Upper Lea Farm, Debbie Pitt photographed this incredible bracket fungi(?). ***If you have any weird and wonderful pictures to share, do send them in to [shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com)!***







# SIBFORD CRICKET

## PRE-SEASON NETS

We welcome newcomers  
of any ability. Kit can be  
provided by the club.

**7:30PM TO 8:30PM, EVERY TUESDAY  
FROM 7TH FEBRUARY TO THE 25TH APRIL  
SIBFORD SCHOOL, SIBFORD FERRIS, OX15 5QL**

**CONTACT EDWARD FOR MORE DETAILS :  
EDWARDFRAPE@YAHOO.COM  
OR 07595223655**



## SHUTFORD SOCIAL CLUB

**Shutford Social Club will be meeting again on  
the 17th February 17:00 till 23:00.**

Come along. Stay as long as you wish. Chat to your  
Shutfordian neighbours. Bring your own drinks and  
nibbles. Take away your own rubbish.

*"Leave nought but your laughter drifting in the breeze."*

**ONE POUND ENTRY FEE PLEASE, TO PAY FOR THE HALL**

## The Shutford News & Comms Team

- **Editor:** Angela Bliss
- **Editorial Team:** Margaret Holloway
- **Village Comms:** John Bailey
- **Village Website:** Hilary Pillin
- **Advertising & Accounts:** Angela Bliss
- **Distribution:** Jennie Carwithen, Fiona & Nick Simon-Norris
- **Printing:** youloveprint.co.uk

**Contact us by email: [shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com)**

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 17th March 2023.**

The next planning meeting will take place on Friday 10th March  
2023. Dates are correct at the time of going to print.

## Church news

**Rector** - Revd Neil Bowler – 788005

**Churchwarden** – Ken Jeffs – 788308

**Safeguarding** – John Bailey - 780478

**SERVICES:** See Wykeham News or Website



Advent Sunday, 27th November, the start of the new church year, was celebrated with Holy Communion. The following Sunday, Rev Neil led worship at our Benefice Eucharist in Shutford with a choir and our friends from across the benefice. Many stayed for refreshments in church after the service. There are no flowers in church during Advent, but we did have an Advent Wreath and a Christmas Tree installed at the front of the church with a second one in the churchyard overlooking Church Lane. The outdoor one was donated by Wykeham Park Farm and was decorated with solar lights from early December until Epiphany, 6th January. The church tower was illuminated each evening from 10th December until 8th January as part of our Lights of Love campaign: thanks to everyone who made donations recently and throughout the year enabling this initiative to continue. Flowers and greenery returned to the church for Christmas with thanks to our team of ladies for donating and arranging them. It was also good to see many properties throughout the village illuminated for Christmas with special thanks to the Advent Windows participants and Lisa S for organising them.

Specially printed Christmas cards were delivered to every household in the village with an invitation to join us for our Advent and Christmas Celebrations. It is difficult to know if they were appreciated but the sentiment behind them was well meant, people of all faiths or none are always welcome in St Martin's Church. Thanks to Mervyn for providing the photo of a snowy church. Our Fun Family Church Event was held in the village hall on 10th December – we had 22 in the hall including 11 children. There were Christmas crafts, the making of Christingles, Godly play featuring the Nativity and refreshments to finish. These events, which do have a Christian theme, are informal and free, and we hope that more invited families will join us in future. The following weekend we had candlelit carols and readings in church with tea and coffee to finish. It was good to have a full church for the carols and on Christmas Day morning to celebrate this special time of year.

After two years dominated by the coronavirus, church attendance in 2022 was the highest for 20 years boosted by three weddings, three Christenings and

two memorial services. On a normal Sunday we have an average of 9 people at a service, ranging from 5 – 15. We have a core congregation of about 30, of whom half worship at least once a month. In addition to services in our various churches on Sundays and during the week, there has been online worship on a Wednesday and Sunday evening for those who are unable to come to church in person. Our rector, Rev Neil Bowler has Rev Canon John Tattersall, an Associate Minister and Jocelyn Merris, a Licenced Lay Minister to help him, with retired clergy leading worship on a regular basis. There are also lay led services. Although our congregation remains stable, it is not increasing, and the challenge continues to encourage younger people and families to become involved with church life to secure its future. Anyone wishing to serve on the PCC needs to apply to join the electoral roll, membership of which is being reviewed shortly. Although Rev Neil lives in Sibford Gower, his pastoral care extends to everyone in the Wykeham Benefice, not just church goers, and visits can be arranged if needed.

