June 2023 County Councillor Report – Cllr Robin Bennett

Robin.bennett@Oxfordshire.gov.uk

**Oxford Utd new stadium proposal**

Oxfordshire County Council’s cabinet has received updates on proposals for an Oxford United stadium near Kidlington – including a summary of stakeholder engagement so far and plans for more public engagement in June and July.Subject to receiving sufficient detailed information from the club, this timetable should allow the cabinet to make a final decision in September on whether or not to lease or sell the land to the club for the development of a stadium on council-owned land known as “the Triangle”, located east of Frieze Way and south of the Kidlington roundabout. You can take part in the latest survey at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/thetriangle](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/thetriangle)

**Plans for an Oxfordshire County Council Town and Parish charter**

The county council will be surveying all town and parish councils in June/July to discuss your experience of contacting the council to access services and advice. There will also be a number of in-person events and discussions to inform the drafting of a charter, which will then be consulted on formally and then adopted in November. Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) are also involved.

**Didcot ‘Central Corridor’ project**

Oxfordshire County Council has just launched a consultation on proposals to improve access and the town environment in central Didcot, by improving travel and public space along three important routes – known as the ‘Gateway Spine, ‘Cultural Spine and Foxhall Road’, and the town centre. The project is part of the Didcot Garden Town delivery plan.

The council has developed ideas for the three routes, focusing on five areas:

* A4130 and B4493 – Science Bridge to Didcot Station
* Didcot Road, Wantage Road and Foxhall roundabout
* Broadway
* Town and station connections
* Cow Lane, Jubilee Way roundabout and Hadden Hill.

The consultation can be found alongside other current consultations at <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

**HIF1 planning application:**

The plans for the road(s) and bridge linking the A34 Milton interchange to Golden Balls roundabout are now scheduled to come to the OCC planning and regulation committee at the end of the month. 2 days have been set aside for this meeting, on 26th and 27th June at County Hall.

**Councillor priority fund**.

A reminder that this is now live, and the application details can be found here: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund)

**Schools transport:** at the most recent cabinet meeting, some positive recommendations to improve the OCC schools transport policy were accepted, and the Leader committed to making sure solutions are found for any children who don’t get a bus place via the Spare Seats scheme to travel to their chosen school.

**And finally… best-selling crime author comes to Abingdon library**

The Oxford-based author of the Sunday Times bestselling ‘DI Fawley’ crime series, Cara Hunter, will be coming to Abingdon Library to talk about her new novel ‘Murder in the Family’ on 13th July. [**https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cara-hunter-abingdon-library/**](https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cara-hunter-abingdon-library/)

**Works on A4074 Southbound (from Golden Balls), nights of 15th/ 16th June**

A short full road closure will be required for these planned works. Due to the location and classification of the A4074, OCC will be required to carry works out at night, between the hours of 20:00 and 05:00. We’ve been assured that they will finish within the stated hours.