

Oxfordshire CC Transport Strategy - 28/2/15

Have a look at:

https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult/ti/CO_LTP4/consultationHomehttps://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult/ti/CO_LTP4/consultationHome

Faringdon is mentioned in Vol 2 sect ii under A420 corridor (no idea why we don't warrant a specific section as Carterton, Witney etc do)

In item 9 Mentions changes to junctions at Gt Coxwell and Park Road and

'Enhancement of the A420 premium bus route, focusing on enhancing service frequency initially to three, and then to four buses per hour per direction'

No mention of capacity/utilisation of current off peak buses. No mention of how we get to Witney or Abingdon if you don't have a car. (Perhaps no 66 will link with the Witney:Abingdon route)

There's an online questionnaire, or you can send your views by sending a document

ED(GW)

Coxwell St - 28/2/15

Does anyone know what the plans are for the small patch of land in Coxwell Street, where the huge billboard has been removed within the last few days? It really nice to see that horribly tatty and unused billboard gone but I'm curious to know whether it's just going to be replaced by another unnecessary hoarding.

Name supplied.

ED(GW) Planning permission has been given for a 4 bedroomed house

Faringdon's First Charity Market is to be held this Saturday from 10.00am in the Town Centre.- 27/2/15

We have stallholders of all ages representing their favourite charities, and some of our best businesses sponsoring them. There are local and national charities of all sorts, from Sunshine Cat Rescue to the Dog's Trust and Guide Dogs, The Folly Trust, Help the Heroes, The Nasio Trust and The Mustard Seed among others - so come along and show your support for some great people this Saturday!

Bethia Thomas

No Virgin Media in Faringdon? - 27/2/15

Fibre broadband is available in some of Faringdon. We have it through talktalk.

Name Supplied

Regent Cinema - Corn Exchange- 27/2/15

We have a great film to show you this Friday 27th Feb at the Regent Cinema - 'Chef'(15). Doors open at 7pm so plenty of time to grab your tea/coffee, sweets, popcorn and visit the bar before the film starts at 7.30pm!

Tickets are £4 adult, £3 under 18's and £10 for a family (2 adults & 2 children). Ring 01367 242191 for more info.

Re.- Recommended Builder- 26/2/15

I have no hesitation in recommending the Darren Dancey. Darren and his brother have done excellent work for me in the past and only work locally. Most if not all their work is through Recommendations.

Regards Grumpy Old Man.

Recommend a builder - 26/2/15

Marc Ball 07717 504931 def one of the best in far

Gerry Anderson

Recommend a builder? - 26/2/15

I am wondering if anyone can recommend a local builder who would be able to convert a garage and add some French doors.

Many thanks

Ray Philpott

No Virgin Media in Faringdon? - 26/2/15

They are expanding all the housing and opening up the town to outsiders but not joining the 21st Century. Do we know if or when Fiber Optic Broadband will come to the town?

Very Angry Towny

Vale freezes council tax and pledges support for communities in 2015/16 budget- 25/2/15

Vale of White Horse District Council has agreed to freeze the amount of council tax people pay for services it provides in 2015/16.

The 2015/16 rate, which was confirmed at the full council meeting on 18 February marks the fifth year in a row in which taxpayers in the district will see their contribution to the council's costs stay the same.

The council tax freeze means that for 2015/16 people living in a band D property in Vale will again pay just £116.69 for the services provided by the district council.

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/news/2015/2015-02/vale-freezes-council-tax-and-pledges-support-communities-201516-budget>

Fun survey - 24/2/15

Just for fun and because someone is commenting about mobile service quality in the local area, can you take a min to complete this little survey?

I'll publish the results when done

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/69V6JCL>

Mel Lane

Did you know that it is Faringdon's First Charity Market this Saturday? - 24/2/15

There will be lots of different individuals and groups supporting their favourite charities, local and national, and they are being sponsored by some of the town's best businesses so all the stallholders' profits can go straight to the charity they support.

The Mustard Seed will be there celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight, as well the Dog's Trust, Sunshine Cat Rescue (better not put them next to each other!), Friends of the Folly Tower and others. Come along and see what's happening!

Faringdon's First Charity Market, Saturday 28th, 10.00am-1.00pm.

Bethia Thomas

Vodafone Issues - 23/2/15

I, in common with most people locally started having issues with Vodafone during the time when they were building Tesco. I vaguely remember something about the mast being damaged during the construction.

Lots of people complained, including Sue Lund who managed to get it onto the local news and Paul Brame from the Chamber of Commerce and eventually, we got some service back but it remained patchy and poor quality.

I moved to EE as I was fed up of being ignored by Vodafone and being self employed, couldn't afford to be uncontactable. The call and data quality is improved but not great but still better than Vodafone.

