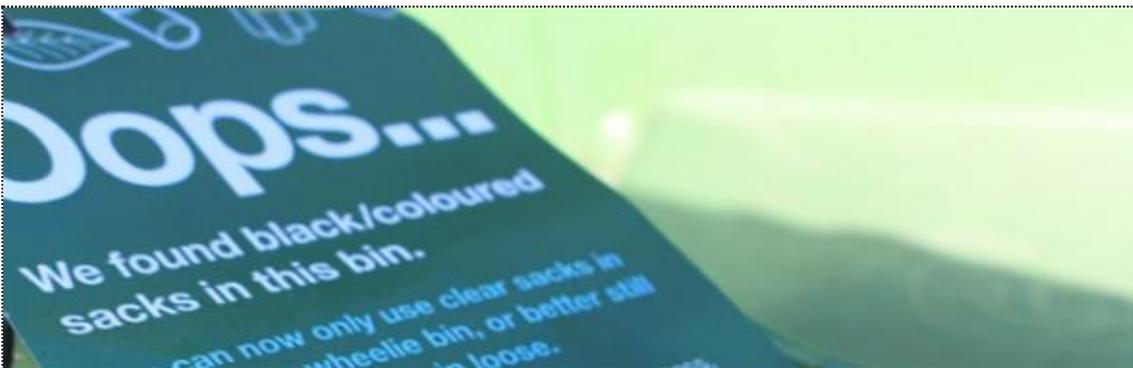




## News and events in your area



### **"Oops! We've found something in the bin"**

From this week (3 October) you might find a note hanging on your green wheelie bin if you have used black or coloured sacks.

The hangers saying, 'Oops we've found black/coloured sacks in this bin', explains that although the bin has been emptied on this occasion, from the 1st November if you continue to put black or coloured sacks in the green recycling bin, the collection crew will assume it's contaminated and won't empty it.

We've had to do this because some people are putting food waste and dirty nappies into their green wheelie bins, which is contaminating whole truckloads of recycling. In the last nine months more than 100 tonnes of recycling from the district have been rejected because of contamination. View our [video](#) on contaminated waste.

To find out more visit the council's website.

## **Vale of White Horse District Council**

For further information please call 0300 061 0610, email [admin.vale@biffa.co.uk](mailto:admin.vale@biffa.co.uk)

## **A new way to pay to park**

From 1 November, if you wish to pay to park using your mobile phone you can do so via a new system called Connect Cashless – you can use this at all district council car parks across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse.

This service replaces RingGo which will not work in these car parks from 1 November. You will still be able to pay by cash.

To access Connect Cashless you can register for the service via a quick phone call to provide your payment details – One text later and you'll be set up.

Every time you then visit one of our car parks you'll just need to make a quick phone call or send a single text to pay for your parking.

You can find more information on the [Connect Cashless website](#).

## **Community asked to shape future of Didcot Garden Town**

The Didcot community is being encouraged to give its views on the future of the town and surrounding area as we launch the community engagement programme for Didcot Garden Town.

Didcot's Garden Town status enables development to focus on taking advantage of green spaces and easy access to the countryside while creating flourishing high streets in a town which is a stimulating place to live and work.

Meetings are underway with the local community groups, business groups and councillors at events held in the town. Feedback from these will be presented at a public consultation event in early November, where people will have the opportunity to formally contribute to shaping the vision.



**Important - every household must confirm their details, even if they are correct.**

## **Haven't replied to your letter yet? Confirm your details, even if they are correct**

We had a great response to the yellow letters sent out in September which asked you to confirm who lives in your household. 73 per cent (44,665 households) responded – thank you to everyone who did.

However, we're still waiting to hear from just over 15,000 households across the Vale of White Horse district – so we've just sent reminder letters to all those properties.

If occupant details are not confirmed by 17 October a household could receive a phone call or even a visit to the property. We need to collect this information to make sure everyone who is eligible can vote in future elections.

To confirm your details are correct or if they need updating, please refer to your yellow letter for your security code to access the [household response](#) website. If you have lost your yellow or reminder letter you should call the councils' electoral services on 01235 422407.

Anyone who doesn't have access to the internet can confirm their details by completing and returning the form that is enclosed with the reminder letter.

People whose details are correct have the option of confirming by phone 0800 197 9871 or text NOCHANGE followed by security code to 80212. These details are included in yellow and reminder letters.

## **Get friends and neighbours to sign up to the council's newsletter**

**Get friends and neighbours to sign up to the council's newsletter**

We hope you're enjoying finding out more about the council and its work through this

newsletter. If you have friends and neighbours who you think would like to receive a newsletter they can register at:

Vale News [sign me up](#)



# BINZONE

Waste has never bin this easy

## What bin is it this week?

Check out Binzone – the handy new way to find out about your bin collections from your smartphone.

Go to [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/binzone](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/binzone)

Type your postcode in and select your address to find out what day your bin will be emptied, and most importantly which bins are next.

Or if you're at home you can tap the handy "locate me" button and the web-app will show your bin collection details. You don't even need to type in your postcode.



