

Councillors: Dorothy Walker and Lesley McLean.

Parish Councils: Kidlington, Yarnton and Begbroke

Period: March / April 2026

Enforcement Updates.

There are enforcement queries on the following developments.

6 The Closes – Formal action on this will be the subject of an ‘expediency’ investigation and a report is due in December). Pre-app received, planning to provide advice.

Kebab Kid non permitted signage –Still waiting on legal comments to witness statements.

3 Paternoster Court, Yarnton – Flood inspection requested.

45 Merton Way, Yarnton – Enforcement have now re-opened investigation and are looking for additional information from local residents.

73 High Street, Kidlington – 3rd Retrospective Planning application received.

Given the steady flow of enforcement cases, Kidlington Councillors have regular update meetings with Planning Enforcement.

Waste Site

After a delay due to the weather, site preparations began on 2nd March to ensure safe entry and exit to and from the site and welfare arrangements for the during of the removal.



Kerbside Glass Recycling.

From 1st January CDC has been collecting glass at the kerbside which is placed in the blue bin for recycling.

The recycling bins at Begbroke were due to be removed in February, this has been delayed due to contractor storage restricting access, but all removal including Exeter Hall should be completed by the end of March.

HMOs.

We have requested an HMO briefing for Parishes Councils and Councillors to ensure an understanding of the current regulations and permissions required by developers and hope to have an update on this shortly.

Area Oversight Group.

An area Spatial Study is being completed by CDC and should be available in the near future. This will look at the development across the area and bring that together an holistic plan, with an understanding of infrastructure requirements for the area. This will include transport connectivity, green spaces, and long-term community requirements



Green Spaces

A green spaces review is taking place across Kidlington, Yarnton and Begbroke. This is reviewing the current spaces, how they are used, and how we can make the best of those spaces. Park Hill in Kidlington was the first to be reviewed with Rutten Lane, Begbroke Playing Fields and Exeter Close

and our other spaces to follow.

At meeting with the Yarnton Park Renewal Group has been held to understand how we can support improvements.

REPF/Green Space & Community Grants

Cherwell through the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) will be supporting various local projects this year including contributions to improvements for local green spaces and a new heritage route.

Economic Forum

Cherwell Economic Forum took place in February and was well attended by local businesses and developers across the area. Homes England were also in attendance and highlighted the local infrastructure issues which are holding up progress on developments such as the lack of water supply and foul water management along with energy and local connectivity.



Community Brew.

This initiative is run by local volunteers and supported by Jericho Coffee Traders. Lesley attended recently and the event was well supported by local residents, and it gave an opportunity to discuss directly local issues that affect our communities.

Budget Agreed.

At its meeting on Monday, 23 February, council confirmed a net budget of £32.3 million for the coming year. The budget includes over £1.7 million of new efficiency savings to help protect front line services, and £1.3 million for community-based projects, including £300k for the wider Kidlington area, this will push forward ready to go plans already in the Area Priority Plan.

Roundham Crossing.

A very well attended community meeting was held at Begbroke Village Hall. OUD and Network Rail attended and provided an update to the community on the current position of the closure of Roundham Crossing. It seems that the closure is probably eight years away, however further discussions are planned with developers in the area and an application to close the crossing is yet to be made by Network Rail. A petition has been raised at: www.oxonld.uk/roundham-crossing.

Oxford Technology Park 2 - Engagement

Two engagement events have been held by Bloombridge/Blenheim in relation to the proposed OTP2 development, let us know your thoughts and feedback. Further details can be found here: <https://otp2.co.uk/>

Flooding

The extended recent rain fall has exacerbated local flooding issues. These are being monitored by our flood team and passed on to Oxfordshire County Council as the lead flood authority. Flooding and drainage issues have been noted across the area, and investigations will continue following gully inspections.

The Section 19 reports for Garden City, Yarnton, Mill End/Oxford Road have been released, and we are awaiting a further report Begbroke/A44.



While specific detailed CDC funding announcements on flood equipment have not yet been published, Cllr Lesley McLean is continuing to press for equipment that can be utilized to enhance locally based action in the event of a flood incident. Further information will be available soon.

Campsfield House Immigration Detention Centre

Dorothy visited the refurbished facility (Phase 1), together with CDC CEO, Gordon Stewart, Nicola Riley, Director of wellbeing and Housing Services and David Hingley, Leader of the Council. Briefing from a Home Office representative and the Director of the Centre (it is to be run by Mitie Care and Custody). There were very few detainees present at the time of the visit so it was not easy to get an idea of what conditions will be like at full capacity. Mitie has been the subject of severe controversies, the most recent being its management of Harmondsworth Detention Centre near Heathrow, where it was described as 'truly chaotic', 'shocking', 'filthy' and 'violent' in a report by the Chief Inspector of Prisons. The Planning Application for Phase 2 (a second building housing some 200 further detainees) will be submitted with a view to completing construction by 2030.

High Street and Parade Traders.

Local businesses attended a meeting to discuss the requirements of the wider Kidlington area on 21st January, 2026, the discussion included parking issues, development constraints and events to increase support for our High Streets.

The CDC Regeneration and Growth team are also providing additional support for our High Streets through Enterprise Oxfordshire, and businesses can [access further information here: https://enterpriseoxfordshirebusiness.com/helping-high-streets/](https://enterpriseoxfordshirebusiness.com/helping-high-streets/)

Local Plan

Government appointed inspectors were in attendance at the public hearing of Cherwell District Councils Local Plan 2042 on 17th February. Further sessions are likely in the summer prior to a full report.

Abandoned cars

Any vehicle believed to be abandoned can be [registered at Cherwell District Council here: https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/7/environment/415/abandoned-vehicle](https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/7/environment/415/abandoned-vehicle)