



CASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend Cassington Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 4th April 2024 in the Village Hall, The Green.

Minutes

- 1. **Apologies – Cllr Rogers, Cllr Rylett, Cllr Goodwin**
- 2. **Declarations of interest**
(Any pecuniary interests should be declared also a review of current declarations of interests circulated)
- 3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th March 2024 - Approved**
- 4. **Precept Statement from The Parish Council with comments from the public**
 - **Have questioned about the stone walls in the village – That the survey hasn’t been published and are the parish council going to pay for it all.** – Cllr Thompson and Cllr Metcalf have explained that we are only going to pay for walls that the Parish Council own.
 - **The Burial Ground – Have asked about the Grass Cutting** – Was advised that WODC undertakes some part of the cutting and that there is a tender out for the other parts of the village.
 - **The majority of the residents that were present advised that they would have liked to have been advised earlier that the precept was going to be increased as much as it has been and the Council realised that it should have been communicated better on the reasons why it needed to be increased.**

The Parish Council would like to make note that the £20k is a one off payment.

- 5. **Report from Clerk**
 - **Elms Road Ditch** – Waiting to hear back from Blenheim
 - **Replacement for Adrian** – Still on going
 - **VAS on Eynsham Road & Yarnton Road** – Still on going
 - **Replacement Speedwatch Sign** – This has now been replaced
 - **PC Burial Ground Update** – The clerk is still researching the walls and the boundary
 - **Stile at field by Bell Lane** – Still ongoing – 3 quotes have been given to the Parish Council. A member of the public has suggested Michael Oliver – **The Clerk will ask for a quote.**
 - **Thames Water** – The clerk has tried to contact Thames Water to get a map of the pipes. No response.

6. **Planning**

a) **Previous Planning Application Decisions**

APPLICATION NO:	LOCATION:	PROPOSAL:	APPLICANT:	DECISION:
20/01734/OUT	Land North of A40 Section from Barnard Gate To Eynsham Roundabout Eynsham		Grosvenor Developments Ltd	UNDER CONSIDERATION

b) **New Planning Applications**

APPLICATION NO:	LOCATION	PROPOSAL	APPLICANT:	COMMENT DATE:

c) **Botley Solar Farm** – Report from Group

- 7. **Correspondence**
- 8. **Reports from County and District & Parish Councillors –**
County Report - April 4th, 2024

I hope everyone has had a pleasant Easter, and that the worst of the wetness is behind us.

New special schools: The county council is planning two new special schools in the Didcot area to serve southeast Oxfordshire. One will specialise in educating children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) needs. Another special school is due to be built within the Valley Park development and will specialise in educating children with Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and other needs.

In addition, as many people know, we are building or acquiring small children's homes to provide care in the county for those who would otherwise have to go somewhere else. This will provide better care for the children, at substantially lower cost. The home in Aston opened recently, and one is planned in Sutton.

Taking on potholes: OCC is launching a £7m programme this spring to refurbish nearly 100 roads across the county this spring from 8 April to 3 June. It is the biggest surface dressing programme for 20 years. The £7m is made up of £2.6m from the department for transport and additional budget for highways agreed in the 2024/2025 Lib Dem/Green budget (which was not supported by the Tories).

This is good, but it will not make up the approximately £20m gap per annum between what we need to maintain our roads and what the government awards us. And as the weather gets worse, as appears to be the case, the pressure on our roads will continue to grow.

Money for cycling and walking: Oxfordshire has been awarded £2.384 million for improving walking and cycling infrastructure. The award will be used for expansion of the school streets programme countywide and projects in Abingdon and Witney.

Tenants welcomed into supported housing: Adults with learning disabilities and autism have moved into new accommodation in Witney, purchased by OCC. A further four homes are planned, including in Horspath.

EV chargers: Oxfordshire has won another £3.6m to upgrade EV infrastructure. This is of course a bit chicken and egg. Most people who buy electric cars only do so when they can charge them at home, but we need to make provision for those who are away from home or who can't charge at home. And we need excess capacity so that nobody turns up in urgent need of charging to discover there is no space.

Elections.

Not County Council related, but there are elections for WODC on 2 May. There is one seat up in the Standlake, Aston and Stanton Harcourt ward and one in Eynsham, Cassington and South Leigh. Can I remind people that they will need to take ID to the polling station, or else get an Voter Authority Certificate, or apply for a postal vote.

All the details are on the WODC web pages.

Elections and voting - West Oxfordshire District Council (westoxon.gov.uk)

It has been a pleasure working with the two district councillors who are up for re-election.

As ever, I can be contacted at dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk and I would be delighted to hear from you.

a) District Councillors

Judicial review on Salt Cross the high court had advised that the inspector had made an error. WODC are talking to the planning inspectorate to see what the next move will be.

Homes England funding the A40 in discussion with OCC have not given a response with regards to the A40

Election on May 2nd to replace one of the district councillors and you need to bring ID

b) Parish Councillors

Cllr King - Church Yard Bin – Clerk to contact John Hemmingway

Cllr Mills – The Bike Night Committee have asked if the Parish Council would pay for St Johns Ambulance - **Parish Council have agreed**

9. Ditches, Drainage and Flooding

10. Maintenance/ Grants

11. Traffic

- Speed Watch**

March numbers as requested:

No. of sessions:	7: (11 in total but 4 cancelled due to bad weather)
Total number of vehicles:	1,420
No. of offending vehicles:	199
Between 25mph & 30mph:	138
Between 31mph & 40 mph:	61
Over 40 mph:	0
Highest offender:	40mph

- Speed Indicators**

- Traffic Calming**

12. Play Area & Recreation Ground

- Replacement Playground Equipment**

13. Finance

a) Payments to be approved:

Individual/Company	Reason	Amount
Tracey Cameron	Clerk Salary	£1037.53
Moore	External Audit 2021/22	£996.00
OPFA	Membership	£47.00
Sign Wizzard	New Speedwatch Sign	£268.44

b) Income:

Individual/Company	Reason	Amount
HMRC	Tax Refund	£1801.11

- c) **Balance of Unity Bank as of Thursday 28th March 2024 - £11,513.81**
- 14. **Questions from the Public – Jericho Farm – A 30tonne lorry has come through Cassington and that it shouldn't and that it should only be 20tonne**
- 15. **Date of next meeting:** Thursday 2nd May 2024 @7.30pm in St Peters School