

REPORT TO SHIPLAKE PARISH COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2019 FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

GENERAL OCC REPORT

OCC BACKS PROPOSALS FOR INTEGRATED HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SYSTEM

Proposals for a new 'integrated care system' for Oxfordshire designed to improve health and social care services were welcomed by the OCC's Cabinet. The new joined-up health and care system will also cover Buckinghamshire and Berkshire West. A draft of the five-year plan for an integrated care system has been published and is due to be submitted to NHS England in November. In the draft plan, the NHS and local authorities in the three areas have committed to planning health and care services around individual needs. Health and care organisations will work collectively to help people enjoy better health by focusing on preventing illness and improving care for those who need it. The principle of 'local first' has been established, with community-run services a vital part of the integrated care system. GP practices will become part of 'primary care networks' that serve communities of around 30-50,000 people. By working together, GP practices will offer access to a wide range of local services, such as NHS and social services, as well as services provided by voluntary groups. These care networks will also be part of larger 'integrated care partnerships' – one for each of the three county areas, including Oxfordshire. The partnerships will join up local hospital and mental health services with, council and community services.

AMBITIOUS REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY PLAN

OCC has endorsed the development of a strategy which sets out a vision for a regional zero-carbon transport network by 2050. England's Economic Heartland is currently engaging on the first stage of a region-wide strategy which sets out a vision for the development and investment in 'connectivity' – the ability to travel and communicate – across an area which stretches between Swindon and Cambridgeshire. The strategy will be out for full public consultation in 2020 and will set out the region's strategic infrastructure needs to both Government and the private sector. Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet discussed its response to the outline strategy last month, details here:

<https://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/documents/s48783/Background%20Document%20EEH%20Outline%20Transport%20Strategy%20-%20OCC%20Final%20Response-Following%20consideration%20at%20C.pdf>

COMMUNITIES INVITED TO BID FOR £1M FUND TO PROVIDE YOUTH SERVICES

Voluntary and community organisations are being invited to bid for a share of OCC's new £1m Youth Opportunity Fund. The fund is aimed at groups that can provide activities and opportunities for young people between the ages of 11-18, and 11-25 with special educational needs. Feedback from Oxfordshire residents points to strong support for improving community-run youth services. This new fund is available to help existing projects expand and new ones get started. Grants of up to £70,000 are available. By offering start-up funding in previous years, the council has already helped many community-run groups provide support for younger children and families. Now the aim is to do the same for youth services. Community-run youth schemes complement the work of the OCC's children's services, which target resources at young people and families with additional needs and those at risk of abuse and neglect. The council also has a desire for more youth clubs to be established. Further information on the fund including how communities can bid for the fund can be found here:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/community-and-living/our-work-communities/oxfordshire-together/community-led-childrens-services/youth-opportunity-fund>

MINERALS AND WASTE SITES APPROVED IN A DRAFT PLAN FOR CONSULTATION

Following public consultation, OCC's Cabinet approved a list of preferred sites for mineral extraction and waste allocation. OCC has a statutory duty to prepare a new Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan to replace the existing Minerals and Waste Local Plan, which was adopted in 1996. The 'core strategy' for the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted by the council in September 2017, stating that a site allocations plan would be prepared with a target date for adoption of November 2020. Public consultation on site options took place in 2018, which covered all the minerals and waste sites that had been nominated for possible inclusion within the Site Allocations Plan. Following site assessments by council-appointed consultants and a review by council officers, a list of preferred sites was produced. The Cabinet has now approved that list of preferred sites for inclusion in the draft plan for consultation. Details are available on the OCC website.

