

5. Chair's Report

Good Evening,

I'd like to begin with the Oxfordshire Councils Charter which is a powerful document put together through quite thorough consultation. The fundamental aim is to have an impact on how we work together at the County, District, and Parish level. It would be a good idea to have this on the July agenda because this could be the way forward to more decisive action based on agreed principles.

Secondly, another parish, namely Wendlebury, has been in touch to discuss their concerns about a commercial parachute and glider enterprise potentially operating out of RAF Weston shortly. I've asked Jon Kirk, a villager and RAF Wing Commander who has contacts at Brize Norton to help us out with this issue. To date, he has identified the new commander at RAF Weston and we have an appointment to meet with him on Monday, June 10th, 2024. The issue for all the villages is noise of flights on the weekends and of course, safety. To date I've involved Kirtlington and Middleton Stoney who would also find this a concern.

Our parish council needs to be aware that there are residents around the airfield including the recently developed equestrian centre, Kemsley Farm that has many horses in paddocks and is just across the road.

Thirdly, there is concern that the timing of our bus could be affected by the road development for Siemens. This was a side conversation with the Chair of Wendlebury who says their village will be impacted greatly by traffic being diverted through.

Fourthly, some good news!! The Traffic Advisory Group is starting up again and has a meeting tomorrow evening. There has been a lot of background work being done this month and hopefully we'll see some action on reducing the speed on the B430. A resident from Southfield has contacted me with concerns about the speed as residents on the estate try to enter the B430. He wonders why the electronic sign can't be working while the advisory group is negotiating with OCC. I've sent the question through to the group.

I'll end with a note that the elections will occur shortly and we will have a new candidate since John Howells is standing down as our MP. It is always important to have a working relationship with our MP and there are already a number of issues that we need support in working through ie. water supply and safety, role of inspectorate in planning decisions – and several more for future discussion. We will want whoever is elected for our riding to support and help with our concerns.

Diane Bohm. June 5th, 2024