

County Councillor Andy Graham Woodstock Division Annual Report May 2021/April 2022

Area Covered: Woodstock, Bladon, Blenheim, Stonesfield, Combe, Wootton, Kiddington, Tackley, Steeple Barton, Westcote Barton, Sandford St Martins

Attended: over **60** meetings of the parish councils and **12** county council/committee including: People's Scrutiny Committee and Locality Meetings.

Site Visits/inspections: over **40** locations (highways, flooding and railway crossings)

External Representative for OCC and meetings attended on Cotswold National Landscape Board, Oxfordshire Music Board, Oxfordshire Museums Council and Oxford Airport Committee

Highlights

Woodstock- HGV Burford Ban Lifted, detailed analysis meetings leading to highways objections on Banbury Road and Hill Rise developments, Pedestrian and highways safety measures for the A44, new bridge and barriers at the Black Prince being designed for Autumn 2022, support for 30mph to 20 mph reduced speed scheme, car parking plan created, partnership group set up to further new Health Centre and profiling the need for a new library with the cabinet member to find a permanent home. Supported Village Travel Network initiative and other community organisations and Oxfordshire Museum. Supported/organised Standing in Solidarity meeting for Ukrainian refugees outside Woodstock Town Hall-ongoing

Bladon- Furthered the completion of the widening of pathway for cycling and pedestrian safety, supported 30mph to 20 mph reduced speed scheme, Bladon roundabout work completed and currently investigating other parking improvements in the village with parish councillors and OCC highways officers

Combe- Supported 30mph to 20 mph reduced speed scheme and partner funded the geophysical survey on site of former church

Stonesfield- Supported the implementation of the 30 to 20 mph reduced speed with some partnership funding support, the initiative to save The White Horse pub from permanent closure and part funding the café carers group.

Wootton- Supported the reopening of the footpath with removal of falling rocks causing it to close and the installation of security fencing, supported 30 to 20 mph reduced speeding scheme and general support/advice to the parish council.

Kiddington- Met residents over the safety needs for equestrians through the village (signs now in place) advice on flooding and reduced speed options. Instructed new yellow backing for 40 mph on the A44 now in place

The Bartons- Supported the partnership approach between Steeple Barton and Westcott Barton confirming funding from Section 106 monies for a speed reduction scheme through both villages and now submitted for approval. Supported flooding mitigation in the village and connected local based technical engineers with OCC officers on flooding matters which now have been alleviated. Supported the Barton Bus replacement of their diesel bus to an electric model through funding from the Councillor priority fund. Tackling the unfairness of the Home to Schools Transport Policy by setting up a working group to carry out the review.

Sandford St. Martin- Carried out a community partnership approach to tackling local flood mitigations in the village involving a partnership of landowners, the Cricket club and OCC highways(flooding) with an agreed plan in place. Support for the reducing speed from 30 to 20mph scheme.

Tackley- Supported the further excavation of the flooding ditch on Rousham Road, with an agreement to a flooding mitigation survey/plan, road repairs to Rousham Road, successfully influenced Thames Water in the realigning of the drains and currently addressing the need for a successful outcome with Network Rail resulting out of the closure of the railway crossing/bridleway and footpath. Supporting the 30mph to 20 mph reducing speed scheme.

Rousham- Worked with OCC tree specialists with Rousham Hall for the maintenance of overhanging trees on the Lower Road to avoid road accidents. (Co-operatively completed)

Ongoing Projects for the whole division include: Youth service provision being brought back to support the needs of young people, Home to schools Transport revision on Policy

Thanks to all parish councillors for all their efforts and the clerks who have done a first-class job in supporting us and the OCC staff who have supported me in the last year.

1st April 2022
Cllr. Andy Graham