

AGENDA

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 5th February 2026, at 7.30pm, in the Ordish Room, at the Village Hall.

Councillors: You are hereby summoned to attend the above meeting for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting are asked to let the clerk know in advance of the meeting at clerk@astonoxon-pc.gov.uk. Please note item 6 on the agenda about Public Representation.

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The law allows the council's public meetings to be recorded, which includes filming, audio recording and photography. As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings, please let the Clerk know before the start of the meeting.

1. Present

2. Apologies – D Outen

3. Disclosure of interests on agenda items

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 8th January 2026.

5. Meeting open for public representation This is the only part of the meeting where members of the public are permitted to speak, and it must be about an item on the agenda. Parish Council's Standing Orders limit the time for this part of the meeting to 10 minutes in total (each member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes) unless otherwise directed by the Chairman of the meeting.

6. WODC/OCC Matters A brief update from the relevant WODC and OCC Councillor.

7. Matters arising from previous meetings

1) Quick updates:

<i>Electronic Speed Signs</i> – We are still waiting for confirmation from OCC of the installation date. We have confirmation that Westcotec can use the 2 identified lamp posts on North Street and Cote Road. New VAS opposite pottery installed and working.
--

<i>Traffic Calming</i> – deferred until VAS (see first point) installed and effects analysed.

<i>Footpaths/Treescaping</i> – volunteers have been identified and will start in April 2026.
--

<i>Thames Water</i> – are still working in Aston and Bampton on the storm overflow programme.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have agreed to install fencing and clear the rest of the ditch as a goodwill gesture (as it is landowners' responsibility) and have been asked to include clearing the culvert. • We need to identify who is responsible for the culvert and this piece of work is ongoing. • It was noted that enforcement is the responsibility of WODC; however, there is a limit to the fines that can be imposed. • Cllr Cosier to follow up on groundwater issues. • St Joseph's Court has been completed with a trench dug as far as the gates.
<p><i>Great Brook Bridge</i> – No update since last meeting. First raised as an issue in 2015. Further concerns have been raised frequently ever since. The OCC Chief Exec has been shown the issue.</p> <p>Barriers have been hit again. Clerk has contacted Humza, Highway Engagement Officer at OCC and copy in Cllr Ted Fenton and our MP. Humza has confirmed that the bridge is currently at the design stage, with construction due to commence Summer 2026. Due another general inspection December 2025.</p> <p>Following contact from a resident of Chimney, our MP Charlie Maynard has been in contact with Sean Rooney, Head of Service – Highway Maintenance and Road Safety who has advised that the work on the bridge can only go ahead in the 2026/27 financial year if the design is completed by March 2026. This work has been given priority, but no guarantee of when it will be completed has been given. In the meantime, and subject to budget, OCC will review the visibility of the existing “Unsuitable for HGV’s” signage.</p> <p>Also, our MP has contacted the Environment Agency about the Great Brook. The EA do not have any records of when they last contacted the riparian owners, but advise that it is up to these landowners to make their own judgement and decisions on maintenance.</p>
<p><i>North Street</i> – District Cllr Cosier has been liaising with OCC resulting in the northbound side of the road being repaired using a “Bobcat”! The repair has resulted in a water pooling on the road (which is what caused the problem in the first place) – Cllr Cosier has brought this to the attention of OCC for rectification.</p>
<p><i>Beddles Turn</i> - Raised with OCC Highways in 2018 and was most recently raised in February 2025.</p>
<p><i>Cote Mile Bridge</i> – No outstanding reports on Fix-My-Street.</p>
<p><i>Defibrillators</i> – Primary School – this was passed to the Head to arrange installation; Brier Furlong (Aston Pottery) – Cllr Ball to follow up with Aston Pottery to confirm location and Stonewater to confirm funding.</p>
<p><i>Crossing on Cote Road between the end of Marsh Furlong and Poundfield Road.</i> Currently awaiting scheduling at OCC. OCC have confirmed that the Parish will be consulted.</p>
<p><i>War Memorial and Bus Shelter Cleaning – Tenders for 2026 –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further information has been supplied by the contractor. This will be discussed under Finance.
<p><i>Appointment of 2 Allotment Trustees for the Aston and Cote Allotments.</i> One person has expressed an interest. A copy of the Trust Deed is included in the Clerk's Briefing Notes for reference – Pages 9-11</p>
<p><i>OCC Grant Funding for Flood Management</i></p>

A re-submission of our request for Grant Funding for a flood management plan for the Parish has been submitted, as requested by James Feest OCC Flood Mitigation Officer. The Council is awaiting quotes and James Feest OCC has been advised of current situation.

- a) *Data Loggers (water levels)* Cllr Outen to report
- b) *History Board Update* Cllr La Forte to report.
- c) *Anti-Social Behaviour*: None reported at time of agenda.