## Entertainment and Leisure

### GO Active Get Healthy

Join a FREE programme for adults age 16 and over which is designed to help you become more physically active. The programme is for you if you do very little, or no, activity or you're returning from injury. If that's you call us on 01865 252606 for more details and find out how you can receive:

- Up to 3 motivational coaching sessions over the phone
- Up to £100 of activity vouchers for use at your local leisure centre
- A further £60 of incentive vouchers for keeping in touch with us as part of the long term support package

For more information about activities in your local area, contact [hendriette.knouwds@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:hendriette.knouwds@southandvale.gov.uk) or visit the council's [website](#)

### **Coming up at The Beacon**

As one of the largest venues in the area and located near Wantage town centre, The Beacon hosts a wide range of activities for people of all ages and interests.

- 11 Oct [Wantage Café Scientifique](#) - **Medical Herbalism (Discussion)**
- 14 Oct A Hologram for the King (Film 12A)
- 15 Oct Snoopy & Charlie Brown: The Peanuts Movie (Film U)
- 16 Oct [The Star Seekers](#) (Theatre)
- 29 Oct Wessex Male Choir (Music)

More information which can be found at [The Beacon website](#)

### **Coming up at Cornerstone**

- 15 Oct Wrecking Ball (Theatre)
- 16 Oct Scary Little Girls (Theatre)
- 19 Oct Operation Crucible (Theatre)
- 20 Oct The Power of Love - The music of Celine Dion (Music)
- 22 Oct Jess and Joe Forever (Theatre)

For more info on the shows, check out the [Cornerstone website](#)

## **Activities**

### **GO Active Gold – activities for people age 60 and over**

#### **Vintage Village Games**

Watchfield Village Hall, Tuesday 22 November (10am-12noon)

Steventon Village Hall, Monday 28 November (10am-12noon)

Have fun, meet new people, learn new skills and games such as skittles, indoor croquet, new age bowls and curling.

#### **Join a walking football session**

Abingdon Tuesdays 12.30pm-1.30 pm

Abingdon Fridays 10.30am-11.30am

Kingston Bagpuize Mondays 11am-12noon

Contact GO Active Gold Activators:

[luke.horton@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:luke.horton@southandvale.gov.uk) mobile: 07717 346351

[annalie.thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:annalie.thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk), mobile: 07766 991487

For more information about activities in your local area, contact

[Ashley.chapman@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:Ashley.chapman@southandvale.gov.uk) or visit our [website](#)

## Wantage Grants

We're pleased to announce a number of grants have been awarded for the Wantage area:

- Replacement coaches' kit for Grove Rugby Club - £1,750
- Servery, toilet and community space for Milton Parochial Church Council - £20,000
- Installation of an accessible swing in a play area for East Hanney Parish Council - £3,624
- Purchase of eight band instruments for Blewbury Brass Band - £966

Grants are available for many projects across the district. More information about [grants](#) .

## Sutton Courtenay Consultation

Sutton Courtenay Parish Council has submitted a proposal for a neighbourhood plan area. A consultation is open for six weeks, running from 21 September until 2 November 2016. Copies are also available at Sutton Courtenay Village Hall and Vale of White Horse District Council at 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB.

The application can be viewed on our [website](#).

Comments on the plan can be made via the [online feedback form](#) or email [planning.policy@whitehorse.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@whitehorse.gov.uk)

## Neighbourhood Plans update

[East Challow](#) – Consultation runs from 26 September to 24 October

[Sutton Courtenay](#) – Consultation runs from 21 September to 2 November

[Ashbury](#) Neighbourhood Area has been designated and the parish is now preparing a neighbourhood plan.

[Blewbury](#) Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to referendum. The date will be published shortly.

## New fund available to help small businesses improve their energy efficiency

Up to £10,000 is now available to help small businesses looking to improve their energy efficiency.

[The Carbon Trust](#) has just launched The Green Business Fund. This is a national scheme to provide money and support for smaller businesses to replace their old, power-guzzling equipment including lighting, heating and air conditioning.

The scheme also offers guidance on boosting efficiency and productivity of equipment, training, cost saving assessments and implementation advice.

To find out more about the scheme, and how to improve energy efficiency, The Carbon Trust is inviting small businesses to a workshop on 15 November at Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot from 9.30am and 11.30am.

Find out more about [The Green Business Fund](#)



## National Minimum Wage increase

Make sure you are being paid the National Minimum Wage. This is the minimum pay per hour all workers are entitled to by law, depending on their age and whether they are an apprentice. On Saturday, 1 October, the National Minimum Wage rates of pay increased. The new rates can be found on the official [Facebook page](#).

No matter how large or small the business is that you work for, your employer must ensure that staff pay is in line with the new National Minimum Wage rates.

If you have concerns about the National Minimum Wage, talk initially to your employer. Alternatively, phone the confidential Acas helpline on 0300 123 1100.



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This is the official newsletter for parishes from Vale of White Horse District Council.

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[Add us to your address book](#)