

# ASTON, COTE, SHIFFORD & CHIMNEY PARISH COUNCIL

## CLERK'S BRIEFING NOTES

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 4 AUGUST 2016

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Prepared by Helen Sandhu  
31 July 2016

**Correspondence sent since 7 July 2016**

- a) Letter to St Mary's Shifford enclosing donation for cost of grass cutting

Our ref: H/8034/MB/JJG

29 July 2016

Mrs Helen Sandhu Clerk to Parish Council astonpc@live.co.uk

Dear Helen

Aston: St James' Church – Clock

I write further to your e-mail concerning the clock motors at St James' Church in Aston.

In my report to John it was correct to say that one of the clock motors has seized. The one that had seized had created a 500 ma fuse in the control board to blow. When we replaced the fuse, the replacement fuse blew straight away, following which we investigated why this fuse kept blowing.

As I put in my report, we isolated each clock movement (and I emphasise that all the clock movements and motors that drive them are independent of each other) and clarified which motor had seized. We then isolated that, leaving the other three movements with the motors running. It is the motors that drive the clock movements.

Also in the report I made reference to the hands that were catching in the wind however we have deferred any action on these because of the cost of the scaffolding that would be required to access them. We therefore suggest that it would be wise just to replace the motors and monitor how the clock runs thereafter.

The other three motors are in fact working but in view of the relative low cost of the motors compared to new movements and it is possible the other three could also fail in the near future, I recommended that we replace all four motors at the same time. If we just replace one and then one or all three of the others failed shortly after, the cost of travel, time on site, engineer's expenses etc would be applied again to a further visit to site. Replacing all four in one visit would therefore be the most cost effective solution and it was recommended in an effort to minimise costs to the church.

The motors themselves cost £40.00 each; the remainder of the cost is for our travel to site, mileage, time on site etc., all of which would apply every time we visit to replace a motor or motors. This is why it makes economic sense to replace all four in one visit.

I hope this clarifies things; if I can be of any further assistance or you would like to proceed with my recommendations please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely Martin Butchers Technical Sales Engineer

# Household Waste Recycling Centre Consultation 2016

## 1. Your views on 'Non-Household' Waste

Oxfordshire County Council has a legal obligation to accept household waste at HWRCs. Not all waste that comes from a household is defined as household waste.

The most common 'non-household' waste items are:

- ▶ DIY waste, for example: rubble, soil, concrete, tiles, doors, windows, baths, toilets, kitchen units and radiators.
- ▶ Gas Bottles
- ▶ Plasterboard
- ▶ Cement bonded asbestos

The Council currently accepts some 'non-household' waste items from residents through the Council's DIY charging scheme, details of which can be found here: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/recycling-z-1#diy-waste>

The existing DIY charges do not cover the full cost of managing, transporting and processing non-household waste.

Savings could be made by:

- ▶ Accepting non-household waste and charging a reasonable fee that covers the total cost of processing.
- ▶ Not accepting 'non-household' waste at HWRCs.

### **How should the Council save money on 'Non-Household Waste'?**

Select one option.

- Accept and charge for 'non-household waste'
- Do not accept any 'non-household' waste
- Don't know

## 2. Your views on Commercial Waste services at HWRCs

Small businesses and traders can sometimes struggle to find cost effective solutions to dispose of small quantities of commercial waste. Processes to help prevent businesses from illegally using HWRC sites have been put in place to save money. Providing a commercial waste service at HWRCs would allow small businesses to dispose of their waste legally and cost effectively.

Allowing commercial waste activities on HWRCs could benefit the Council financially by:

Receiving income from commercial operations

Saving money on illegally deposited waste, as small businesses would have a legal cost-effective solution.

However, allowing commercial waste could mean sites becoming more congested, although this could be controlled by only allowing commercial use at less busy times.

### **Should the Council allow commercial waste activities to occur on HWRC sites?**

Select one option.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know .

### 3. Your views on 'Reuse' at HWRCs

Legislation states that Councils should manage waste according to the waste hierarchy. (Prevention - Reduce - Reuse - Recycle). Less than 2% of the waste accepted at HWRC sites is repaired or reused. Many reusable items are being placed in the general refuse bin at considerable cost. Site operators do not to sell items to the public, although the operators are able to take items off site for sale elsewhere.

Allowing items to be repaired and sold from HWRCs could financially benefit the Council by:  
Saving money on disposal costs  
Creating an income from the sale of reusable items

Allowing reuse at HWRC sites could lead to congestion which would have to be controlled.