I might knock up a quick online survey to see what people's experience is locally so we might get a view on the best provider. Hope this helps.

Mel Lane

Vodophone issues - 21/2/15

I'm having countless issues on Vodafone. I can't use Internet Anywhere in Faringdon at all. My call quality is really bad as well. People can't hear me and I can't hear them. Has anybody else got these problems with Vodafone?

Clark Kent

RE: Humpty Appeal refused - 20/2/15

Excellent news about Humpty Hill. I assume that means that the public enquiry at Sudbury House starting on 16 March will now be cancelled.

Name supplied

ED(GW) As I understand it the public enquiry is about the Town Green application for that field. It is separate from the housing development appeal/refusal. It's an important occasion. Getting the field designated as a Town Green will protect it from development in the future.

Humpty Appeal refused - 20/2/15

The Secretary of State has rejected the Gladman appeal. Planning permission is refused

Read all about it!

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/405445/15-02-19_DL___IR_Highworth_Road_2210891.pdf

Ed

Lost phone - 19/2/15

I lost my phone last night (18/2/2015) somewhere between Pye Street Park and Tesco, it's a yellow iPhone 5C with blue bubbles as the background picture. If anyone's picked it up or seen it could they please call 07917157187 or drop it through the letterbox at 54 Walker Drive, thanks

Another Family Board and Card Games Evening - 18/2/15

With Jacky, Nik, Joanne and Andy at The Rookery, Arthur's Hill, Marlborough Street, Faringdon

Friday 27th February, 6pm to 9pm.

Some of the games played last month were Splendour, Jaipur, San Marco, Jamaica, Qwirkle and Carcassonne

Never heard of them? Fancy finding out what they are like? Then come and join us for a fun evening of games for all the family.

We'll provide the games and explain all the rules so all you need to do is turn up and play.

Stay as long as you like. Refreshments will of course be available for purchase (until 8.30pm).

Second2none- 18/2/15

I to have used Bob and the team over the past 10 years and find them honest and value for money, but most of all I know they tell me the truth and I have never felt being palmed off with work that is not needed!

Keep up the good work second2none and I know you will be around for many years to come when you do a great job as you do and with people going out there way to spread the good word!

Mike Okeefe

Pcirepairs Faringdon

Re: Second2None - 18/2/15

I too have nothing but praise for them. It's a rare thing (in my experience) to find a vehicle repair/MOT/etc. place in which you feel you have 100% trust.

Helen Gilbert

FAB- Faringdon Appreciation of Berners - 17/2/15

This group has been reading and reviewing Lord Berners' books. You can read their reviews [on this website](#)
ED

Piles of mess. - 17/2/15

I think many of us are suffering from these ignorant nasty dog owners at the moment.

I have dogs and as a responsible owner I always clear up after them but I've just had to pick up mess from another dog which for the third time has been allowed to leave a large deposit on my front grass. On Saturday morning I had to pick up mess from the pavement outside my house.

This is on Fernham Road but the whole town seems to be suffering at the moment.

If anybody notices owners not clearing up after their dogs then please report them. It's so disgraceful that these owners care so little about the rest of us.

This is from the VWHDC website -

We take dog fouling very seriously as dog mess is not only unpleasant but it spreads diseases, which can cause illness and even blindness.

Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 a person who is in charge of a dog must clean up after it when it fouls any footpath, highway, verge or other open space to which the public have access. It is therefore a crime to allow a dog to foul in any public area without clearing it up. Those that fail to do so could face a fixed penalty notice of £50 or prosecution.

You can email them on env.health@southandvale.gov.uk or call on 01235 540555

Lets embarrass these owners and get the town cleaned up.

Name Supplied

Southampton street loos - 17/2/15

The location for these toilets are about right for every one central to the town center perhaps just need identifying with signage in streets and a bit of a makeover. I have used these and know my daughter finds it useful for her children when in the town.

Perhaps there should be a central point for dog owners too so they dont get complained about so much.

While on the subject of central points why not consider some land to park up camper vans to save clogging them getting complaints for hogging the streets.

Well just a few thoughts best regards Frank

Second2None - 17/2/15

I endorse the comments made by HGM about the service provided by Second2None. They have carried out my work for some time now and every problem is discussed constructively and sympathetically and put through with the minimum of fuss and bother. Well done Bob and staff.

DEH

Wantage Counselling Service on "Pragmatism and Principle" - 16/2/15

This year's Felicity Madden Memorial Lecture is titled "Pragmatism and Principle" and is to be held on Saturday 28th March in the Loyd Lindsay Rooms, Ardington. The presentation aims to outline how counselling young people goes on to help counselling adults, no matter how many sessions or how much support a client requires. Nick Luxmoore – who writes a blog for *Psychology Today* – will be leading the presentation and discussion.