8. Correspondence – all correspondence by email.

9. PLANNING

New planning applications – None

Documents emailed to councillors for perusal prior to the meeting and available at:
<https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-permission/view-planning-applications/>

Update on Ongoing Planning Applications – For Information

22/00986/FUL Brier Furlong –

- It was reported that the first 18 houses are now occupied
- Request made for Thames Water to review the issues and for Grampian Conditions to be rephased so this can be enforced.
- Discussion with members of the public regarding the adoption of the road and the pumping station, and who is responsible for managing the drainage - as the issue is the connection to the foul water drains which in turn link to the unadopted pumping station.
- It was noted that enforcement of the planning conditions is inadequate.
- Awaiting TW response on how many drains are affected.
- Update from District Councillor - Drainage repairs to be carried out by Mears, then Thames Water can assess so that the County Council can then adopt the road.

15/01550/OUT Marsh Furlong –

- The former clerk spoke to the Brier Furlong site manager who confirmed that all connections to the pumping station for foul water at the back of Marsh Furlong had been finalised. Concerns were subsequently raised by residents following tests of the system at the end of July.
- WODC Planning have been advised, and the clerk has contacted Thames Water urgently again for clarification.
- As above, update from District Councillor - Drainage repairs to be carried out by Mears, then Thames Water can assess so that the County Council can then adopt the road.
- A resident alerted Parish and District Councillors to work being carried by OCC to remove a traffic calming build-out on the Marsh Furlong estate. Negotiations, led by Cllr Cosier, with OCC to have the build-out re-instated are ongoing.

<p>25/00853/OUT North Farm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WODC Case Officer has accepted that the application is for '9+3' units not 12 and additional affordable housing should not be required. However, he still has to discuss this with the housing officer before this position is finalised. EA objected to connecting to foul water system but subsequently withdrew this objection. It was noted that the default would be to connect to mains water system.
<p>24/02466/OUT Potential new development – Lone Star Land (land agents) – Planning application still outstanding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Agency objected to the application and required another flood risk assessment is carried out; this is now complete, and they have withdrawn their objection.
<p>25/01247/OUT Land south of Bampton Road – Croudace. No decision made yet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant has submitted revised FRA. LLFA(OCC), EA and ourselves (with Technical Note) have all objected again. Biodiversity objection still extant. Repeated Thames Water responses inconsistent and incomplete.
<p>25/01702/FUL Proposed Mount Field Solar Farm – land between Bampton, Aston and Lew.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions with Bampton and Curbridge & Lew Parish Councils regarding funding split are ongoing - Aston and Curbridge & Lew are in agreement, Bampton have not agreed and have revised their claim from an equal third to a 35% (Curbridge), 35% Aston and 30% Bampton split. Negotiations ongoing. Bampton Parish Council have recently re-iterated their position regarding a disproportionate split in their favour. EA has objected due to flood risk.
<p>25/01422/FUL Land South of St James's Court, North Street – not yet decided; objection agreed at Aug meeting.</p>

Update on previous planning application decisions.

Reference 25/03121/TCA
 Alternative Reference PP-14579630
 Application Validated Fri 19 Dec 2025
 Address 3 Church Farm Court Bull Street Aston Oxfordshire OX18 2BS
 Proposal We wish to reduce the canopy of the silver birch by 30%
 Status Decided
 Decision Raise no objection
 Decision Issued Date Tue 20 Jan 2026

Reference 25/02792/HHD
 Alternative Reference PP-14367078
 Application Validated Thu 20 Nov 2025
 Address 44 Saxel Close Aston Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2EB
 Proposal Erection of single storey rear extensions to infill and extend rear elevation
 Status Decided
 Decision Approve
 Decision Issued Date Tue 13 Jan 2026

10. New Business

- a) Grant request from Aston & Cote Community Events (Emma Hunter) – See Clerk’s Briefing Notes – Pages 5 – 8.
- b) Request from Community Trust for matched funding of £1,453 for 50 chairs for the Village Hall. Email from Ian Dunstan Page 12 of Clerk’s Briefing Notes.
- c) Request from Community Trust that the Parish Council request the contingency monies for the MUGA, be made available for the construction of a path around the MUGA. Additionally, as the path is expected to cost £16k-£18k, that the shortfall is made up from the reserve from the Precept. See request from Ian Dunstan in Clerk’s Briefing Notes – Page 13.

11. Community Trust

- MUGA Update.
- Path from MUGA to changing rooms
- Solar Panels
- Other infrastructure projects.

12. Parish infrastructure - To identify any current maintenance work required.

13. Governance – Policies for review and resolution

14. FINANCE -

- a) Report emailed to councillors with items for resolution.

15. Parish councillors’ and clerk’s reports from meetings attended since last meeting.

16. Matters arising since publication of agenda/

Matters which councillors may wish to raise for inclusion on next agenda.
(For discussion only)

Date of next meeting: Thursday 5th March 2026 at 7.30pm