

## West Oxfordshire District Council - Polling Districts and Polling Places Review 2024

### Background:

#### What is a Polling District and Polling Places review?

In accordance with the Representation of the People Act 1983 and the Electoral Administration Act 2013, local authorities must undertake a review of all polling districts and polling places used for parliamentary elections every five years.

A polling district is a geographical area that is set for election purposes, and electors who live in the same polling district go to the same polling place to vote. The polling place should be located within the border of the geographical area, if possible.

A polling place is the whole building or area where your polling station is located and where you go to vote. There may be more than one polling station inside the same polling place, depending on how many voters need to vote there.

#### Purpose of the review

The purpose of the review is to ensure voters have reasonable and practical facilities for voting and that, as far as is reasonable and practicable, polling places are accessible to all electors, and meet the needs of disabled persons.

West Oxfordshire District Council (the Council) is looking for feedback on any aspect of the polling districts and/or polling places currently used and invites representation and comments from interested persons. Local political parties and Councillors will also be consulted, and views are invited from electors and local community groups within the district.

Although the review is of polling districts and polling places it is accepted that polling stations are going to be linked to the review, and comments are invited regarding the stations currently used and/or any suggested alternatives.

#### What is not covered by the review?

This type of review is concerned only with the administrative subdivision of wards into polling districts, which are then assigned polling places.

The following matters are not considered as part of the review:

- The changing of any district ward boundaries – this can only be done by statute following an electoral review carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission which is due to be carried out in 2025.
- The changing of polling districts in areas that are also aligned with Parish boundaries – these can only be amended during a Community Governance Review.

#### Review timetable

The Council are now undertaking the review which must be completed between October 2023 and January 2025. A public consultation for the review will commence on Tuesday 24 September to Monday 4 November, the proposed changes and final proposals will be considered at the Council meeting on Wednesday 27 November 2024.

**Office** Electoral Services, West Oxfordshire District Council, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxon OX28 1NB

**Email:** [elections@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westoxon.gov.uk)

**Online:** <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections-and-voting/polling-districts-and-places/>

#### Findings and Recommendations:

The response to the consultation returned over 60 responses, via both email and a web-based survey. Listed in the following table and highlighted in yellow are polling places where comments were received, and the recommendation is accordingly made. There were three new polling districts identified to create (highlighted green) a new polling area within the District ward which would allow voters greater ease and convenience to vote.

## West Oxfordshire District Council - Polling Districts and Polling Places Review 2024

Polling District(s)	Polling Place	Constituency	District Council Ward	Parishes within Polling District	Comments/Proposed Change
FA	Alvescot Village Hall, The Walk, Alvescot, OX18 2PU	Witney	Alvescot and Filkins Ward	Alvescot	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FJ, GV	Kencot Village Hall, Kencot, GL7 3QT	Witney	Alvescot and Filkins Ward	Broadwell, Kencot	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GH	Filkins Carter Institute, Filkins, Nr Lechlade, GL7 3JQ	Witney	Alvescot and Filkins Ward	Filkins and Broughton Poggs	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GM, GY, HB	Langford Village Hall, Filkins Road, GL7 3LW	Witney	Alvescot and Filkins Ward	Grafton & Radcot, Langford, Little Faringdon	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GS, JC	Westwell - The Conservatory, 5 Mitford Cottages, OX18 4JU	Witney	Alvescot and Filkins Ward	Holwell, Westwell	<p>The current polling premise is a residential dwelling which is no longer be available. Alternative accommodation within the village were unable to be sourced. It is recommended to move voters for Westwell and Holwell (JC/GS) to the Filkins Carter Institute as the host polling place.</p> <p>It is recommended that a further review is implemented following the conclusion of the Local Government Boundary Commission consultation.</p>
GU	Kelmscot Morris Memorial Hall, Kelmscott, GL7 3HG	Witney	Alvescot and Filkins Ward	Kelmscot	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FB	Ascott under Wychwood - Tiddy Hall, Shipton Road, Ascott Under Wychwood, OX7 6AG	Witney	Ascott and Shipton Ward	Ascott under Wychwood	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HD, HQ	Shipton Under Wychwood - Beaconsfield Hall, Station Road, OX7 6BQ	Witney	Ascott and Shipton Ward	Lyneham, Shipton under Wychwood	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FE	Bampton Village Hall, Market Square, Bampton, OX18 2JH	Witney	Bampton and Clanfield Ward	Bampton	Accessible - No Proposed Change

