

Parish Council Report

Firstly, we hope you are coping well with the enforced lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The parish council has put in place a support scheme for those who are vulnerable and have been advised to self-isolate, details of which have been delivered to each of our homes. If you need help with shopping, prescription collection, dog walking, posting mail or simply would like to chat with someone over the phone please do get in touch with your local coordinator – **we do not want anyone in our community to feel they need to take a risk to themselves or others when a neighbour can help them out.**

Whilst this situation has taken some adjustment for us all, we have had the great bonus of lovely weather for much of the past 5 weeks. Many of us have been enjoying the fantastic open spaces and walks around Moulsford as our daily exercise whilst remembering the importance of social distancing to keep us all safe and help the NHS. Sadly, the playground has had to be shut but the Wildflower Meadow has had recent attention and is just about to burst into glorious colour. And the pavement along the A329 from Moulsford Prep School to the petrol station/Morrisons has recently been cleared so it is now easily passable on foot.

Due to social distancing Moulsford Parish Council is prohibited from meeting in person. We have, therefore, invested in a Zoom conferencing licence and had our first parish council meeting using it on 8th April which went very well. Having had a councillor resign early this year and no response to the vacancy we posted, our first action was to co-opt Ben Partridge onto the council, so we now have a full complement of councillors.

In normal times, Moulsford would hold an annual meeting in May to report on the activities over the past year with our committees and clubs. Due to the lockdown, we have been advised by SODC that this meeting should not take place; the reports normally presented will be collated and posted on the village website for public viewing.

SODC have advised they are resuming their bulky waste services – that is for large household items such as sofas and washing machines, please check their website for details. They have also made contact regarding the sewage plant upgrade behind Underhill suggesting that this is on their current agenda. However, the timeline is not clear and we are keen that those using the allotments are not inconvenienced unnecessarily so we are discussing options to get a balance between the requirements of the contractors and fair notice to the allotment users should they have to vacate the site. This is on-going currently.

The lockdown regulations affect the planning process especially where site visits and public consultations are helpful. We have requested SODC seek a pause in the process throughout the lockdown period; we are waiting to hear. The planning application from Friends of the Elderly for the Old Vicarage has now been submitted following the public meeting which many of you attended. If you wish to comment on the application, please do so through the online SODC planning portal. All current planning applications details are on page 5.

We wish everyone safe and well at this time, please do not hesitate to get in touch with any concerns. Our councillor contact details can be found on page 14.

My Dear Friends,

As we continue with the challenge of coping with the Corona virus crisis, I was reminded today that the Chinese word for *crisis* is *weiji* and is represented by two pictograms

危机

The first means *danger* and the second means *opportunity*.

The government and the news media quite rightly constantly remind us of the danger of the current crisis, the need to stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives. We are very aware of the physical dangers of Covid-19, even possible death, and also of the economic dangers of loss of jobs, loss of income, and the collapse of businesses. But it is good to be reminded that the current crisis also brings opportunities in all sorts of different ways.

For us as a church, we now have each Sunday a joint service for the two congregations of Moulsoford and Cholsey as an online Zoom meeting (details on the next page). This has not only provided an opportunity for members of the two congregations to get to know each other a little better, but also in this new format, an opportunity for others to join us. For some, who maybe have moved away, even to another country, they can now join us as easily as any local. There are perhaps some others who for various reasons felt too apprehensive to enter a church building, but now can join us from the safe security of their own home.

We are also aware of plenty of opportunities to volunteer, to make new relationships whether on-line or through working in the local community. There are of course now many opportunities to read new books, start new projects at home or learn new skills.

The whole Christian movement, which many would say has had the greatest impact on civilisation in the history of the world, began with a crisis – the death of Jesus on the cross. It immediately led to enormous danger for Jesus' disciples who were in desperate fear of summary arrest and execution like their master. But it also gave them the greatest opportunity to share the extraordinary message that Christ had risen from the dead and in time led them, as they were driven out across the whole Roman empire and beyond, to turn the world upside-down.

Maybe as we see our world being turned upside-down and so much that we used to take for granted being removed at a stroke, the greatest opportunity that the current crisis brings, is the opportunity for us to re-consider what we really believe, what are the right priorities for our lives, and what are the foundations for our values and the way that we live?