The event will run from 10am until 1pm and tickets are available now from the Wantage Counselling Service page. Standard tickets are £45, and student and Wantage Counselling Service member tickets are £35.

This is also a chance for the Wantage Counselling Service to highlight keys areas of their services and the wider benefit to the community's mental health, something which is often left out of the public eye. With a long service career, the charity has been described as "particularly valuable as a voluntary addition for patients in need of long term care beyond whatever the NHS can provide" by GPs and psychiatric consultants alike.

Everybody is invited to the Felicity Madden Memorial Lecture and the audience will be actively encouraged to ask questions, no matter how small. It is hoped that, by inviting more than just GPs and other professionals, the Wantage Counselling Service will receive more attention in the long run and hopefully be able to secure more funding in future, vital to keeping this well-established charity on its feet.

To book tickets for the event please go to: <http://www.wantagecounselling.org.uk/training/training.html>

Contact – for information on **Wantage Counselling Service** – Helen Carter (Trustee) 01235 764810 or Email: helen-carter@ntlworld.com

Details regarding event – Shaun Galloway 07736310443 or shaun@wantage-couriers.co.uk

Southampton St Toilets - 16/2/15

Yes, leave them were they are, perfect location, most importantly they have easy access and parking for the disabled. Why not refurbish what there is, any money saved could be spent on refreshing the scruffy shrub beds around the car park.

Ann Lewis

Piles of mess - 16/2/15

It appears that the idle person(s) who are allowing there large dog to leave piles of mess in The Pines, and the surrounding alleyways and the children's park need to be caught and reported to the dog warden.

They need to be educated in being a responsible dog owner and not a complete moron.

Name supplied

Second2None..Well Named - 15/2/15

I've just had my MOT done by Second 2 None in Park Road, Faringdon. As usual I received a very friendly welcome.... from the dog.

But all the Staff are equally pleasant as well as being very efficient

The charges are very reasonable and, unlike some dealers, I don't feel that I am being ripped off to pay for a luxurious waiting room.

Thank you Bob and co.

HGM

RE- Southampton Street Toilets - 15/2/15

I agree the toilets are in a good place. If you come into a town and go to the most central car park and you need a loo, it's comforting to look across from your car and see the toilet block.

I agree they are a bit scruffy from outside, but whenever I've gone in, the toilets have been clean, well stocked with toilet paper, there is soap in the dispenser, the taps on the sinks work and the dryer works. If I'm caught short, those are the things I need and they are there.

Fiona Merrick

Southampton St Loos - 15/2/15

Yes they've needed replacing for a while now but why elsewhere? They are in the most useful place, near the town centre and like most towns they are in the car park which is where visitors expect them to be.

Name supplied.

ED(GW) VWHDC have refurbishment of the Public Loos in hand. FTC are trying to ensure that the best possible solution is put in place.

Southampton St Loos - 13/2/15

After the tragic death in the Southampton Street car park toilets on Monday, shouldn't the latter be pulled down, as the Vale had planned about 2 years ago? Who would want to go in there again? For a long time they have looked awful, and it's embarrassing when tourists come into town and want to use them. Now there is an extra reason to get rid of them and situate new ones elsewhere. I have heard that the local council opposes the Vale's plan, but, like many things this week, that might just be a rumour.

Carolyn Williams

LOST WALLET - 13/2/15

Has anyone found a wallet lost last Friday 6th February in or around the market place? This was lost by a visiting Welshman after their defeat at the Six Nations. He has stopped his credit cards but has other items of no value to anyone else but very hard to replace.

Please contact 241365. Thank you.

Helen Drawbridge

MIXED NETBALL TOURNAMENT RAISES OVER £800 FOR LEUKAEMIA & LYMPHOMA RESEARCH - 12/2/15

On Sunday 8th February at Wantage Leisure Centre over 100 people gathered to compete in a mixed netball tournament with 10 teams of mixed genders and abilities, to raise money for leukaemia and lymphoma research.

Predominantly a female sport, netball is a challenging and rewarding game which requires specific skills, strength, team work and discipline. The event provided members of the public with the opportunity to help raise money for an extremely worthy cause, whilst also being part of a friendly and fun competition and for many, to play a new sport.

Along with competing for 1st place, teams which consisted of up to three competitive netball players and a minimum of three of each sex, were also encouraged to dress up. Prizes for the top two teams and best dressed team were up for grabs. Outfits ranged from doctors, onesies, zombie lifeguards and animals to a collection of Where's Wally's, with the latter claiming the best dressed prize.

Many attendees helped further and made cakes to sell at the cake stall and the below local charities helped boost the charity donations by contributing some generous prizes for the raffle.