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FF	Black Bourton - St Mary the Virgin Church, Burford Road, OX18 2PQ	Witney	Bampton and Clanfield Ward	Black Bourton	Further to the views and responses of the consultation, and the recent refurbishment of the Church to create a Community space, it would be recommended to retain the Church as a polling place for future elections.
FV	Clanfield - The Carter Institute, The Green, OX18 2SR	Witney	Bampton and Clanfield Ward	Clanfield	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FC	Asthall Leigh Memorial Hall, Minster Road, OX29 9PX	Witney	Brize Norton and Shilton Ward	Asthall Leigh	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FI	Brize Norton Elder Bank Hall, Station Road, Brize Norton, OX18 3PS	Witney	Brize Norton and Shilton Ward	Brize Norton	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HP	Shilton - The Old School, Church Lane, Shilton, OX18 4AE	Witney	Brize Norton and Shilton Ward	Shilton	Consideration was made with creating a further polling district to accommodate voters in Bradwell Grove. However, due to the ongoing consultation Local Government Boundary Review, it is recommended that the Old School, Shilton village remains the primary voting location and a further review is implemented following the conclusion of the LGBC.
HY	Swinbrook Village Hall, Swinbrook, OX18 4DY	Witney	Brize Norton and Shilton Ward	Swinbrook	Swinbrook Village Hall is scheduled to have works carried out during the 2025. It is recommended that Asthal Village Hall is used as a dual polling premise for 2025 election owing to both parishes being within the same District ward.  Although these are small villages' they both have strong community uses for their respective village halls and would not recommend that they are merged for voting in one premises for future polls.
FL, GK	Burford - Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RY	Witney	Burford Ward	Burford, Fulbrook	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JA	Taynton Village Hall, Taynton, OX18 4UH	Witney	Burford Ward	Taynton	There were no objections received to moving Taynton voters (JA) to vote at the polling premise in Burford, Warwick Hall. It is recommended to make this change for 2025 onwards.

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FM3	Carterton Methodist Church and Hall, Burford Road, OX18 3AG	Witney	Carterton North East Ward	Carterton Upavon Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FM4	Carterton Community Centre - The Small Hall, Shilton Park, OX18 1AX	Witney	Carterton North East Ward	Carterton Upavon Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FM	Carterton Methodist Church and Hall, Burford Road, OX18 3AG	Witney	Carterton North West Ward	Carterton Rock Farm Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FM2	Carterton - Army Cadet Force Hut, Swinbrook Road, Carterton, OX18 1DU	Witney	Carterton North West Ward	Carterton Shillbrook Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FN, FN2	Carterton Town Hall, Alvescot Road, OX18 3JL	Witney	Carterton South Ward	Carterton Gateway Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FP, FS, FX	Chadlington Memorial Hall, Chapel Road, OX7 3NA	Banbury	Chadlington and Churchill Ward	Chadlington, Chilson, Cornbury & Wychwood	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FU, HO	Churchill Village Hall, Church Road, OX7 6NJ	Banbury	Chadlington and Churchill Ward	Churchill, Sarsden	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HS	Spelsbury War Memorial Hall, Charlbury Road, Spelsbury, OX7 3JR	Banbury	Chadlington and Churchill Ward	Spelsbury	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FQ	Charlbury War Memorial Hall, Browns Lane, OX7 3QW	Banbury	Charlbury and Finstock Ward	Charlbury	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GF, GI	Finstock Village Hall, Well Hill, OX7 3BU	Banbury	Charlbury and Finstock Ward	Fawler, Finstock	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FT	Chipping Norton Town Hall, Market Place, OX7 5FB	Banbury	Chipping Norton Ward	Chipping Norton	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GA, HA	Curbridge Parish Hall, Main Road, OX29 7NT	Witney	Ducklington Ward	Curbridge, Lew	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GC	Ducklington Village Hall, Standlake Road, OX29 7UX	Witney	Ducklington Ward	Ducklington	Accessible - No Proposed Change

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FO	Cassington Village Hall, The Green, OX29 4DN	Bicester and Woodstock	Eynsham and Cassington Ward	Cassington	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GE	Eynsham Village Hall, Back Lane, OX29 4QW	Bicester and Woodstock	Eynsham and Cassington Ward	Eynsham	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HR	South Leigh and High Cogges Village Hall, South Leigh, OX29 6UR	Bicester and Woodstock	Eynsham and Cassington Ward	South Leigh & High Cogges	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GJ	Freeland Village Hall, Newell Room, Wroslyn Road, OX29 8AQ	Bicester and Woodstock	Freeland and Hanborough Ward	Freeland	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GP	Hanborough - The Pavilion, Playing Field, Roosevelt Road, OX29 8JG	Bicester and Woodstock	Freeland and Hanborough Ward	Hanborough	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FZ, GO	Hailey Village Hall, Middletown, OX29 9UA	Witney	Hailey, Minster Lovell and Leafield Ward	Crawley, Hailey	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GZ	Leafield New Village Hall, Lower End, OX29 9QJ	Witney	Hailey, Minster Lovell and Leafield Ward	Leafield	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HF	Minster Lovell - St. Kenelms Hall, Brize Norton Road, OX29 0SE	Witney	Hailey, Minster Lovell and Leafield Ward	Minster Lovell	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HJ	Ramsden Memorial Hall, High Street, OX7 3AU	Witney	Hailey, Minster Lovell and Leafield Ward	Ramsden	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FR, FY, GX	Kingham Village Hall, West Street, OX7 6YQ	Banbury	Kingham, Rollright and Enstone Ward	Chastleton, Cornwell, Kingham	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GD	Enstone Parish Hall, The Paddocks, OX7 4AZ	Banbury	Kingham, Rollright and Enstone Ward	Enstone	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GN, HC	Great Tew - The Tew Centre, Ledwell Road, OX7 4AF	Banbury	Kingham, Rollright and Enstone Ward	Great Tew, Little Tew	Accessible - No Proposed Change.
GR, HI	Over Norton Village Hall, Choicehill Road, OX7 5PP	Banbury	Kingham, Rollright and Enstone Ward	Heythrop, Over Norton	Accessible - No Proposed Change

