

Correspondence – October 2022

30/9/22	Director of Highways & Operations	National highways and transport (NHT) representative online survey.
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Parish and town councillors are invited to participate in the national highways and transport (NHT) representative online survey. It is run by Measure2Improve, which oversees the annual NHT public satisfaction survey. You can [complete the survey online](#) and the results will be used to provide officers with a greater understanding of your needs and priorities for highway maintenance and the highway service in Oxfordshire. If you're unable to access the online version and need a paper form, please contact our customer service centre on 0345 310 1111. The highways service is keen to hear your views as soon as possible but people will have the chance to comment until the end of February 2023.

Our highways service has participated in the annual NHT public satisfaction survey for a number of years. This survey forms part of the picture to better understand and respond to the needs of our customers. The results and associated benchmarking with other county councils has allowed us to monitor our performance on a number of highway and transport issues at a national and a regional level, whilst also maintaining first class highway services and good customer relations.

30/9/22	Murry Burnett, WODC	Possible redevelopment of Evenlode Close by Cottsway Housing
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Good afternoon

I have been in discussion with Cottsway housing association about the possible redevelopment of homes at Evenlode Close.

I would like to discuss issues around this work and the adjacent allotments and nature reserve with the Town Council, and would be grateful if could put me in touch with the correct representatives please.

With thanks

Murry Burnett

Strategic Housing & Development Officer

30/9/22	Resident of Dyers Hill	Tree work (street lighting) scheduled for 12 th October
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I've been advised that consent for the works has been given and they are scheduled for 12th October.

2/10/22	Shipton-u-Wychwood Parish Councillor	Notification of 'Notice of landowner deposit' posted on Glebe land by the Diocese
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I am now investigating two notices which have appeared in the Glebe land in our village on behalf of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance.

I have noticed that one such notice was attached close to the site of your Glebe land accompanied by the enclosed plan - about which I am sure you are aware. The Shipton Parish is considering how to respond to its notice as there has been absolutely no consultation by the Diocese or their agents as to both these notices or future plans. In any event it appears that there may well be a footpath shown on the plan as well as significant use of the site with the nearby cemetery plus possible incidence of flooding by virtue of the nearby springs.

The Diocese has issued similar notices for a total of 13 sites with inadequate consultation or research and I am in touch with Kingham who have three sites.

Best, Simon Randall

The paperwork - such as it is - is available on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/landownerdeposits. As you will note a number of other parishes are involved and I am in touch with Kingham, Westcote Barton (who had three sites) and may well approach others.

At the Shipton PC meeting last week, following a paper I presented to the meeting (also attached) they have agreed that we should register the land as an Asset of Community Value under the Localism Act 2011. I think this is a good way to protect our residents from any precipitous action by the Diocese. Happy to discuss further and presumably the noticers referred to have been attached near the site?

3/10/22	Resident of Spelsbury Rd	Concern about delay to implementation of 30mph speed limit on Spelsbury Rd
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3/10/22	Charlbury Property Management Company Ltd.	Management of woodland adjacent to Potters Close
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Dear Cllr Kenrick,

I am writing to you in response to your e-mail of 30 September to my neighbour Kathy in Potter Close. Along with four other residents of Potter Close I am a Director of Charlbury Property Management Company Ltd which has been set up by Ede Homes to manage the common areas of the Potter Close development including the woodland. Warwick Estates have been appointed by Ede Homes as managing agents for the management company. You will be aware that the planning consent for the housing development at Potter Close and Bartlett Close is subject to a planning agreement between WODC and Ede Homes. It sets out a legally binding framework for the ongoing management of the woodland following completion of the housing development.

Recently Ede Homes finally complied with the requirements of the planning agreement by preparing an action plan for the woodland jointly with WODC and Warwick Estates. The action plan is closely based on the ecology plan that you refer to, which itself forms part of the planning agreement. As part of the action plan Ede Homes have repaired two sections of fencing along the public footpath between Little Lees and Woody Lane which were damaged by trespass into the woodland by members of the public. WODC is now satisfied that Ede Homes have no further obligations regarding the woodland and that it can now be transferred to the management company. Warwick Estates are in the process of handling the transfer of ownership. Therefore very shortly the woodland will become the responsibility of the management company.

The action plan provides for work to be carried out to restore the woodland to an acceptable condition in terms of its ecological value and the management company is fully supportive of that aim. Warwick Estates will appoint contractors to clear the overgrown scrub in the open areas of the woodland to enable these areas to be re-established as wildflower meadows. I should point out that the woodland is private property and will remain so. It is fenced and signed to control unauthorised access by members of the public which would harm the protection of the woodland and threaten its ecological value. There have been incidents of anti-social behaviour in the woodland in the past and the management company wants to ensure that these problems are prevented..

I will let the other Directors and Warwick Estates know that the Town Council has expressed interest in the future of the woodland and, once ownership of the woodland has been transferred to the management company, it may be useful to meet with you and other members of the Town Council to see how you may be able to assist with the implementation of the action plan.

Regards,

Dear

Many thanks for your detailed response and update. I was already aware of the legal agreement attached to the planning consent but it is useful to understand the current situation with regard to Charlbury Property Management Company Ltd and the woodland.

I look forward to an opportunity for me and other representatives of the town council to meet with you and your fellow directors at some appropriate and convenient time. I am copying this correspondence to Lisa Wilkinson, the Town Clerk (clerk@charlbury-tc.gov.uk) and ask that future formal communications with the town council are directed to her and copied to me.

With Kind Regards

Cllr Peter Kenrick

4/10/22	Allotment tenant	Complaint about allotment plot
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6/10/22	Prospective resident	Query about policy on Neighbourhood Plan
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14/10/22	Claire Wilding	Request for support for Ukrainian event
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As we discussed, I've been approached by a Ukrainian guest asking whether the Town Council would support a group of local Ukrainians in organising a fundraiser. Their plan is to hire the memorial hall and serve Ukrainian dishes in return for a donation. The money would go to two funds helping Ukraine:

United 24: This is an initiative of President Zelensky to gather charitable donations to support the government with military equipment, demining, health care and rebuilding.

Come Back Alive: provides body armour, weapons and training to Ukrainian soldiers.

The Ukrainian guests would like help with organisation of the event, including practical help and/or funding to hire the memorial hall.

We discussed whether it would be appropriate for the Town Council to be involved. You were concerned that it would be a political activity.

My personal view is that this could be a really positive event for the community, integrating our Ukrainian guests and allowing them to share their culture. I don't feel it is political, because the UK Government is already providing military assistance to Ukraine with cross-party support. However, I

am concerned that it would be controversial and I expect some people would not be comfortable with donations going towards arms/military equipment.

I would like to pass on the request to the Town Council however, and if it's felt that this is not appropriate, agree that I could help in a personal capacity.

Many thanks

Claire