6 March 2019

To: Chairman and councillors Faringdon Town Council

**REPORT TO FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – 13 MARCH 2019**

1. **Oxfordshire Strategic Overview**. The main modifications for Local Plan Part 2 are out for consultation; the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is also out or consultation; the Oxfordshire Growth Deal worth £215 million which is based economic growth is being considered by the MHCLG.

2. **Council Tax**. The Vale council agreed a balance budget and Medium-Term Financial plan at its meeting on13 February 2019. Council tax on a Band D property was increased by £5 to £131.69. This only the third increase in the last 8 years.

3. **Housing Delivery Test**. The Vale was assessed as being the sixth highest performing council in the national HDT figures and the highest performing council in Oxfordshire. Over the three period 2015 to 2018 it had delivered 4357 new homes.

4. **Land South of Park Road**. I have interacted with Bloor Homes and Vale officers to expedite the Section 106 agreement and assist bringing forward the site.

5. **PopUp Business School**. Some 55people attended the school that sponsored for residents in Faringdon. The free five-day workshop taught people how to get a business started and build up on line and social media profiles.

6. **Fly Tipping Prosecution**. The council successfully prosecuted a plasterer from Faringdon whose building waste was dumped across a rural road after he paid two strangers to get rid of it. He paid the men £25 but ended up being ordered to pay more than £1,6000 by a court.

7. **Recycling Wheel**. The council has made it easier for residents to check which bin their waste items should go in by using a new recycling wheel. The wheels are the latest recycling promotion; there is also the smartphone app called Binzone which tells users which bin is due for collection that week.

Roger Cox

District Councillor

Faringdon Ward