



Kidmore End Parish Council

Cane End

Chalkhouse Green

Gallowstree Common

Kidmore End

Tokers Green

Newsletter Autumn 2024

Issue 157

Chair Report



Welcome everyone to our Autumn newsletter. The year seems to be flying past at an incredible rate, with numerous parish matters vying for attention. I will try to summarise some of the projects going on, but I think that the government's consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework must be one of the most important matters

which will affect life in our community, not to mention Reading Borough Council's Transport policy, where the Third Bridge proposal has been resurrected in a slightly different form. The Joint Local Plan 2041 is one step closer to completion as well. More information about these later in my report.

Despite continuing communications, we are no further forward with being able to fence off the well at Kidmore End. Once we have permission from OCC Highways, this will be carried out and urgent repair works started.

Planning

The government has embraced the idea of 'building our way to growth and prosperity', and as part of this is proposing that one and a half million new homes are built. They want targets for councils to be mandatory, whilst still ensuring that Neighbourhood Development Plans and Local Plans underpin any planning decisions regarding where such new developments will be built. The consultation on reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) closed on 24 September. Your parish council discussed this at the meeting in September. I feel that the NPPF is good in places but is let down by a lack of sustainable and green technologies, particularly in relation to new builds.

The South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan 2041 is one step closer to completion. It is now at the last stage before the Plan is submitted to a Government Planning Inspector for independent examination. This stage involves providing everyone with an opportunity to comment on legal compliance, the soundness of the Plan and whether

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the councils have complied with their Duty to Cooperate, prior to its submission to government. The consultation period runs until Tuesday 12 November 2024. We hope to submit our comments after the meeting in October.

Reading Third Bridge

The current version of the Reading Transport Strategy 2040 was approved by Reading Borough Council's Strategic Environmental Planning and Transport Committee on 27 June 2024. This committee recommended that the RTS 2040 should be adopted by RBC in Full Council at its meeting on 15 October 2024. My parish council, and many other parish councils in South Oxfordshire, have a problem with this proposal. Hidden in the RTS 2040 are a couple of pages about building a Third Bridge across the Thames with a new South North Orbital route from the Oxfordshire side of the Thames at Playhatch to join the A4074 in the region of Cane End. There is very little detail about where the route of the new road would go, and about how such a project would be paid for. But worst of all, the objections to this project from SODC, OCC and parish councils in South Oxfordshire have been relegated to having little importance. It could even be stated that neither the RTS 2040 nor its Appendix properly reflect the full consultation responses of OCC and SODC. A new Thames crossing would funnel traffic through the Chilterns National Landscape, causing harm to this irreplaceable asset. Your parish council is meeting with other parish councils in South Oxfordshire on 3 October to determine a joint response to send to RBC in advance of its meeting on 15 October.

Community Infrastructure Funds

Thank you to everyone who has been sending in their ideas for CIL money. As this newsletter goes to press, we are discussing several projects, including a new drive way surface and car park surface at the Pavilion in Gallowstree Common, a new picnic bench at the pond in Kidmore End, and speed awareness signs in Gallowstree Common. Please send further ideas to me or the Clerk at clerk@kepc.info.

Road Safety

There have been some issues associated with speeding reported to the Parish Council in all parts of the parish, as evidenced by several accidents in the parish which were reported widely on social media. In Kidmore End, the results of the speed survey carried out on Tokers Green Lane in May indicated that the majority of vehicles complied with the speed limit of 20 mph, with the average number of vehicles counted each day of 2500. Drilling down into the data revealed that speeds were slightly higher at school drop off and pick up times. This is going to be discussed with the new Headteacher in September, with a view to exploring how parents can be influenced about their driving habits. There were some examples of excessive speeding, but some drivers just will not comply with speed limits. The good news is that we can conclude that most people try to drive in a considerate manner on Tokers Green Lane in Kidmore End.

