



## Chairman's Report Wednesday 3 December 2014

By the time you read this report the pollarding of the willows around the Shilton pond should have commenced. Once this is completed, we should be able to locate another blocked drain into the pond that can be cleared. A drains plan of our area is being considered, so that we have a future point of reference on the Parish file. The support from WODC drains team has been superb and Mrs Ronnie Scard is to be thanked for coordinating their work.

We continue to research the possibility of moving on to another phase regarding flood defence in Shilton and we hope to communicate further suggestions for consultation in the New Year.

The invoice for the bunds has now been paid and our financial contribution was reduced to £10,000 thus leaving a good flood defence balance. A visit to the 'bunds development' area, is welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Metcalfe and Mr. Tate has agreed to the 'tour' commencing at his water meadow so that we can walk up stream. A date will be advised.

We are in talks with Bradwell Village directors to look at the feasibility of setting up a Parish office in their hall premises. Our Parish clerk would be based there and we could keep all of our records together in a secure room. Elizabeth Harfield has very kindly offered to go through the parish history files and set up a new filing system should we obtain the office.

This will release up room for the Old School Committee to update their kitchen area should they wish to.

Alex Postan and Justin Heyward are looking into the feasibility of commissioning an environmental study of the Shilbrook on behalf of a collective of local Parish Councils.

We anticipate that the developers who proposed the new houses in Alvescot Road will appeal against the refusal decision from WODC and we believe that the study will highlight the potential damage to this valuable site and the villages nearby.

Alex Postan, Justin Heyward and I, along with other Parish representatives, attended a meeting at WODC on the 2nd of December to discuss the areas of concern that we had with regards to the housing numbers proposed for West Oxfordshire. We will include an update at our Parish meeting.

Please refer to our new web site, [www.shiltonparishoxon.co.uk](http://www.shiltonparishoxon.co.uk) for on-going information.

We have received very good comments and we thank our clerk, Ann, most sincerely for all of the work and hours that it needed to get us to where we are. We will shut down the old web site.

The Shilton Welfare Trust has completed the application for registration of the Allotments field in the village and Councillor Katherine Robertson has given her legal advice free of charge that is much appreciated.

Malcolm Linney – Chairman  
**Shilton Parish Council**