Wantage Leisure Centre

Wildwood Restaurant Wantage

Miele

The Eagle Tavern, Great Coxwell

Hair Studio, TFD

House of spice

Team Bath Netball

Calber Facilities Management

Bellingers

Sainsbury's

Waitrose
Kelly cook's cakes
Corinne Jones

Tuckers Park - 12/2/15

You are right, Tuckers Park does not exclusively belong to the Football Club it belongs to all residents of Faringdon for use and recreation but It is the Club that puts the most into looking after the grounds. Children breaking up for half term has nothing to do with Scarrott's Fair being granted permission to use Tuckers Park in June apart from the fact that they use it more because the Football Club puts on activities for them. Maybe we should just ask the club why they found it necessary to restrict the Fair to only a small part of the ground.
Old Faringdonian.

Persuade our local MPs to protect rural Oxfordshire.Petition- 11/2/15

CPRE Oxfordshire and ROAR – the Rural Oxfordshire Action Rally, are petitioning Secretary of State Eric Pickles and local MPs to protect rural Oxfordshire from unsustainable development.

We believe current planning rules are unfairly penalising particular villages and greenfield sites, a situation which is likely to get worse with the proposed 40% increase in housing in Oxfordshire by 2031. Whilst many would welcome more affordable housing for local people, developers are frequently bringing forward large and inappropriate developments that threaten to swamp existing communities and infrastructure. Unless we stand together, the rural nature and beautiful countryside of Oxfordshire will be at risk.

By signing our e-petition you can help us to persuade our local MPs to protect rural Oxfordshire.

Please add your signature and make your voice heard!

Sign here: <http://chn.ge/1IJvYUA>

For more information go to: <http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk/>

Dr Helena Whall

Campaign Manager

Protect Rural Oxfordshire (PRO)

To find out more see our website (www.cpreoxon.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire) or Twitter (@CPREOxfordshire) and sign up to our monthly e-news bulletin (E: administrator@cpreoxon.org.uk / T: 01865 874780).

Card Games - 11/2/15

Hi Richard, please contact me at bubbascouse@gmail.com to discuss the use of some free space for your card game club.

Regards, Paul

Appeal for witnesses after unexplained death – Faringdon- 11/2/15

Thames Valley Police is appealing for witnesses after an unexplained death in Faringdon.

At about 1.55pm yesterday (9/2), Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service called the Force to report a fire at the public toilets in Southampton Street, Faringdon.

A 49-year-old man was pronounced dead at the scene. His next of kin has been informed, although a date is yet to be scheduled for formal identification.

A post mortem is planned to take place today (10/2).

Senior Investigating Officer, Det Chief Insp Kevin Brown said: "I would appeal to anyone who saw a white man wearing a light green and grey jacket and dark trousers in the vicinity of Southampton Street, or who may have used the public toilets themselves, which is situated close to Budgens, or was in the vicinity of the nearby car park between 10am and 2pm yesterday, to contact me via 101 quoting URN 765 9th Feb.

"Further, it has been reported that members of the public saw the fire and tried to help the man out of the toilet block. I would also like to speak to these people because they might have vital information that can aid our investigation.

"I appreciate that some people do not feel comfortable speaking to police directly, so alternatively you can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org. No personal details are taken, information is not traced or recorded and you will not go to court.

"Thames Valley Police officers are currently carrying out house to house enquiries and a scene watch is likely to be in place for the rest of today (10/2). I would like to thank local residents for their assistance and patience while we continue our thorough investigation into this unexplained death."

Thames Valley Police

Card games- 11/2/15

I have recently moved to Faringdon, I am a student teacher looking for a way to continue one of my hobbies. I would like to enquire about the possibility of using any free space, like the hall, to hold a weekly card game club, specifically the Pokemon Trading Card Game. It is a hobby of mine and unfortunately there is nowhere local that holds a league for players (closest is Bristol). I think it would be a great way to bring people together. It is a fun and educational game and would be officially supported by the pokemon company. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards, Richard.

Tuckers Park- 11/2/15

I fail to see how the children breaking up at half term next week and a fair at the end of June have anything to do with each other.

I agree that the football club do a fantastic job but the ground was given to the whole town not just those who play football.
Green Witch

Tucker Park- 10/2/15

I think Faringdon Football Club reached the right decision

The schools will be breaking up for half-term in about a weeks time and you don't want them to be up to their knees in mud. Having the Fair on Tucker's Park is a great idea but it does churn the ground up. One thing we must remember The Football Club does a good job of looking after Tuckers Park
Old Faringdonian.