With warmest regards,



Andrew Petit, Vicar of Cholsey & Moulsoford andrewpetit@virginmedia.com Tel: 01491 651216

If you would like pastoral or spiritual support, please do not hesitate to contact Andrew.

Remote Church Services, Moulsoford & Cholsey - May 2020

3 rd May	4 th Sunday of Easter	10.30am <i>Family Feast</i>	Please email andrewpetit@virginmedia.com for link to this service
10 th May	5 th Sunday of Easter	9.45am Parish Communion	Please email andrewpetit@virginmedia.com for link to this service
17 th May	6 th Sunday of Easter	8.00am Traditional communion 9.45am Morning Worship	Please email andrewpetit@virginmedia.com for link to this service
24 th May	Sunday after Ascension	9.45am Parish Communion	Please email andrewpetit@virginmedia.com for link to this service
31 st May	Pentecost (Whit Sunday)	9.45am Parish Communion	Please email andrewpetit@virginmedia.com for link to this service
7 th June	Trinity Sunday	10.30am <i>Family Feast</i>	Please email andrewpetit@virginmedia.com for link to this service

Monthly Coffee Shop

Gail Slinger & Linda Dixon



*****POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE*****



The next **Village Coffee Morning** is on **13th May 2020**, everybody put your kettles on and have a great cup of coffee or tea with a fab, fab treat in your own kitchen or even the garden.

As a special treat maybe the children can bake the treats for you all to enjoy, happy baking.

Keep safe everyone until we can all meet again in the Pavilion (in 2020 I hope).

Footpaths at Greenlands Farm

John Beacroft

I would like to personally thank, the vast majority of walkers, whom, are making use of the countryside at these rather challenging times.

We have picked up very little rubbish along the footpaths, less even than in normal times.

I do have a couple of gripes, probably due to walkers not knowing the area, which are causing me problems.

Please keep to the actual footpaths and watch your dogs, if unruly please have them on a lead. We have come across two dead Muntjac and one hare just on the topside of Badger bank. This looks like a dog has been rummaging in the hedges and got on the scent of these unfortunates. Hares are particularly dopey at the moment and we have seen more than normal about.

Around the farm we have stewardship headlands, these have dual purpose of providing areas for ground nesting birds and wild flowers to encourage insect and butterfly areas. These later turn into seeds for the smaller birds. We have been pretty successful over the last 10 or so years. People are presuming these areas are ok to walk on, we have witnessed 4 wide and dogs loose. This very much is not in tune with the natural environment we are trying to improve.

Please I implore you to keep to footpaths, you can walk to Streatley, Wallingford, Aldworth and even Avebury for the very keen.

Thank you for taking time to read this and I hope it is not too long before normality returns.

Village Support Network Update

Bernadette Sachse



Neighbours Helping Neighbours

I hope you are adjusting to our different way of living, now in our sixth week of lockdown. I am pleased to report that our support network is working very well and our team of volunteers have assisted with 80 requests for assistance so far. The majority of the requests have been for prescription collections and shopping for supplies. Thank you again to the team of volunteers who are so willingly helping our neighbours.

I must reiterate that this support network is there for everyone, please do call on us for any assistance you may require at this time, we have plenty of people and local resources to help.

A reminder on page 14 of who to contact for assistance.

If you have any questions about the village support network, please contact me on community@moulsford-pc.org.uk or 07812 601975.

Oxfordshire University Hospitals Update

Janet Knowles

A weekly briefing from the Oxfordshire health and care system regarding COVID-19 is available on the OUH website <https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/>.

I have recently taken part in a viral Governor's forum for Oxford University Hospitals (OUH) when we were updated on the Trust's response and activity related to Covid 19 and I was impressed by the planning, preparation and learning that has and continues to be applied. It has been tough but staff seem to be coping remarkable well and have responded to the challenges with agility, compassion and very professionally. There had been concerns, as reported in the media, about the reduction in emergency referrals but this appears to be on the increase again.

They are enormously encouraged and wish to thank the general public and local companies for their generous support and the donations that they have received which are benefiting both staff and patients.

