September 2023 County Councillor Report – Cllr Robin Bennett

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**Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme**

The Secretary of State has confirmed the CPO public inquiry for the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme will begin on 14 November 2023 at 10am. It will be held at The Kings Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES. We expect the inquiry to last for around 3 weeks. It is open to the public and all are welcome to attend in person. The inspector will decide who may actively participate. Please check the Environment Agency website for further details and updates:

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/thames/ofas-updates/>

A pre-inquiry meeting will be held virtually on Thursday 21 September. This is an opportunity to consider how the public inquiry will be run, to ensure it is conducted as efficiently as possible. Anyone who has objected to the CPO will be invited to attend.

A CPO public inquiry is standard procedure when objections are received. It may take several months before the decision is known.

**HIF1 planning application:**

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has set a timetable for the decision process – the hearing will commence on the 5th of December.

 If you made comments to Oxfordshire County Council as Local Planning Authority at the

application stage they will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

 If you wish to make further written comments you must submit **3 copies** of

them to Leanne Palmer at the Planning Inspectorate by 4th October 2023.

If you wish to make further comments please write to Leanne Palmer,

The Planning Inspectorate

3rd Floor, Temple Quay House

2 The Square, Bristol BS1 6PN

Or email LEANNE.PALMER@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The application documents are available to view at County Hall in New

Road, Oxford during office hours or on the County Council’s Planning Applications

website http://myeplanning.oxfordshire.gov.uk, using reference number R3.0138/21.

**Councillor priority fund**.

A reminder that this is now live, and the application details can be found here: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund)

I have agreed to provide over £4800 funding towards the Berry Youth Centre’s holiday support programme, ‘Berry Camps’, aiming to raise the aspiration levels of young people within the Berinsfield and surrounding communities and contribute positively to their health and wellbeing, running in school holidays and half terms up to August 2024.

**Community EV Microhubs reminder**

A reminder that the closing date for expressions of interest for this scheme is **15 September 2023.**

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)/residents/environment-and-planning/energy-and-climate-change/electric-vehicles