

REPORT TO SHIPLAKE PARISH COUNCIL DEC 2021

FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

GENERAL OCC REPORT

BUS ROUTES ACROSS THE COUNTY TO BE AXED

At the end of November OCC announced that a number of bus services across the county will stop running from the start of next year. The announcement comes following a major review by the council and Oxford city's main bus providers of the city's bus network. A full list of cuts can be found [here](#). The council's public transport team is available to respond to queries at public.transport@oxfordshire.gov.uk

FIRST THEY BANNED 'CHAIRMAN', NOW THEY WANT TO BAN MEAT & DAIRY

I previously reported that the administration has banned word 'chairman', now they wish to control people's diets. A member of the Liberal Democrat Green Alliance brought a motion to Full Council on November 2nd to ban meat and dairy products from being served at Council-catered events and meetings. Veganism is a personal choice that should be respected but this attempt to dictate the diet of others is totally unacceptable. The motion was not debated due to lack of time, but is believed to be coming back to the Full Council meeting on 14th December.

NEW PARKING ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMME COMMENCES AND DRIVERS FACE FINES

On 1 November, plans put in place by the previous Conservative administration came into effect and OCC took control of civil parking enforcement in the Cherwell, South Oxfordshire, and Vale of White Horse district council areas from the police. (The council already looks after parking enforcement in Oxford and in West Oxfordshire through an agency agreement.) People can report incidents of illegally parked vehicles by using OCC's [online form](#).

PROPOSALS FOR 20MPH SPEED LIMIT ACROSS OXFORDSHIRE TOWNS & VILLAGES

The first of the 20mph trial sites went live at Cuxham during November. The administration intends to spend £8m on the cosmetic exercise of switching signs from 30mph to 20mph on 85% of the county's roads with a 30mph limit. The Cabinet report notes at para 9 that the 20mph limit is in effect voluntary as it will not be enforced by the police. The hope is that it will become socially unacceptable to break the 20mph speed restrictions as the strategy is reliant on people's conscience. The report goes on to note at para 19 that there are a couple of aspects that should be taken into account:

- The first is the impact of using just signage to enforce the 20mph limit: whilst in some areas, compliance with the new speed limit may be well observed due to the existing environment, in others, without physical changes to the road, speed compliance may be poor. This may mean limited benefits to the community are delivered and potentially put the credibility of strategy in question.
- The second is the fact the DfT guidance clearly states that 20mph must be self-enforcing and that the 85th percentile should be 24mph or below. Without physical changes to the environment many 20mph locations could be well above this.

The reality will be that the word will get out that the limit is a paper tiger with no teeth and it will be widely flouted: diligent drivers who currently observe limits will continue to do so, but speeders will continue to speed. Many might think the county would be better spending the £8m on more road repairs.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR OXFORDSHIRE'S CLIMATE ACTION HEROES AWARDS

People and community groups at the forefront of climate action in Oxfordshire are to be recognised by the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire, Imam Monawar Hussain. The High Sheriff's new Climate Action Heroes Awards build on previous awards during 2021 that celebrated Oxfordshire's COVID-19 heroes. People can submit their nominations using [an online form](#). The deadline for nominations is 31 December 2021.

MORE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS COMING TO COUNTY'S CAR PARKS

The roll-out of hundreds of electric vehicle (EV) charging points in council-owned car parks in Oxfordshire has begun. Following the installation of the first park and charge EV hub at Bicester's Cattle Market car park in May, the locations of the remaining 19 sites have been announced. Work started earlier this month and is due to be completed by March 2022. The park and charge scheme allows residents without off-street parking to park for free overnight and charge up using a 'fast' 7 - 22kw EV charging point. The chargers will also provide much needed battery top-ups to commuters and visitors during the daytime. Unfortunately, the only ones in this area will be at Kings Road and Greys Road car parks.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON OXFORD CITY CYCLE LANES PLANS

