

Cherwell Parishes Update Bulletin - 28 April 2020

Dear Colleagues

Please find below my weekly update on a range of issues that will be of interest to you or your residents. As ever, please do forward this update to your councillors and encourage them to forward to any group or individual who might benefit from the information.

Best regards

Steve Jordan

Corporate Director for Commercial Development, Assets and Investment, CDC and OCC

Access to Cemeteries, Parks and Recreation Grounds – Response Required

Many thanks to all those of you who already responded to my request last Friday for information on your parks, recreation grounds and cemeteries. If you haven't yet replied, I'd be most grateful if you could please do so before the end of tomorrow (Wednesday), so we can make a prompt return to the government on behalf of the whole district. If there's anything you need to clarify before replying, please call Kevin Larner on 01295 221706 or kevin.larner@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Latest public health update

*Lockdown restrictions in the UK will continue for at least another **two weeks**. During this time we **must** continue to adhere strictly to the government's guidance. If we do not, we will put people's lives at risk, so please:*

- **Stay at home** - only go out for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home).
- If you do go out, **stay two metres away from other people** at all times.
- **Wash your hands** as soon as you get home.

Remember – you can spread the virus even if you do not have any symptoms.

To find the latest advice and information about coronavirus

(COVID-19) from the government, go to: **GOV.UK/coronavirus**.

The NHS has information on how to prevent the virus

spreading at: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Oxfordshire All In

To remind you that [Oxfordshire All In](#) is the central hub for the community response to COVID-19. We are encouraging all village and neighbourhood groups to register themselves on [Oxfordshire All In](#) so they can benefit from networking with other groups and stay up to date with the latest advice. Registering will also highlight them to the council, so we can refer to them if we have contact from a person requiring help in their area.

Community Link – April Issue

Please find attached the April issue of our Community Link newsletter for voluntary and community groups. This contains a lot of useful information, updates and links for community organisations. It has been sent to our database of voluntary organisations, but many of the smaller village based groups are not on it, so do please forward this to any local groups in your patch.

Marking VE Day

BBC Radio Oxford is asking people to get creative and make their own special 'Great British Bunting' to hang in their windows. Bunting can be decorated with pictures of people who fought on the frontline or those who worked on the Homefront. Or it could be poppies to commemorate the fallen, doves to celebrate lasting peace or rainbows to symbolise hope. All the guidance and inspiration you need to make your bunting from whatever you have at home can be found at bbc.co.uk/makeadifference.

Radio Oxford is asking people to send their pictures and to tag @BBCOxford in their social media as well as using the hashtags **#GreatBritishBunting** and **#VEDay75** so that all the effort people put in can be shared far and wide.

Oxfordshire County Council is inviting residents to mark the important 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (May 8-9) by submitting local **recent or historical photos** relating to World War Two in Oxfordshire so we can post and share them across our social media channels. Please help us to spread the word!

OCC is looking for images that evoke memories and celebrate the brave efforts of men and women across the county. We hope people will join-in but urge them to respect the current social distancing measures in photographing locations and not to make any exceptional journeys to take photos. OCC can only accept images people have ownership of and respect any private property. They cannot publish images of

individuals unless you have their permission (where appropriate). Images under 2mb in size can be sent to jonathan.sayers@oxfordshire.gov.uk by **Wednesday 6 May**.

Health services in Oxfordshire

Please help Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to share the following information about the availability of health services in the county.

A&E: The Emergency Departments at the John Radcliffe and Horton General Hospitals are still open 24/7 to anyone who becomes ill with serious health conditions including stroke, heart conditions, difficulty breathing, unconsciousness, or heavy bleeding. People should be reassured that systems are in place to triage patients with suspected COVID-19, so everyone who comes to our hospitals will be treated in a safe manner. For other worrying health concerns that are not an emergency please contact your GP practice; they are open and will be able to give advice and support over the phone in the first instance. The national advice for people who think they may have COVID-19 is to visit [NHS 111 online](#) and self-isolate for seven days. We urge people to please seek help if you need it. Avoiding medical care can lead to reduced recovery rates, and even prove fatal.

Maternity services: we would like to reassure pregnant women our maternity service is still open 24/7 for births, urgent care, and clinical advice during the coronavirus pandemic. There are steps to keep staff and expectant mothers safe – this includes carrying out some appointments by telephone or videos. We are running our usual high risk antenatal clinics in the John Radcliffe and Horton General Hospitals and the ultrasound departments at both hospitals are operating. Midwives are still able to see women regularly in pregnancy including in Banbury, Chipping Norton, Wantage and Wallingford, as well as in Oxford. Antenatal classes are not running in person at present, however the midwifery teams are running childbirth and 'Ask the Midwife' sessions using Facebook live from their [Oxfordshire Maternity Voices Partnership page](#). Further information is on the [OUH's website](#)

Staying Up To Date

For the latest information about the council's response to Covid-19 regularly check your emails, visit the [council website](#) and follow our social media accounts.

This is a briefing emailed to all Cherwell Parishes



Cherwell
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE