

## Focus on Parishes with Cllr Bethia Thomas

### Faringdon

April 2025

*The sun is shining and spring is here. With the county election campaign currently underway I am busier than ever but always happy to answer any questions on this report.*



### Parish Round-Up

**Wall Repairs on Stanford Road** – I have heard back from officers, but we are still tracing ownership.

**Footpaths in Town** – I have contacted officers about issues on the Hobble and footpath leading to Southampton Street from Volunteer Way.

**Issues on the Highworth Road** – Any snags will be completed and lighting and highways issues **resolved** as soon as possible – a road closure is required for highway works. .

**Issues on the Coxwell Road** – Will continue to be monitored.

**Adult Social Care S106 Payments** – No further update will contact officers again.

**Bromsgrove Day Centre** – No further update will contact officers again.

**Wicklesham Quarry Application** – Highways have submitted plans and the report has now been finalised; the committee meeting is scheduled for 16th June TBC.

**Speeding in Marlborough Gardens** – Awaiting an update from officers.

**School Crossing Signage on Park Road** – Awaiting an update from officers.

**Bollards on Park Road** – Appears to be an issue with their adoption with no clear ownership of those bollards located near Tesco; will continue to investigate.

**Traffic Lights onto the A420** – Received a full answer to this at OCC Full Council, April 1<sup>st</sup>, circulated with this report.

**Speed Reduction on the A420** – No further updates, but I believe the change should be made in the coming months.

**Traffic on Gloucester Street** – A resident has requested we look into traffic going the wrong way on Gloucester Street, particularly when exiting the car park; I have made inquiries into this matter, and hope that improved signage may help with this.

**Repairs to Radcot Bridge** – The bridge has now been repaired; I will be asking about measures to prevent further damage at the next full council meeting should I be re-elected.

## General News

- **Oxfordshire tops the national recycling table again:** For the 11th year in a row, residents in Oxfordshire are the best in England for recycling, reusing and composting, according to the latest government figures. Oxfordshire County Council has again been named the top performing county council waste disposal authority. In 2023 - 24, residents recycled, reused or composted 57.6 per cent of their household waste – up from 57.2 per cent in the previous year. Along with the county council, the city and district councils make up the Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Partnership (ORWP) – a collaborative organisation that works together to improve recycling and waste management services for residents. [Find more out online.](#)
- **Plans for improving bus services submitted to government:** Oxfordshire’s delivery plan for improving bus services in 2025 - 26 is set to be submitted to the government so that the latest grant can be released. The document, outlining how Oxfordshire County Council plans to spend more than £15 million allocated to its bus service improvement plan (BSIP), has been approved by the council. Paul Fermer, Oxfordshire County Council’s Director of Environment and Highways, said: “Many thousands of people in Oxfordshire rely on the bus for their travel needs. Working in partnership with our bus operators, we will continue to invest in improving public transport in the county during 2025 - 26 and beyond. [Find more out online.](#)
- **Devolution and local government reorganisation:** On 16 December 2024, the government published a white paper on a national programme of devolution and reform to local government. The county council’s cabinet responded by requesting that the county is fast-tracked for local government reorganisation while continuing to work with partners on a future mayoral strategic authority. The government had asked councils in Oxfordshire to submit an interim proposal(s) for local government reorganisation by 21 March 2025, with a full proposal by 28 November 2025. A proposed response was considered and agreed by cabinets and executives in Oxfordshire on 19 and 20 March. [Find out more online.](#)

## Live Public Consultations

- **Oxfordshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP):** A key strategic document which Oxfordshire County Council as highway authority is required by law to have in place. It sets out how the council can work with others to try and make sure the public rights of way network meets the needs of the public, now and in the future. Closes 19<sup>th</sup> May. [Add to the conversation.](#)

## Councillor Surgeries

I will be available for face-to-face surgeries between 10.00-11.00am at Faringdon Library on the 12<sup>th</sup> April.

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