

# Woodstock Town Council

Dear Subscriber,

Welcome to our January Newsletter. We hope you had a very happy and peaceful Christmas and we wish you a Happy New Year.

## News from the Council

**Woodstock Parking.** As part of OCC's review process, they have asked us to let them know of any "tweaks" that may be required. The Town Council is happy to compile a list - please send your comments and ideas to [info@woodstock-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@woodstock-tc.gov.uk)

**Botley West.** The second phase of consultation on Botley West started on Thursday 30th November 2023 and finishes on Thursday 8th February 2024. The next local Statutory Consultation takes place in Woodstock Community Centre between 11am and 3pm on Saturday 13th January 2024, but there are other consultations happening in other venues - more details can be found on the developer's own website: <https://botleywest.co.uk/Home-Botley-West.html>, or on Stop Botley West's website: <https://stopbotleywest.com/>.

Woodstock Town Council voted against this development, in its current form.

**New boundary and elections.** There are two important electoral events happening in our area.

Firstly, Woodstock is moving from the current constituency of Witney to a new parliamentary constituency of Bicester and Woodstock for the next general election, whenever that will be. A good analysis of what this means can be found [here](#).

Secondly, the whole Town Council comes up for re-election on Thursday 2nd May, and now is the time to start considering joining the Council. Details about key dates can be found on the [WODC website](#)

*The District Council ward remains unchanged as the Woodstock & Bladon ward of West Oxfordshire District Council.*

## Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday, 10th January 10th at 7.30pm**, Coach House, Oxfordshire Museum. The Museum Friends - Gary Gibbons, Curator of the Uffington Museum on 'A Book about a Bear by a Boy'

**Monday, 15 January, 2024** 8pm, St Mary Magdalene, Woodstock.

The Woodstock Society - Professor Sir Christopher Llewellyn Smith - 'Can Future Energy Needs Be Met Sustainably?'

**Saturday 20th January** 3.00pm, St Hugh's Centre, Hensington Road.

Woodstock Literature Society - Peter Kemp 'Retroland'

**Wednesday 7th February** 11am to 4pm - we are hoping to hold an Antiques Road Show type event in the Town Hall. Details to be confirmed.

## Forthcoming Council Meetings

**Wednesday 3rd January** Extraordinary Town Council Meeting (Planning)

**Tuesday 16th January** Town Council Monthly Meeting

For a full list of future meetings please [Click here](#)

## Minutes from Past Meetings

Minutes from past meetings (once approved) are available to see on the Council's website.

## Brief Report from Town Council meeting of Tuesday 12th December 2023

7 Councillors attended with 4 Members of the public.

Two members of the public spoke at the start of the meeting about Botley West and there was a discussion about the possibility of trying to get some Community benefit should the scheme go ahead.

Reports were given by the Mayor on behalf of our OCC representative – who said that the Library would be returning to its old location, that Stagecoach had agreed not to send any more double-deckers around the centre of Woodstock, and that he requested “tweaks” to the parking scheme to be sent to him.

A written report was presented by the 2 WODC representatives, and the Mayor reported a successful first Email sent a few weeks ago, where he hoped that that the Council may be in a position to inform Residents of local events through the town diary.

The normal Council business of amending/approving Council Minutes and noting the Council finances took place, and 3 Planning Applications were discussed.

The budget for 2024/25 was discussed again (having been discussed in detail at our 28 November budget meeting). The budget was agreed with 2 amendments, and this meant that the precept of £149,000 was set for the next year. The precept is the amount of money that the Town Council receives from the District Council, and it has been kept the same amount as the previous 2 years. But because the town has grown in size, the money that Band D ratepayers have to pay is reduced from £90.20 to £84.35 (6.5% reduction).

The Council also approved a new Policy and Procedure and timetable for the allocation of grants. They will also be split into 2 tranches throughout the year, and the process will begin in May 2024 at the start of the new Council’s year.

### Email Contacts:

For the Clerk: [clerk@woodstock-tc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@woodstock-tc.gov.uk)

For the Mayor: [nick.manby-brown@woodstock-tc.gov.uk](mailto:nick.manby-brown@woodstock-tc.gov.uk)

For Finance matters: [rfo@woodstock-tc.gov.uk](mailto:rfo@woodstock-tc.gov.uk)

For Bookings: [admin@woodstock-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@woodstock-tc.gov.uk)

For General Information: [info@woodstock-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@woodstock-tc.gov.uk)

For Website and EMail issues: [webmaster@woodstock-tc.gov.uk](mailto:webmaster@woodstock-tc.gov.uk)

To view list of all Councillors: <https://woodstock-tc.gov.uk/council-members/>

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