

Elections on Thursday 22 May 2014

Notes:

This document is designed to be used and read on-line, and will be updated at several points through to 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 revisit www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections to check for updates.

CONTENTS

West Oxfordshire District Council Elections	2
Parish and Town Council Elections.....	2
Candidates’ Nominated for Election – District and Town/Parish Council Elections.....	2
European Parliamentary Elections	3
Returning Officer, Local Returning Officer and Regional Returning Officer	3
Guidance for Candidates at the District and Town/Parish Council Elections.....	4
Guidance for Candidates and Agents – European Elections	4
Counts and Results - District and Town/Parish Council Elections.....	4
Count and Results – European Parliamentary Election	4
Polling Hours and Polling Stations	4
Official Poll Cards.....	5
Poll Cards for Postal Voters	5
Postal and Proxy Voting: Elections on Thursday 22 May 2014.....	5
Posting of Postal Votes to Voters	5
Registering to Vote	5
Further Information/Contact Us.....	5

West Oxfordshire District Council Elections

On Thursday 22 May 2014 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): Ascott and Shipton; Bampton and Clanfield; Brize Norton and Shilton; Burford; Carterton North East; Carterton North West; Carterton South; Chipping Norton; Ducklington; Eynsham and Cassington; Freeland and Hanborough; Standlake, Aston and Stanton Harcourt; Stonesfield and Tackley; The Bartons; Witney East; Witney South; and Woodstock and Bladon.

(The Stonesfield and Tackley Ward was not scheduled to have an election this year, but a vacancy has arisen which will be filled for the period to May 2016. All other persons elected to District Council seats on 22 May will have a term of office of four years ending in May 2018.)

More information about District Wards and current members of the Council may be found at www.westoxon.gov.uk/councillors and you can find out in which Ward you live by going to the website homepage and choosing "My West Oxfordshire".

See [below](#) for general information about the number of candidates nominated, and see [District Nominations](#) for the names of the candidates who have been nominated.

Parish and Town Council Elections

Elections for all the seats on 17 Parish/Town Councils were also scheduled for Thursday 22 May 2014, for the Parish/Town Councils of Ascott under Wychwood; Asthal; Aston, Cote, Shifford and Chimney; Bampton; Bladon; Brize Norton; Burford; Cassington; Curbridge and Lew; Ducklington; Fulbrook; Sandford St Martin; Shilton; Shipton under Wychwood; Standlake; Steeple Barton; and Swinbrook and Widford.

In addition, one vacant seat on each of Charlbury and Chipping Norton Town Councils were due to be filled. The person elected to Chipping Norton Town Council will serve until May 2015, when the Town Council next has elections for all of its 16 seats; and the person elected to Charlbury Town Council will serve until May 2016, when the Town Council next has elections for all of its 12 seats. In all other cases, the persons elected will have a term of office of four years ending in May 2018.

See [below](#) for general information about the number of candidates nominated, and see [Town and Parish Nominations](#) for the names of the candidates who have been nominated.

Candidates' Nominated for Election – District and Town/Parish Council Elections

The period for nominating candidates for election closed at 4 pm on Thursday 24 April 2014.

A total of 66 candidates have been nominated for the 17 **District Council** seats, comprising 17 Conservatives; 11 Green Party; 3 Independents; 15 Labour/Labour and Co-operative Party; 9 Liberal Democrats; and 11 UKIP.

For **Town and Parish Council** elections, there were a total of 104 nominations for the 117 available seats, as follows:

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

* The parishes of Curbridge and Lew form a joint Parish Council.

Therefore the only Town/Parish Council election which is contested is that for the single vacancy on the Chipping Norton Town Council.

In the remaining Towns/Parishes, 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 Town/Parish Council will co-opt to fill the remaining vacancy or vacancies.

For the details of those nominated for both District and Town/Parish elections, please see the [Elections](#) page of the website (www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections then the future elections page).

European Parliamentary Elections

Elections for the European Parliament are also taking place on Thursday 22 May 2014. West Oxfordshire is within the South East Region, which covers Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey and Sussex.

The South East Region will elect a total of 10 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs).

Information about the European Parliament is available from the website of the [UK Office of the European Parliament](#) [<http://www.europarl.org.uk/>].

A total of 15 Parties/Individual candidates have been nominated, and details are available from the [Elections](#) page of the website (www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections then the future elections page).