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HK	Great Rollright Village Hall, Great Rollright, High Street, OX7 5RY	Banbury	Kingham, Rollright and Enstone Ward	Great Rollright	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HM	Salford Village Hall, Salford, OX7 5YP	Banbury	Kingham, Rollright and Enstone Ward	Salford	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HX	Swerford Village Hall, Between Towns Lane, Swerford, OX7 4BB	Banbury	Kingham, Rollright and Enstone Ward	Swerford	The response to the survey determined that Swerford Village Hall should remain as a polling place for future elections at this time.
FK, HE	Milton under Wychwood Village Hall, Shipton Road, Milton under Wychwood, OX7 6JW	Witney	Milton under Wychwood Ward	Bruern, Milton under Wychwood	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GG, GT	Fifield Parish Hall, High Street, OX7 6HL	Witney	Milton under Wychwood Ward	Fifield, Idbury	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HG	North Leigh Memorial Hall, Park Road, OX29 6SA	Bicester and Woodstock	North Leigh Ward	North Leigh	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FD	Aston New Village Hall, Cote Road, Aston, OX18 2DU	Witney	Standlake, Aston and Stanton Harcourt Ward	Aston, Cote, Shifford & Chimney	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GQ, HT	Standlake Village Hall, Rack End, OX29 7SB	Witney	Standlake, Aston and Stanton Harcourt Ward	Hardwick with Yelford, Standlake	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HH	Northmoor Village Hall, Northmoor, OX29 5SX	Witney	Standlake, Aston and Stanton Harcourt Ward	Northmoor	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HU	Stanton Harcourt Millennium & Memorial Hall, Blackditch, Stanton Harcourt, OX29 5SB	Witney	Standlake, Aston and Stanton Harcourt Ward	Stanton Harcourt	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FW	Combe Reading Room, The Green, OX29 8NT	Bicester and Woodstock	Stonesfield and Tackley Ward	Combe	Accessible - No Proposed Change
GL, GW, JR	Wootton Village Hall, Church Street, OX20 1DZ	Bicester and Woodstock	Stonesfield and Tackley Ward	Glympton, Kiddington with Asterleigh, Wootton	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HL, HZ	Tackley Village Hall, 27 Medcroft Road, Tackley, OX5 3AH	Bicester and Woodstock	Stonesfield and Tackley Ward	Rousham, Tackley	Accessible - No Proposed Change

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HW	Stonesfield Village Hall, Field Close, Stonesfield, OX29 8HA	Bicester and Woodstock	Stonesfield and Tackley Ward	Stonesfield	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HN, JS	Sandford St Martin Parish Hall, Sandford St Martin, OX7 7AH	Banbury	The Bartons Ward	Sandford St. Martin, Worton	Accessible - No Proposed Change
HV, JB	Middle Barton Memorial Sports & Social Club, Worton Road, Middle Barton, OX7 7EE	Banbury	The Bartons Ward	Steeple Barton, Westcot Barton	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JD	Witney - Ceewood Hall, Fettiplace Road, Witney, OX28 5AR	Witney	Witney Central Ward	Witney Central Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JD2	Witney - Davenport Road Methodist Church, Davenport Road, Witney, OX28 6EJ	Witney	Witney Central Ward	Witney Central Town Ward	To retain the use of the Davenport Road Methodist Church as a polling station which is welcomed by the Tower Hill School and community. This will also help with parking issues around the Church if a new polling district is created as explained below.
JE	Witney - Wood Green School, Woodstock Road, OX28 1DZ	Witney	Witney East Ward	Witney East Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JE2. JF	Witney - Blake C.E. School, The Main Hall, Cogges Hill Road, OX28 3FR	Witney	Witney East Ward	Witney East Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JF2	Witney - Madley Park Hall, Northfield Farm Lane, OX28 1UE	Witney	Witney East Ward	Witney East Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JG	Witney - WODC Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Woodgreen, OX28 1NB	Witney	Witney North Ward	Witney North Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JH	Witney - Witney C.P.School, Hailey Road, Witney, OX28 1HL	Witney	Witney North Ward	Witney North Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JI, JK	Witney - Burwell Hall, Thorney Leys, Witney, OX28 5NP	Witney	Witney South Ward	Witney South Town Ward	The polling place is small for three polling stations within it. Complications arise where there is a mix of wards, town wards and county electoral divisions. The polling district for 'JI and JK' consists of Witney West residential areas including the 'Burwell Estate, and Burwell Meadow', it is recommended to seek an alternative polling premise for JI and JK polling districts.