Far Runners - Saturday Beginner Sessions - 10/2/15

If you've ever thought about jogging/running but been put off because you don't have anyone to go with; everyone else who does it seems:

Younger

Fitter

Thinner etc etc

THINK AGAIN

Our very sociable beginner sessions are aimed at those who haven't run since school PE. There is always a Run England trained leader on hand to encourage and motivate you and no-one EVER gets left behind on their own.

We meet at Faringdon Leisure Centre Car Park at 9.30am and the best bit - Its totally FREE.

Please contact me if you have any questions:

Linda Woodward - woodwardj@btopenworld.com or take a look at our Facebook page Far Runners

Letter in the post- 10/2/15

This morning Tuesday 10th about 10.30, I found a letter dropped in the Southampton Street Car park. It was addressed to someone in Lancing, Sussex with a stamp attached.

With no other details on the envelope I hva put it into the post box. I only hope this was OK

Name supplied

Re Tuckers Park- 10/2/15

And more. I'm a little frustrated that the Football Club seem to have taken it upon themselves to restrict Scarrots Fair to a very small area citing the Town Council as the authority for this restriction. As far as I can find out they've done nothing of the sort and the whole of the field should be available.

Green Witch

Re Tuckers Park - 10/2/15

Mike Wise has looked up the original Trust papers for Tuckers Park. I'm sure that if you contact him he will give you the information you are looking for.

Green Witch

Regards Tucker park - 9/2/15

Somewhere on talking point in an old post the general rules of the park are that it was donated to the people of Faringdon for recreational activities, Not just the football club which seems to dominate the space today. It was donated to commemorate Michael Tucker who died in the war by the Tucker family. It would also be interesting to hear how the rules apply to the public space generally and what other clubs have the right of access. (Not that I need access, Just interested). Or anything about the man or family who left this legacy. The history society could organise a talk on the Tucker family.

You can google it but it links to the talking points page rather than the specific post and I can't find that in the archive here. Perhaps someone in the council could dig out the original documents and publish them afresh for a new generation to make best use of the ground for more than football, its not used most days apart from dog walkers. If it was more populated with other sports as well there would be less room for dog walkers and I think that would be a positive solution...

Run a campaign in the town to make better use of the space but please stop moaning about dog mess all the time!!! we need alternative solutions not more signs and rules... Get creative...

Name supplied

Lazyness - 9/2/15

Continuing on from the parking theme, can't help but notice that people in the town really are getting lazy. Parking on the pavements all around the town, taking their cars down Canada Lane to pick up the kids even though a few minutes walk would benefit them, parking overnight on the lower end of London Street overnight has returned.

Also the camper vans on Coxwell Road and some appear unroadworthy but I am no expert, the overnight parking by Coach Lane Cemetery. Now that really is laziness. 'Tis a pity that not one agency in the Vale is interested in getting it sorted. Why aren't our elected officials at the VWHDC and the OCC not doing anything about it?

Are they also lazy?

Name withheld

Faringdon Market - 9/2/15

We've been working hard over the last few weeks - and now we are delighted to announce the Tuesday Weekly Market is going to have a whole new look.

With new traders coming to town, there will be much more to it than what we've been used to, so check it out tomorrow from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm in the Marketplace!

Bethis Thomas, Town Team

Skittles evening to raise money for Faringdon Day Centre - 9/2/15

Saturday 28 February at Faringdon Bowls Club, Gravel Walk. 7.00 p.m.

Tickets £10 to include a two course supper, a Ploughman's and a choice of hot and cold puddings.

There will be a Bar and a Raffle. All Welcome. This is a fun evening and not a serious competitive one. Same prize for best and worst.

Tickets from Eve 01367 241927 or Gill 01367 244176

Photography exhibition - 8/2/15

Hi, I am an amateur street photographer from Faringdon and I have a Crowdfunder.co.uk project just gone live to help raise enough funds to hold my first exhibition. I am hoping to exhibit in The Portwell Angel in April, May or June.

I would like some help in promoting this via the local community (and wider arts community). Please visit: @danjamesphotogs on Twitter, or search 'Street Photography Exhibition' to view details on the project. Many thanks.

Dan Homewood

Tabby home again - 8/2/15

Lost male tabby cat from Lechlade road area now thankfully home.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to help us.

Gina

Dog walking and fouling - 8/2/15

I wonder if someone could clarify the dos and don'ts about taking dogs into Tucker Park?

My understanding, from the notices placed in various locations round the field, is that:

- a) Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times
- b) Dogs and owners must keep to the perimeter of the field; i.e. are not permitted on the pitches
- c) Owners must pick up after their dog
- d) There is a fine (of up to £1000?) for failing to do this

As someone who often walks their dog in this field, from my experience the vast majority of other dog walkers totally ignore items a and b, and a significant minority also ignore item c. (Try walking round the perimeter - it's disgusting!)

