


<u>BRIZE NORTON PARISH COUNCIL</u>		
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 4th June 2018 at 7.30 pm at The Sports Pavilion, Brize Norton		
<u>27/19</u>	<u>PRESENT</u> Cllr Shillingford, Cllr Way, Cllr Ball, Cllr Squire, Cllr Postan, Les Goble, Alison Riseley - clerk, Kyle Anderson - Web technician, Cllr Squire	<u>ACTION</u>
<u>28/19</u>	<u>1 – APOLOGIES</u> Cllr Field-Johnson, Cllr Postan,	
<u>29/19</u>	<u>2.1 - DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u> There were no further declarations of interest from the councillors.	
<u>30/19</u>	<u>2.2 – TO DELCLARE ANY PECUINARY OR OTHER INTEREST</u> There were no further declarations of pecuniary or other interest from the councillors.	
<u>31/19</u>	<u>3 – MINUTES</u> The minutes of the meeting on Monday 14 th May were agreed and signed. Cllr Campion proposed and Cllr Ball seconded. Motion passed.	Clerk to scan and post to website
<u>32/19</u>	<u>4 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> <u>4.1 Traffic on Burford Road</u> Ms Hunt, on behalf of Burford Road residents expressed her disbelief that despite Brize Norton PC/OCC/WODC being aware of their serious concerns and the significant impact of traffic from the new Development on them (as highlighted in the 2013 Transport Assessment), no traffic calming measures have been negotiated on this approach to Brize Norton in the s106. Ms Hunt asked how traffic calming measures on the Burford Road had been missed out and what were the results of the new traffic surveys which OCC advised them to arrange last year? Ms Hunt requested that Brize Norton Parish Council liaise with the LHA as a matter of urgency to look at the s106 Highways contribution and other sources of funding to put in place traffic calming measures on the Burford Road, West of Monahan Way?	Spend money on traffic survey on Burford Road West. Cllr Ball to contact WODC/ OCC. Inform clerk when ordered. Try to amend details through solicitors Clerk to contact Cllr Field-Johnson


 2nd July 2018

	<p>She suggested that funding from the s106 contribution for improvements to the B4477 should be used to alter the staggered junction with Burford Road. There are numerous accidents here (including one fatality), as the poor design does not prevent dangerous manoeuvres.</p> <p>Ms Hunt also asked why a gateway feature is proposed to the North of the Burford Road junction on Monahan Way? There are already gateway features to the South, near the roundabout. She suggested a gateway to Brize Norton would be more suitable on the Burford Road.</p>	<p>regarding amending S106 Cllr Shillingford</p> <p>Working Party lobby</p>
<u>33/19</u>	<p><u>4.2 Signage –</u> Ms Hunt complained that signs indicate that Burford Road is a single-track road, with passing places – except there are NO passing places until after quarry. She compared the road design in Shilton Park and Swinbrook Park which are designed to slow traffic through Double yellow lines making it effectively a single-track road.</p>	
<u>34/19</u>	<p><u>4.3 S106</u> Ms Hunt questioned why Pathways/ cycleways on West Brize Norton Plans were signed “To Carterton”</p>	
<u>35/19</u>	<p><u>4.4 Speed Watch Volunteers</u> Mr Collett asked when the Speed Watch Scheme would begin as he had registered initially. Cllr Ball responded that they had needed five volunteers to qualify. Now five have registered he was advised to wait for confirmation of the course.</p>	<p>Mr Collett will be contacted in due course.</p>
<u>36/19</u>	<p><u>5 – RECORDS OF CHAIRMAN’S MEETINGS</u></p> <p>1) Carolyn & Keith Glazier – 100 Poppy Bombing <u>Future agenda –</u> Funding to buy crosses for school to put buy memorial. Replace poems on memorial trees Tatty poppies taken down (by handyman)</p> <p>2) Carterton Parish On Sunday 3rd June there was an initial meeting between Cllr Leverton of CTC/ WODC and Cllr Shillingford of BNPC to open-up some dialogue between the neighbouring councils. A follow up meeting was proposed once the detailed planning for Bloor Homes has gone through the WODC planning committee. The follow up meeting would involve more members of the two</p>	<p>Clerk to arrange meeting at a later stage.</p>

