

REPORT TO SHIPLAKE PARISH COUNCIL JUNE 2021

FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION

A new administration has been formed at Oxfordshire County Council following the 6 May elections. The final shape of the council following the election count on 9 May was: Conservative 22 seats; Liberal Democrats 21 seats; Labour 15 seats; Greens 3 seats; Henley Residents Group 1 seat; independent councillors 1 seat. A total of 32 of the 63 seats are required to form a majority and no one individual party reached this number. The Liberal Democrat, Labour and Green groups have now agreed to form a new administration. The new leader of the council will be Councillor Liz Leffman. The deputy leader will be Councillor Liz Brighouse (with responsibilities for education, children's services and youth services). The former Leader, Conservative Ian Hudspeth, lost his seat. The new Conservative Leader of the Opposition is Councillor Eddie Reeves.

RESIDENTS URGED TO GET VACCINATED TO STOP NEW VARIANTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

Oxfordshire residents are being encouraged to ensure that they come forward as soon as they are eligible to receive both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, as one of the best ways to stop any new variants spreading. This comes as the variant first identified in India continues to spread across parts of the country. Those over 30, and those who will turn 30 before 1 July 2021, are now eligible to receive the vaccine in Oxfordshire. Over 634,800 doses have been administered in Oxfordshire already, and nearly 95 per cent of those over 70 across Oxfordshire have now received both doses. The current number of new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 of the population in Oxfordshire is 8.1, which breaks down as follows:

- Cherwell: 10.6
- Oxford: 9.2
- South Oxfordshire: 4.2
- Vale of White Horse: 5.1
- West Oxfordshire: 11.7

OXFORD TO PLAY HOST TO CRUCIAL G7 HEALTH TALKS

The 2021 G7 Health Ministers' meeting will be held in-person in Oxford on 3-4 June and will bring together health leaders from the world's leading democracies to agree life-saving action in critical areas of global health. They will convene at Oxford University – a global centre of clinical, scientific and academic excellence – which has been at the heart of the global fight against COVID-19, with world-leading clinical trials and its not-for-profit partnership with AstraZeneca on COVID-19 vaccines already saving thousands of lives across globe. The G7 health meetings represent a unique opportunity to demonstrate the commitment of the world's major economies to protect lives across the world from current and future global health threats. Attendees will come together to address the issues of global health security, antimicrobial resistance, clinical trials, and digital health.

FUNDING BOOST TO TRANSFORM FUTURE OF TRANSPORT IN OXFORDSHIRE

Oxfordshire's road users could see a technological revolution in the coming years that could involve traffic information being used to help them to get around more easily with the launch of the second phase of a government-backed research project. The Oxfordshire launch of phase two of the GovTech Catalyst initiative on work to transform the existing Oxfordshire traffic management system will allow two new and complementary technology solutions to be developed and completed by June 2022. Details can be found [here](#).

SPECIFIC OCC REPORT FOR SHIPLAKE

ELECTION RESULT

I am delighted to have been returned as your County Councillor for another four years. However, across the county, the Conservative Independent Alliance have lost their majority and the Greens, Liberal Democrats and Labour have formed a coalition and will run the council. I move from being Cabinet Member for Finance to Opposition Spokesman for Finance.

COVID POSTERS

These are now outdated and serve no useful purpose. Some are half hanging off and will soon become litter, the others look very tired and might encourage flyposting. I would be very grateful if the PC could thank your volunteers for their important work but remind them in the nicest possible way that the clean-up is important too if we want to safeguard our lovely village.

VAS ON A4155

At the May meeting, I advised the PC that I had informed OCC officers that the sign had been reinstalled by Taylor Wimpey the wrong way around and that it had subsequently been corrected. The day after the meeting, I checked the sign and found it was still the wrong way around. After extensive chasing over the last four weeks, Taylor Wimpey on Friday at last rotated the sign to face the correct direction.

STEEL GATE POSTS ON MILL LANE (FERRY LANE) NEAR 'THE DEN'

OCC was going to take enforcement action on 10th May. Due to workload pressures this has been put back to 11th June.

FOOTPATH ALONGSIDE A4155 LINKING LOWER SHIPLAKE TO SHIPLAKE CROSS

I have enquired about the possibility of creating a footpath alongside the A4155 to link the two villages. OCC officers have advised this would cost in the region of £70k. The PC would need to fund a significant proportion of this cost and OCC funding would be contingent on the PC developing a convincing business case. I have provided more details in an email chain I asked the clerk to circulate on Mon 24/05/2021 12:21.

SPECIFIC SODC REPORT FOR SHIPLAKE

P20/S2808/DIS: THAMES FARM

SODC Planning issued a status update on May 7th and it has been published on the village website [here](#). I am pressing for a further update on the status of the Taylor Wimpey application for the engineering works relating to the infilling of the cavities, as referred to in the letter.

P20/S1405/FUL: PROPOSED BLOCK OF FLATS & CAR PARK IN STATION ROAD

I am pleased to report that the appeal has been dismissed and the character of Station Road has been safeguarded.

P19/S1858/O: THREE DETACHED DWELLINGS AT THAMES POULTRY FARM HOUSE

I am pleased to report that the appeal has been dismissed and the character of Bolney Lane has been safeguarded.