SPECIFIC OCC REPORT FOR SHIPLAKE

THIRD READING BRIDGE

I successfully moved a motion in relation to this matter at OCC Full Council on Tuesday 10th September and SODC Full Council on Thursday 10th October. As a consequence, the Leaders of both councils have written to council leaders at Reading, Wokingham and Bracknell, plus MPs John Howell, John Redwood, Matt Rodda and Theresa May, stating that:

- a) In the context of the Climate Emergency a car-based solution to a car-based problem that would pour thousands of cars and HGVs into Oxfordshire is totally inappropriate and should a new bridge be built it should be restricted to public transport, cyclists and pedestrians;
- b) Notwithstanding the above, if a car-based solution is pursued, the bridge and necessary mitigation measures (i.e. improvements to the Oxfordshire road network) must not be considered as two separate projects, but as one project so that the benefits, disadvantages and costs of the scheme can be holistically assessed.

A 'Summit Meeting' of MPs, leaders, other key councillors (including me) and officers, met on Friday 18th October to review the project. Despite my best efforts, the project protagonists refuse to engage with option a) and continue to deflect questions about mitigation measures saying this will be dealt with via 'traffic calming' and is for discussion at a later date. I have stated that such vague assertions are not acceptable from Oxfordshire's perspective. It was announced the Berkshire parties have applied for £800k to fund the development of the Outline Business Case; local councils will have to contribute an additional £120k. There will be another 'Summit Meeting' in March, meanwhile officers from the various authorities will meet to suggest next steps.

TIMETABLE AND BUS STOP SIGN OPPOSITE THE PLOWDEN ARMS MISSING

I asked officers to investigate this matter in September and have chased for a response.

CLOSURE OF A4155 AT TOWER HOUSE FROM 20 JANUARY 2020 TO 22 JANUARY 2020

Please note the revised dates above for the Thames Water work which will be conducted overnight between 21.00 and 05.00 each day. There will be 'Access Only' signs at Station Road and Mill Lane to prevent rat-running through the village.

ROADWORKS ON A4155 RELATING TO THAMES FARM

Taylor Wimpey commenced works on the public highway on the 21st October. These will continue until the 7th December when they will close down due to the Christmas embargo. The works will then recommence on the 6th January 2020 and will continue until the 16th March. I asked Taylor Wimpey to contact the PC to arrange a meeting, if required, and they have done this via email (Tue 29/10/2019 17:29).

IMPROVING SAFETY ON A4155

As previously reported, the speed limit change was implemented on 19th August. Retirement Villages is trying to get the change reversed. This was initially refused, but they requested a hearing which was scheduled for 5th September. Retirement Villages then requested an adjournment and the new hearing is scheduled for 28th November.

CLOSURE OF MILL ROAD AT SYDNEY HARRISON HOUSE 27 SEPTEMBER

This was an unlawful closure for which permission had not been sought. As previously reported, OCC is in contact with SOHA in respect of possible penalty payments. I have again chased for an update and the officer has replied as follows: *"I am in consultation with our Legal Unit over what to do here as it will require a prosecution against SOHA (as the ultimate client) and their contractor/Sub-Contractor."*

SPECIFIC SODC REPORT FOR SHIPLAKE

THAMES FARM TREE WORKS

I have had multiple contact from residents concerned about tree removal at the site. I have contacted officers and had the following reply:

The tree works at Thames Farm are all part of the planning permission granted on appeal by the planning inspectorate, following SODCs refusal. Planning permission is a trump card which supersedes TPO protection, therefore the removal of the TPO trees is not in breach of the legislation. The works require the removal of a considerable amount of the strip of woodland fronting the site, parallel to the road. This is to make space for the road widening works. As part of the development a considerable amount of replacement woodland planting is going back in. The planting will create an area of woodland much greater in size then the area lost. The replacement planting is due to go in this winter and be made up of some semi mature planting as well as other younger trees. The aim being to re-establish a tree screen as soon as possible.

I have posted this answer on the village website and asked for reassurance that the situation is being monitored.

THAMES FARM NAME: 'REGENCY PLACE'

I continue to receive complaints and derisory comments about this name which many feel to be wholly inappropriate. As this is just a temporary marketing name it is not a council matter; residents should email Taylor Wimpey directly to express their views.