	<p>council teams to share views on development, planning and discuss some of the ideas and aspirations between the two councils/ parishioners.</p>	
<u>37/19</u>	<p><u>6 – DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS</u></p> <p>Cllr Postan.</p> <p>Cllr Field-Johnson’s report was circulated and discussed, (see Appendix D)</p>	
<u>38/19</u>	<p><u>7.1 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>Cllr Goble advised that the document is ready this week.</p> <p>The NP steering committee has a meeting with CFO next Friday. He will aim to find 3 quotes for landscape characteristic and village characteristic.</p> <p>More facts are still to be added to the pre-submission document.</p> <p>Local Plan (from 2031) will need to updated every 5 years. NP will need to be reassessed every 5 years.</p> <p>For future agenda -If money from SIL was given, how would it be spent?</p>	
<u>39/19</u>	<p><u>7.5.1 – DOES BNPC WISH TO CONTUNUE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?</u></p> <p>Initial discussion regarding phrasing of point of reference.</p> <p>The local plan is currently NOT approved; however, it is very likely it will be approved in the near future. Cllr Squire proposed that is was sensible to continue the NP.</p> <p>Cllr Squire proposed continuing the NP and Cllr Way seconded. The council voted, and motion was passed.</p>	
<u>40/19</u>	<p><u>7.5.2 – GREEN CORRIDORS ASSESSMENT</u></p> <p>Cllr Goble would like to prepare a Biodiversity report for Brize Norton, including the proposed development, utilizing existing corridors and new connectivity which are needed, both for wildlife and members of the public.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Goble prepared précises to circulate to council to explain the concept of the benefits of the document, which he circulated in preparation for the meeting.</p> <p>The council understood the necessity of a green corridor.</p> <p>Cllr Squire proposed continuing the NP and Cllr Ball seconded. The council voted and motion was passed.</p>	
<u>41/19</u>	<p><u>7.5.3 – CAN THE NP INCLUDE A SPECIFIC COMMERCIAL ISSUE?</u></p> <p>Issue related to Pub landlord/ land owner landlord and Bloor Homes</p>	
<u>42/19</u>	<p><u>7.2 – BLOOR HOMES</u></p> <p>You have final document of both Open Space Agreement and Long Lease agreement with Savills. How does he recommend that we sign? E-mail and sign and return. Or go into branch to sign and witness.</p>	Clerk to write to Jeremy Briars.
<u>43/19</u>	<p><u>7.3 – WEST BRIZE NORTON UPDATE ON DEVELOPMENT PLANS</u></p> <p>Road calming measure on Carterton Road moved, being taken to planning dept. Pre-commencement conditions.</p> <p>Road</p> <p>S278 Agreement. Legally binding commitments.</p>	
<u>44/19</u>	<p><u>7.4 – VILLGE HANDYMAN POSITION</u></p> <p>Cllr Ball has reviewed the advertisement and circulated it to the council for approval.</p> <p>Cllr Ball will advertise further afield if no success locally.</p> <p>Cllr Squire proposed and Cllr Way seconded. The motion was passed.</p> <p>Clerk to e-mail previous applicants to ask them to apply.</p> <p>It was advised that the post would require around 10 hours a week. Salary to be negotiable, dependent on age and ability.</p>	<p>Clerk to post onto notice board, and social media. Also advertise through OALC</p> <p>Clerk to contact Bob Lightfoot regarding WODC grass</p>

		cutting to negotiate scope of contract.
<u>45/19</u>	<u>7.6 – POPPY BOMBING</u> Cllr Shillingford addressed this under Chairman’s meetings.	
<u>46/19</u>	<u>7.7 – THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR</u> The clerk would like to clarify matter referring to printing, format and audience. The newsletters for the Summer have been distributed to councillors. Due to one councillor being missing, we need to distribute extras, usually delivered by Mr Guest. Cllr Squire proposed that the council fund the clerk to become, seconded by Cllr Campion. Next agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village Hall - who could be included in the newsletter? Clerk to send e-mail 	
<u>47/19</u>	<u>7.8 – SCHOOL WARNING SIGNS UPDATE</u> The Clerk informed the Councillors that Mr Cockbill apologises for the delay with the signs, but unfortunately, another department used the programmable unit to replace a broken one elsewhere. He suggests the end of June for the new date of installation.	
<u>48/19</u>	<u>7.9 AGREE MEETING DATES</u> The meeting dates were circulated and agreed.	
<u>49/19</u>	<u>8 – PLANNING</u> There were no further planning applications. (see attached Appendix A).	
<u>50/19</u>	<u>9.1 – FINANCE</u> Consider payments to be made (see attached Appendix B).	Payments were approved.



<u>51/19</u>	<p><u>9.2 – TO REVIEW AND SIGN THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2017-2018 (PART 2)</u></p> <p>The Clerk has delivered the accounts to Crescent Accounting in Carterton for the Internal Audit. However, these have not yet been returned.</p>	Clerk to contact Moore-Stephens regarding delayed submission of documents for external audit.
<u>52/19</u>	<p><u>9.3 CLLR SHILLINGFORD TO SIGN BANK MANDATE</u></p>	Cllr Shillingford to take mandate to bank along with proof of ID
<u>53/19</u>	<p><u>10 – CORRESPONDENCE</u></p> <p>Consider other correspondence during this month (see attached Appendix C).</p>	No Action
<u>54/19</u>	<p><u>COUNCILLORS REPORTS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-opting possibly Keith Glazier, The owners of the Mason’s Arms, Jean Butcher? 	<u>ACTION</u>
<u>55/19</u>	<p><u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - co-option - Clerk to send a letter to the owners of Mrs Brown’s Field asking for improvement to the state of the field. As it is a right of way, which needs to maintained. - Cllr Campion to contact Willow Farm to see if they have cleared the fields for the Public right of Way - Cllr Way standing orders - Cllr Goble - NP - Cllr Campion West BN - Cllr Campion – BNS&SC - Clerk – Tim Gush Taps and Doors - Cllr Ball – steering group and PC policies - Cllr Squire – planning - Cllr Ball – bus shelter quotes - Clerk – newsletter and endorsements <p>No additional items identified.</p>	

There being no further business the chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Date of next ordinary meeting **Monday 2nd July 2018** in **The Pavillion** at **7.30 pm**

APPENDIX A -PLANNING 49/19:

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

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PENDING PLANNING DECISIONS

17/01394/FUL	Lagan Homes (agent West Waddy LLP) Land south Upper Haddon Station Road Brize Norton	Erection of 41-44 residential dwellings to include up to 45% affordable homes, new access and associated works (Amended Plans) Under consideration
17/02058/FUL	A Timms 80-82 Station Road Brize Norton	Change of use of part of builder's merchants yard to café Awaiting Decision
18/01157/S73 Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission 17/02087/FUL	Mr Colin Goodgame Painswick House Carterton Road Brize Norton	Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission 17/02087/FUL to allow the erection of first floor balcony on rear elevation Under Consideration

PLANNING DECISIONS:

16/02588/OUT – (sent through by Minster Lovell PC)	Mr and Mrs Kinch Land West of Minster Lovell	Residential development of up to 85 dwellings together with a new vehicular access onto Burford Road (B4047), footpath links, areas of public open space, children's play area, landscaping and land for potential burial ground (means of access only). Approve subject to Legal Agreement
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APPENDIX B - FINANCE 50/19:

101252	120	OCC	Neighbourhood Plan - TVERC data report
101253	68.72	HMRC	CANCELLED/ PAID
101254	50	WI	donation
101255	76.74	Kyle Anderson	May Wages
101256	358.00	Alison Riseley	May Wages
		TOTAL	

PAYMENTS RECEIVED

25.4.18	9,987.50	WODC	precept
16.5.18	828.00	OCC	Grass cutting
16.5.18	570.50	Allotment rental	
	11,386.00	Total	

BANK BALANCE	£
Current a/c balance at 19th April 2018	7,661.82
Total order for payments in April	<u>1383.86</u>
Total receipts in April	<u>11,386.00</u>
Bank balance at 18th May 2018 (after payments)	17,663.96
WODC investment	29,700.00
Total funds at 18th April 2018	47,363.96

APPENDIX C - CORRESPONDENCE 53/19:

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) HMRC
- b) SLCC
- c) Barclays Bank
- d) Seafarers UK
- e) Clerks and Councils direct
- f) Glasdon benches (catalogue)
- g) Mrs Warner – allotment cheque

E-MAILS CIRCULATED IN MONTH

Civic voice – 3/5, 15/5, 29/5

CPRE –

HMRC 3/5, 5/5, 8/5, 10/5, 14/5, 16/5, 21/5, 23/5, 25/5, 29/5, 30/5,

ICO newsletter – 3/5

Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action – 3/5, 10/5, 17/5, 24/5, 24/5 (→ WW)

Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group – Talking Health - 11/5, (→ WW)

PCS – UK – 24/5, /5, /5

PSE – 1/5, 3/5, 4/5, 4/5, 8/5, 8/5, 11/5, 14/5, 15/5, 18/5, 18/5, 21/5, 21/5, 22/5, 23/5, 25/5, 25/5, 30/5, 30/5, (not circulated)

PST – 11/5, (not circulated)

PSN – (not circulated)

PULSE –

Police and Crime Commissioner –

Rural Services weekly update (not circulated) - 2/5, 8/5, 16/5, 21/5, 29/5,

Rural services seminar-, Rural opportunities - /5, Rural Housing - /5, Rural Vulnerability 9/5, 21/5, 30/5,

Rural Conference 29/5 (not circulated),

Twitter – 5/5, 16/5, 17/5, 17/5, 18/5, 18/5, 18/5, 18/5, 19/5, 21/5, 21/5, 25/5, 26/5, 27/5, 27/5, 28/5, 29/5, 30/5, 30/5

Wychwood Forest Project - 2/5,

- 1/5 WODC – dog waste bins, (automatic reply)
- 1/5 Sue Hunt -Community Led Housing Conference (→BS, WW, LG)
- 1/5 Westminster Briefing
- 1/5 Daniel White – SSEN Flood Defence Funding
- 2/5 Kyle Anderson (←)
- 2/5 Libbie – TWM traffic
- 2/5 Les Goble – Overdue Payments Feb/ March (←)
- 2/5 P Dunford – Grass Cutting (←)
- 2/5 WODC - dog waste bins (→ all)



- 2/5 OALC – Book Your Place Now – Social Media Training
- 3/5 Garry Griffin – Newsletter reports
- 3/5 Sue Campbell – Prince Harry and Meghan Commemorative Medals (→TS)
- 3/5 Lorraine Horne – Woodstock Museum
- 3/5 Janet Albury-Simpson (←)
- 3/5 OALC – Vacancies on Executive committee
- 4/5 Town Parish Events – change of date
- 4/5 Alan Cockbill – Traffic Warning signs
- 4/5 Active Places – Newsletter May
- 4/5 Polly Inness – Road Closures (→KA)
- 4/5 Nicholas Field-Johnson – acceptance to AGM
- 4/5 Carolyn Peach – RAF invite
- 5/5 Diane Davies – Elderbank Hall Key (↔)
- 5/5 Diane Davies – Hole SSE
- 5/5 Robert Courts -
- 7/5 BZN-MCO-Group – invitation to Group Captain (automatic response)
- 7/5 Royal Mail – postcode submission
- 7/5 Les Goble - Payments
- 7/5 Fairford Town Council – request from Brize Norton
- 7/5 Kyle Anderson - Timesheet
- 7/5 Town and Parish Events – Confirmation of Cllr Shillingford attendance
- 7/5 Kyle Anderson - GPDR legislation
- 8/5 Sue Hunt – CFO Newsletter Spring 2018
- 8/5 Fairford Town council – Bloor Homes
- 8/5 OCC – Repatriation
- 8/5 OALC – prosecution process
- 8/5 Stephen Hookham – Invitation acceptance
- 8/5 Diane Davies – Grass Cutting
- 8/5 Astrid Harvey – Shilton Neighbourhood Plan
- 8/5 OALC – two events to attend
- 8/5 Claire Locke – Outstanding Invoice
- 8/5 Louise Godfrey – GPDR Training
- 8/5 Carolyn Peach – Kyle
- 8/5 Anna Fairhurst – Attendance at APM
- 9/5 Sue Calcutt – WI teas at APM
- 9/5 Bob Lightfoot – Outstanding Invoice
- 9/5 Bob Lightfoot – Crass Cutting Brize Norton
- 9/5 Sue Hunt – Membership of CFO
- 9/5 Tim Gush – BINS
- 9/5 Alan Cockbill – Traffic Warning Signs
- 9/5 OALC - Co-Option
- 9/5 OALC – Prosecution Process for Dog Waste

