

**County Council Update
from County Cllr Anne Wight
September 2018**

Brownlow Bridge closure dates and TfB Update

I now have the following dates for the scheduled refurbishment of the Brownlow Bridge traffic lights.

The planned completion date for Stoke Hammond Bypass is Sunday 7th October so as discussed to avoid conflicting diversion signs and inconvenience to residents we will start Horton Road Canal Bridge on Monday 8th October with planned completion on 23rd October.

The road closure will be from 0930-1500 each weekday to avoid disruption to the school transport that uses Horton Road. Temporary traffic lights will be in place at all other times.

In addition next week repairs have been arranged for the sensors for the traffic lights at Cheddington Station Bridge and Cooks Wharf Canal Bridge so both are working more efficiently.

Roadworks.org has been updated with the latest dates.

Household Recycling Center Service Consultation

As recycling is one of those issues which affects us all locally, I would like to draw everyone's attention to the current consultation on this on the Buckinghamshire County Council website.

What we are consulting on

- Whether to close one site or two - our preferred option for closure of one site would be Bledlow, and for two sites would be Bledlow and Burnham
- Which two weekdays it would be better to close Aylesbury (Rabans Lane), Burnham and Chesham sites
- Whether to charge residents from outside Buckinghamshire for using our sites stop them using the sites altogether or continue to allow them the same access as Buckinghamshire residents.

Further Information

There's a good deal of information on our Consultation webpage (<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/waste-and-recycling/hrc456/>) that explains what we've done during the service review and how we've developed the consultation. If you have any questions, the answers can hopefully be found there.

How to have your say

You can let us have your views by completing our online survey which can be accessed via the "Have your say" link on the BCC homepage. Alternatively, you can access it via the link here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/g9wpw5j>

If you would prefer to complete a printed copy of the survey we have attached it below so you can print it off and drop it into any library or council office or return it by post to:

Waste & Recycling Team, Floor 7, County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1UY.

What happens next?

The consultation feedback will be reviewed and included in a report to **Cabinet** in December 2018. Cabinet will then make a final decision on which service changes will take place from April 2019. We will publish the results of the consultation and details of the decision on our Consultation webpage in January 2019.

Contact

If you have any questions about this consultation please email the Waste & Recycling Team on waste_strategy@buckscc.gov.uk

Many thanks for helping us through your feedback!

Parking Permits

On the 27 September 2018 Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) will launch 'virtual permits' for on-street parking, along with online applications for all other permit types. The new virtual permits will reduce the time it takes to apply for, and receive, a permit - currently, it can take up to 14 working days to receive a permit, but a virtual permit becomes live as soon as it is approved. Enforcement officers will know instantly if a vehicle has an active permit via their handheld devices.

Virtual permits will be available for all types of on-street parking. This means that people will no longer have to display a permit when parking a car in a permitted area anywhere in Buckinghamshire. This includes resident permits, dispensations and carer permits, as well as other types of on street parking permits.

This should make it quicker and easier to apply for a permit, as the application process will be simplified. Requests for permits and any changes made to existing permits will be effective immediately and they are also now environmentally friendly as there is no paper involved.

It is recognised that some residents may have issues relating to internet access, so alternatives will be put in place to ensure they can still obtain the virtual permits.

All current permit holders are being written to with further details.

Children in Care

I was very pleased to have been able to attend the We Do Care Celebration Event in High Wycombe on 21 August. It was very well attended by our kids in care and their foster families as well as by several of our county councilors. The event featured several bouncy castles, an ice cream van, Thames Valley police vehicles and Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue vehicles with their teams, and special guest speaker Ashley John-Baptiste, formerly from the X-Factor and now working as a BBC journalist. Ashley himself went through the care system and was particularly inspiring as a speaker. As the number of kids in care is rising nationally and in Buckinghamshire, it is becoming even more important for us to find people willing to come forward as foster carers.

If you feel that you might be interested in becoming a foster carer, you can get more information via our Facebook page and Twitter page links below:

<https://www.facebook.com/adoptionbucks> and

<https://www.facebook.com/FosterBucks/>

Twitter is @Bucksadoption -<https://twitter.com/BucksAdoption>

And via the Family Information Service link here:

<https://www.facebook.com/bucksfamilyinfo/>

Or contact me at awight@buckscc.gov.uk and I will be happy to put you in touch with the relevant officers at Bucks County Council.

The Chiltern Walking Festival

The Chiltern Walking Festival will be taking place between the 6th and 21st October. If you wish to book or for more information, please see their website below:

<https://www.visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest.html>

There are over 50 walks and events with highlights including:

- 'Meet the maker' craft walks – from pit fired ceramics to saddle making- and Arts and Crafts architect walks in Amersham
- Outdoor cooking for the family at Path Hill Outdoors near Reading
- Beacons of the Past Hillfort walks – and a tour of Danesfield House Hotel Water Garden
- Fungus walk, bat walk, autumn colours and wildlife safari
- 'These Little Piggies' farm tour
- Windswept Watercolour Workshop
- Brakspear paths, pints and pies – a guided walk along the River Thames followed by a micro-brewery tour at the Bull in Henley

Remembrance Day

Just a reminder to parishes to let me know if they would like a Remembrance Day wreath from the county council as soon as possible so that I can place the order for for those.