

## Councillor Ian Corkin's Report for 26 September

- Pedestrian bridge over the A41: As we know, the timings on this are design and approval, financial year 2019/20, build out FY 2020/21. I appreciate this seems a long lead time, but it is a complicated process with a number of moving parts. At the moment, the first indicative designs have been challenged from a maintenance point of view and a number of amendments suggested. It has also become apparent that highways own more of the land around the proposed build site than originally thought and this may allow for a more accessible structure. I am awaiting the outcome of that work and will report back asap.
- Vendee Drive roundabout: I could fill a book about this one. It is now widely accepted that it is not fit for purpose and will require significant work to make it so. The recent tragic double fatality remains the subject of a Thames Valley Police Investigation and I am unable to comment on it publicly at the moment. However, it seems likely that it will have an impact on proposals for the junction going forward and we await the comments of the coroner. That inquest is scheduled to take place in early December and I will be attending. Added to that, developers around the junction, including the recently released Catalyst Bicester proposal will, by definition both add to the problem, but also be part of the solution. There is a great deal of focus on this at County Hall and I will keep residents updated as more details emerge later this year.
- Speed enforcement on A41. The PC are aware of my correspondence with the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Inspector Upton of TVP Roads Policing who has now accepted that enforcement has not taken place on the stretch from Vendee Drive to the M40 and has instructed OCC in no uncertain terms to make the necessary changes to signage etc to allow this. He has promised me an update in 3 weeks, but I have also had feedback from OCC that they have had "an unusually direct instruction from TVP" to make the necessary changes and these are underway.
- A41 remedial work: A number of carriageway closures and repairs were carried out over recent months. I am aware that the gate from the church yard remains unresolved and will continue to chase with OCC
- Finally, no update would be complete without mention of the B word.....So, just to confirm that I have recently been appointed the cabinet lead at OCC for Exiting the EU. The county, districts and city have advanced plans for dealing with all possible scenarios and I have asked for a series of member briefings at OCC and CDC next week that will then be cascaded to PC's and other community groups. This will be backed up with a publicity campaign to ensure that both our businesses and residents (particularly EU nationals) are prepared. I do not intend to politicise the appointment and I have discussed and impressed on officers the importance of establishing the local authority as a clear and trustworthy source of information for residents and businesses in the weeks to come.