

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Title</b>  | County Councillor's Report                  |
| <b>Author</b> | Cllrs Kate Gregory and Nigel Champken-Woods |
| <b>Parish</b> | Thame Town Council                          |
| <b>Date</b>   | 22nd June 2021                              |

### **Lib Dems and Greens form alliance with Labour**

Following the results of the May elections, the Lib Dems and Greens have formed a single political group with 24 seats in total in the council chamber. Together with the support of Labour the group have formed the Oxfordshire Fair Deal Alliance and formed a majority administration. Liz Leffman (Lib Dem) has been selected as the leader of the council. There is still an outstanding disputed seat in Banbury given incorrectly which is now being raised at the Electoral Court.

### **Focus on serving residents**

Although from different political parties, both Nigel and Kate will work together collaboratively to serve the residents of Thame, Chinnor and surrounding villages.

Kate is on the Education Scrutiny Committee as Deputy Chair, Schools Organisation Stakeholders Group and Guardians for US and Nigel is on Joint HOSC and Horton HOSC

### **A reminder: EU settlement scheme**

EU residents in the UK need to apply to the EU settlement scheme by 30 June 2021, or risk losing their right to work and live in the UK. Here is [information on how to apply](#).

### **Councillor Priority Fund now open**

Applications to the Councillor Priority Fund are now open. This is a fund of £15,000 to be used over two years on projects in Thame, Chinnor and surrounding villages. Our approach to using this fund is to encourage applications early and spend the money as soon as possible. We see no point in eking out the fund when it could be doing good in the community now.

Sadly this used to be annual, but the previous budget approval has meant a change in priority funding, we hope this will change in the next budget.