

**PARISH  
COUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER – Spring 2023**



**Gosford & Water Eaton Parish  
Council**

As you are a resident within **GOSFORD AND WATER EATON PARISH** we are sending you this newsletter.

**Parish Boundary**

A reminder of our parish boundary. Although we nestle alongside Kidlington we are a very separate parish and are home to Thames Valley Police HQ, Gosford Hill School, Edward Feild School, Gosford Medical Centre, Oxford Parkway and Kidlington and Gosford Sports Centre.

Many businesses form part of our parish including all of the shops by Fairfax Avenue on the Oxford Road, the car wash, Miller & Carter and Sainsbury's Superstore.



**Budget 23/24 (Precept / Council Tax)**

The new precept figure for Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council is confirmed as £71.179 per annum. This will equate to an approx. increase of 3.8% for our section of council tax. As a reminder council tax pays for local services such as planning, transport, highways, grass cutting, maintaining play areas, police, fire, libraries, leisure and recreation, rubbish collection and disposal, environmental health and trading standards.

**Parish Matters**

As a reminder, if you have an issue within our parish boundary, please contact us directly. We do not have an office but you can call us on our **telephone number 01865 819863** or email us at [clerk@gosfordandwatereaton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@gosfordandwatereaton-pc.gov.uk). We are very much here and are happy to help you.

You are welcome to join our monthly meetings. Details are on our website. *Please join us at our Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm (at West Kidlington Primary School). Any questions or requests to speak at the meeting are to be submitted to the clerk no later than 4<sup>th</sup> May.*

**New play area**

*Bramley Close*

The council has allocated just over £20,000 to spend on a new area at Bramley Close (to replace the existing pocket park). This will be installed before the school summer holidays in 2023. We had a statutory requirement to spend the money on this in Bramley Close.

**Elections**

2023 is an election year for Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council. Make sure you are registered to vote: <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

For 2023 there are new voting regulations.



From 4 May 2023, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections.

This will apply to:

- Local elections

- Police and Crime Commissioner elections
- UK parliamentary by-elections
- Recall petitions

From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections.

If you don't have accepted photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate or apply for a postal vote.

Apply for a voter authority certificate at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>

**The deadline to apply for a postal vote for the elections on 4 May 2023 is 5pm on Tuesday 18 April.**

### Water Eaton Lane Parking Issues

The Parish Council is continuing to consider single yellow lines along Water Eaton Lane. At this moment we are have no further update.

### Oxford United Football Club - Stadium



We can confirm that the OUFC stadium is now proposed to be built in the triangle site rather than Stratfield Brake. This land is **not** part of our parish and is owned by Oxfordshire County Council. We await further updates from OCC who is liaising with the club. We continue to monitor developments closely regarding the OUFC stadium.

### Health and Wellbeing

#### 5 steps to mental wellbeing

Evidence suggests there are 5 steps you can take to improve your mental health and wellbeing. Trying these things could help you feel more positive and able to get the most out of life.

- Connect with other people
- Be physically active
- Learn new skills

- Give to others
- Pay attention to the present moment (mindfulness)

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>

### Mental Health

<https://www.oxfordshiremind.org.uk/>  
 Oxfordshire Mind Mental Wealth Academy supports 18-25-year-olds through a programme of non-clinical mental health and wellbeing coping methods. This includes those young people with mild-moderate mental health needs who may be falling through gaps created by transition pathways from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services to Adult Mental Health Services. Owing to the pressures of the COVID pandemic, it has been extended in the short-term to 16-and-17-year-olds too.

If you're a young person aged 16-25 experiencing mild-moderate mental health concerns or a family member who would like to support them, please get in touch with the Mental Wealth Academy at Oxfordshire Mind, & they can arrange for one of the team to call you back.

The support services available include:

- Access to education employment and training
- Dealing with anxiety/stress
- Personal identity
- Physical health/Body image
- Recognising/Managing emotions
- Relationships/Social media
- Steps to wellbeing

Call Samaritans for emotional support on the phone, 24 hours a day 365 days a year by dialling 116 123.

**For further information about meetings or to get in touch with your council, please contact the clerk [clerk@gosfordandwatereaton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@gosfordandwatereaton-pc.gov.uk) or telephone us during office hours 01865 819863.**

#### Your Parish Councillors

Please see the website for details about your current councillors and changes following 4<sup>th</sup> May election.