Excluding maintenance costs and charitable donations, it costs about £250 per week to keep St Martin's Church open for all to use. This includes about £8000 per annum for the cost of ministry and £2000 per annum for the church building insurance. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, who cover the cost of ministry, other fund raising and donations, all 2022 costs have been covered. A total of £1250 has been given to good causes in the past year from specific fund raising and collections including £160 to The Children's Society from collections in Advent. Additional income came from a large collection at Tim Rootes and Oswald Waller's memorial service, wedding fees and the Village Festival. The Church Annual Report and Accounts are being prepared and will be published at the annual meeting and online in due course.

The PCC meets on 24th January to discuss activities during 2022 and prepare for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which will be held before the end of April. Items on the agenda include Lent and Easter Plans – our Lent Lunch will be on 27th February, finance and fund raising and church maintenance. There is a need to upgrade electrics in church including the lighting, in addition to repairs to plasterwork and redecorating. A safety barrier needs to be installed by the church steps once planning permission is obtained, plus replacement of hedges and some fencing and a boardwalk to receive the steps installed by the village hall committee, giving access to and from the church

***For information about any church issues, contact [KJJ@kennyjohn.co.uk](mailto:KJJ@kennyjohn.co.uk) or the Rector or visit the Wykeham Benefice website. [www.wykehambenefice.org.uk](http://www.wykehambenefice.org.uk).***



## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, SHUTFORD Illuminate & Celebrate

Thank you for the additional donations received to illuminate the church tower for Advent & Christmas. A total of £650 was received last year of which £500 was used towards our insurance bill.

Contact Ken Jeffs at KJJ@kennyjohn.co.uk: small donations for church funds are always welcome.

Below is a list of occasions and people remembered:

Date	Name	Occasion
30th November	Alasdair Gibbs	St Andrew's Day
2nd & 3rd December	Ligia Doxford	in memory of Father, Richard
5th December	Mervyn & Val Benford	Agatha's Birthday
10th December til 8th January	Anonymous Donations	Advent & Christmas
24th December	Helen Gibbs	for John & Nelly
26th December	Louise Sabin	St Stephen's Day
31st December	Helen Gibbs	for Tom & Sheila
5th January	Geraldine	in memory of Dad, Patrick Burke
24th January	Debbie Pitt	Sasha's Birthday
28th January	Louise Sabin	Andrew's Birthday
14th February	Anon	St Valentine's Day
1st March	Anon	St David's Day
16th March	Debbie Pitt	Fin's Birthday

The church tower is illuminated each Sunday and on some other days without publicity. If more than one occasion is celebrated on a particular day, the tower is illuminated on the following day(s). Details of sponsorship received after the Shutford News deadline will appear in a later issue.



*Come, and see!  
Such is rural beauty; such  
Pleasure, to be found for you;  
If then, this tale be true,  
Couldst thou ever look too much?  
Come, and see!—The hills, the woods,  
The valleys, and the rolling floods,  
“Come, and see!” are all a-saying,  
And be-word their pray'r, with praying  
“Come, and see!”  
Prithee, come, and see!”*

Dear friends,

This lovely verse from the Irish poet George Darley comes from his poem, 'Come & See', which contains some wonderful descriptions of the countryside, but it also goes further and invites others to see the beauty that is visible within it.

As we prepare individually and together as churches, villages and communities across our Benefice, to celebrate the beginning of Lent with our Ash Wednesday services on the 22nd February, this season in the church year, could almost be thought of as a season of invitation. A time when we ourselves are invited to once more reflect upon our relationship with God in our lives, but also a time when we might find ways and opportunities to invite others to 'come & see', as well as to experience, the love of Jesus, the love of God, in all of our lives.

