

District Councillor's Report

April 2019

OVO Energy Women's Tour

Stage 3 of the 2019 OVO Energy Women's Tour, the premier women's cycling event will take place on Wednesday 12th June, starting in Henley on Thames and finishing at Blenheim Castle. Although the actual route has yet to be confirmed I've been warned that it will most likely be coming through the Sonning Common Ward.

Outside Henley which will be impacted for several hours, for the route itself it will likely be a rolling 20-minute delay as the cyclists are guided through by police outriders. There may also be some parking restrictions in place for the route, which will be lifted once the cyclists have passed.

One potential impact of the race will be certain roads on the course will need to be repaired before the race.

South Oxfordshire Local Plan

The South Oxfordshire local plan has now been submitted to the planning Inspectorate for independent examination. The public will be able to witness the proceedings but only those invited by the inspector will be able to participate in the hearing. The date of the start of proceedings is yet to be announced.

Community broadband Boost

Cllrs Lloyd, White, Matelot and Harrison attended the Better Broadband event for Oxfordshire Celebration to mark the 600th broadband cabinet going live as the final homes in Chinnor, Sydenham and Emmington area were given access to fibre broadband.

The rollout of broadband to the rural community was a joint venture with BT, Oxfordshire County Council and SODC. SODC had given £1,000,000 back in 2014 to help to ensure broadband was available throughout our district. In many respects' broadband is becoming an essential service.

The event was held at The Inn at Emmington and brought together MPs, Councillors, Partner organisations, business owners and members of the community to see how the technology works, understand the benefits and learn how people can upgrade to fibre broadband.

All new housing estates will in the future get fibre broadband.

South and Vale Business Awards

The inaugural South and Vale Business Awards took place on the 15th March at the Williams F1 Conference centre in Grove. There were a number of business categories, there was a joint winner for the Large Business of the Year Award with Bremont Watch of Henley and Reaction Engines of Abingdon collecting this award.

HR Wallingford won the award for Established Innovation of the Year Award and Howbery Park won the Business Space of the Year Award.

Milton Park Site

SODC have negotiated a 10-year repairing lease with Milton Park. This lease allows us a breakout after 3 years which will tie in with us rebuilding the site at Crowmarsh.