Over the summer, the Community Speed Watch group in Gallowstree Common has been helping a similar group to start up Community Speed Watch in Sonning Common. Both groups felt that sufficient time had passed for drivers to become used to the new 20 mph speed limits in both communities. In early September, a spot in Gallowstree Common and a spot in Reades Lane (Sonning Common end) were selected for surveys. On Horsepond Road, just east of Reades Lane, our speed watch group surveyed 86 cars. Of these, 31 were speeding (25 mph or over) with 22 cars travelling at over 30 mph. Top speed was 45 mph. The good news is that when drivers saw the Speed Watch volunteers, they slowed down. Meanwhile, on Reades Lane near the car wash, 110 vehicles were surveyed with 37 reported for travelling at more than 25 mph. Top speed was 40 mph. The Sonning Common group also reported that vehicles visibly slowed down when they saw the volunteers. Community Speed Watch is one of the ways that communities can remind drivers to drive in a responsible and considerate manner. Most drivers do obey the speed limits, but there really is no excuse for travelling at double the speed limit; 20 mph zones are there for a reason.

We have been in contact with OCC Highways over the summer, notifying them about a sink hole on the Hamlet in Gallowstree Common, footpaths required maintenance, and updating them about which salt bins in the parish require more salt as part of our Winter Preparedness plan. Our Super User is doing a never-ending job of reporting potholes, so a huge thank you to her. Don't forget that you can report potholes, and overgrown hedges, to OCC Highways at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>. Please take lots of photos to upload to the website so that OCC Highways can easily identify the problem.

And lastly, I have been notified about several incidences where horses have fouled the highway. Whilst this is an annoying event, the parish council has no enforcement powers to force horse riders to clear up after their horses; horse dung from a healthy horse presents no risk to human health. Indeed, there is no legislation in place to obligate horse owners/riders to clear up any dung dropped on the road.

Biodiversity Policy

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is a principle introduced in the Environment Act 2021, mandating that all new planning permissions (for new dwellings) in England deliver at least a 10% net gain in biodiversity. The goal is to ensure that habitats for wildlife are enhanced and preserved, fostering a richer and more diverse environment. We have started steps in our efforts to embrace BNG. When your parish council reviewed the mowing contract earlier this year, we ensured that management practices were sympathetic with BNG. Over the coming months, we will be organising events which will

enable us to map the wildlife in our parish. This project will require volunteers, and I am looking for interested people who would be prepared to give up some time to help. Whether you are an amateur naturalist, a dog walker who regularly sees wildlife on your walks, or a young person who wants a good project to go on their application to university, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Other News

If anyone would like to spruce up their village, Oxfordshire County Council have a limited number of road sign cleaning kits available for loan. If you could help, and can get the neighbours to join you, then please email volunteercoordinationteam@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

I would like to thank Camilla Skinner, who bought a new tree bag for the Tulip tree in Cane End. This tree is settling in well and seems to have enjoyed the wet weather.

As this newsletter goes to press, I would like to welcome a new parish councillor, Georgina McCarter from Gallowstree Common. More details in the next newsletter.

And finally, the Flower Ladies continue to lift the spirits with their lovely decorations on the wall and colourful pots outside the porch. The Flower Festival in June was fabulous. We are lucky to have a team of talented and dedicated volunteers.

Caroline Aldridge chairman@kepc.info

From the District Councillor



Unless one is one of the grande fromages with a role on the Cabinet, most elected councillors have little power or influence, and much of the council work is pretty routine. There can be situations where things go off the rails, particularly when people at a Council; officials and elected, fail to exercise proper controls or challenge what is going on. Local government has a long history of wrong doing, ranging from Westminster City Council with Shirley Porter in the 1980s to Thurrock and Woking more recently with their disastrous projects. Private Eye keeps me well abreast of current misdoings in other places, and so I try and keep an eagle eye on things in South Oxfordshire.

One area where Councillors have a direct role is on the Planning Committee, where recommendations by Planning Officers can be overruled by the committee. Most recommendations by planning officers, despite objections raised by Parish Councils, are followed through, but there are exceptions, and if there are good planning reasons to differ from the officer's recommendation, then that is the right thing to do.

It is particularly gratifying when, after rejecting a development at Committee, an Appeal is also refused. However, most of the appeals that are refused arise directly from decisions that have been made by planning officers and which never come to committee. Unlike a planning application, there is no cost for an applicant to make an Appeal.