These are football fields. Dogs are permitted only if their owners/handlers abide by these perfectly reasonable requests. I would LOVE to allow my dog to run off-lead in this field - he'd have a whale of a time! But if these are the rules, then they need to be enforced. Or perhaps more notices put up, since apparently those that are already there are invisible...!

However, if the rules have changed, please could somebody confirm it? I would love to be able to let my dog off the lead here. And while I'm on a roll (!) has anyone noticed that dog fouling throughout the town is on the increase? There are lots of bins, and for a while it seemed threats of fines and "area under surveillance" notices were working. However, these appear to have been no more than threats, and some owners (more and more) are now ignoring the notices, apparently safe in the knowledge that nothing will happen.

As a dog owner myself, the situation is becoming embarrassing. The old 'railway lines' path and the path up to the Health Centre, grassed areas, Tucker Park, alleyways and footpaths – all are areas where it's not safe to walk when it's dark for fear of what one could tread in. Even in daylight one often has to pick one's way carefully, particularly across grassed areas.

I know it would cost money, but how about a proper patrol, at least for a while, (or CCTV cameras) with actual prosecutions? Perhaps if people thought they WOULD be prosecuted/fined, they might start picking up and these areas would be nicer for all again.

Name Supplied

Video of Fire damage at Council - 7/2/15

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/news/2015/2015-02/fire-damage-video-released-councils-declare-its-nearly-business-usual>

The Town - 7/2/15

So the Vale is to be given funding to help in certain areas with Housing and the Infrastructure need to cope with all the new growth. How do you apply for help. Can our Town Councillors just apply or do we have to wait until Abingdon. Didcot and Wantage have had their share and if there is anything left it's ours. Faringdon Town and its needs have been forgotten for far too long. The Town Centres in other towns thrive and ours slowly dying. We see plan after plan put forward and discussed and then not a thing happens.

The design in the middle of Town is not inviting enough to attract visitors. Tourist Buses stopped coming into Town When we took away the Parking and put a large apron in front of the Old Town Hall. Come on Councillors. We need Aldi's and Waitrose but we also need a Town again.

Old Faringdonian

London Street Parking Again - 6/2/15

My Partner was nearly run over Saturday 7th Feb while walking the dog on the PAVEMENT on London street. A driver in 4 x 4 pulled in front of him and then started reversing. Luckily no one was hurt but it was very close. There is plenty of road for vehicles to use. Maybe those parking on pavement could park on Stanford road. I am sure there room on this road closer to cricket club. Maybe the little walk would do everyone a bit of good and hopeful being pedestrian for a change you would understand the dangers you are putting others in.

Name Supplied

Vale welcomes growth deal- 6/2/15

Vale of White Horse District Council has welcomed news that government investment will be going towards a project the Vale as identified as crucial to support growth in the district.

As part of the Growth Deal announced in Oxford by Grant Schapps support will be given for *further improvements to the A34, including the Lodge Hill Junction*. This will relieve some of the significant congestion and improve local infrastructure, which will support future housing and economic developments.

As part of the Growth Deal, infrastructure, housing and other funding has been brought to together in a single pot, and is given to local authorities and businesses to invest in what is needed in their area to maximise potential economic growth.

Councillor Matthew Barber, leader of the Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "This is excellent news for the Vale, and we welcome the government support for the project to open the slip roads at Lodge Hill in Abingdon. In our Local Plan we've stressed the importance of this project and other crucial infrastructure to support the growth we have to provide."

Another Planning app for Fernham Road - 6/2/15

12 dwellings and associated parking and landscaping, new access onto Fernham Road.

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/java/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P15/V0154/O>

This replaces an earlier application for (I think) 22 houses.

It includes transferring the SSSI land to the Fossil Trust (promised when Fernham Gate was built)

Ed

Humpty Public Enquiry - 6/2/15

Sorry folks, but a Public Inquiry is not designed for the attendance of the Public! Its for the Inspector to hear the appellant's case appealing the refusal. The district council and anyone who is registered as a Rule 6 party can also present evidence which has to be submitted in advance. The Inquiry is held in open forum and the public can attend, and will be allowed to present their own evidence but in my experience local opinion is largely ignored. The best chance is a coordinated presentation from the Parish Council or action group that presents the public evidence and local opinion in a professional and coordinated manner. Individual presentations are usually unfocussed and misguided. At a public Inquiry I attended, the legal teams of both the appellant and the district council actually chatted amongst themselves while the public were presenting their evidence! Humpty Hill Inquiry might be better, but I doubt it.