Happy to answer any specific questions if I'm able.

Many thanks for all you are doing; stay safe , keep well!

Planning Applications & Decisions

Moulsford News and Planning deadlines invariably mean that the planning information above is out of date by the time of reading. For a current view of planning, please visit the online planning portal here: <http://www.moulsford-pc.org.uk/community/moulsford-15214/planning-tracker/>

P20/S1220/FUL Friends of The Elderly, The Old Vicarage, Moulsford, OX10 9JB	Extra care development comprising 34 apartments (use class C2), associated communal facilities, provision of vehicular and cycle parking and associated landscape works.	MPC: Considering. SODC: Considering.
P20/S1135/HH 3 Willow Court Lane, Moulsford, OX10 9HZ	Upgrade of existing external walls & single storey extension	MPC: Considering. SODC: Considering.
P20/S0976/FUL Moulsford Preparatory School, Moulsford, OX10 9HR	Extension of time limit to existing permission for single temporary classroom no 1.	MPC: No Strong Views. SODC: Approved.
P20/S0897/HH 21 Underhill, Moulsford, OX10 9JH	Single storey side extension and first floor rear extension, and a small increase to ridge and eaves height to accommodate an application of roof insulation above the rafters.	MPC: No Strong Views. SODC: Approved.
P19/S2768/FUL Greenlands Farm, Cow Lane, Moulsford, OX10 9JT	Creation of Rolling Fields Glamping Site (As amplified by additional information received 30 October and 27 November 2019 and amended by new drawings, Ecological Walkover Report and Site Access Appraisal received on 03 March 2020).	MPC: No Strong Views. SODC: Considering.

Update on the proposed development at the Old Vicarage

34 new apartments proposed on boundary of recreation ground - We need to act now

The character and appearance of Moulsford could be about to fundamentally and permanently change. The Old Vicarage nursing home has submitted a planning application to build 34 new homes on the boundary of the recreation ground. This is a 13% increase in the number of homes in Moulsford, in a single development, in the heart of the village.

The application can be found on the SODC website. The reference is P20/S1220/FUL

<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P20/S1220/FUL>

The impact:

- The recreation ground will be overlooked by a row of two-storey apartments profoundly altering this beautiful central village space.
- The view across the recreation ground will be a sea of house and street lighting.
- Nearby residents will be overlooked by tall buildings close to their boundary.
- The development potentially brings a significant number of extra cars to the village, exacerbating the current traffic issues.

What can you do?

If you want to stop this development, you must write to SODC. Moultsford Residents Group will be distributing notes (delivered with this newsletter) on how to do this and what points planning authorities consider to be most important, but your general views are important too. This is a huge development, in a small village in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is out of keeping and will impact us all.

Moultsford Residents Group realises that submitting a planning application under lockdown has made it very difficult for us to provide you with all the information that you need. **If you would like further information or help responding to SODC, please contact Moultsford Residents Group at:**

Email: moultsfordresidents@gmail.com

Please respond. THE DEADLINE IS 21st MAY 2020

Every voice counts.

Mend the Gap

Rail Corridor Enhancement Programme now underway with appointment of Programme Manager, Joanna Watson.

The Chilterns Conservation Board, North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Railway Action Group (RAG) are delighted to announce that the Rail Corridor Enhancement Programme is now underway with the appointment of Programme Manager, Joanna Watson.

Jo is an experienced project manager, who has delivered many publicly funded projects and previously worked for Natural England, the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Jo also lives within the programme area and says: *"I am very excited to be working on a project that will deliver lasting change to the area that I live in".*

The Rail Corridor Enhancement Programme aims to enhance the outstanding landscapes between the Chilterns AONB and the North Wessex Downs AONB, ensuring it is enriched for wildlife, local communities and visitors, and helps to heal and soften the scars left by electrification of the Great Western Main Line.

This 3.75-million-pound project is a partnership between the Chilterns Conservation Board, the North Wessex Downs AONB and the Railway Action Group, and is funded by Network Rail. The Programme will focus on the 12 mile stretch of line between Reading and Didcot, where it runs through both the Chilterns and North Wessex Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).