There are National Standards for the quality of planning decisions, and I am pleased to say that your council does pretty well. There are different standards for major decisions, i.e. large sites, and non-major, and for major sites 4.2% of decisions were appealed, and 0.8% of those appeals were allowed, compared to nationally where despite fewer decisions being appealed - 3.0%, more appeals were allowed, 1.3%. For non-major decisions, in SODC only 1.5% were appealed of which 0.6% were allowed. Nationally, there were more appeals at 2.3% of which more were allowed, 0.7%.

The grounds on which the Planning Committee has refused consent includes developments being unneighbourly or having an adverse impact on the character of the area. These are necessarily subjective judgments, but the planning committee system is there to make subjective judgements, and to hear the views of neighbours, parish councils and other interested parties who may not have had the opportunity to express their concerns to planning officers as professionally as developers.

Development has to be in accordance with the Local Plan, which itself has to align with the National Planning Policy Framework or NPPF. The latter is periodically revised and is currently going through a major revision with the change of government. The District Council is pressing on to complete the new Joint Local Plan as so much work has already been done on it and it would be frustrating if changes have to be made if the new NPPF overtakes it.

.Councillor Peter Dragonetti, District Councillor for Kidmore End, Whitchurch, Goring Heath and Mapledurham

Editors note: I asked for a contribution to the newsletter from our new MP, Freddie van Mierlo, but I received an automated note saying "This email has been received by a newly elected Member of Parliament (MP). In the first weeks following an election an MP is likely to receive a significant volume of emails. Therefore, it is expected that response time to your email will be greater than usual, and your patience is appreciated". With a bit of luck, he will have seen my request in time for the next newsletter. SR.

The Parish Church



The St John's Music and Flower Festival which ran throughout June on five consecutive Sundays was a great success, and we hope brought plenty of cheer to those who came along. Over £3,300 was raised towards the building project and, although it involved plenty of tireless work for all those who participated in any way to help, I think the team are up to do much the same again in another year. We couldn't do this without volunteers, so thank you to all for putting on such a good show. Following the quieter months of July and August, church life springs back into action as the schools return for their autumn term. Revd James has met with the new Head of Kidmore End Primary, Claire Spankie, and both want to work closely together for the benefit of the community.

There has been much talk about the forward-looking mission of both parishes, and this sense of partnership has been relayed to the Diocese of Oxford who have an important role of oversight. The longed-for Planning permission for the improvements at the church has now been granted by our District Council: delayed once because of further enquiries about the proximity of the large lime trees that border the churchyard, and then again because of remarks raised around the positioning of additional drainage which is integral to the development plan. We are very glad to get this 'over the line' and can now ask the Diocese to proceed to Faculty.

Travelling around Oxfordshire as I do, and especially in connection with the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust fundraising 'Ride and Stride' day held on 14th September this year, it is wonderful to see inside as many churches as I can, but especially to point out those that have received make overs of one form or another. It's a real source of encouragement and inspiration for us as we seek to raise our own finance for our own capital project at St John's. Progress can go fast, and it can go slow, but a favourable decision on planning should help to boost confidence and draw in some of the larger grant awarding bodies. Works are still many months away, so the banner at the foot of the War Memorial facing the top of Kidmore Lane will be there for some time to come. When we can literally move the dial on that, we will!

Finally, a few events as we look towards darker evenings and Christmas. **All Soul's** is on 3rd November, and **Remembrance Sunday** is 10th November with the familiar gathering at the Memorial. There's a village social **Wine & Song** event in the school hall on 16th (look out for posters and flyers, Tickets are limited), and then we are into Advent. The church Choir directed by Frances Brewitt-Taylor will be **carol singing** in Sonning Common Village Hall on Saturday 14th December to coincide with the **Parish Christmas Fair** (11.00 – 13.00 on that day). The **Parish Carol Service** held in St John's is on 17th December at 19.30, and there is a **Christingle Service** at Christ the King in Sonning Common on 24th starting at 16.30. Back in Kidmore End, **Christmas Night Eucharist** will be celebrated on Tuesday 24th December starting at 23.00, followed by the family **Christmas morning service** at our usual time of 11.15 on Wednesday 25th. For these and all other church events, please check noticeboards for any updates.