A Cynic

Name Supplied

Re Humpty Hill - 6/2/15

name supplied- I have read the notice and a vague line stating "'an evening session may be held from 6pm to 8:30pm on the first or subsequent days of the Inquiry session at the direction of the Inspector following a request from the Applicant or the Principal Objectors'" is not good enough. They can easily hold the enquiry over a weekend and or in the evenings, after all it's a public enquiry where they are supposed to be gauging the locals opinions. It should be at a suitable time for most residents to attend. If a planning inspector doesn't want to work evenings or weekends, then perhaps they should find alternative work. I have worked 7 days a week, 40+ weeks a year for two decades, because my work deemed it necessary. I hope I am wrong, but I think you will find the enquiry sparsely attended. Which will be a shame.

Grumpy Old Man

Ref. Rosalind Hurford. 3/2/2015 Tucker Park- 6/2/15

I have always been given to understand that Tucker Park was given to the Town for recreational activities by the Tucker Family as a Memorial to a member of the Tucker Family, Michael Tucker who was killed in world War Two. Michael Tucker was serving in the 5th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment and died on the 10th June 1940 and he is buried in All Saints Church Yard plot number 807.

Before the Second World War Mike Tucker was a member of the Faringdon Fire Brigade, the attached photo (click to enlarge) was taken in 1937 and Mike Tucker is the Fireman standing on the right.

Bill Law.



Lost male long haired tabby cat - 6/2/15

...from around the lechlade road area in faringdon opposite the infant school. Please could people kindly check sheds and outbuildings. Please contact us with any info or sightings on 07736302901

many thanks.

Gina Kirby

Faringdon Free Food - 5/2/15

The next Faringdon Free Food session will be from 14.00 to 16.00 this Sunday (8th February 2015). Everyone (adults and children) is welcome to come along to this session.

Because of the cold weather this month we'll work indoors, grafting apple trees for growing on and planting out later in the year. We'll meet at 23 London Street, Faringdon, at 14.00.

Mark Crane

HUMPTY HILL PUBLIC ENQUIRY! - 5/2/15

For the Public Inquiry in March we need to have evidence in the form of witness statements documenting the usage of Humpty Hill by local people. This needs to be ready by Monday 16th February. If you are able to provide a statement we would be very grateful.

We are looking at the period from 1990 to present. This is not to say that users before this won't add weight.

The statement needs to include:

- 1) Your own activities in the field, especially if these involve the general use of the field rather than just the perimeter path.
- 2) Any activities that you have seen other people indulging in. (adults, teenagers or children)

If you would like to give a statement please contact by email, savehumptyhill@gmail.com. I will let you know what we need and give you a map to sign.

Rob Stewart

4&20 Retail Development – Public Exhibition - 5/2/15

Some feedback from the exhibition at the Pump House on 4 Feb:

The plan is to develop just over half of the site as a retail park with a large Aldi, a small Waitrose (6000 sq ft - similar to those at motorway service stations but larger) and a drive-through Costa.

The developers expect the outlets to generate up to 120 new jobs and stop more people leaving Faringdon for their grocery shopping. They also hope to encourage passing trade and out-of-towners to visit the town centre (a tall order I suspect)

The remaining half is to be housing and an office block and is a separate development, i.e. it's a different developer and the retail development is not dependant on its approval. The timeline for the retail park is late 2016, early 2017 (with a following wind...)

I'm not sure this will do as much for Faringdon's existing retailers as the developers are hoping, but in the context of what else is happening in Faringdon - 380 houses on the other side of Park Road, 200 houses at Fernham Fields, 200 houses at Steeds Farm, 70 houses behind the youth centre and possibly 94 houses on Humpty Hill – the arrival of both Aldi and Waitrose is arguably both necessary and welcome. It will also bring some much needed employment to the area.

Folly Man

Petition- possible cuts to bus service - 5/2/15

I've started the petition "Oxfordshire County Council: STOP CUTS to VoWH subsidised Public Transport" and need your help to get it off the ground.

Will you take 30 seconds to sign it right now ? Here's the link:

<http://www.change.org/p/oxfordshire-county-council-stop-cuts-to-vowh-subsidised-public-transport>

Here's why it's important:

Oxfordshire County Council are currently reviewing our subsidised bus services for 2015/16. Some services may be under threat of being reduced or even cut in our area. The review includes the **61/63, 65, 66, 67/67A/67B**, including the **Wantage Independent Advice Centre Community Transport Service**, as well as others. I believe our existing services should remain untouched and, in fact, expanded. Approximately 950 new homes are to be built in our area over the next few years with the possibility of many of those new residents being non-drivers. Connectivity via Public Transport will be vital for those residents to travel to Family, Hospitals, Colleges, Work and Entertainment. Reduction of services in my opinion, and those of the signatories of this petition, are retrograde and make no sense of future planning. Please reconsider the review.

You can sign my petition [by clicking here](#).

Thanks !

