

AGENDA

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 6th March 2025, 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.

EaAnstee

Elaine Anstee – Clerk

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The law allows the council's public meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted.

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 from Members

3. Parish Councillors - Disclosure of interests on agenda items

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 6th February 2025 – minutes previously circulated.

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. The Parish Council's Standing Orders limit the time for this part of the meeting to ten minutes in total unless otherwise directed by the chairman of the meeting. The Standing Orders specify that each member of the public shall not speak for more than three minutes.

6. WODC/OCC Matters

A brief update from the relevant WODC and OCC Councillor.

7. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

a) Quick updates:

- *Electronic Speed Signs* – The response re question about distance from the speed sign for VAS is ‘*the detection range of the sign is 100 meters, meaning it will detect vehicles up to 100 meters away. If we install the sign 45 meters into the speed zone, it will begin flashing at vehicles that are still within the designated speed zone and expected to be adhering to the speed limit.*’ This means that it could flash before they get to the 20-mph sign but looking at the road layout, they are unlikely to be detected that early. Decision on siting to be finalised.
- *Cote Chapel* – no further update from 9th January.
- *Gate at St James Church* – J Ordish to report.
- *Footpaths/Treescaping* – to discuss the potential for new paths off Bull Street, Brier Furlong and the possible Lonestar development will be included in the APM on the 23rd April to see if residents would like to take on this project.
- *Thames Water* – Response shared by email on 10th February 2025.
- *Traffic Calming* – deferred until VAS (see first point) installed and effects analysed.
- *Great Brook Bridge* – First raised as an issue in 2015. Further concerns have been raised frequently ever since, and clerk has submitted a request for signage re-flooding, road closure drop sign to OCC. The clerk has also followed up with OCC Highways and the Community Emergency Team and awaits responses as at time of agenda.
- *North Street* – The clerk has written again to OCC Highways and this time asked if the work planned for the Great Brook Road in May 25 could be changed and North Street resurfaced. This proposal is currently being investigated.
- *Beddles Turn* - Raised with OCC Highways in 2018 and was most recently raised in February 2025.
- *Land south of Bampton Road* – Croudace – no planning application at time of agenda.
- *Defibrillators* – Brier Furlong (Aston Pottery), no news, and cabinet (Aston & Cote Primary School) the clerk has contacted the school again about the electrical connection required for the cabinet.
- *B4449 past St Joseph’s and Aston Pottery* – white lining of road. This has been reported to OCC.

b) Neighbourhood Plan/Design Statement

The RFO has looked at the guidance and the deadline for applications for both Technical and Financial support was 31st January 2025, and the funding had to be spent by the 31st March 2025. So, the current scheme is now closed unfortunately. However, a new scheme is likely to be announced in July 2025, so we need to be ready to apply for this if we can, and it appears that current funding has been allocated on a first-come, first-served basis so we need to be at the head of the queue.

The RFO will look at the current application form and find out what we need to have ready so that we can apply as soon as the funding is announced.

- c) *Data Loggers and Project Groundwater*
Reports from loggers supplied by D Outen by email.
- d) *History Board Update*
Led by Chairman.
- e) *Anti-Social Behaviour*
None reported at time of agenda.

8. Correspondence - Clerk's Briefing Notes on Page 2.

9. PLANNING

New planning applications - None

Update on Ongoing Planning Applications – For Information

- a) Brier Furlong – There has been an update on the foul water connection by Thames Water on the WODC planning portal under 25/00381/CND. The Parish Council is not a consultee on these applications but circulated for information.
- b) Marsh Furlong – agenda item 9a.
- c) St Joseph's Court –agenda item 7 under Thames Water.
- d) North Farm – Planning application due but not yet on WODC planning portal.
- e) Potential new development – Lone Star Land (land agents) – there is still no planning application formally submitted.
- f) Land south of Bampton Road – Croudace – no planning application at time of agenda.

Update on Previous Planning Applications

Reference	25/00128/PN42
Alternative Reference	PP-13706468
Application Validated	Mon 20 Jan 2025
Address	4 Southlands Aston Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2DA
Proposal	Erection of replacement conservatory to rear elevation (4.5m x 2.2m height to eaves/3.3m max. height).
Status	Decided
Decision	Prior Approval Refused
Decision Issued Date	Tue 18 Feb 2025

Reference	24/03083/FUL
Alternative Reference	PP-13483624
Application Validated	Fri 20 Dec 2024
Address	Land North Of Foxwood Close Aston Bampton Oxfordshire
Proposal	Erection of public art sculpture
Status	Decided
Decision	Approve
Decision Issued Date	Wed 12 Feb 2025

10. New Business

a) *APM 23rd April – Draft Agenda*

This is a meeting of the parish and not a Parish Council meeting. It is a legal requirement and must take place between 1 March and 1 June (inclusive). The date has been confirmed as Wednesday 23rd April starting at 7.30pm and the draft agenda is on page 3 of the Clerk's Briefing Notes for consideration. The meeting has been advertised on the Parish Council web pages, it will be in the march edition of Voices and the banner will be erected on the fence in front of the allotments as agreed with the trustees. For discussion and agreement.

b) *Renewal OALC Membership for 2025-26*

Membership of OALC provides access to support and information in an ever-changing local government context. Each year there is new legislation which councils are required to implement. OALC assists member councils by alerting them to forthcoming changes, providing briefings, templates and a comprehensive training program, as well as answering questions and providing guidance. As the prospect of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Oxfordshire will bring the largest change for Parish and Town Councils since 1972 they will be working with the principal authorities to ensure a smooth transition for our members. Membership renewal is £333 inclusive of VAT for 2025-26. For resolution.

c) *6 Monthly Review of External Assets.*

Half yearly of the external fixed asset is due and on pages 4 to 7 of the briefing notes. For decision on who to carry out asset check.

11. Governance – Policies for Review and Resolution

Annual review of Effectiveness of Internal Control/Financial Regulations

See report and related papers in the briefing notes on pages 8 to 11 – for resolution.

12. Community Trust

13. Parish Infrastructure

a) *Parish maintenance*

To identify any current maintenance work required. Budget remaining for 2024/25 is £365.

14. FINANCE – Report on pages 12 to 14 of the briefing notes, with items for Resolution.

15. CONFIDENTIAL to be concluded in closed session

To resolve to exclude the press and the public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

16. CONFIDENTIAL

17. Parish Councillors' and clerk's reports from meetings attended since last meeting.

18. Matters arising since publication of agenda/

Matters which Councillors may wish to raise for inclusion on next agenda.

(For discussion only)

19. Date of next meeting: Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7.30pm

Being the monthly meeting of Parish Council.