

REPORT TO ROTHERFIELD GREYS PARISH COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 2016 FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

GENERAL OCC REPORT

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UNITARY DEBATE

OCC is continuing to develop a model for a single unitary council with some decision making devolved to different parts of the county based on the current boundaries of the five District and City councils. There is no agreement with District Councils about this and there needs to be a lot of detailed negotiation in the weeks and months ahead.

PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report by OCC's Director of Public Health has been published and it summarises key issues associated with the Public Health in Oxfordshire. It includes details of progress over the past year as well as information on future work. It is an independent report for all organisations and individuals. The report covers the following areas: Chapter 1, The Demographic Challenge; Chapter 2, Building Healthy Communities; Chapter 3, Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage; Chapter 4, Lifestyles and Preventing Disease Before it Starts; Chapter 5, Mental Health; Chapter 6, Fighting Killer Diseases. The report can be found by following the link: <http://ow.ly/Fsok305C9RS>

SECURING THE FUTURE FOR OXFORDSHIRE'S DAYTIME SUPPORT SERVICES

OCC is proposing a new daytime support system that will enable older people and people with disabilities to live independently in their community. The new proposals include a guaranteed core service for people who require daytime support, alongside financial support to enable community-based services to continue to flourish. People with assessed needs who receive help from OCC's adult social services would continue to receive support under a new proposed structure for daytime support in the county. The council values day time support services run by volunteers and will continue to support these services while encouraging new community initiatives to be launched. Three-quarters of all community-based services do not receive funding from OCC so would be unaffected by the changes. OCC has listened to more than 600 people who use services and carers to understand their priorities and develop a new approach. More details can be found here: <http://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/dayservices/>

APPLY ONLINE FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES

Applications for children due to start primary or secondary school in September 2017 can now be made online. Families with children born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 are urged to visit the [primary school admissions pages](#) on OCC's website to find out how to apply for places for next year. Applications for primary or junior schools also need to be made for children currently attending an infant school who were born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010. Families with children due to move up to secondary school next September should visit the [secondary school admissions pages](#). (There is also information for anyone interested in applying for a Year 10 transfer to a [University Technical College \(UTC\) or Studio School](#).) When applying parents are strongly advised to state three preferences and include their catchment school as one of these – even if it is their third preference school. This does not in any way affect families' chances of securing a place at their first-preference school. OCC still accepts postal applications but recommends families apply online where possible, as this helps speed up the applications process. It also means families receive an automatic response confirming their application has been received and can be quickly notified if further information is needed.

RADIO OXFORD TRAFFIC CONTROL

The traffic reports on Radio Oxford are broadcast direct from OCC's traffic control centre at Kidlington. The centre has direct access to over 50 cameras across the county, which show exactly what is happening so listeners can be quickly informed should there be an incident. Also, listeners' calls and texts mean that traffic information can be rapidly updated. The entire breakfast show was recently broadcast from the control centre and OCC Leader Ian Hudspeth was given the opportunity to read the traffic report. He admits being nervous in case he mentioned the wrong road, but everything appeared to go well!

SPECIFIC REPORT FOR ROTHERFIELD GREYS

GENERAL RG TRAFFIC ISSUES MEETING

I arranged a site meeting with members of the PC, the Area Steward and me on Monday 26 September to discuss the PC's concerns about road safety issues. The Group visited sites of concern and discussed possible actions. It was agreed the Clerk would draw up the list of suggestions for further review, costing and possible implementation.

JOINT MEETING OF PARISHES IN MY DIVISION

I am attempting to arrange a joint meeting between the Chairman and Planning leads of the nine parishes in my Division to discuss:

- challenges to the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan;
- the Third Reading Bridge.

John Howell has agreed to attend, but I am awaiting possible dates from him. I will be in contact about this in the near future.