

## **Appendix 1 REPORT FROM DISTRICT CLLR JILL RAYNER**

My apologies for not attending this evenings meeting but unfortunately it has clashed with a meeting regarding the Joint Local Plan .

The past few weeks have seen my in box filled with complaints regarding the chaos on our roads. Unfortunately, and as a victim of the chaos caused by national highways, national rail, OCC highways and a total lack of coordinated working I have every sympathy and have passed on both our County Councillors details and the relevant organisations, but I don't hold out much hope of either making a difference at this stage.

My Councillor surgeries have been taking place each month at the Waggon & Horses and whilst the numbers have not been high, the issues raised have been complex and both personal and delicate, so I am happy to continue these during 2024 as I believe that they are certainly worthwhile.

The last VOWH full council meeting was an opportunity to raise the question of the poor **transport provision** to Abingdon but it seems we are not likely to see any changes imminently and it may be that until Lioncourt can guarantee higher numbers the situation will remain.

**Dental services** were also brought up as the dental surgery in Faringdon has closed its doors to NHS patients. Due to the chronic underfunding of NHS dental provision this is a national issue and the ICB/NHS have provided a formal response but in a nutshell the closest we have locally that are taking part in a scheme to increase capacity to support patients are in Wantage and Wootton. Again I am aware that this is not helpful for residents that may rely on public transport.

**Remembrance Day and Armistice Day** I will be honoured to attend the Remembrance service on **Sunday 12 November** and would like to thank the Parish Council for giving us all the opportunity to remember all those who fought and died in conflict and acknowledge those who continue to serve today.

**Helping our rural businesses and communities** Funding is available for rural businesses and organisations based in Vale of White Horse and is designed to support capital projects for small businesses and community infrastructure that help to improve productivity and strengthen the rural economy and rural communities. Deadline is **24 November**

**Properties without gas boilers?** Grants are available for energy efficiency upgrades for homes to install insulation, solar panels and heat pumps, all funded by the Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 (HUG2). These upgrades can help to reduce energy bills and make homes easier to keep warm. The grants are available to homeowners and landlords whose properties are not heated by gas boilers, with a household income of less than £39,000 and with a low energy rating (D-G)

**Bad weather and waste collections** If bad weather affects our waste collections this winter and the bins aren't emptied on the scheduled collection day residents should leave them out for two. If, after three days, they haven't been emptied

residents should bring their bins back in and they'll be emptied next time they're due – if this happens, leave extra waste out beside their bin in a suitable container.

**Planning application submission for reservoir trial work** The Vale of White Horse District Council is due to receive a planning application for clay compaction trial work early next week in land to the South of Hanney Road, Cow Common (within Steventon Parish). We understand that the results of these trials will form part of the evidence base Thames Water is likely to submit for the construction of the proposed reservoir in the district. The planning application for the work, which seeks temporary consent for engineering works, will be determined following the normal Vale planning process.. As you know the Vale is opposed to the building of the reservoir and my colleague Cllr Sally Povolotsky (Ward Councillor for Hendrds and Harwell ) is leading a protest beginning at 2pm outside of Hanney Memorial Hall where Thames Water are holding one of their 'pr events'.to attract some attention and put forward key messages

Finally may I end by thanking the WI for their wonderful event at the Village Hall a couple of weeks ago, it really was a great initiative and so well supported by the organisations in the village and the residents and I look forward to my next outing to the Panto.....