

## SODC Councillor Report

21 May 2019

The Local Elections of 23 May saw control of the council pass from Conservative to No Overall Control. The Liberal Democrats have, with the Green Party, formed a governing partnership.

The first Full Council meeting last week saw Liberal Democrat Councillor Sue Cooper elected Leader of the Council.

The new Chairman is Cllr David Bretherton and his Vice-Chair is Elizabeth Gillespie, a former Conservative who is now an independent.

Following from the previous administration's Declaration of a Climate and Ecological Emergency on 11 April, a new Cabinet post has been created, Climate and Ecological Crisis Response. This post is held by Green Cllr. Sue Roberts.

Cabinet appointments are as follows:

Cllr Sue Cooper: Leader, Legal and Democratic, Didcot Garden Town;  
Cllr David Turner: Deputy Leader and Finance;  
Cllr Sue Roberts: Climate and Ecological Crisis Response and support for the Leader;  
Cllr Pieter-Paul Barker: Partnership and Insight;  
Cllr Robin Bennet: Economic Development and Regeneration;  
Cllr Maggie Filipova-Rivers: Community Services;  
Cllr Andrea Powell: Corporate Services;  
Cllr Leigh Rawlins: Planning  
Cllr David Rouane: Housing and Environment

A Cross-Party Working Group is being established to work closely with Council Officers to examine South Oxfordshire's Local Plan. The absolute priority is to ensure the integrity of the five-year land supply and the continuation of Neighbourhood Plans as the best defences against speculative development.

Hlghmoor:

Emma Turner, enforcement at SODC confirmed that Graham Granaski remains in the Lamb Pub, in breach of Planning Control. Emma reports that SODC officers will obtain a warrant and enter the property with police at some point soon. SODC is working with its inhouse lawyers to determine the best course of action going forward: whether to prosecute or obtain a High Court injunction (or both). She is hopeful of progress within the next month.

Cllrs Jo Robb Lorraine Hillier will work together to ensure that all ten parishes in the Ward receive the best representation.