

Focus on Parishes with Cllr Bethia Thomas

Great Coxwell, Faringdon Division **Nov 2024**

I am looking forward to your meeting next month and would like to be able to report on anything specific you may want me to follow up between now and then. I am already chasing a few things, but please let me know if you have any issues to raise.



Parish Round-Up

Coxwell Road Flooding – I know this is a concern for many residents and I have been working on this as the district councillor for Faringdon; the ditch on the southern side of the road is the responsibility of private landowners; the district council will continue to follow this up, and the county will take further action to alleviate the flooding if the problem persists.

Coxwell Road Pedestrian Access – Thank you for reporting this to me directly; as part of Faringdon Ward, I have been able to action it as part of my district role. I have worked with officers here to make sure improvements were made to allow for better pedestrian access.

Traffic Lights onto the A420 – With construction now taking place, I have been assured that the developers are on track to deliver improvements as laid down in the planning conditions.

Speed Reduction – As already reported, it has been agreed to remove the national speed limit on the A420 outside Faringdon, details below; at the decision meeting Cllr Gant recognised the dangerous nature of the A420 and suggested it as a potential location for the reintroduction of average speed cameras.

Drainage on the Holloway – I have noted this report, and it has been added to programme of works, though as you can appreciate this may take some time to action.

Fernham Road Pedestrian Refuge – Hopeful for construction this calendar year.

General News

- **Flooding Across the Division:** In late September we experienced heavy rainfall causing flooding in different parts of Faringdon Division. The council urges that communities are prepared for emergencies such as these by preparing appropriate plans and there is help on offer from the council to do so. For all flooding information please refer to the [Oxfordshire Flooding Toolkit](#)
- **A420 Speed Limits:** At a decision meeting scheduled for 10th October, the Cabinet Member for Traffic Management agreed to the recommendation to lower the speed limit on the A420 at Faringdon and Shrivenham, removing the national speed limit and setting it to 50MPH. Some roads running off the A420 may reduce from 50 to 40 MPH. This is all part of the Council's 'Vision Zero' Scheme to help reduce death and serious injuries from road traffic collisions.

- **OCC Boundary Review:** The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has published final recommendations setting out new electoral arrangements for Oxfordshire. This means some change for Faringdon Division, with the eastern parishes of Littleworth and Buckland being assigned to another division. The recommendations only become law once they have received parliamentary approval, effective for the county elections in 2025.
- **West Vale Mobility:** A service developed by Shrivenham Parish Council, with funding support from OCC's community transport grants and S106 contributions; it will transport residents from Shrivenham, Bourton, Watchfield, Longcot and Ashbury to their local health and wellbeing services, including appointments at Elmtree GP surgery and clinics at Great Western Hospital in Swindon.

Live Public Consultations

- **Oxfordshire's draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) consultation** – We are asking people and organisations in Oxfordshire about their priorities for nature's recovery and collected information and have created a [Draft LNRS](#) to be finalised in 2025. This consultation will be open until 1 December 2024. Please contact the LNRS project team directly with any queries: localnaturerecoverystrategy@oxfordshire.gov.uk.
- **SEND Oxfordshire Conversations for parents and carers** – Join us at our next round of [SEND Oxfordshire Conversations](#) events on Wednesday 20 November 12pm - 1.30pm or 7.30pm - 9pm, bringing together parents and carers of children and young people with SEND across Oxfordshire, and representatives from the SEND local area partnership; these events are open to all parents and carers of children and young people with SEND across Oxfordshire and people can book online.

Councillor Surgeries

I will be available for face-to-face surgeries between 10.00-11.00am at Faringdon Library on the following dates:

- 12th October
- 9th November
- 14th December

Contact Details

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