

# **REPORT TO BIX & ASSENDON PARISH COUNCIL JULY 2019 FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW**

## **GENERAL OCC REPORT**

### **BIG INCREASE IN ROAD REPAIRS AS COUNCIL INJECTS MILLIONS**

Repairs and improvements on Oxfordshire's roads continue with more than 34,000 potholes repaired over the last year, a 45% increase on the previous year – and there's more major repairs to come over the summer. This year and last OCC invested millions of pounds over and above its usual budget so that it can do more repairs and resurfacing projects – and the strategy is paying off with 34,159 potholes repaired compared to 23,486 the year before. The county council recently announced an extra £13m for road maintenance for this financial year on top of its existing £18.5m programme of work – this follows last year's additional £12m boost. Last year's extra cash saw more than [37 extra miles of road being resurfaced](#) through a range of methods which also included surface dressing and micro-asphalting – both of which make road surfaces waterproof and extend their life. This year's additional money will be spent across Oxfordshire's towns and villages on resurfacing, drainage, bridge repairs and footways. The council's road repair crews have also been busy fixing other 'defects' on the roads, too – over 42,000 in total in 2018, an average of 3,500 a month.

### **OXFORDSHIRE WILL BE PART OF NEW JOINED-UP HEALTH AND CARE SYSTEM**

Oxfordshire is to be part of a new 'integrated care systems' created by the NHS in England to improve health and social care services. The new joined up care system also covers Buckinghamshire and Berkshire West. The NHS and local authorities in the three areas aim to deliver a person-centred vision for health and care services, making sure services are planned and delivered as locally as possible. Health and care organisations will work collectively to bring better health outcomes for people and ensure effort is not duplicated or resources wasted. More details can be found here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/06/faster-and-more-convenient-health-and-care/>

### **FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE AMONG THE BEST FOLLOWING INSPECTION**

Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service is one of only four fire and rescue services to be given an 'outstanding' judgement in any category following inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS). Following the second out of three tranches of inspections it is the highest scoring County Council Fire and Rescue Service as well as amongst the top ten services in England. The service was inspected by HMICFRS in November 2018, in the first full assessment of fire and rescue services in England for several years. The inspection assessed how effectively and efficiently Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service prevents, protects the public against and responds to fires. It also assessed how well the Service looks after staff. The service, which was in the second tranche of fire and rescue services to be inspected, was rated as 'outstanding' for promoting its values and culture. The inspectorate found that Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service was 'good' across all three core areas.

### **HELP FOR RESIDENTS APPLYING TO THE EUROPEAN UNION SETTLEMENT SCHEME**

OCC will assist residents completing the ID verification process to the European Union Settlement Scheme (EUSS). Oxford Register Office and 16 libraries across the county will offer the document validation service as Britain prepares to leave the EU. Settled or pre-settled status will enable European Union, European Economic Area or Swiss citizens to continue living in the UK beyond June 30, 2021.

## **SPECIFIC REPORT FOR BIX & ASSENDON**

### **IMPACT OF HWRC CHARGES ON FLY-TIPPING**

A resident has contacted District Councils and received fly-tipping data. I have passed this to OCC officers for comment. District colleagues may wish to follow-up on the District aspect.

### **DAMAGED/ SIGNS ON DUAL CARRIAGEWAY**

I am pleased to report that the damaged signs on the dual carriageway have finally been replaced.

### **DOBSONS LANE, LOWER ASSENDON**

Stage I of the remedial work was completed at the end of February. Further monitoring and assessment has taken place and I am advised that Stage II of the works will take place in late August.