- 9/5 Oxfordshire Playing Fields –
- 9/5 Communications Team – GPDR
- 9/5 Town & Parish Councils – data and GPDR
- 9/5 Keith Glazier – Parish Council Meetings
- 9/5 OALC – Booking course
- 9/5 P Dunsford – Grass cutting
- 10/5 Rob Dance – Quarry Planning Application
- 10/5 OALC – NALC Financial Briefing
- 10/5 WODC – Planning Application
- 10/5 OALC – Social Media Training Course
- 10/5 Dr Phil Holmes – Grass Cutting
- 11/5 Affinity Water – letter 9806827-3
- 11/5 Nicholas Field-Johnson - Apologies
- 11/5 Payman – Month 1 Payroll
- 11/5 Andrew Smith – Swimmers make a splash at Sports Awards
- 11/5 Andrew smith – Popular Vicar Lands Top Awards
- 11/5 Andrew Smith – Youth Centre opens its Doors after Successful Fundraising Campaign
- 11/5 Fred Bellenger – nothing for newsletter
- 11/5 Nicholas Feld-Johnson - Summons
- 12/5 Carolyn Peach -Finance Files
- 12/5 Sue Calcutt – WI report for Newsletter
- 12/5 Anna Fairhurst – report for newsletter
- 12/5 Phillip Butcher – report for newsletter
- 13/5 Carolyn Peach - £100 +items
- 13/5 Carolyn Peach – Schedule of statement of Finances or Village Assembly
- 14/5 Sue Calcutt – Brize Norton WI (←)
- 14/5 Carolyn Peach – Transparency disclosure
- 14/5 Carolyn Peach – Draft figures ye 31.3.18
- 14/5 Jane Penton –
- 14/5 Wicksteed Playgrounds
- 14/5 Carolyn Peach – Tonight’s Meeting
- 14/5 Lauren Jacobs – Newsletter Submission
- 14/5 Diane Davies - hole
- 15/5 Tim Gush – Newsletter Cover (←)
- 15/5 Naomi Stewart – Salford University
- 15/5 Carolyn Peach – newsletter submission
- 15/5 Moore Stephens – GPDR
- 15/5 Stuart Andrews – Sutcliff Play
- 16/5 Tim Gush – article for the newsletter (←)
- 16/5 Town and Parish council
- 16/5 Robert Courts – GPDR
- 16/5 Andrew Smith WODC – PRESS RELEASE: new cabinet members appointed