Nick Room, Churchwarden

St Michaels Church

Earlier in the year Fr Michael celebrated his 50th anniversary of in ordination to the priesthood. In July the parish celebrated another anniversary, that of Deacon Brian's 10th anniversary of ordination as a permanent deacon. This was marked by coffee and a cake after one of the Sunday Masses. During the same month St Martin's, our primary school in Caversham Park Village, marked 50 years since its foundation.

For a second year we celebrated the rich diversity of our parish community at our International Mass with prayers and readings spoken in many languages and African dance. The event concluded with lunch in the parish hall with a wide range of dishes from the countries represented.

As well as continuing our support for the local food bank and CIRDIC in Reading we collected women's clothes for Smart Works that provide women with the clothing, coaching and confidence they need to succeed in interviews and get a job. A number of parishioners participated in the annual 'plastic blitz' along the Thames by Sonning. These activities are coordinated by our Thoughtful Living group.

During the holiday season we welcomed a number of visitors who were visiting family in the local area.

We are looking forward to celebrating our St Michael's Weekend at the end of September. It is an opportunity to receive teaching from a visiting priest on the Friday and Saturday and to celebrate together on Sunday at our parish lunch which includes our AGM.

If you know of a housebound Catholic who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please ring the parish office and talk to Fr Michael. See our website for contact information: www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk:

Kidmore End Primary School



My name is Claire Spankie and I am the new headteacher of our wonderful village primary school, Kidmore End CE Primary. Before joining Kidmore End, I was Deputy Headteacher at St. Luke's CofE Primary in Maidenhead for nearly 10 years. I am a mother to 4 young children, and I live in a small village in Buckinghamshire.

I was lucky enough to take up my post in June, which was earlier than originally planned. During those first few weeks I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our fantastic pupils, staff, governors and families. Our summer term was packed full of a range of experiences and events, including visiting Windsor Castle and Woolley Firs, going bell boating, camping in the school field, and much more. I particularly enjoyed our sports day and summer fayre, it was a day full of smiles, healthy competition and community spirit.

I am full of excitement and enthusiasm for the start of the new academic year. I am really looking forward to getting to know the local community and am looking forward to continue strengthening

the links between the church, the village and the school. We are a school full of ambition and enthusiasm and we are driven and motivated by our wonderful pupils and the local community. I am excited to guide Kidmore End CE Primary on the next part of its journey: a school where all pupils flourish and grow.

Tokers Green and Chazey Heath News

After a busy summer, we're looking forward to what autumn brings: there is always lots going on in our community and we'd love to welcome all residents to join in.

Community orchard

The recent highlight from our community orchard is that we have started to harvest fruit from our trees. A group of us picked and shared apples and plums – and we have more almost ready to pick soon. A reminder was sent to clarify for everyone the fruit is a community resource and even if you had donated to fund a tree that did not convey ownership of the fruit.



Of course, we have had to water the trees regularly again this year and that takes a group of us with buckets every time. A couple of times our two DoE volunteer helped out – and they also did a lot of other great work during their sessions too. All their hard work was much appreciated. Regular grass cutting keeps the orchard looking fantastic.

Looking forward: we will be planting wildflowers again in October and have cut the grass in three areas as preparation. We will be planting more trees in November and 16 neighbours have donated to fund them. We will have our next Wassail on January 18th.

All welcome to join in the maintenance work, the harvesting, the planting of flowers and the Wassail celebration.

Ian Beale - ian99beale@yahoo.co.uk.

Progressive dinners

The next Progressive Dinner is planned for Saturday 12th October 2024. If you are interested in joining in what is always an enjoyable evening, please confirm your attendance using the email address below (if you are new to this event, please include your house name and road) by Saturday 21st September so that I can pull together final details send them out in good time for everyone to plan.

