

# ROBERT COURTS

**District Councillor, The Bartons Ward, West Oxfordshire District Council  
Cabinet Member for Housing & Communities**

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## **Monthly Report - December 2015**

### **Locally**

We have now had the results of the **OCC bus decision**, and unfortunately the decision has been made to cut all subsidies to bus services throughout the County: <http://tinyurl.com/nu5azfx>

It is therefore important that all support is given to those such as Chris Puttick who are looking at providing a community alternative. On Saturday 28th November I attended a packed meeting at the Sports & Social Club, which showed the strength of feeling on this issue and the steps that are being taken to provide a service. I support these efforts and will help where I can.

On a different note, I enjoyed the **FOMBS school fireworks** night on the 5th November, despite the rain! As always the weather did not affect the success of the event and I congratulate all involved.

In Cabinet on the 11th November 2015, I seconded the report concerning funding for the **broadband** project, saying how important this is for the residents of the Bartons. It is worth noting how ahead of others WODC is on this issue, as we propose to provide full high speed broadband by 2017, rather than the government's 10mb speed by 2020, as recently announced.

The County programme continues: a cabinet went live in Westcote Barton in August.

I have been able, hopefully, to put right the problems with **road sweeping** on Hillside Road. Please let me know if there are any further problems.

### **District Council**

On 1st December I will be chairing one of the regular **Parish/District liaison** meetings, to which all Parish Council chairs have been invited. I will report back in more detail in my January report.

I attended the **Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership Board** on the 26th November, continuing to liaise with the other parts of the County to ensure that we everyone is informed about major developments in local community safety.

The **Local Plan 2031** examination started at Woodgreen last week. Please see here for more details: <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/news/general/local-plan-2031-examination/>

My **surgery dates** for 2015 continue on 5th December. Due to the Carpenters' Arms being closed at present, I will be arranging a new permanent location but would ask anyone wishing to see me to contact me or check my website.

If I do not see you all before, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to seeing you in 2016.

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