



## Elections on Thursday 3 May 2018

### Notes:

This document is designed to be used and read on-line, and will be updated at several points, in particular in the period until the date of the elections.

1. Click on the links in the following list to go straight to the subject shown. Alternatively, use the “Bookmarks” Tab to help you navigate the document; and
2. If you do print this, it is suggested that you use the email alert service so that you are notified of updates to the page. To do this, scroll to the bottom of the [Future Elections](#) page by following the link from [www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections) and use the facility in the box at the right hand side to register to receive email updates.

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## West Oxfordshire District Council Elections

On Thursday 3 May 2018 there will be elections for 17 seats on the West Oxfordshire District Council.

These will be for one seat in each of the following Wards (areas), with the exception that **two** seats will be filled for Freeland and Hanborough:

Ascott and Shipton	Ducklington
Bampton and Clanfield	Eynsham and Cassington
Brize Norton and Shilton	Freeland and Hanborough (two seats)
Burford	Standlake, Aston and Stanton Harcourt
Carterton North East	The Bartons
Carterton North West	Witney East
Carterton South	Witney South
Chipping Norton	Woodstock and Bladon

For details of current members of the District Council please see [the Council's website](#). If you are unsure of the Ward in which you live, please use the postcode search facility on the website home page at [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk)

For Freeland and Hanborough there are two seats to be filled because of the resignation of a councillor. This means that the person elected with the most votes will serve a four year term; and the person finishing second will serve until May 2020, which is the remainder of the period which would have been served by the person who resigned.

## Parish and Town Council Elections

Elections for 115 seats on 17 Parish/Town Councils are also scheduled for Thursday 3 May 2018, as follows (number of seats shown in brackets):

Ascott under Wychwood (5)	Ducklington (9)
Asthal (5)	Fulbrook (5)
Aston, Cote, Shifford and Chimney (7)	Sandford St Martin (5)
Bampton (11)	Shilton (5)
Bladon (6)	Shipton under Wychwood (7)
Brize Norton (7)	Standlake (7)
Burford (11)	Steeple Barton (9)
Cassington (5)	Swinbrook & Widford (5)
Curbridge (5) and Lew (1)	

## Returning Officer – District and Parish/Town Elections in West Oxfordshire

The Returning Officer for the District and Parish/Town Council elections is Keith Butler, who is based at the District Council offices at Woodgreen, Witney. See [below](#) for contact information.

## Nomination of Candidates – District Elections

The period for the nomination of candidates at the elections ended at 4 pm on Friday 6 April 2018.

For the **District Council** elections, the total number of candidates is 63, comprising 17 Conservatives; nine Greens; three Independent; 17 Labour/Labour and Co-operative; and 17 Liberal Democrats. The “statement of persons nominated” for each Ward includes the names of the candidates and their description, if any; and a document containing all 16 statements is available at [District Statements of Persons Nominated](#).

## Nomination of Candidates – Parish/Town Elections

For the **Town/Parish Council** elections the summary position following the close of the period for candidates to be nominated is as follows:

Parish/Town	No of seats and Nominations		Parish/Town	No of seats and Nominations	
	Seats	Noms		Seats	Noms
Ascott under Wychwood	5	5	Ducklington	9	10
Asthal	5	4	Fulbrook	5	4
Aston, Cote, Shifford and Chimney	7	5	Lew *	1	1
Bampton	11	9	Sandford St Martin	5	5
Bladon	6	5	Shilton	5	4
Brize Norton	7	6	Shipton under Wychwood	7	7
Burford	11	12	Standlake	7	3
Cassington	5	4	Steeple Barton	9	3
Curbridge *	5	5	Swinbrook and Widford	5	7

\* The Parishes of Curbridge and Lew together form a joint Parish Council

Therefore, there are contested elections for Burford Town and Ducklington and Swinbrook and Widford Parish Councils.

In the Parishes where there are insufficient candidates for a poll, the persons nominated have been declared elected following an uncontested election, and in those where the number elected uncontested is fewer than the number of seats on the Council, the Parish Council will co-opt to fill the remaining vacancy or vacancies.