If you are someone who might be just beginning to explore your Christian faith and are also maybe uncertain of the pathway forwards, please then accept this letter from me, as a personal invitation to you, to 'Come & see'.



Love & prayers

**Revd Neil**  
**Wykeham Benefice, Tel: 788005**

# Shutford Parish Council Meeting

**Wednesday 11th January 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs: Helen Nixseaman (Chair), Ashley Taylor, George Reynolds, Stephen Barnes, Paul Huewen, Lynne Parsons and David Best, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. Three members of the public attended the meeting.

22/056	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> Cllr Chris Halle
22/057	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> None
22/058	<b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2022 were a correct record (unanimous) and signed by the Chairman. <b>NOTE:</b> It was subsequently noted that an item was omitted from 9th November's minutes concerning the precept for 2023/24. It had been agreed that the precept would remain unchanged for the coming financial year.
22/059	<b>Matters arising from the minutes:</b> The action list was reviewed.
22/059/1	<b>Playground Inspection</b> – Cllr Helen Nixseaman had sent the playground inspection report to Trevor for him to respond on the rot to some of the posts.
22/059/2	<b>Tyke Pond Bench and Posts</b> - A post has been sourced and fitted shortly. The Queen Elizabeth II memorial seat has been delivered but on assembling it was found that one on the holes is in the wrong place. A response is awaited from the manufacturer.
22/059/3	<b>Trees on the Dairyground</b> – The clerk will contact Kai O'Hanlon to get the crowns lifted on trees above the play equipment.
22/060	<b>Parish Matters:</b>
22/060/1	<b>Victoria Prentis Digital Connectivity Survey</b> – It was agreed that Cllr Ashley Taylor would complete this and details will be communicated to residents who may also wish to complete it. Details can be found at <a href="https://www.victoriaprentis.com/digital-connectivity">https://www.victoriaprentis.com/digital-connectivity</a>
22/060/2	<b>OCC Councillor Priority Grant Application</b> – It was agreed that the clerk would complete the application for the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial bench,
22/060/3	<b>20mph Speed Limit</b> – Feedback from residents had been welcomed and it was decided not to proceed with speed bumps at this time. It was also agreed that the clerk would register Shutford for the 20mph speed limit in place of the 30mph limit but consultation with residents would continue as implementation would not be for several years if the final decision is to proceed.
22/060/4	<b>Rat Infestation</b> – There appears to be a Rat infestation in parts of the village, particularly Lower End. Residents are reminded that bird feeding can aggravate the situation as bird food on the ground or dropping from feeders attracts rats. Residents should either seek professional help and advice from a pest control company or put down recommended and approved baited traps designed for the task, care should always be taken when handling or placing baited boxes to ensure the Health & Safety of yourself, others and wildlife and at no time should any poison be placed outside of a baited box. Rod Court has offered to advise residents if needed and can be contacted on 01295 788277.
22/060/5	<b>Meeting with new Owner of the Industrial Estate</b> – Two Councillors had a very positive meeting with the new owner who explained that he was interested in tidying it up and attracting artisan businesses. There are no plans to develop the site.