For those of you new to the village and may wish to join in, the event runs as follows:

Everyone volunteers to host a course, i.e. starter, main or provide a dessert/cheese for 6 people; we also need volunteers to host dessert/coffee for everyone (usually around 30-35 people). You would then start at one house, with one group of people (usually 6 or 8 of you) and then move on to another house with another set of people for main (one of these may be at your house anyway). Then everyone meets up at one venue for dessert/coffee. Those providing dessert would take their contribution to the host house during the day so it can be set up ready for later.

Timings do allow for everyone to get round, the idea being that everyone walks – weather permitting. This is definitely not about *cordon bleu* cooking but provides a great way to get to know your neighbours and get involved in village events.

If you have any queries, please contact me directly.

Carole Neville - caroleneville@hotmail.co.uk.

The village green and pond – now with coffee!



We're delighted with how welcoming our village green looks, and we use it regularly – especially on Fridays at 11am, when Selina from Sloth Coffee comes in her coffee van and supplies us with excellent drinks and cakes. Do join us when you can – and bring your own cup for extra eco points! It's a great opportunity to meet others and talk over delicious refreshments.

Tokers Green Register of Useful Things TROUT

TROUT is a list of useful things that residents of Tokers Green are willing to lend, for a short time, to a Tokers Green neighbour. There could be many neighbours who have similar things (e.g. a ladder) and the borrower could then find a lender who lives closer to them. The intent is to create this as a neighbourly resource. We have things stored in our cupboards, sheds or attics that we seldomly use and we often hear of a request on our TG WhatsApp group, from a villager for a thing they would like to borrow. If you are a Tokers Green resident and have anything that you are willing to lend to a neighbour, please notify Graham Simms with a private message and he will add your item to the list.

Looking ahead...

Christmas carol singing

Our annual Village Carol Singing will be on the Sunday 22nd December, the last Sunday before Christmas. We will meet at 5pm and once again we will be collecting for the Air Ambulance, in person and through Our Just Giving page, which will be circulated on the Tokers Green village WhatsApp. Full details of how the Carol singing event will take place will be shared after a meeting with the community to discuss the location of a Christmas tree on the new Village Green and how that might act as a focus for this and future carol singing events. Please look out for an announcement on the village WhatsApp, of a meeting to discuss the carol singing at The Pack Saddle pub sometime in early October.

Andrew Harland - andrew.harlandkiteuk@gmail.com

Christmas meals

The annual Christmas dinners are going ahead this year: the men's dinner will be on 6th December and the women's dinner will be on 13th December. Both are open to all residents of Tokers Green and Chazey Heath and will be at The Pack Horse pub. More details to come soon in the WhatsApp group and via email.

Tokers Green WhatsApp group

All residents are welcome to join the Tokers Green, Chazey Heath and Dysons Wood WhatsApp group, which is an active and really helpful source of local information and support. Contact Mike on 07540 955992.

If this update is missing anything that you would like to share, please get in touch.

Joanna and Chris - tokersgreennews@hotmail.com

Gardening Update

Summer The Wood Wide Web

At the time of writing the sun is back with us and providing a break from frequent downpours. The past few months have allowed few opportunities for the BBQ's or any al fresco living. The gardens are certainly verdant as a result. It's been a good year for lawns. Hydrangeas are looking wonderful now, having had a good start with no late frosts and they have enjoyed the constant warmth and water; Hydras meaning water. Roses too have had a good display in the main, save with the humidity bringing on a bit of black spot, which can be dealt with easily by removing the worst affected leaves. Our pollinators, particularly the butterflies, have not enjoyed the rain and are very low on numbers. The wet weather has facilitated blight taking hold on Box hedging. To ameliorate, brush off the brown leaves and apply nutrient such as Topbuxus Health-Mix. This can be used alongside the Xen Tari available online to prevent Box Caterpillar.

When the Autumn arrives and the leaves change colour, we tend to look up more to admire the trees. Do you ever consider what's going on beneath the canopy, indeed beneath your feet as you wander through the local woods?



