

PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER – April 2024



Gosford & Water Eaton Parish Council

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



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. We are very much here and are happy to help you.

You are welcome to join our monthly meetings. Details are on our website.

Gosford Hill School

Gosford Hill School will soon be undergoing significant improvements. Bowmer + Kirkland has been selected by the Department for Education as the main contractor on plans to regenerate Gosford Hill School, we encourage people to visit the website www.gosfordhillplans.co.uk to view the detail.

Oxford United Football Club - Stadium



You may be aware that the OUFC stadium is now proposed to be built in the triangle site.

However, Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council (GWEPC), following consultation with parishioners, objects to the planning application for the Oxford United Football Club (OUFC) Stadium. Whilst the design of the stadium appears to be to a suitable standard, it is the impact on the surrounding area which is our primary concern. Although the stadium itself is not located in our parish, it does however have a major impact on our community. Our full submitted objection to the planning application is detailed on our website.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting for Gosford and Water Eaton PC will be held on
Tuesday 7th May 2024
At 7pm

Venue: Edward Feild Primary School

Questions for the parish should be submitted to the clerk no later than **3rd May 2024**
clerk@gosfordandwatereaton-pc.gov.uk or to any councillor of this Parish Council

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

AGENDA

1. **Apologies** for Absence
2. **Declarations** of interest
3. **Introduction of Councillors**
4. **Chairman's report**
5. **Minutes:** to approve the Minutes of the last **Annual Parish Meeting** held on 9th May 2023.
6. **Matters Arising:** from the Minutes of the **Annual Parish Meeting** on 9th May 2023.
7. **Accounts for the year end 31st March 2024:** to receive the statement of the Parish Council's Accounts (full finance information available on the website)
8. **Parish report**
9. **Planning Matters**
10. **Highway Matters**
11. **Resolution/Questions:** to consider any resolutions or questions (of which written notice has been given in advance)
12. **Any other business**

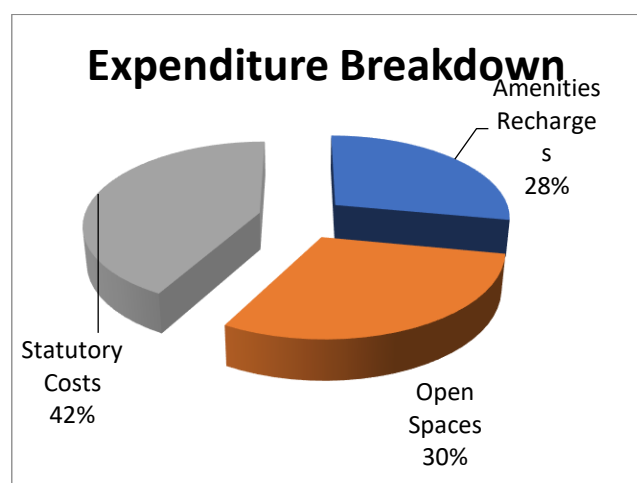
The financial information and previous years minutes for the council are available online.

www.gosfordandwatereaton-pc.gov.uk

**GOSFORD & WATER EATON PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MAY 2024**

The year close figure is an overspend of £2,491 in the revenue budget. This included upgrading the play equipment at Bramley Close.

Below is an outline of our expenditure lines for 2023-24 with a levied precept of £71,179. Due to increase in statutory expenditures, the council had no choice but to increase the precept for 2024-25 by 6% to £76,221.



The closing bank balances of the council were £58,016.93 as at 31st March 2024. The funds are represented by:

FUNDS REPRESENTED BY:	£
Barclay Bank Accounts	
Unity Current Account	58,016.93
TOTAL	58,016.93
RESERVES REPRESENTED BY:	
General Reserve	18,841.93
EMR Playground Maintenance	12,500.00
EMR Stratfield Brake Sinking Fund	11,675.00
EMR Litter & Dog Bins	4,000.00
EMR Street Furniture	4,000.00
EMR Planning & Legal	7,000.00
TOTAL	58,016.93

North Oxford Golf Club

David Young and Sandy Gallaher of GreenWay write to GWEPC residents:

As you may know, land to the north of Oxford has been allocated for 4,400 houses to satisfy the ‘overspill’ of Oxford’s exaggerated housing need. All the houses will be built on sites that were previously Green Belt, including on the North Oxford golf course in the Kidlington Gap. Development will start soon on some of the sites and sadly golf will cease in October 2025. GreenWay, a group of North Oxford golfers (with the help of Cherwell Development Watch Alliance), challenged this decision - right up to the High Court. We had great support from local people and Parishes, but ultimately, we lost.

The new Local Plan to 2040 is currently being prepared,

In our response to the Local Plan consultation, we argued against the housing figures and suggested that increased housing densities on the allocated sites meant that the golf course didn’t need to be developed. We also made alternative suggestions that housing could be built on Frieze Farm instead, or half the golf course could be developed, leaving the remainder as a 9 hole course. If none of these are possible, we hope to make sure there is reprovision of golf in the local area – this should be at Frieze Farm which is allocated for that purpose in the existing Local Plan.

At the time of writing, it seems that it will be some time before the final draft of the 2040 Local Plan is published. If you agree with the need to rescue golf, community facilities and precious open space in the Kidlington Gap, please make sure your local District Councillors and General Election Candidates are aware of your views – and ask them theirs!

If you have any comments, please do contact Greenway at greenwayoxon@gmail.com

Finally, please also look at what the area will be losing in the 2-minute video link <https://youtu.be/M2Ld3-bM6Xo> which we made a year or two ago and which was sent to Cherwell Councillors.

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