

Oxfordshire County Councillor Report

REPORTING BACK TO CHARNEY BASSETT

Tonight I was at the Parish Council meeting in Charney Bassett, reporting back on what I've been working on as your County Councillor.

As, of course, not everyone in the village attends these meetings, I wanted to share some of the key updates here as well.

-  Main Street footpath repairs. These works, which are much needed, are due to be completed between July and September. Once they're finished, I'll pop out to take a look and report any remaining issues.
-  Road to Lyford. I'm pleased that this road has now been added to the County Council's programme for surface dressing. This should help preserve the road and improve its condition. I'm still pressing for action on Lyford Bridge, though, and I'm frustrated by how long this is taking.
-  Recent road improvements around the area. I'm pleased that several key roads have been repaired locally, including the A417 either side of Stanford in the Vale, Goosey Lane, and the A420 between Buckland and Hinton Waldrist. There's plenty more to do, but I think these improvements mean the roads across the Kingston & Stanford division are, at least, in better condition than they've been for quite some time.
-  Gainfield Crossroads. Talking of roads that still need improvement, I've nominated this crossroads as one of the highest priorities in my division for road surface improvements. The patching repairs carried out in recent years simply aren't lasting and aren't good enough.
-  Longworth Road. I've also asked highways officers to inspect the road edges on Longworth Road where the damage, made worse by A420 diversion traffic, is serious.
-  Bridleways and footpaths. After discussions with people in the village and the Parish Council, I'll be pushing for better maintenance of our public rights of way, making sure footpaths and bridleways remain accessible while being managed in a way that protects the local environment.

Alongside working on local issues in Charney Bassett and the other 14 villages I represent, I'm also working on wider issues at County Hall. For example...

I'm pleased that a motion I proposed to the County Council on the Disabled Facilities Grant and how it works for people with progressive conditions was recently passed.

I've been pressing the Council over delays in issuing Blue Badges, which had been taking as long as three months in some cases. Thankfully, the situation is now improving.

I've also been challenging the Council on Local Government Reorganisation, safety on the A420 (including at Buckland Road), and arguing for speedier investment in infrastructure across Oxfordshire.

If you'd like to find out more about my work as your County Councillor, please visit my website. And, as always, if there's a local issue you think I can help with, or something you'd like to raise, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Thank you.

The other things I mentioned were:

- A420 junction re-design at Charney Road to begin in September, I'm told
- Pleased to see the white gates installed on Buckland Road
- Happy to support PC in raising concerns about future planned HGV usage of village roads
- Pushing for update and response on more general weight restriction
- I'd welcome Cllr Priority Fund applications from Charney
- And we should hear in the coming week or so what the government is minded to do on Local Government Reorganisation.

Lee Evans

Oxfordshire County Councillor

8th July 2026