

AUGUST 2020 Parish Report

I was unwell during July which required a stay at the JR. I must compliment all the staff at the hospital with the treatment they provided for me as it was first rate. There were some individuals who for me my opinion went above and beyond, but I thank all the staff especially when you consider they are still dealing with the COVID pandemic. As part of my own recovery I'll be cutting back on some of the meetings I attend along with asking some of my cabinet colleagues to take over some of my workload.

We must not be complacent as the virus is still around and may well be with us for some time to come. The Public Health team at Oxfordshire County Council are monitoring the situation and should they see an increase in a particular area then they will work with that local community to try and ensure that it does not spread.

We can all play our part by following the guidelines, I have listed some of the details at the end of my report.

Despite my visit to the JR my motion to Full Council regarding Devolution and Recovery went ahead. There was some misunderstanding about me mentioning next year's elections. My reason was simple; to highlight to Government that we want to work at speed as we move into the recovery phase. I am pragmatic in these circumstances and I amended my motion to take out the reference to the elections which meant the motion received unanimous support across the council.

This now gives me the mandate to work with not just our Local Government colleagues but all public sector areas to rebuild a better Oxfordshire that continues to deliver vital services for our residents but more importantly reduces the inequalities that currently exist. There is no point in returning to the way we were as we need to recognise new ways of working for the benefit of our residents.

The bid for tranche 2 of the Active Travel funding must be submitted by 7th August. I bid for 20 mph speed limits throughout the villages in my Division as I saw this as a good way to encourage cycling and walking within the villages. Unfortunately, the guidelines from the DfT do not allow the funds to be used in this way and are aimed at more urban schemes, I have written to ask for the guidelines to be changed to allow local determination of how funds are spent.

As I stated during the Town Council debate, I'll work with the Town Council to see if we can find a solution and use some of the Government funds available to help businesses in Woodstock. I hope the Town Council will back the latest proposal from



For information on COVID- 19 visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus



AUGUST 2020 Parish Report

West Oxfordshire District Council to assist the hospitality businesses in the Town centre. St Michael's Street in Oxford is an example of what we were working towards which is improving social distancing and delivering an enhanced street scene.

Congratulations to all those involved in saving The White House pub in Bladon which is now owned by the community and hopefully reopening in September. In Stonesfield the same process is starting with The White Horse which is already listed as a community asset. I am sure that the Bladon committee will be able to give guidance to the Stonesfield group so that it too can become a Community pub. This is just the start and we all must remember to support our pubs if they are to survive and become sustainable particularly during the winter months. I support them both and wish them well for the future.

In Bladon it was good to see that road works to install fibre broadband by Gigaclear went before the road works carried out by Oxfordshire County Council, it's always so frustrating when it's the other way round. Next year the road will have a micro asphalt surface applied so we can look forward to improved broadband speeds along with improved road surface.

I've continued to take some of my daily exercise by walking round the villages in my division to report any defects on roads or pavements, if you notice any then please report them on Fix My Street as the repair teams are still working.

Anybody can download the app which is easy to use and provides an exact location along with a photograph or you can log any defects at:

<https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

We continue to re-open libraries in a phased manner ensuring that the safety of staff and customers is our first consideration. Chipping Norton and Eynsham libraries are due to open 3rd August. As soon as I have dates for Stonesfield, and Woodstock I will update you.



For information on COVID- 19 visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus



AUGUST 2020 Parish Report

The lockdown restrictions have been eased but it's important that we do not become complacent.

Do not leave home if you or someone you live with has any of the following:

1. a high temperature
2. a new, continuous cough
3. a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

NHS test and trace service

The NHS test and trace service is now live. Everyone over the age of five presenting symptoms should have a test. You can ask for a test [online](#) or by calling 119.

The new NHS test and trace service works as follows:

- You request a test [online](#) or by calling 119
- If the test comes back negative, you and everyone in your household can go back to normal
- If the test comes back **positive**, the NHS test and trace team will get in touch with you – via text, email or phone call – to discuss whom you have come into contact with
- The NHS test and trace team will then alert those contacts, where necessary, and notify them if they need to self-isolate to stop the spread of the virus
- You and members of your household need to follow the usual guidelines about [self-isolating](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact me and keep safe.

Ian Hudspeth
07956 270 318
ian.hudspeth@oxfordshire.gov.uk



For information on COVID- 19 visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus

