



Focus on Parishes with Cllr Freddie van Mierlo (Chalgrove and Watlington)

July 2021

Welcome to my monthly update. I will be sharing a regular update in the first week of every month. In the interests of transparency and sharing good ideas I will be sharing this update publicly as well as with parish councils in Chalgrove and Watlington division.

My recent meetings

- 1st June: Nettlebed Parish Council
- 3rd June: Chalgrove Parish Council
- 7th June: Great Haseley Parish Council
- 8th June: Charlotte Coxe Trust
- 8th & 9th June: Watlington Parish Council
- 9th June: Watlington Allotments; Little Milton Parish Council
- 10th June: Watlington Climate Action Group: Youth
- 14th June: Ewelme Parish Council (Site Visit); Lewknor Parish Council
- 18th June: Watlington Parish Council
- 21st June: Great Milton Parish Council
- 24th June: Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- 26th June: Charlotte Coxe Trust / Watlington Library
- 28th June: Watlington Parish Council; Brightwell Baldwin Parish Meeting

Upcoming meetings:

- 6th July: Nettlebed Parish Council
- 8th July: Berrick Salome Parish Council
- 12th July: Swyncombe Parish Council
- 13th July: Full County Council Meeting; Pyrton Parish Council
- 13th July: Watlington Parish Council
- 14th July: Little Milton Parish Council
- 19th July: Great Milton Parish Council

If there are meetings you would like to invite me to please get in touch:

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OCC news:

Traffic calming and 20mph zones: Recognizing the difficulties many (most!) communities face in implementing 20mph zones due to red tape, the council is working on a new approach that will streamline the process drastically. This will involve a collective application of multiple villages / roads at the same time. More information will follow!

Future of transport consultations: People are urged to have their say on highways and transport issues, including congestion, safety, cycling and the condition of roads and footpaths. Oxfordshire County Council has launched a number of roads and transport online surveys, which are open to the public to comment on.

Climate emergency: Plans are continuing apace to put the climate emergency at the heart of Oxfordshire County Council decision-making. The council welcomed the recent 'pathways to a zero-carbon Oxfordshire' report, and is setting out its intention to frame a new strategy around the provisions of the draft Climate and Ecology bill currently going through parliament

Parish round up

Not all parishes are covered – below is a selection of the main updates I have received / been working on.

Chalgrove

- **Traffic calming:** I have followed up OCC officers to request that information is provided to the parish council on plans for speed surveys in the village

Cuxham with Easington

- **Traffic calming:** We are lucky in Chalgrove and Watlington to host one of just five pioneering trials on traffic calming, funded by the county council. A consultation will be opening soon. The trial will involve a phased approach to review the impact of adding 20mph signs and planters to narrow the road in places.

Ewelme:

- **HGVs:** I attended a site visit of Eyre's Road with parish council members on the issue of HGV movements. I'm in discussions with the parish council, and OCC officers to review what can be done

Lewknor

- **Overhanging trees:** Trees that need cutting back on Box Tree Lane have been reported to OCC. The issue, having dropped off the radar of officers, is now being followed up on.
- **Grass verge worn away:** Bin lorries are refusing to go down Weston Road at The Crescent due to a ditch on the corner of verge. The land is owned by OCC, houses run by SOHA and bins operated by SODC... I will be trying to get to the bottom of it, and avoid being passed from pillar to post on this!

Little Milton

- **HGVs:** I will be speaking with OCC officers on Friday 9th to discuss what more can be done to mitigate / prevent the movement of HGVs through the village

Nettlebed:

- **Bus timetables:** Success in Nettlebed as timetables are finally installed!
- **Pudding stones protected:** I was delighted to authorize use of cllr priority funds to protect the historic pudding stones in the village

Watlington

- **Edge road:** I'm continuing discussions with both the parish council and OCC officers as proposals for the road continue to be progressed.
- **Charlotte Coxe Trust:** Last month I held a series of meetings with residents and the parish council on the future of the Charlotte Coxe Trust, which owns the library and number 33 next door. I am working with OCC, which currently administers the trust, to review its management and transfer it to the parish so it better fulfils its aims of serving the people of Watlington
- **Rewilding:** Congratulations must be given to residents of the Marlbrook estate on creating a wonderful space for a wildflower meadow!