People are being asked to give their views on proposals for direct cycle lanes on main roads in and out of Oxford, known as quickways, during a consultation that runs from 11 November to 10 December. The quickways project proposes improved cycling accessibility on key city routes in east, south and north Oxford. Informal consultations for these quickways took place from 20 September to 31 October and received approximately 1,500 responses. Members of the public are now being invited to have a further say on the specific planned road use changes and traffic regulations that would be made for the cycle lanes to operate safely and efficiently for everyone. The consultation with details and all related plans is available on Let's Talk Oxfordshire, see: <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/quickways2021>. Responses and comments can also be sent to quickways@oxfordshire.gov.uk. Parish councils and residents in rural areas may wish to observe that they would welcome similar attention being given to villages and market towns.

OXFORD HOMECARE WORKERS REACH RESIDENTS QUICKER BY ELECTRIC BIKES

Homecare workers providing support to adults in Oxford city can now benefit from the use of ebikes free of charge to reach residents and conduct care visits more quickly and efficiently. Care Outlook, a service commissioned by Oxfordshire County Council, provides care as part of the county council's Home First initiative, and has initiated the ebikes scheme.

REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS ON NORTH OXFORD PROJECT

As part of its commitment to tackling the climate emergency, Oxfordshire County Council is working together with contractor Milestone Infrastructure to deliver the council's first diesel-free construction project. Milestone has been using hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) at the council's A40 north Oxford site, between the A34 overbridge and the Wolvercote roundabout, since construction work began in the summer.

SPECIFIC OCC REPORT FOR SHIPLAKE

FOOTPATH EXTENSION ON PLOUGH LANE, SHIPLAKE CROSS

I investigated the delay with the response from OCC in relation to the Glanville query and emailed the details to the clerk Mon 06/12/2021 17:52. OCC has advised the proposed footpath width of 1.35m would not be acceptable and the preference would be 1.8m. Other concerns were raised by OCC.

P21/S0859/FUL LAND ADJACENT TOWER HOUSE

OCC is investigating potential Highways boundary issues relating to the erection of a fence and planting.

GENERAL SODC REPORT

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

The administration at SODC is changing its policy with regard to planning enforcement. I circulated the relevant document via the parish clerk Mon 29/11/2021 20:37 with areas of particular concern highlighted. The Conservative Opposition remains concerned that fundamental council services are being comprised due to the administration's excessive attention to national and international issues beyond its remit.

SPECIFIC SODC REPORT FOR SHIPLAKE

P21/S4102/RM: RETIREMENT VILLAGE RESERVED MATTERS

The PC provided a comprehensive and robust response to the application, but a rebuttal has already been received from the developer. The PC may wish to respond to this.

RETIREMENT VILLAGE DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS

The applicant has now submitted four separate 'Discharge of conditions' applications. I have already advised the PC that although they are not official consultees, they should be proactive and continue to scrutinise these closely, should amendments be submitted. Relevant references are: [P21/S3236/DIS](#) [P21/S3916/DIS](#) [P21/S4045/DIS](#) [P21/S4525/DIS](#)

P20/S2808/DIS: THAMES FARM

Following objections from OCC and SODC drainage/flood engineers, Taylor Wimpey withdrew its revised drainage proposal which involved pumping the surface water from the site along the A4155 to a discharge point near Sheephouse Lane. With regard to the ground compacting /grouting proposals, while SODC is maintaining its view is that a separate full planning application is required, Taylor Wimpey has submitted an 'Application for a Certification of Lawfulness for Proposed Use or Development to establish that proposed ground stabilisation works... are to be undertaken as part of the foundation works, and which comprise compaction grouting, surface ground compacting and associated works, are lawful pursuant to planning permission P16/S0970/O.' I am awaiting a response from Taylor Wimpey whether there are any plans to tidy up the site which is likely to remain uncompleted for a considerable period.

P21/S4271/RM WYEVALE 40 DWELLINGS

Objections have been received from OCC LLFA, OCC Transport, S&V Drainage, S&V Forestry, S&V Landscape, Thames Water and TVP,