#### **Should the Council allow reusable items to be sold from HWRC sites?**

Select one option.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

### 4. Your views about opening hours

During the public consultation held in 2015, in answer to the question:  
'Do you have any alternative proposals for how the council could meet the required 30% reduction in the HWRC operating budget?' *17% of people responded they would like see to reduced opening times as opposed to the closure of any sites.*

Other councils have reduced the number of hours per day, or number of days per week, to save money. Reducing days or hours should reduce the management fee paid to contractors to manage the site.

#### **If there was a reduction in the number of hours HWRCs were open, what would be your preference?**

Select one option.

- Shorter hours each day
- Whole day closures
- Shorter hours each day and whole day closures
- Don't know

### 5. Changing services provided at different HWRC sites

During the public consultation held in 2015, in answer to the question:  
'What are your views on our proposals for reducing the overall number of HWRCs in Oxfordshire in order to meet a required 30% reduction in the HWRC operating budget by 2017/18?' *91% of respondents opposed the closure of sites.*

The Council has to provide HWRC sites across Oxfordshire. There is no legislation specifying the number of HWRC sites which the Council has to provide and not all HWRC sites have to provide services and facilities to accept all waste types.

An alternative to closing sites is to only accept only certain types of waste at some HWRC sites. The waste that is not accepted at these sites would be accepted at other HWRCs, thus providing

a disposal option in the county for all waste. Savings could be made from not providing the full range of waste services at every site.

Refuse is the waste that is disposed of rather than recycled, composted or reused. A lot of the waste residents put in the refuse bin at HWRCs could actually be recycled or composted.

**Would you use your local HWRC if it no longer accepted refuse?**

The site would still accept all other waste for recycling and composting.

Select one option.

- Yes I would still use my local HWRC for all other waste items
- No I would not use my local HWRC anymore
- Don't know

**6a. Charging to use HWRC Sites**

**These questions are for information gathering purposes only. The Council cannot charge residents to access HWRCs. However, this information may be used to seek changes to the legislation through central government.**

Legislation does not support the ability to charge residents to use the HWRCs to deposit their household waste. However, the County Council would like resident's opinion if legislation allowed it.

During the public consultation held in 2015, in answer to the question:

'Do you have any alternative proposals for how the council could meet the required 30% reduction in the HWRC operating budget?'

27% indicated they would like to: *'Change legislation and charge a fee or add it to council tax'*

The current cost of providing the HWRC service is approximately £4 per visit.

We would like to know:

**If legislation allowed, would you pay a charge per visit to use a HWRC? This charge would cover all household waste in your vehicle.**

Select one option.

- Yes – I would pay a charge to access an HWRC
- No - I would not wish to pay any charge
- Don't know

**6b. What would you consider paying to use HWRC Sites?**

**This question is for information gathering purposes only. At the present time, the Council cannot charge residents to use HWRCs**

**If there was a charge to access HWRC sites, what do you think would be a fair price to pay per visit? This charge would cover all household waste in your vehicle.**

Select one option.

- £1
- £2
- £3
- £4
- Other amount - please let us know in the comments box below

7. Would you like to make any other comments regarding this consultation?

**Financial Matters****1. Cash Balances**

	£
<i>SANTANDER CURRENT ACCOUNT</i>	
Balance at 30 June 2016	1,126.79
Transfer to Nationwide deposit account	(1,126.79)
<b>Balance at 31 July 2016</b>	<b><u>NIL</u></b>
 <i>UNITY TRUST CURRENT ACCOUNT</i>	
Balance at 30 June 2016	16,939.47
Receipt from H Sandhu for 4 x medals	8.00
June payments	(809.30)
Transfer to Nationwide deposit account	(10,000.00)
<b>Balance at 31 July 2016</b>	<b><u>6,138.17</u></b>
 <i>NATIONWIDE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT</i>	
Balance at 30 June 2016	27,980.00
Transfers from current accounts	11,126.79
Transactions in month	NIL
<b>Balance at 31 July 2016</b>	<b><u>£39,106.79</u></b>
 <i>SANTANDER BUSINESS DEPOSIT ACCOUNT</i>	
Balance at 30 June 2016	534.03
Transactions in March: interest received	0.15
<b>Balance at 31 July 2016</b>	<b><u>£534.18</u></b>
 <b>TOTAL CASH HOLDING AT 31 JULY 2016</b>	 <b><u>£45,779.04</u></b>