Work will include planting of trees and screening vegetation to reduce the visual impact of the electrification infrastructure, as well as projects that will enhance and strengthen the fabric of the landscape and its wildlife, scenic, historic and amenity value within the wider corridor of the electrification works.

The partners are currently in the process of planning specific projects within the overall programme such that the funds are used optimally.

Keep up to date with the latest on this programme on its dedicated webpage <https://www.chilternsaonb.org/rail-corridor-enhancement.html>.

Useful Information

Keep in touch!

If you're planning local events, doing something for charity, or simply have something to say, Mouldsford News wants to hear from you.

You can reach the editor, Bernadette Sachse by email:

mouldsfordnews@mouldsford-pc.org.uk

For advertising contact Emma Reynolds at:
reynolds743@btinternet.com

Deadline for June edition
Weds 20th May 2020



Waste update

Please do not light garden fires (bonfires & pit fires) during the current Coronavirus pandemic. The Household Waste Recycling Centres are closed for the time being and we need you to hold material for now.

As well as the danger of the fire spreading uncontrollably, there are people in the community living with serious respiratory problems, which could be made much worse if the sufferer is exposed to smoke from bonfires.

Instead, please compost your garden waste where possible, and stack or bag up rubbish for disposal when the current emergency is over.



NEW TELEPHONE SUPPORT SERVICE FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND CARERS

A new telephone support service has been launched by Age UK Oxfordshire and Action for Carers Oxfordshire. Its aim is to offer advice and assistance to older people and carers during the course of the virus, providing a friendly weekly telephone call and an opportunity to troubleshoot any issues you may have.

Call 01865 411288

Please leave your name and number and we will return your call as soon as possible.

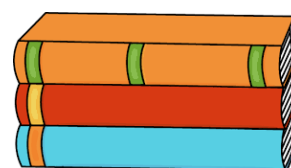
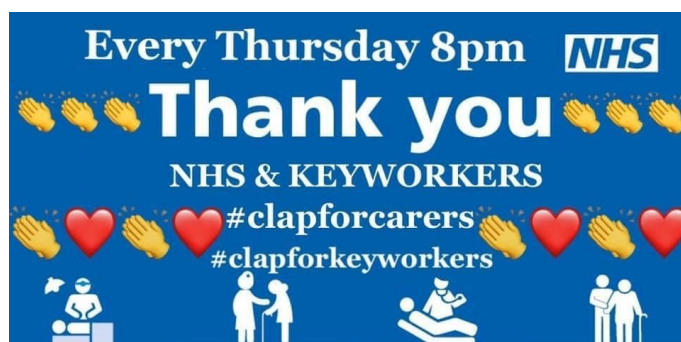


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Enjoy Reading? Books can be obtained by post
through books@wallingfordbookshop.com.



Unfortunately, we have had to temporarily close the museum and postpone our events, walks, and TWHAS talks due to the coronavirus outbreak. We will re-open and re-schedule our events as soon as conditions permit.

Whilst Wallingford Museum is temporarily closed, we will continue to share the museum experience, town history locations, local history facts to engage with residents and future visitors. Our website will show a **quiz** each week, starting Mondays. Answers will appear on the website on Sunday evenings.

These virtual quizzes should be solved by NOT going out-and-about, but by using internet searches, and Google Earth!

In addition we have a selection of **jigsaws** to complete online. These show past and present scenes of Wallingford.

Look for the quizzes and jigsaws on the Museum website at: www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

You may wish to comment or contribute via our Facebook page!

Hope you enjoy!



New to Video Conferencing?

Check out our top 5 tips for a better experience

1. Setting up

Get ready for the meeting **before it starts**. Set an agenda and conduct the meeting **as if you were together in the same room**. Look at the camera and avoid being distracted by other issues, especially incoming emails, mobile phones, pets and children.

Choose a quiet place and **let people in your house know you will be on a call**. But if children or pets barge into the room, **don't stress**. Just politely ask if you can leave for a moment, and they'll surely understand.

2. Room Lighting

Sitting in front of a window with bright sunlight streaming through will create a silhouette of you. Sunlight bouncing off bright shiny surface can also distort the image and produce odd looking skin tones.