The [statements of persons nominated](#) gives the details of all candidates nominated at the Town and Parish Council elections; and the [results of uncontested elections](#) lists those persons elected as a consequence of there being an insufficient number of candidates for a poll in the parish concerned.

### Guidance for Candidates and Agents at the District and Town/Parish Council Elections

Information and guidance for candidates prepared nationally by the Electoral Commission is available from the [Commission's website \(www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/local-elections-england-and-wales\)](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/local-elections-england-and-wales) for District candidates; and <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/parish-and-community-council-elections-in-england-and-wales> for Parish or Town candidates).

### Counts and Results - District and Town/Parish Council Elections

The ballot papers for the District and Town/Parish Council elections will be counted immediately after the close of poll on Thursday 3 May 2018.

The results will be available on the [Election Results](#) page of this website as soon as all are known (from [www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections)).

### **Polling Hours and Polling Stations**

Polling hours on Thursday 3 May 2018 will be from 7 am until 10 pm.

Information about the location of polling stations is available on the District Council website.

### **Official Poll Cards**

Official Poll Cards, stating the hours of the poll and the details of the polling station, were posted to all eligible registered voters on Tuesday 27 March 2018.

For people added to the register after the middle of March, poll cards will be sent at a later date.

### **Poll Cards for Postal Voters**

Persons registered to vote by post, do not receive an "Official Poll Card". However, a poll card for postal voters was posted to them to confirm their registration for a postal ballot pack and giving other information, including how to change or cancel the arrangement. These were posted on Tuesday 27 March 2018.

### **Postal and Proxy Voting: Elections on Thursday 3 May 2018**

The deadline for receiving applications to vote by post was **5 pm on Wednesday 18 April 2018** and it is therefore now too late to apply. It is also now too late to apply to change or cancel an existing postal or proxy voting arrangement.

The deadline for receiving applications to appoint a proxy was **5 pm on Wednesday 25 April 2018** and has also now passed.

After **5 pm on Wednesday 25 April 2018**, there is provision for the appointment of a proxy because of unforeseen illness/physical incapacity or on grounds of occupation, service or employment. Any such applications (i) can be allowed only if the circumstances which lead to the application occurred after that date and time; (ii) have to be attested (supported) by a specified person; and (iii) can be received from then, but no later than **5 pm on polling day, Thursday 3 May 2018**. Further guidance is obtainable from the elections office.

Please note that a person appointed as a proxy must be (i) a registered voter; and (ii) able to go to your polling station on polling day to vote on your behalf.

### **Posting of Postal Votes to Voters**

Postal ballot papers for Thursday 3 May 2018 were posted on **Monday 16 April 2018** to all whose application to vote by post had been received by Wednesday 11 April.

Postal packs for those whose applications were received since were posted on Thursday 19 April.

### **Registering to Vote**

For persons not included in the register of electors, applications for registration needed to be received by no later than **Tuesday 17 April 2018** in order to be effective for Thursday 3 May 2018. Accordingly, it is now too late to apply.

If you are not registered, the easiest and quickest way to apply is via [www.gov.uk/register tovot e](http://www.gov.uk/register tovot e) - you will need your national insurance number as part of the application process.

People who do not have internet access may [contact electoral services](#) for an application form. If you are uncertain whether you are registered, please [contact electoral services](#) (this opens a contact form on the Council's website) or telephone 01993 861410.

### **Further Information/Contact Us**

For further information on elections in 2018, you may [contact electoral services](#) (this opens a contact form on the Council's website) or telephone during office hours via 01993 861410 or write to The Elections Office, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxon, OX28 1NB. The email address is [elections@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westoxon.gov.uk)

For detailed general information on all aspects of electoral matters, visit the website of the [Electoral Commission](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk). (www.electoralcommission.org.uk). The Commission has also established an additional website specific to registering to vote and voter queries about forthcoming elections. This site is at [www.yourvotematters.co.uk/](http://www.yourvotematters.co.uk/)

WODC Electoral Services  
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