REPORT TO ADDERBURY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING APRIL 16th 2019

After a reasonably "quiet" year, it is very pleasant to be able to report some good news items for Adderbury.

In May 2017 an application for up to 55 dwellings off Berry Hill road went to Cherwell District Council's Planning Committee with a recommendation for refusal and this was subsequently refused by committee members. However, this is not quite the end of the story as the applicant appealed and I understand that this appeal will be sometime around September, so all I can say on this one is "watch this space".

Then in June 2018 a Referendum voted in favour of the Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan which then went before the District Council on 16th July 2018 and it was confirmed that the Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan should be 'made'. What this means is that any future housing/development applications will need to comply, not only with Cherwell District Council policies but also with the Adderbury Neighbourhood policies, which should be of great help when decisions have to be made regarding new developments. It also means that when Adderbury Parish Council have to comment on any applications in the village, they can quote policies from their Neighbourhood Plan and these should be as binding as Cherwell District Council policies.

Another piece of good news came on 23 August 2018 when the land north of Milton Road finally came to the Planning Committee (app.no. 18/00220/FG) with a recommendation for approval. This had taken quite a long time to reach this point and a lot of work from parish councillors and officers at Cherwell. What had started out as a simple change of use turned into something much more complicated.

However, the planning committee considered the application and the officers recommendation (including one of the first uses of the Adderbury Neighbourhood Development Plan – quoting Policy AD18, which allocates the land for sports and community uses) and approved this application along with all the conditions.

A lot of work has taken place since then with regard to complying with conditions and things seem to be moving along very nicely.

Applications for housing developments certainly seemed to have slowed down after the glut of the last few years so we can only hope that this continues for some time to come

On a wider scale, the 4,400 houses proposed for the south of the district (to meet Oxford's Unmet Housing Need) are still being looked at by the inspector and a decision is expected sometime after June. If these are not approved we hope that this will not affect our area, being quite a distance from Oxford, but we will just have to wait and see.

If anyone has any problems or queries that councillors could help with, please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

District Councillors: Chris Heath, Andrew McHugh and Mike Bishop