

Title: County Councillor's Report
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Parishes: Yarnton, Begbroke and Kidlington.
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Dear Councillors and residents,

It seems finally after an extraordinary amount of rain that Spring is on the horizon.

I have been busy attending meetings to bringing forward an holistic strategy for the whole area. This needs to include the infrastructure required to ensure that our existing communities, and the new ones in plan have the facilities they require.

The issues in relation to Key Medical were also brought to my attention, and there are further details on the below.

I have also had extensive discussions in relation to the Fire & Rescue Service proposals.

Best wishes
Lesley

Roundham Level Crossing

A Community Meeting was held at Begbroke Village Hall, with Network Rail, Oxford University Developments and Oxfordshire County Council in attendance. The petition is still live, <https://www.oxonld.uk/roundham-crossing> and I would encourage all residents to respond. This will be presented to Oxfordshire County Council Full Council meeting on 24th March 2026.

Oxfordshire County Council are carrying out a Movement and Place Strategy review for the wider area, and I would like to ensure local input to that process and am current investigating how that can be achieved.

In the meantime, I have had talks with the developers of Oxford Technology Park 2, who are suggesting a possible back-stop solution. Network Rail have not yet made a formal proposal for closure; however a further meeting will be held in the summer to update all residents on the position.

Bus services

Following my conversations with Stagecoach the provision of the new 800 has been well received. The route is running well providing coverage through Kidlington, Begbroke and Yarnton, connecting the villages to the Town Centre, Oxford Technology Park and Oxford Parkway.

Questions have been raised in relation to the timings of the 2/2A and the 700. As a result of my meeting with OCC officers the timings of the 700 route will be adjusted, and I am awaiting further clarification of actions on the 2/2A.

Fire and Rescue Service.

The consultation has now closed. I have held meetings with local firefighters and the Chief Fire Officer to understand the impact of the proposals on this area, and I look forward to reviewing the consultation findings in due course.



Local Government Reorganisation.

Three proposals for this area have been put forward, you can find further details here:

- <https://www.twocouncils.org>
- <https://oneoxfordshire.org.uk/one-oxfordshire>
- <https://3councils.org/>

Please do respond to the consultation and provide your views here:

<https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/oxfordshire/consultation/>

Key Medical - bookings

After residents raised concerns I wrote directly to Key Medical calling on them to reconsider their approach, and to the Integrated Care Board (ICB) to intervene to protect residents' ability to access essential care. Key Medical have promised to meet; to respond to the concerns raised. This has also been raised with the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

School Places.

Almost nine out of ten Oxfordshire pupils applying for secondary school places across the county have been offered a place at their first choice school for September.

Councillor Priority Fund – Apply Now.

Each county councillor has a budget of £10,000 that they can use to support community projects in their division over the course of the 2025-2027 financial years.

I hope to channel funding to education to help our struggling schools, and projects associated with flooding. Applications can be made [here](#).

Potholes

As a SuperUser I regularly upgrade issues raised on Fix My Street, so I am aware of most reports. The majority of the potholes in the area are located on our main bus routes, and I am requesting not only timely responses to the Fix My Street reporting but also a resurfacing programme for these routes as they are under particular stress. I have requested a meeting with the Director of Environment and Highways and hope to provide a future progress report.

High Sheriff's Awards 2025–26

Each year, the High Sheriff invites nominations for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the communities in which they live and work. If you know someone in our community who quietly goes the extra mile to make life better for others, without seeking recognition, you can submit your nomination here:

<https://highsheriffoxfordshire.co.uk/high-sheriffs-awards-applications>