

ROBERT COURTS

**District Councillor
The Bartons Ward**

Monthly Report - May 2015

After a very busy and exciting General Election campaign, it is now fully back to local work. A full list of election results locally can be seen here: <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections-voting/election-results/> (<http://tinyurl.com/k4botnv>)

Bus: I have written to Stagecoach to present them within the petition which was itself a great success. However, Stagecoach resolutely refuse to engage in any dialogue despite the efforts from myself and Ian Hudspeth. Ultimately the decision is a commercial one for them to take. OCC have provided, on a six month basis, a shuttle bus to Deddington and I echo Janice Dyer's comments in the DFP, "use it or lose it." There will be a public meeting to consider any alternatives and I will notify you of details of that in due course.

Local Plan: the consultation on the soundness and legal compliance of the pre-submission Local Plan 2031 has now ended - it is now to be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent inspection.

Broadband: work continues on the WODC plan, as reported here: <http://tinyurl.com/lghdygq> and the following websites remain the place to monitor to see when your area will be connected:

- you can find out which plan you fall under by looking here: <http://www.cotswoldsbroadband.co.uk/who-is-doing-what?>
- you can see the anticipated timescale by looking here: <http://tinyurl.com/pohsa46>

Mill Lane/Church Lane. I am now aware of the ownership of some of the affected areas, which are those in the narrow pathway towards Church Lane, not down by the Ford. The relevant area has been pruned.

Dashwood Terrace: I am pleased to see that the sign I requested has been installed.

I have made inquiries regarding **dog waste bins** opposite the Westcote Barton Church and at the footpath entrance opposite the drive to Cocksparrow Hall and Sidlings. The position is that these need to be paid for by the Parish although WODC will assist with emptying them. Please contact me if this is something that anyone would like to pursue.

Last but not least, I thoroughly enjoyed the **Bartons History Group** open day on 10th May. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated group who so expertly keep the history and traditions of the villages alive, and am grateful for having been invited to the afternoon.

My **surgery dates** for 2015 continue on 6th June and 4th July all at the Fox Inn, Westcote Barton.

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