22/061	<b>Finance:</b>
22/061/1	<b>Accounts</b> – The accounts and bank reconciliation were circulated prior to the meeting.
22/061/2	<b>Bank Balances</b> – The bank balances on 3rd January were £16,470.00.
22/061/3	<b>Interest Rates</b> – The clerk provided details of an alternative savings account with a higher rate of interest than Barclays. Funds are protected up to £85,000 by the Government FSCS scheme. Alternative accounts to Barclays will be considered.
22/062	<b>Correspondence:</b>
22/060/1	<b>Stone protruding from bank along the High Street</b> – This has been reported to OCC Highways who will investigate. The owner of a building close to the location had written to the PC expressing concern that any work may cause damage to the building. It is believed that OCC Highways would not carry out any work that might damage a building.
22/060/2	<b>Planning Application 22/02411/F for Shepherds Hut at Slatters Barn</b> – The applicant had written to the PC expressing concern at the length of time the application was taking. The PC has no control over the determination of the application which is the responsibility of Cherwell District Council.
22/063	<b>Planning:</b> There have been no new residential applications or decisions since the last meeting on 9th November 2022.
22/063/1	<b>22/03794/TEL</b> – Residents should be aware of an application by Voneus for 20 telegraph poles to carry broadband fibre cables (5 on the Epwell Rd, 1 on The Green and 14 on the road to Fiveways. The PC has not been consulted on this and applications like this are generally approved as they are considered essential infrastructure
22/064	<b>Any Other Business:</b>
22/064/1	<b>Sympathies to the family and friends of Richard Doxford</b> – Councillors were shocked at the death of Richard Doxford before Christmas and would like to express their sympathies to his family and friends. Their thoughts remain with them.
22/064/2	<b>Christmas Card to residents from Ligia</b> – Councillors and residents were touched by the Christmas Card that Ligia sent out. This must have been a sad and difficult time for Ligia after the recent loss of her father.
22/064/3	<b>Traffic coming in and out of West Street</b> – Residents have asked if a mirror could be placed at the junction to assist drivers turning in off the High Street. OCC Highways do not encourage or install mirrors. Residents are asked to park with care at this junction and take care turning in and out.
22/064/4	<b>Christmas tree at Jaime Corner</b> – The PC will consider putting a Christmas Tree up at Jaime Corner this year.
22/064/5	<b>Celebrations to mark the Coronation of King Charles III</b> – The PC is considering organising a picnic on the Dairyground on Sunday 7th May, the day after the coronation.
22/064/6	<b>Large Tree on Allotment</b> – Cllr Paul Huewen will investigate whether this needs any attention.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.16pm





## HEADING INTO 2023

Plans are already well underway for some fantastic events and exciting opportunities to support our hospice in 2023. It's thanks to your support that we're able to go on caring for local people living with incurable illnesses. Thank you!

### MOONLIGHT, CAMERA, ACTION!

The Moonlight Walk is back and this time we're going to the movies! Our annual flagship fundraising walk is taking place on Saturday 20 May 2023 at Easington Sports Football Club – so get the date in your diaries now and don't forget to tell friends and family! [www.khh.org.uk/moonlight](http://www.khh.org.uk/moonlight)

### CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

Help us raise money with an adrenaline rush! We have the following challenge events available to sign up to now – the sky is literally the limit!

- Ride London – 28 May • Abseil – 17 June • Bike Oxford – 25 June
- Skydive – 9 September • Thames Path Walk – 9 September
- Oxford Half – 15 October • Halloween Walk – 28 October

Plus many more! Find out more here: [www.khh.org.uk/events](http://www.khh.org.uk/events)

### HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Our ever-popular Open Gardens will be making a welcome return in 2023 and we'd love to be able to branch out and grow the scheme. Last year, our Open Gardens helped raise nearly £7,000 for our hospice. If you'd like to get involved and help support us by opening your own garden, then we'd love to hear from you. Our Fundraising team are on hand to offer support and guidance to help make sure your event is blooming marvellous. [www.khh.org.uk/gardens](http://www.khh.org.uk/gardens)

### CHARITY SHOPS TREASURES

If you're having a post-Christmas clear out, don't forget about our six charity shops across the area. Rather than throwing out your quality unwanted items, donating to a charity shop is more sustainable and helps raise money for our hospice. You can find the details for all our charity shops here: [www.khh.org.uk/retail](http://www.khh.org.uk/retail)

*Head to our website for more details, events and news: [khh.org.uk](http://khh.org.uk).*

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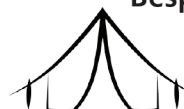
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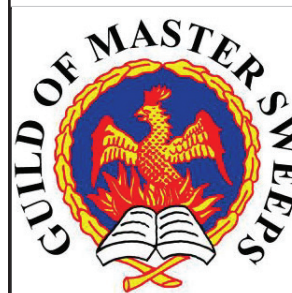
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