The connection between trees and fungi it is in fact a relationship that has been ongoing for about 450 million years despite being a relatively new discovery. Fungi, known as mycorrhiza, form a symbiotic relationship between the fungus and the roots of most trees and plants. These mycorrhizal hyphae are threadlike structures which run much like a spider's web connecting trees and plants in woods and gardens. For this reason, it is described as a below ground "internet" known as the *wood wide web*. This network allows trees to share resources such as nutrients and water. So, when walking through the woods chatting and exchanging information, reflect for a moment that similar interactions are taking place below ground. Both parties benefit from each other in a mutually beneficial exchange. Fungi siphon off carbon rich sugar the trees make during photosynthesis, which is unavailable to fungi. In return nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen

that the fungi have acquired from the soil via enzymes the trees do not process and can exchange these between other plants.

A dying tree might rid itself of its resources for the benefit of the community. For example, a young seedling in a heavily shaded understory might be supported with extra resources by its stronger neighbours. Mother trees, which are typically the largest and oldest trees act as a hub, helping to maintain the overall health of trees within the woods/forest. These trees can sense when new generations are in need and send chemical signals to alert them against pests and to activate their defences. Mother trees are also thought to recognise her nearby offspring and gives them preferential treatment. This spider-like network is largely invisible to the eye. The fungus grows in decomposing materials such as rotting twigs, leaves and logs.

Coming back to our gardens, Autumn is a great time to plant new trees and plants. Mycorrhizal food packets are now available for planting alongside new trees and shrubs. These are best applied directly to the plant roots which can help them absorb water and nutrients, especially phosphorus.

Niamh Kendall

Local Weather Report: Summer 2024

	Average Minimum Temperature		Average Maximum Temperature		Rainfall	
	Cent	Fahr	Cent	Fahr	mm	In
June	9.8	50	19.8	68	19	0.75
July	12.0	54	24.2	76	85	3.35
August	12.9	55	22.3	72	33	1.30
Rainfall - 3 months to end August 2024					137	5.40

Weather wise Summer 2024 was disappointing, it was the coolest summer since 2015. The first two weeks of June were cool followed by a warmer spell, temperatures then dropped and stayed cool through the first half of July before warming up to nearer to normal temperatures. August reversed the pattern, starting warm then cooling off in the last two weeks.

For most of June and July the Jetstream was south of the UK. When the Jetstream is south of us, we experience northerly winds that have come from the Arctic, hence the cold weather. When, finally in August, the Jetstream shifted to its normal position north of the UK we enjoyed warmer winds and increased temperatures.

There were short warm spells at the end of both June and July which gave us a few hot days, June’s maximum was 29.8C/86F on 26th and July’s maximum was 30.3C/87F on 30th. There were 17 days where the temperature exceeded 25C/77F but only one where it was over 30C/86F.

Although some parts of the UK had their wettest summer on record, summer in our region was drier than normal. In June we had only 25% of normal rainfall, most of which fell on 14th. July was the wettest month, by mid-month we had already had more than the normal month’s rainfall. In total July saw almost 150% of normal rainfall. August was again drier with only 50% of normal rainfall, most of August’s rain fell on Bank Holiday Saturday, which once again coincided with the Reading Festival.

Storm Lilian on 23rd/24th August battered the UK further north with high winds causing damage at Reading’s sister festival in Leeds. Storm Lilian was the 12th named storm; this is the most named storms in a season since the system started in 2015.

Lowest and Highest temperatures for 3 months to August 2024

	Lowest		Highest		Highest Rainfall	
	Cent	Fahr	Cent	Fahr	mm	In
June	3.7	39(8 th)	29.8	86(26 th)	7	0.28(14 th)
July	7.1	45(7 th)	30.3	87(30 th)	26	1.02(5 th)
August	8.6	47(18 th)	29.4	85(12 th)	10	0.39(24 th)

Chris Brook

The Asian Hornet Update



Asian
hornet

It has been a quiet summer with no reports of Asian hornets in our area, although there have been a few of confirmed sightings and nests in Sussex and Kent.

If there had been sightings within 15 miles of us we would have started monitoring again to see if any newly mated queens were around. However, as this has not been the case we will commence monitoring again in the early Spring.

