# COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT FOR PARISH COUNCILS – NOVEMBER 2019 FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE

# **Minerals and waste sites approved in a draft plan for consultation**

The ‘core strategy’ for the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted by the council in September 2017, stating that a site allocations plan would be prepared with a target date for adoption of November 2020.

Public consultation on site options took place in 2018, which covered all the minerals and waste sites that had been nominated for possible inclusion within the Site Allocations Plan.

Following site assessments by council-appointed consultants and a review by council officers, a list of preferred sites was produced. The Cabinet has now approved that list of preferred sites for inclusion in the draft plan for consultation. The sites are:

**Sharp sand and gravel**

* Land between Eynsham and Cassington
* Nuneham Courtenay

**Crushed rock and soft sand**

* Land at Chinham Farm (Chinham Hill)
* Hatford West Extension

**Waste sites**

* Finmere Quarry, Finmere
* Whitehill Quarry, Burford
* Lakeside Industrial Estate, Standlake
* Shellingford Quarry, Shellingford / Stanford in the Vale
* High Cogges Farm, Witney
* Moorend Lane Farm, Thame
* Rear of Ford Dealership, Ryecote Lane
* Ardley Fields, Ardley
* Overthorpe Industrial Estate, Banbury

This is excellent news for some of the parishes in my Division that make up PAGE (Parishes Against Gravel Extraction) who were also under consideration for extraction but were rejected during the detailed assessment work carried out at the Council. This means that up until 2031 Stadhampton, Newington, Drayton St Leonard and Berinsfield will not have large scale extraction near them. I founded PAGE with John Howell MP and Maggie Pullen over 10 years ago, and it has been a difficult campaign to wage. But due to the dogged determination of many local PAGE members and supporters, including those from Dorchester and Warborough, finally their area can breathe a sigh of relief.

The selected site from the south of the county is between Nuneham Courtenay and Sandford-on-Thames. Of course this news may not be so welcome for these communities. However, the site runs along the Thames, right between the two villages, and is well away from both settlements. I hope that with a robust routing agreement and a sensible access point onto the A4074 it will cause significantly less disruption to them than a large scale extraction site would have done if it had come to Stadhampton, Chiselhampton, Drayton St Leonard, Newington and Berinsfield. I will work with Nuneham Courtenay and Sandford Parish Councils to help minimise any potential impact upon their residents.

# **Oxfordshire communities invited to bid for £1m fund to provide youth services**

# Voluntary and community organisations are being invited to bid for a share of Oxfordshire County Council’s new £1m Youth Opportunity Fund. The fund is aimed at groups that can provide activities and opportunities for young people between the ages of 11-18, and 11-25 with special educational needs.

# Feedback from Oxfordshire residents points to strong support for improving community-run youth services. This new fund is available to help existing projects expand and new ones get started. Grants of up to £70,000 are available.

By offering start-up funding in previous years, the council has already helped many community-run groups provide support for younger children and families. Now the aim is to do the same for youth services.

Community-run youth schemes complement the work of the county council’s children’s services, which target resources at young people and families with additional needs and those at risk of abuse and neglect. The council also has a desire for more youth clubs to be established.

Further information on the fund including how communities can bid for the fund is [here](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/community-and-living/our-work-communities/oxfordshire-together/community-led-childrens-services/youth-opportunity-fund).

# **County council backs proposals for integrated health and social care system**

Proposals for a new ‘integrated care system’ for Oxfordshire designed to improve health and social care services were 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.