

PARISH REPORT AUGUST 2016

New Prime Minister

I am disappointed that my local MP David Cameron is no longer Prime Minister as he has achieved a great deal over the 6 years he has been in office. We have to remember the mess the country was in back in 2010 when he took the brave decision to form a coalition with the Liberal Democrats to turn the country around.

I wish David and his family all the best for the future perhaps this year he'll be able to enjoy the summer holidays more.

The saying 'a week is a long time in politics' certainly applied to last month with the appointment of the new Prime Minister Theresa May. I have met her on several occasions regarding major issues but also more local matters, as she is local to Oxfordshire representing Maidenhead. She will continue to look after her constituency whilst looking after the national issues. I wish her well and welcome the opportunity to work with her to continue to grow the Oxfordshire economy.

Joint statement from Oxfordshire County Council and Oxfordshire's district/city councils

With a new Prime Minister and new Secretary of State now in place and a number of pressing economic and policy issues to work through at national level, we recognise that it is sensible to take the time to understand how the government intends to take forward devolution and local government reorganisation in Oxfordshire and other areas before presenting further proposals for reforming public services and changes to council structures in the county.

Following discussions with civil servants all the Oxfordshire councils have agreed to work together to discuss areas of common ground, assess potential options and establish whether we can agree a way forward building on the work we have both done to date. We have agreed to postpone publication of both the Grant Thornton and PwC studies, and pause plans for consultation until these plans have been jointly developed.

Our aim has always been to seek investment in housing and transport infrastructure; to improve skills training and develop the local economy. This investment is needed if we are to reach our potential, and therefore agreeing a way forward with government is a high priority for all of us.

Countryfile Live

The weekend 4th – 7th August, Blenheim Palace will be hosting a new event Countryfile Live. This promises to be a fantastic day out for all the family and will attract visitors from all over the country to Blenheim Palace. Full details can be found at <http://www.blenheimpalace.com/>

Traffic for Countryfile Live is currently anticipated to be considerably lighter than the Game Fair in 2014, there are 8 signed traffic routes to Countryfile Live. Traffic from the North will be split onto 4 routes, in addition to motorway traffic continuing south on the M40 to J9 and the A34. The A34 is the preferred route for traffic coming from the South-East and M40 westbound.

The decision to use the 8 routes was agreed at a traffic planning meeting with representatives of Oxfordshire County Council Network Management Group, West Oxfordshire DC, the Emergency Services (including Thames Valley Police Traffic Management Unit and Roads Policing) and with other stakeholder involvement such as local bus operators. The same routing plan was implemented successfully for the CLA Game Fair in 2014. If traffic congestion is seen to be extremely high through one route, the event organiser has the option to sign traffic to another route.

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There will be increased traffic over the days, with the traffic management in place disruption should be minimal and everybody will be able to enjoy the event.

Oxfordshire Bucks Trend in Hospital Delays

The number of people delayed in Oxfordshire's hospital beds when they no longer need to be there has fallen more than 45%. The latest figures are in marked contrast to national numbers, which saw Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC) rise by 25% between May 2015 and May 2016. The improvement in Oxfordshire is the result of a joint initiative by Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG), Oxford University Hospitals, Oxford Health and Oxfordshire County Council, to move people out of hospital more quickly when they have been appropriately treated and no longer need to be there. The £2m initiative, launched in December 2015, includes: funding extra temporary care home beds where people can stay until they are ready to return to their own home or move to a permanent care home; and the recruitment of more home care staff to support people in their own homes. Previously the Oxfordshire had been at the bottom of the DToC 'league table' across the country.

The Oxfordshire Comet



It is a not for profit service, created to allow people without suitable access to public transport to make the journeys they want.

The Oxfordshire Comet can be booked for any type of trip. Whether it's to meet friends in town, travel across the county, attend an appointment or pop to the shops. The service is available 10.15am - 2.30pm Monday to Friday (not Bank Holidays).

Full details can be found on my website: <http://www.ianhudspeth.com/id15.html>

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Railway closures in Oxfordshire

Network Rail to carry out work in August to maintain the railway rail track. Between 30 July and 14 August Network Rail will be carrying out work to maintain the railway and prevent them from being affected by floods. This work is part of the wider flood prevention scheme which is being carried out to protect homes to the south of Oxford.

Some railways lines will be closed during the work, including on weekdays.

Which railway lines are temporarily closing?

30 July - 14 August the railway will be closed between Oxford and Didcot Parkway to enable Network Rail to carry out flood prevention work in the Hinksey area.

30 July - 7 August the railway will be closed between Oxford and Banbury for re-signalling work.

3 - 7 August the railway will be closed between Oxford and

Hanborough for bridge repair work.

Replacement travel services

Buses will replace trains on affected routes for travel within Oxfordshire. Rail tickets will be accepted on local buses and on Chiltern Railways services to London.

Go to the Great Western Railway ([GWR](#)) website for full details of all replacement services and alternate routes.

I hope everybody has a good and relaxing summer.

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