So **check the light in the room** before the meeting starts and if possible, choose a room with **neutral colour walls**.

3. Background

People walking behind you, children or pets playing, and curtains or plants moving in a breeze can act as **distractions** to other meeting members. Choose a neutral colour background. Or if you want to create an intellectual environment, you can place yourself in front of a **bookcase**. But if choosing so, **be careful** what books are left on your shelves.

4. Equipment

Using your laptop or phone's microphone and camera may be fine for a quick one-to-one. But **when part of a larger meeting** or when needing to create a good image, acquiring an **external, better quality camera and microphone set** is a better option.

5. Teaching from Home

Children get easily distracted, so ensure you **look at the camera** making the pupil engage with you. Watch out for those **book titles** you may have forgotten were on the shelf and use various forms of engagement to **keep children interested** in your teaching.

For more details and information, check our website: <https://www.spcgroup.co.uk>



MOULSFORD SUPPORT NETWORK

AVAILABLE SERVICES



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If you need prescriptions picking up, we have a collection service available from Goring, Cholsey and Wallingford.



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Dog Walking



Friendly phone calls to see how you are and keep you updated with useful information



Parcel posting service – if you have something that won't fit in the post box and you have already paid for and applied postage to it, it can be collected from you.

Please contact the volunteer coordinator for your area or email community@moulsford-pc.org.uk

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VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR CONTACT DETAILS			
Area	Contact	Tel No	Email
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Underhill (Hillside to No.32)	Jon Haywood	07979 806235	jhaywood1975@hotmail.co.uk
Underhill (33-45) North Road Meadow Close	Liz Bennett	07710 901137	windsorliz@hotmail.com
The Street (Underhill to Clock House)	Gemma Hooper	07802 881719	gemhoop@hotmail.com
The Street (Clock House to Old Vic)	Rachel Cairns	01491 652743 07747 444767	wyfordcottage@gmail.com
Glebe Close The Old Vicarage	Janet & Breyan Knowles	07732 018073 07745 800867	breyan@knowles01.com
Willow Court Lane	Melanie Mousley Jones	07813 092239	melanie@mjcinternational.net
Offlands Cranford Cottages The Street (Prep school to Cranford entrance)	Paul Sharkey Karen Meynink	07807 878559 07492 903585	pms Sharkey1@gmail.com karen.meynink@outlook.com
The Street (Cranford entrance to Old	Claire Wilson	07976 242956	toogood@crownofficechambers.com
Halfpenny Lane	Catrin Burr	Contact via Bernadette 07812 601975	catrinburr@hotmail.com
Well Barn Estate	Bernadette Sachse	07812 601975	community@moulsford-pc.org.uk

Moulsford Parish Council
<http://www.moulsford-pc.org.uk>

Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
Andrew Bryan (Chair)	Beetle and Wedge House, Ferry Lane	01491 651912	abryan@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Sarah Elvy (Vice Chair)	37 Underhill	01491 651668	selvy@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Joanne Baker	2 Willow Cottages, Willow Court Lane	01491 652793	jbaker@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Bernadette Sachse	14 Underhill	07812 601975	bsachse@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Geoff Twibell (Parish Clerk)	Greenhill Cottage	01491 651316	parishclerk@moulsford-pc.org.uk

South Oxfordshire District Councillors

Anne-Marie Simpson	Mallards, Moulsford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire. OX10 9HR	01491 651298	Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk
Jane Murphy	Corner Cottage, High Street, South Moreton, Didcot. OX11 9AD	07970 932054	jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk

Oxfordshire County Councillor

Mark Gray	5 Little Lane, Cholsey, OX10 9LX	01491 651333	limasheepdog@yahoo.com
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34 new homes on the boundary of the Recreation Ground

Urgent Action Required

What's happening?

Friends of the Elderly (Old Vicarage Nursing and Care Home) has now submitted a planning application to build 34 new homes on the boundary of the recreation ground (SODC Planning reference P20/S1220/FUL). It is extremely disappointing that they have decided to go ahead with the application at these difficult times when opportunities for full discussion and site visits may be severely curtailed.

This development is widely opposed by the village. It will devastate our beautiful central village area, is over-development in a small village and will substantially increase traffic.