16/5 Fred Bellenger – Poors Plot
 17/5 Rob dance – Quarry (←)
 17/5 Fred Bellenger - invoice
 17/5 Betsy Glasgow – Robert Courts article for newsletter
 17/5 Kyle Anderson – Privacy Policy
 18/5 Les Goble – newsletter article
 18/5 Sara Long WODC - PRESS RELEASE: Warning over HMRC scams
 18/5 OCC - GPDR
 20/5 Robert Courts – newsletter potholes, buses and railways
 20/5 Carolyn Peach – meeting (↔)
 20/5 Diane Davies – Elderbank Hall Water Meter reading (↔)
 20/5 Tim Filmer – BBC Countryfile 2018 Live
 21/5 Bob Lightfoot – Grass Cutting, Brize Norton (↔)
 21/5 Carolyn Peach – Annual Assembly 2017 notes (↔)
 21/5 Julie Edwards – Water rates (↔)
 21/5 Key Accounts: affinity for Water – 9806827-3 – meter readings
 21/5 Georgina Throssell RAF BRIZE NORTON – AGM invite (←)
 21/5 Westminster Briefing – Registration Open
 22/5 Nicolas Field-Johnson – report for APM (←)
 22/5 The App office –
 22/5 Carys Davies WODC – PRESS RELEASE: planning consent for Leisure Centre Expansion
 22/5 SLCC – you’re in control
 22/5 Lucy – fliers
 22/5 Anna Fairhurst – tonight meeting (↔)
 22/5 Georgina Throssell – RAF BRIZE NORTON – report (↔)
 23/5 Dr Holmes – grass cutting (↔)
 23/5 Kyle Anderson – Ownership of Mrs Browns Field/ e-mail
 24/5 The Parish notice Board – GPDR
 24/5 Julie Edwards – Water rates (↔)
 24/5 SLCC – events
 24/5 Robert Courts MP – last chance to stay in touch
 24/5 Leslie Marshall – Nice gesture (↔)
 24/5 Robert Hounslow – Grass in the Cemetery (↔)
 24/5 Healthwatch Oxfordshire – GPDR
 24/5 Matthew Barber – Policing in the Thames Valley
 24/5 Westminster Briefing - GPDR
 25/5 OALC – new clerk?
 25/5 Castle Water - GPDR
 25/5 Andrew Smith WODC – PRESS RELEASE: Rural Project lands major grant award
 25/5 OCC – Oxfordshire Matters
 25/5 Westminster Briefing – Head of legal NALC confirmed
 25/5 Keith Butler – Code of Conduct Training

28/5 Kyle Anderson - meeting
28/5 Garry Griffin – Reports for village magazine
28/5 Karen Jefferies – grass cutting in the cemetery (↔)
29/5 Barclays Bank
29/5 Castle Water – Refer a friend
29/5 Peter Clark – BRIEFNG: OCC & Cherwell joint working proposal
30/5 Alan Cockbill – speed warning signs
30/5 Kyle Anderson - timesheet
30/5 Tim Gush
30/5 Payman – payroll
30/5 Dr Phil Holmes – newsletter
30/5 Bob Hounslow – APM
30/5 Shillbrook Stationery – BNPC newsletter
30/5 OALC – AGM 2nd July
30/5 OALC - nominations
31/5
31/5
31/5

(↔) = ongoing discussion or linked communication
(→) = forwarded to relevant contact
(←) = replied

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AM', located in the bottom right corner of the page.

APPENDIX D - REPORT TO BRIZE NORTON PARISH COUNCIL JUNE 2018 FROM CLLR NICHOLAS FIELD-JOHNSON: 37/19

GENERAL OCC REPORT

GROUND-BREAKING SHARED SERVICE ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN COUNCILS

OCC and Cherwell District Council (CDC) are considering a proposal for shared service arrangements under a joint chief executive, while retaining separate councillor bodies, budgets and decision-making processes. The proposal follows a decision by CDC not to join the a proposed new unitary with its existing partners, South Northamptonshire District Council. The proposal will be considered by the county council's Cabinet on Monday 4 June. OCC is keen to work with Cherwell to ensure its residents continue to receive good services. The county council also believes a joint arrangement would help to secure investment in the infrastructure needed to support increases in jobs and homes. The exact arrangements for sharing services and joining up functions will need to be worked out in detail and then agreed separately by each council. They will be implemented incrementally. It is a statutory requirement that the Chief Executive, as head of paid service, is appointed by the full councils of each council and formal appointment processes will be followed. The joint appointment is expected to be made from one of the existing chief executives. **The proposed partnership is not connected to unitary reorganisation proposals**, and would instead offer an innovative opportunity to make two tier local government more effective.

