

AGENDA

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 8th January 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 – J Ordish

3. Disclosure of interests on agenda items

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 4th December 2025.

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.

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

<i>Highways Permit for Bampton Road VAS Installation</i>
--

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">For the Bampton Road VAS installation, the Road Space Booking charge of up to £1,160 was waived. Installation date 9 January 2026. Cllr D Outen acting as contact for Westcotec on the installation day. |
|--|

<i>Footpaths/Treescaping</i> – volunteers have been identified and will start in January 2026. No further updates.
--

<p><i>Thames Water</i> – are still working in Aston and Bampton on the storm overflow programme.</p> <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 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> – First raised as an issue in 2015. Further concerns have been raised frequently ever since. The OCC Chief Exec has been shown the issue. 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. 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. 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 had the following response from Chris Grain: No date has been assigned for pothole repairs and this year’s schedule is fully booked, however there is a possibility that structural patching could be done. Cllr Outen to liaise with Cllr T Fenton. Clerk to contact Humza, Highway Engagement Officer at OCC and copy in Cllr Fenton. Humza has advised likely to be financial year 2026/27.</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"> • The current contractor is happy to carry on for the time being however the cost of the Public Liability Insurance required to carry out the role exceeds the remuneration for the job. Contractor to obtain comparison quotes for £2m and £5m nearer to the renewal date of 26th May 2026.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The loose blocks from the around the curtilage of the war memorial to removed and stored securely. RFO to contact OCC about reinstatement.</i>
<p><i>Appointment of 2 Allotment Trustees for the Aston and Cote Allotments. One person has expressed an interest.</i></p>
<p><i>OCC Grant Funding for Flood Management</i> 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. We have now been asked to obtain quotes for this work and submit them before the end of January.</p>

- 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 –

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/>

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	Under consideration

Reference	25/02919/HHD
Alternative Reference	PP-14520432
Application Validated	Mon 01 Dec 2025
Address	The Paddock Cote Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2EG
Proposal associated works	Erection of single storey side extension with roof lights, and
Status	Under consideration

Update on Ongoing Planning Applications – For Information

<p>22/00986/FUL Brier Furlong –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 houses were occupied during the with a further phase being occupied in December. • 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
--

<p>the issue is the connection to the foul water drains which in turn link to the unadopted pumping station.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>15/01550/OUT Marsh Furlong –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<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. • 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	25/02808/TCA
Alternative Reference	PP-14487666
Application Validated	Thu 13 Nov 2025

Agenda for Meeting on 8th January 2026

Address 2 St Joseph's Court Bampton Road Aston OX18 2BU
Proposal MT1 - Sycamore - Reduce by 1.5 to 2 metres all round, remove major deadwood, crown raise to 5 meters by removing 4 low branches -due to encroaching on gardens.
MT2 - Sycamore - Reduce height by 2 metres. Remove major deadwood, remove epicormic growth from stem-due to encroaching on gardens.
T4 - Red acer - Removed major dead wood. Reduce crown by up to 2.5 meters to balance, remove epicormic growth on stem-due to die back.
Status Decided
Decision Raise no objection
Decision Issued Date Thu 11 Dec 2025

Reference 25/02747/TCA
Alternative Reference Not Available
Application Validated Thu 06 Nov 2025
Address 17 Bull Street Aston Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2DN
Proposal T1 - crab apple - reduce crown by 1m - 1.5m.
T2 - bay - reduce to approximately 4ft, retaining young growth
Status Decided
Decision Raise no objection
Decision Issued Date Thu 11 Dec 2025

10. New Business

- a) Grant request from Aston Lunch Club – see Briefing Notes pages 4 – 9
- b) Consideration of Aston Community Car Project – the proposer of this scheme has provided a “Pilot Proposal”, however, it is not for public distribution. Therefore, this has been provided to Councillors by separate email.
- c) Date for Annual Parish Meeting

11. Community Trust

- MUGA Update.
- Path from MUGA to Hall – see email from WODC in Briefing Notes page 10
- 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 in Briefing Notes pages 1 – 3 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 February 2026 at 7.30pm