What can I do?

It is really important that your voice is heard. Don't leave this to someone else.

The more of us that speak, the more powerful the message!

You must write to or e-mail South Oxfordshire Council stating why you object to the development.

How do I do it?

Your concerns will only count if they address certain key planning criteria. To help you we've explained some of the main ones below. You don't need to use them all, just the ones that are relevant to your viewpoint. When you have drafted your response

Respond via the SODC website: Go to SODC Planning and search for [P20/S1220/FUL](#)

Or email to: registration@southoxon.gov.uk

Or post to: Planning, South Oxfordshire District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB

DEADLINE: 21st May 2020

Please don't miss the deadline.

Can I get help?

Yes! Of course. If you would like help drafting or sending your response.

Please email: Moulsfordresidents@gmail.com

Or drop a request or draft in the mailbox of the Clock House

This link provides excellent guidance.

<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/find-application/comment-planning-application>

What are the key points that I need to consider?

1. Scale of Development

The development is totally out of scale with the local environment and Moulsford's status as a Small Village. It dominates the site and is disproportionate to development elsewhere in the village. Given the nature of the site in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), great weight should be given to the setting of the development within its largely open and extensive grounds with many shrubs and trees (many with protected status).

2. Conformance to Planning

The development must conform to current South Oxfordshire plans. The only development allowed in a Small Village is infill of up to 6 dwellings in 0.2 hectares (about half an acre) except in exceptional circumstances. Any such circumstances claimed should be critically considered.

3. Establishing a Need

The application would have to establish a need for the type of care proposed. There are already many such developments in the area, either built or in progress. The South Oxfordshire plans present a strict hierarchy for suitability of a development site. A Small Village such as Moulsoford would be a last choice on grounds of suitability and sustainability.

4. Development Class

This type of development falls into one of two Use Classes - C2 (broadly "residential institutions") or C3 (broadly "dwelling houses"). The developer will claim C2, as it avoids liability for costs and constraints such as the Community Infrastructure Levy and requirement for a percentage of social housing. However, many aspects of the proposal point to a C3 classification. This could be a critical element in challenging the application. There are issues if dwellings can be sold - how will appropriate use be ensured in the future? What is to stop the development changing over time from residential care to a commercial housing development?

5. Traffic

The development, which comprises 22 two-bed and 12 one-bed apartments, would generate a significant amount of extra traffic. Considerable extra parking places are needed, which will have to be crammed into a relatively small space, converting even more garden area into tarmac. Lack of public transport implies very significant car/van use for residents, care staff, deliveries etc.

6. Impact on Moulsoford residents

Views from the recreation field and some nearby houses will be changed for ever. Planning gives great weight to amenity considerations - overlooking, over-development, character of area, scale and bulk resulting in loss of light, trees, potential for nuisance from noise and smell. The roofline of the development is very high - the same as the existing building - giving a very overbearing visual aspect.

The building works, if permission were granted, would take at least 18 months to complete with the village suffering the consequences of a large scale building site, visiting trades, heavy plant movements with associated security, noise and light pollution up to 6 days a week.

7. Lighting

A significant increase in light pollution. With the development there is likely to be much more safety / security / car park lighting, in addition to lights from the 34 apartments. Up to now Moulsoford has fared quite well as a rural community in keeping light pollution to minimum. This could change dramatically for the worse should the development go ahead.

8. Environmental

Importance of maintaining an attractive environment for residents and protecting trees and wildlife. Evidence that environmental aspects have been fully addressed (for example bat survey) should be examined. What was formerly a beautiful open garden will become a built environment with loss of amenity and habitat.

9. Sustainability

It is difficult to see how sustainability can be achieved without substantially altering the character of the village. Moulsoford has no shops, no public transport (only limited private transport with no guarantee of sustainability) and few other facilities. Access will be almost entirely by car. The village car park and surrounding roads are likely to be taken over by overflow parkers. Significant numbers of care staff will need to be recruited in an area where demand is high and availability low.

10. Other considerations

The nature and management of the care provision is unknown.

A large new sewage plant will be required - its adequacy, siting and frequency of emptying must be considered.