

PARISH REPORT DECEMBER 2016

Woodstock to Oxford Parkway

I can confirm that from 11 December 2016 Oxford Bus Company will be extending service 500 from Oxford Parkway to Woodstock via the A4260, Langford Lane and the A44 every 30 minutes throughout the day. There will also be an evening and Sunday service.

They are trialling this in partnership with Chiltern Railways and Blenheim Palace – to ensure it is a success residents must use this new service.

The bus will be serving all recognised stops between Oxford Parkway, Kidlington and Woodstock but not the airport stop, the bus will stay on main road (A4260 through Kidlington). It won't stop at Kidlington High Street though but will serve Exeter Surgery and Black Horse that will be closest stops for High Street.

Parking at Hanborough



I was delighted to attend the official opening of the additional 48 car parking spaces at Hanborough station along with new MP Robert Courts.

The pressure on car parking has grown over the past few years due to the increase in passenger numbers. In 2009/10 there were 104,000 passengers in 2014/15 there were 240,000 passengers.

We are working with Great Western to improve the service with more trains, along with trying to improve the buses to the station reducing the need for car journeys.

Scouts Question Time

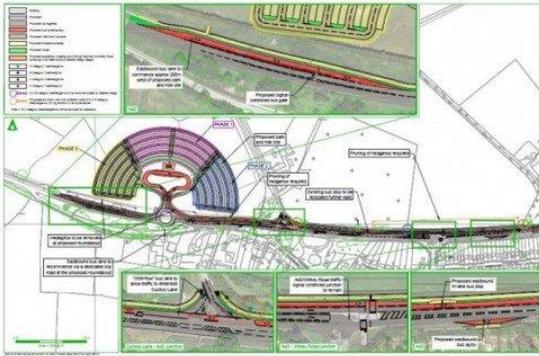
I had an enjoyable but very challenging Question Time evening hosted by the 1st Barton Scouts. The questions covered a variety of topical issues including the EU, area 51, the biggest threat to the liberal Democracy, the Calais crisis, Trump, but I have to admit I did wonder if there was a hidden agenda when asked if I liked sausage dogs?



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A40 Consultation

1 A40: Cuckoo Lane to Esso Petrol Station



People will have a chance to have their say on detailed plans for major transport improvements planned for the A40 between Witney and Oxford in the coming weeks.

Oxfordshire County Council is proposing to build a new park and ride facility in Eynsham as well as an eastbound bus lane between Eynsham park and ride and the Duke's Cut canal bridge near Wolvercote.

The project also includes Westbound bus priority on the approaches to Cassington traffic signals and Eynsham roundabout, junction improvements between Eynsham park and ride and the Duke's Cut canal bridge near Wolvercote along with a two way cycle path located on the northern verge.

The feasibility design and plans for the Eynsham Park and Ride and A40 Bus Lane scheme will be on display at a series of exhibitions. The dates are:

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday 6 th December	11am - 3pm	Cassington Village Hall The Green, Cassington, OX29 4AX
Saturday 10 th December	12pm - 4pm	Witney Methodist Church 40 High Street, Witney, OX28 6HG
Thursday 15 th December	12.30pm - 7pm	Change of venue St Leonard's Church Hall, Eynsham Thames Street, Eynsham, OX29 4HF

Anyone unable to attend the consultation exhibitions can view the plans and have their say online by visiting our webpages and filling out the online questionnaire. This will be available online between the 1 December and the 12

January. www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/A40EynshamParkandRide

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Plans for Regional Agency to improve Adoption Services

OCC is developing plans to transform its adoption services by joining forces with neighbouring councils. The aim is to create a Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) for the Thames Valley to improve outcomes for both children and adopters – including the ability to match children with families more quickly and improve support services for adopters. It follows a Government paper setting out plans for all adoption services to be delivered through RAAs by 2020. OCC would be the host authority within a partnership known as Adopt Thames Valley, alongside six other councils (Bracknell Forest, West Berkshire, Windsor and Maidenhead, Wokingham, Swindon and Reading) and two Voluntary Adoption Agencies (PACT and Barnardos). All partners have begun work to develop the new shared service across the geographical area covered by the councils. The Government has advised that a grant of £300K will be made available to help set up the new service.

Shared Lives Service receives glowing report from Inspectors

Families across Oxfordshire who choose to share their lives and homes with adults in need of social care have been given high praise by inspectors. The Shared Lives service in Oxfordshire has been running for more than 25 years and involves those in need of care sharing the home of Oxfordshire residents who have been trained and approved as “shared lives households”. The Care Quality Commission inspected the service in Oxfordshire, which is managed, by OCC, in early October. There were five key measures in the inspection judging whether the service was safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led and inspectors spoke to the county council, shared lives families/households and those receiving care. In every single category the CQC rated the Oxfordshire Shared Lives service as “good”. The service supports people across all client groups from 16 upwards and the oldest person the scheme has supported was 103. There are usually around 120 people using the service at any one time - about 70 people live long term with Shared Lives Carers and the remainder have short breaks or a few hours support during the day. Training and vetting is undertaken very carefully before people/families qualify to become approved in the shared lives scheme.

I WISH EVERYBODY A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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