If you would like to join the Kidmore End Asian Hornet WhatsApp group to help keep updated on all things Asian Hornet – text me on the number below or send me an email and I will add you.

Sue Remenyi sue.remenyi@gmail.com: 07791 840999

Kidmore End Cricket Club Season Review

The 2024 season saw Kidmore End Cricket Club celebrate an excellent season with following highlights:

- Junior training this year ran until the end of August due to children wanting to keep playing past the traditional end of season in July.
- The U13 Team has reached the Oxfordshire Long Format Final (35 overs) where they will play Oxford on Saturday 21st September.
- Last week the U15 Boys team recently lost to Slough U15s in the Berkshire Youth Cricket League semi-finals.
- The girls' teams continue to show good development in the tournaments which they have played in August.
- The women's team have finished their season with a win percentage of 75% which is excellent in their first proper competitive season.
- The senior men's teams have now finished in the Thames Valley League with the 1st XI finishing 4th following their promotion last season, the 2nd XI achieved another promotion which is their third in as many seasons and a club and league record. The 3rd XI and 4th XI finished in the lower parts of their respective divisions.
- The most positive aspect has been the contribution of younger players across all 4 teams with some of the younger being instrumental in some victories so far this summer. Highlights being a century scored by one the U15s in the 4th XI to win game, a match winning partnership by another of one of the U15s playing in the 1st XI to ensure that the team won a close match. Strong bowling performances have also seen the U15 and U16 players take 5 and 4 wickets in matches playing in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th XI.

The season officially ended on Saturday 14th September where the club community came together on a warm, sunny day for the end of season Awards Day for the club which featured an U9 inter club match and an U13 match with the boys and girls playing against their parents followed by an awards ceremony held in the pavilion where every player was awarded a certificate with their individual performances recorded and a variety of contributions for all the girls and boys teams were celebrated. The afternoon saw a Kidmore End Team play the Chris Bevington Foundation in a T20 fundraising match with food provided by local company The Bowler Street Food which was won by the Kidmore End team who hit a six from the last ball of the game to secure a 3 wicket win! The day concluded with the senior awards evening being held in the clubhouse to the backdrop of many friends and families from the club and local area enjoying each other's company accompanied by good food and conversation.

Looking ahead to the 2025 season we would welcome any new players of any age or ability to join and play in any of our senior and junior teams. We will also be running as ever our very popular Friday evening junior coaching sessions with a variety of food trucks serving their lovely and the club bar being open for anyone in the local area to enjoy the facilities. Indoor training will again run throughout the winter for juniors and seniors so please keep an eye on social media channels and members on their inbox. In addition to this the Friday night pavilion bar will be open on various dates between October and March so do keep an eye out for the adverts which will appear on our various social media platforms.

Mark New



Autumn 2024

Parish Council Meetings:

23 October
20 November
11 December
22 January
19 February
19 March
23 April
21 May

Friends of Sonning Common Library Application form

<http://www.kepc.info/news.php#foscl-application>



Are we missing your club or society?
Would you like to see their activities
listed in the Newsletter? Do you have
any news items or pictures for the
Parish?

If you would like to contribute to the
next edition, or to the website we'd be
delighted to hear from you. Articles
can be sent to editor, members of the
editorial board or directly to the
website webmaster – see right panel
for contact details.

The **closing date** for the next edition
is **6 December 2024**.

Useful Numbers and Contacts

Thames Valley Police, non-emergency 101
emergency 999
website www.thamesvalley.police.uk

Crime Stoppers (anonymous) 0800 555 111
Victim Support 01865 751511

SODC email: info@southoxon.gov.uk 01235 422422
Open: Mon-Thu 8.30 am - 5.00 pm
Fri 8.30 am - 4.30 pm

ORCC Directory of Transport Schemes 01865 883433
orc@oxonrcc.org.uk

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council,
Jericho Farm, Worton, Oxon OX29 4SZ

Oxfordshire Highways 0845 310 1111
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport>

Fix my Street <http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>

Citizens Advice Bureau (Henley)
Website <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale/contact-us/>
Telephone 0808 278 7907

Parish Councillors

Parish Council Chairman

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