OCC RETAINS 'GOOD' OFSTED RATING FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Despite the increase in cases of children at risk of neglect and abuse, the OCC children's service has received an overall 'Good' rating from Ofsted, the children's services watchdog. This is the third time running OCC has received the 'Good' rating from Ofsted. The report was published on Tuesday, May 22. It praised the way staff had dealt with a huge rise in the number of children needing protection from abuse and neglect since 2015, and the rise in admissions to care, driven by better reporting and awareness by people working with children and families. Ofsted praised OCC and found that when children are at risk of harm, prompt action is taken to understand their circumstances and protect them. Children in care and care leavers receive a good service. However, the report said more still needs to be done to ensure children suffering from neglect are getting the right help at the right time, to reduce its impact on their lives. While most children needing help and protection are well-served, this needs to be more consistent. There has been a 45% increase in the number of cases of neglect since 2015 and this has presented a challenge to OCC, at a time of budget pressures. OCC acknowledges Ofsted's findings and is committed to improving its handling of neglect cases. Neglect often occurs in families where drug and alcohol misuse, domestic abuse or mental health issues are prevalent, but it describes any situation in which a child is being put at risk of serious harm because their needs are not being met.

FROM AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSISTANT TO COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Gill Sanders last month became the new Chairman of OCC. She was once one of the nation's first female air traffic control assistants and the time spent in that role gave her the confidence to progress in life. She later worked in Oxford city schools for 25 years and eventually as an HR and Administration Manager at a large Oxford city comprehensive school. Councillor Sanders has been a county councillor in Oxford since 2012 but had been a city councillor for 26 years until standing down this year. She has been Vice Chairman of OCC in 2017/18 and worked closely with her husband and fellow county councillor John Sanders during his spell as Chairman in 2014/15. Councillor Les Sibley, who represents the Bicester West division at County Hall, has been elected Vice Chairman for 2018/19.

TAKING CARE BACK TO ITS ROOTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

Care in Oxfordshire looks set to go back to its community roots with teams of very local people set up around older and vulnerable people in an innovative project originally inspired in Holland and so far tried in only one other place in England. Teams are to be set up around people who need care in Abingdon and Wallingford as part of a £100,000 trial to be managed by a specialist Manchester based company called Wellbeing Teams who have already set up the new teams in Wigan. Only people who live within a five-mile radius of those for whom they'll care will be recruited to the new teams – but they don't have to have any experience in the care industry – they just need to be able to offer up to 21.75 hours of time per week and have a clear commitment and pride in their local area and community. People recruited to teams would be supported by Wellbeing Teams through a buddying system and the usual DBS and safety checks would be required before recruitment could take place.

MAKING ADULT SOCIAL CARE CHARGES MORE FAIR, CONSISTENT & TRANSPARENT

A series of changes to the way people contribute to the cost of their care in Oxfordshire will see some people charged more so that resources can be targeted better at those who cannot afford to pay and will bring OCC more in line with how things operate elsewhere in England. All councils are allowed to charge for care and support to recover the costs incurred in line with the Care Act 2014. This means that people receiving social care across the nation may be expected to contribute towards the cost of their care depending on their individual financial circumstances. The changes are estimated to save £1.8m per year. This will be used to provide social care for people with significant care needs and who are unable to pay for care themselves. This is not a saving to the council's bottom line. Full details can be found here:

<http://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/changes-would-make-adult-social-care-charges-fair-more-consistent-and-more-transparent/>

BETTER BROADBAND FOR OXFORDSHIRE UPDATE

Oxfordshire is now completing its superfast broadband coverage, increasingly enabling digital infrastructure in the most rural parts of the county, with adoption of the newly available fibre broadband services running at over 54%, which is well above national average. However, many of our local villages do not yet have adequate coverage and this work is scheduled for 2018 and 2019 due to WODC changing the contractor. I will continue to monitor this work so that hopefully there will be no further delays.

