

BORDER GROUP PC WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT JAN 2022

Firstly may I wish you all a Happy New Year

I have spoken to Bruce Evens very recently and he has advised that the repairs to Buckton Lane are scheduled in the Annual Plan for April but obviously could be sooner or slightly later due to weather conditions etc.

Myself and Clive met with residents of Walford sometime before Christmas with regard to the speed of traffic and the difficulty in safely crossing the main road at Walford X roads. The residents and ourselves would like a working party set up to consider what can be done to make this part of the parish look more like a village setting and as a result promote more considerate driving. There also needs to be changes to the verge which runs along the main road to enable residents to walk safely along it when catching the bus at the triangle.

I am still unsure as to whether anyone from the parish council has considered whether there is a suitable spot on the Adforton car park for an access mirror to be placed to assist the residents in the property opposite.

Our Scrutiny Committees during January will be considering the administration's budget proposals. The first scrutiny meeting which will be on Monday 10th January will be held via Zoom as we will be making no decisions, only recommendations. At present the Administration are proposing a 2.99% Council Tax increase, which includes a ring fenced 1% for Adult Social Care.

The draft Balfour Beatty Annual Plan has been circulated and at present I can see only one section of road that is to be resurfaced or surface dressed and that is in Coombe. There are however numerous drainage schemes. I am attending a Zoom meeting on 19th Jan with BB and will advise you at the next meeting where the schemes are taking place.

With regard to all planning applications, due to a huge backlog and absences as a result of Covid many will be delayed for several weeks and may not appear on the website for some time after they have been submitted. At present all comments on outstanding applications are being extended to at least 31st January. This maybe extended again.

Core Strategy 2021-2041: The first major round of public consultation on the Core Strategy Update will be open from 17 January – 28 February. This consultation will be conducted primarily online due to the large amount of inter-related documentation which is involved. However hard copies are provided for public access in all our county libraries and can be provided elsewhere upon request.

This is a public consultation on the overarching policy options for the county's planning policy framework out to 2041 and clearly needs to address the issues communities have experienced in operating over the last 6 years within the 2015 policy framework.

I encourage to publicise the consultation widely within your communities and amongst the many participants in your Neighbourhood Planning activities.