Returning Officer, Local Returning Officer and Regional Returning Officer

The Returning Officer for District and Parish elections is Keith Butler, who is based at the District Council offices at Woodgreen, Witney. He is also Local Returning Officer for the administration of the European election within West Oxfordshire. See [below](#) for contact information.

For the European election, there is a Regional Returning Officer (RRO) for the South East Region, who gives directions and guidance to Local Returning Officers within the region, and

who is responsible for calculating the result for the Region as a whole. The RRO is Mark Heath, who is based at the offices of Southampton City Council. He may be contacted via rro.southeastregion@southampton.gov.uk and the RRO website is at <http://www.southampton.gov.uk/EuropeanParliamentaryElections/>

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

Guidance produced by the Returning Officer and supplied to prospective candidates is available to download from the [Elections](#) page of the website - www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections.

Information and guidance 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).

Please note that nomination papers will not be available from the District Council's website, but will be supplied by the Elections Office, on request.

Guidance for Candidates and Agents – European Elections

Guidance and information will be available from the Regional Returning Officer, and is also available from the [Electoral Commission website](#) (www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/european-parliamentary-elections).

Counts and Results - District and Town/Parish Council Elections

The counting of District and Parish election ballot papers will take place on Friday 23 May 2014.

The results will be available on the [Election Results](#) page of this website as soon as all are known (<http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections-voting/election-results/>). Additionally, as each result is declared, the information will be available on twitter: www.twitter.com/WestOxElections.

Count and Results – European Parliamentary Election

The count for the West Oxfordshire area will take place during the afternoon/evening of Sunday, 25 May. The results for all the counting areas across the South East Region will be passed to the Regional Returning Officer who will make the necessary calculations for the full result using the system of proportional representation used for European elections in the UK.

The result for the West Oxfordshire area will be available as soon as possible after 9pm on Sunday evening, 25 May, from the [Election Results](#) page (<http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections-voting/election-results/>).

The full South East Region result will also be made available as soon as it has been calculated and declared. A link to the relevant webpage will be included in a later version of this document.

Polling Hours and Polling Stations

Polling hours on Thursday 22 May 2014 will be from 7 am until 10 pm.

Information about the location of polling stations is available on the District Council website, via "My West Oxfordshire" and via a document available from the [Future elections](#) page.

Official Poll Cards

Official Poll Cards, stating the hours of the poll and the details of the polling station, were posted on Monday 14 April 2014. Poll cards were subsequently sent to persons added to the voting register after 1 April.

Poll Cards for Postal Voters

Persons registered to vote by post, have been sent a poll card for postal voters, to confirm that they are registered to receive a postal ballot pack and giving other information, including how to change or cancel the arrangement. These were posted on Monday 14 April 2014. Postal poll cards were subsequently sent to those persons who applied for a postal vote after 1 April.

Postal and Proxy Voting: Elections on Thursday 22 May 2014

The deadline for receiving applications to vote by post on Thursday 22 May 2014 was 5 pm on Wednesday 7 May 2014, so it is now too late to apply. That was also the deadline for applications to change an existing postal or proxy voting arrangement.

The deadline for receiving applications to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf was 5 pm on Wednesday 14 May 2014, so has also now passed.

After **5 pm on Wednesday 14 May 2014**, there is provision for the appointment of a proxy because of a medical emergency or for work reasons. 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 22 May 2014**. Further guidance and application forms are obtainable from the elections office.

Posting of Postal Votes to Voters

The majority of postal ballot papers for Thursday 22 May 2014 were posted on **Thursday 8 May 2014** and those for (i) people added to the postal voting list since early April; and (ii) people voting by post at the Chipping Norton Town Council election were posted on **Friday 9 May 2014**.

If you have not received your postal pack by Friday 16 May, please contact us for advice on the issuing of a replacement.

Registering to Vote

For persons not included in the register of electors, the deadline for receiving applications in time for them to be effective for Thursday 22 May 2014 was Tuesday 6 May 2014, meaning that it is now too late to apply.

For further information on registering to vote, please visit the [electoral registration](#) page (www.westoxon.gov.uk/register). For an application form, please [contact electoral services](#).

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 2014, 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

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 <http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk>

WODC Electoral Services
December 2013

[last updated 14 May 2014]