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JJ	Witney - Corn Exchange, Market Square, Witney, OX28 6AB	Witney	Witney South Ward	Witney South Town Ward	Accessible - No Proposed Change
JL	Witney - Burwell Hall, Thorney Leys, Witney, OX28 5NP	Witney	Witney West Ward	Witney West Town Ward	<p>Following the Oxfordshire County Council LGBC review, the JK (Burwell Meadow) has been amalgamated back into the polling district JI. This administratively removes the complications of voting for Burwell Hall, although they are still two different wards, and two different electoral divisions, there will no longer be the additional separate Burwell town ward.</p> <p>There are no local viable alternative polling places at this time, no comments or suggested alternatives have been received during the consultation.</p>
JM	Witney - The Joint Cadet Centre, Edington Square, OX28 5YP	Witney	Witney West Ward	Witney West Town Ward	<p>It is recommended to create a new polling district to accommodate the electors of 'Spring Meadow' to the west of Deer Park estate.</p> <p>It is expected that a new Sports pavilion will be constructed and will potentially be available as a polling premise in the future. In the interim the new Windrush CE School has been approached requesting that electors within this new polling district can vote at the school.</p> <p>With regard to the Colwell Green development in Curbridge (Ducklington ward), this will need to be reviewed again after the Local Government Boundary Commission consultation is complete.</p>
FG	Bladon Church Room, Church Street, Bladon, OX20 1RS	Bicester and Woodstock	Woodstock and Bladon Ward	Bladon	Accessible - No Proposed Change
FH, JN, JP	Woodstock - Blenheim Estate Office, Woodstock Gate - Blenheim Palace, Park Street, OX20 1PP	Bicester and Woodstock	Woodstock and Bladon Ward	Blenheim, Woodstock No.1, Woodstock No.3	To retain the flexibility of voting in the main primary polling venue of the Blenheim Estate Office and if necessary, to hold any ad hoc town vacancies at the Town Hall should the Estate Office be unavailable at that time.
JO, JQ	Woodstock Bowls and Tennis Club, Cadogan Park, Woodstock, OX20 1UW	Bicester and Woodstock	Woodstock and Bladon Ward	Woodstock No.2, Woodstock No.4	It is recommended to retain the polling districts JO and JQ as they are and use the Bowls and Tennis Club as a central polling place for both polling



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					district areas. There is no advantage to creating further polling districts for a small number of electors to vote at the Marlborough School. The polling premises are better being retained centrally in the town.
NEW: JD3	Possible: Witney Methodist Church Meeting Room	Witney	Witney Central Ward	Witney Central No.3	To divide the polling district JD2 creating a new polling district within the Witney Central Ward. This would allow for electors who live closer to the High Street to be within a more local vicinity to vote. Contact has been made with the Church with the view of using their adjacent meeting room as a polling station in the future.
NEW JJ2	New: Witney Artificial Turf Pitch Hall	Witney	Witney South Ward	Witney South No. 3 (Witney Leys Town Ward)	It is recommended to create a new polling district to align with the newly created town ward named Witney Leys consequent to the OCC LGBC consultation/review. It is expected that the premise named ATP sports pavilion will be able to accommodate electors within the Witney Leys polling district in the future.
NEW JE3	Witney - Blake C.E. School, The Main Hall, Cogges Hill Road, OX28 3FR	Witney	Witney East Ward	Witney East No.2a (Witney Quays Town Ward)	There is no visible alternative premise that can be located within the Witney East polling district for JE2. JE3 and JF. Witney Mills cricket club is a consideration, although it is on the main busy road with small facilities and car parking, it would not be a suitable venue and would require a further polling district to be created within Witney East.  It is recommended to retain the use of the Blake School for the new polling district JE3 which is a division of JE2.

(Acting) Returning Officer - Witney Constituency  
West Oxfordshire District Council  
Council Offices  
Woodgreen, Witney  
Oxon OX28 1NB

# Electoral Services Manager - 13 November 2024

P:\Electoral Registration\Polling Place and Electoral Reviews\Polling Place and PD Review 2024-25\Annex B Recommendations 2024 (All areas)(Sept2024).docx