

## **Oxfordshire County Council News March April/May 2026**

### **Cllr Robin Jones (Berinsfield & Garsington Division)**

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(Oxfordshire's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Improvement Notice, issued following a local area partnership inspection by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission in 2023 was removed in April 2026 by The Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP, Secretary of State for Education, recognising ongoing improvements in services for Oxfordshire's SEND children.)

### **Full County Council**

May's Full Council meeting represents one year of the present elected body so takes the form of the annual ceremonial Full Council where the new Chair and Vice Chair get voted in.

Frustratingly this means no motions and no questions to Cabinet (which also occurred in February being entirely about the Budget).

Given this democratic deficit (i.e. two of the annual seven Full Councils having no motions or questions) we are still trying to change the constitution to enable more motions to be heard at each Full Council as well as an improved rotational approach to the parties bringing their motions.

Via a cross-party working group, we are hoping to improve the amount of work the Council tackles.

So far, we have agreed we will be starting earlier, the Chair can extend the overall meeting if they feel we haven't got far enough and, as above, the rotational nature of motions will be slightly restructured to be fairer to all parties.

This will all have of course to be ratified by the Full Council at some point but being cross-party we are hopeful.

## **Road Re-surfacing**

OxonCC has announced that £8million will be invested in surface treatment for the county's roads. This is a preventative measure, which in the absence of the billions required to re-make the nation's roads, will hopefully reduce the chance of having as many potholes next winter. The full report is [here](#).

## **Crime Statistics**

For crime statistics for your area please enter your postcode into the search bar in [here](#).

## **Local Elections**

District and City council elections are taking place across Oxfordshire on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May for Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council and West Oxfordshire District Council.

## **News in Brief**

Oxfordshire Highways Annual Report: The annual report can be found [here](#).

Local Government reorganisation (LGR): Work is happening in the background to be LGR ready, but full planning can only happen once we hear back from government. We should hear back prior to the summer parliamentary recess on 16<sup>th</sup> July.

Drain clearing: OxonCC has committed to cleaning every roadside gully, drain and manhole every year for the duration of the current term (more [here](#)). I know some drains have been missed – so please do report these directly to OxonCC via FixMyStreet.

SEND Improvement notice: The government has removed the improvement notice for services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in Oxfordshire. Read more [here](#).

## **Local Questions to Full Council**

No questions can be asked at the May Full Council.

Please contact me (details at top) if you wish me to raise any questions on your behalf in future Full Council meetings.

## **Current Consultations**

East West Rail (EWR) Consultation: EWR is running a public consultation to 9<sup>th</sup> June on updated proposals with particular reference to Oxfordshire at London Road, Bicester and Oxford Parkway. More details [here](#).