Ian Gillies Bell

Mobile Youth Centre, coming to Faringdon - 5/2/15

..... next Tuesday evening- starting at Berners Way around 7pm and moving to Marlborough Gardens around 8pm

Stephen Martin

Re Humpty Hill enquiry.- 5/2/15

People moaning that they will be at work and can't get there obviously haven't read it properly.

'an evening session may be held from 6pm to 8:30pm on the first or subsequent days of the Inquiry session at the direction of the Inspector following a request from the Applicant or the Principal Objectors'

Name Supplied

New Traders- Tuesday market- 5/2/15

There will be new traders at Faringdon Market next Tuesday including jewellery, scarves, bags, Forever Living, Kitchen & Vine hampers, gifts so please support them. More to come. If you wish to trade at Faringdon Tuesdays, Wantage Wednesday and Saturday or Didcot first Sunday each month then please message me. Lets make our market towns great markets

Jeanette Howse

Humpty Hill - 4/2/15

The FTC fought to get these hearings held in Faringdon so that local people could attend. They can't make them be held in the evenings and to be quite honest those involved also have a life. I'm retired so technically I could see the whole thing through. In reality, I have a life and whether I'm in work or not I can't attend the whole hearing although I will be there as often as I can.

Green Witch

Re- Humpty hill and other plans related to Faringdon- 5/2/15

Never before has Douglas Adams got it summed up so well:

ARTHUR DENT:

It's not exactly a noted social venue is it, The local planning office? And even if you had popped in on the off chance that some raving bureaucrat wanted to knock your house down, the plans weren't immediately obvious to the eye were they?

MISTER PROSSER:

That depends where you were looking.

ARTHUR DENT:

I eventually had to go down to the cellar!

MISTER PROSSER:

That's the display department.

ARTHUR DENT:

With a torch!

MISTER PROSSER:

The lights, had... probably gone.

ARTHUR DENT:

So had the stairs!

MISTER PROSSER:

Well you found the notice didn't you?

ARTHUR DENT:

Yes. It was on display in the bottom of a locked filing cabinet, stuck in a disused lavatory with a sign on the door saying "Beware of the Leopard". Ever thought of going into advertising?

Rob Perkins

Cleaner wanted - 4/2/15

Can anyone recommend a local cleaner please? Struggling to find one and need some help due to ill health. Thanks friends.
Name supplied.

Tuckers Nursery? - 3/2/15

Wondering if anyone has memories of the nursery run by the Tucker family or the history of Tucker Park?

Rosalind Hurford

Humpty Hill Public enquiry- 3/2/15

Oh how convenient to have a "Public" enquiry when most of the "Public" are at work. 10am start?- well I will already have been at work two hours. I suppose having a hearing at a weekend when most people can attend would be far too sensible. At least the Town Council Meetings I went to were held in the evenings.

When I get home in the evening, I assume the people holding the "public" hearing have long gone home. I suppose it's an easy way of stifling any dissenting voices.

Grumpy Old Man!.

Barn Dance update: 1st Faringdon Scouts have an Early Bird Offer for families! - 2/2/15

A family ticket for the Barn Dance will be just £15 if bought on or before Saturday 28th February. During March and on the door family tickets will be £20. Adult tickets are £7.50 and child tickets are £5.

The Barn Dance will take place on Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm-10.30pm in Faringdon Corn Exchange. We'll have a bar throughout and tea, cakes and a raffle in the interval. The fabulous three-piece band Horseplay will play Irish Music to get you going and make it a night to remember. All funds raised will go towards 1st Faringdon Scouting costs. Call Faith on 01367 241237 for tickets.

Faith Carpenter

Public Enquiry Humpty Hill - 1/2/15

The Public Inquiry will start at 10 am on Monday 16th March 2015 in Sudbury House Hotel, 56 London St, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 7AA and continue until 27th

March 2015 (excluding weekend), unless there is insufficient business. If those days prove to be insufficient, a further session or sessions will be arranged as necessary.

Notice and map can be found on <http://faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/council/news/>

Fixing the Light - 1/2/15

Working hard to get the light back in action!
Replaced the bulb but still not working. Will try again tomorrow.



01/02/15 Dog found - 1/2/15

...approximately 5.15pm on Highworth Road. There were two dog, this is the smaller of the two, couldn't catch older one. Will be taking to Elms Vets first thing in morning to check for ID chip.

Stephen Bint

Coxwell street even better news - 1/2/15

Knowing that there is a dog loving lady living in coxwell street gives me reassurance now that I will not feel guilty when walking my pup along this road in future. I assume she must inhabit one of the camper vans.
graves nd

Good News about Coxwell Street (for a change!) - 1/2/15

I think they've just changed route and use Fernham Road now!
Name supplied