

REPORT TO FARINGDON DIVISION (Buckland with Gainfield, Buscot, Coleshill, Eaton Hastings, Faringdon, Gt Coxwell, Littleworth and Little Coxwell) – October/November

For information, all that is detailed within my monthly reports is already within the public domain and thus in the media. My monthly report is a document of varied information which will be of interest both to locally elected Parish Councillors and to the residents and rate payers of my Division. The report provides both a local and a wider picture of the work that Oxfordshire County Council undertakes and thus involves me both as your local County Councillor and also as Deputy Leader for the County Council. I try to make my report both varied and informative for all.

County Councillor's Priority Fund – As a County Councillor over the last two financial years I have been able to benefit my Division with a total of £30,000. (Each County Councillor has been given access to personal £15,000 fund per financial year). The Names of the organisations receiving funds are:- Oxfordshire Play Association – Faringdon Play & Activity Day 2018 and 2019, all of the Parish Councils of the Division, Coleshill, Great Coxwell, Lt. Coxwell, Faringdon Town Council have benefitted. Stone masonry work to one war memorial and garden planting to another war memorial, footpath improvements in two villages, the Museum, Faringdon - Pump House Project - "Fit for Life", Faringdon - Vale Trident's Junior Triathlon Club, Faringdon - "The Place"- Ante Natal Parenting Workshop, Buscot Parish Council, Faringdon - The Wilderness Project – Willes Close Wildlife Sanctuary and Oxfordshire Lowland Search and Rescue

THE SHARED LIVES SCHEME – Become a Shared Lives Carer in a paid, home based role! A campaign to recruit more carers for the Shared Lives Scheme is currently running. This scheme matches people who need additional support to be independent, with carers and their families. Sharing a family's life means people who need support can choose to become part of an ordinary household, instead of staying in residential care or being looked after by a team of support workers. I have reported on this scheme previously and would advise that it is registered with the CQC and operates in a similar way that foster care does for children. If you feel you could open your home to someone who needs your help and support, whether its for occasional stays or full-time find out more at Shared.Lives@Oxfordshire.gov.uk.

FIRE NEWS

Commercial kitchen and diner – Buckland. Thames Valley Fire Control Service immediately sent 3 fire engines from Faringdon, Abingdon, and Wantage Fire Stations to the scene. On arrival crews were faced with a developing fire that involved a deep fat fryer, which was spreading to nearby cupboards within the kitchen. 2 fire fighters wearing breathing apparatus ensured the fire did not spread further, whilst extinguishing the deep fat fryer. A high pressure fan was then used to clear smoke from the property. **Safety message:** there are a few safety critical steps that the Fire & Rescue Service would like to remind people to follow in the event of a fire involving a deep fat fryer or chip pan;

- If a pan of food or chip pan catches fire do not attempt to remove from the stove, it could give you terrible burns if incorrectly handled.
- Turn off the heat if it is safe to do so, but never lean over the pan to the controls, switch off the supply at the meter if necessary.
- NEVER throw water over it. Don't use a general fire extinguisher on a pan filled with oil or fat. The ONLY fire extinguishers safe for
- deep fat fryers are wet chemical extinguishers.

House fire - crews were faced with smoke issuing from the rear of a house. Fire fighters wearing breathing apparatus extinguished the fire using high pressure hose reels. The fire involved a washing machine in a utility room. Smoke detectors within the property helped to raise the alarm. The occupier closed the utility room door on the way out of the house having identified the cause of the fire alarm activation. This confined the fire to that room, which reduced the fire damage throughout the property. Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service would like to remind everyone to close internal doors at night and when leaving the house, because even a normal door will help hold back a fire and smoke, which will help in preventing far greater damage. **Safety message:** Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to:

- Fit working smoke alarms and test them weekly
- Make a fire escape plan
- Should a fire occur, get out, stay out, and get the fire and rescue service out.

THE OXFORD BUS COMPANY - X90 SERVICE WITHDRAWAL from 4th January 2020 the X90 service will be withdrawn. There will be many customers in possession of season tickets and 12-trip passes. These will continue to be valid up until the service stops operating. After this date any unused tickets will be eligible for a pro-rata refund and an on-line form will be set up to facilitate this process. Further information will be made available on 2 January 2020. There will be no refund on any tickets prior to this date and customers are encouraged to use up any remaining tickets before then.

OXFORDSHIRE AGENCIES PREPARING FOR BREXIT - briefing

As County Councillors have received briefings with regard to Brexit and our preparedness, I felt that the following key messages would be of interest

- Agencies across Oxfordshire have been working together to prepare for the UK leaving the EU on 31 October.
- Short-term risks to public safety and normal daily life have been assessed by emergency planners in Oxfordshire and remain 'low'. Nevertheless, councils are working together to ensure plans are in place to support our communities and businesses through this period of change.
- The emergency services, councils, businesses and voluntary organisations that make up the Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum (LRF) have been working since last summer to prepare for the impact of a no-deal EU Exit.
- LRFs have been advised to plan locally for a range of possible risks and threats, known as "reasonable worst-case scenarios". Separately from Brexit preparations, the LRF regularly plans, tests and exercises its emergency plans and response to the locally identified community risks so that all agencies can respond quickly if needed.
- As part of the work done on emergency planning through the LRF, there are already plans in place to cover foreseeable types of short-term disruption to public services that are delivered by local partners in Oxfordshire.
- Councils have been asked to help to ensure that individuals and businesses know where to find information and advice to prepare for Brexit. Links to the government's information are being publicised and residents are encouraged to consider the advice.
- The government has also asked us to monitor potential impacts of Brexit on local businesses. We recognise concerns expressed by local employers. Oxfordshire councils stand ready to provide any practical support within their powers to local businesses. This could include identifying specific Oxfordshire impacts and relaying those to the government.
- Public bodies continue to work closely together. Potential risks are being monitored and information shared, and where necessary plans updated.

Brexit information and advice

Leaving the EU means a number of changes that will affect businesses and individual citizens. The government information below explains how to prepare and the steps you may need to take.

- [Individuals can find out how to prepare for Brexit here](#)
- [Business can find out how to prepare for Brexit here](#)
- [European Union citizens living in the UK can find out more guidance here](#)
- [Business readiness events](#)
- [NHS guidance on the supply of medicines](#)
- [Department for Education guidance for schools](#)

Oxfordshire County Council can help EU nationals living here to apply for the [EU settlement scheme](#), including an identity checking service. Find out more [here](#). Feedback on community issues and concerns should be sent emergencyplanning@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

Plans to improve health and social care are welcomed in Oxfordshire

Proposals for a new 'integrated care system' for Oxfordshire designed to improve health and social care services has been welcomed by the county council'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.

My next monthly surgery will be on Saturday 2nd November in Faringdon Library, from 1000-1130hrs. My phone number is 01367 241468 and my email address is Judith.heathcoat@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

Judith Heathcoat
Deputy Leader Oxfordshire County Council
24th October 2019