

Cllrs Lucy Edwards and Bethia Thomas

As always, we have been working for residents and communities in Faringdon and like to keep town members informed; if you have any questions or would like to meet with us, please get in touch. Our contact details are at the bottom of this report. Our Councillor surgeries are running as normal also – every second Saturday in the library from 10am – 11am.

Round-Up of Local Issues

Not all items are covered here, with a selection of the main updates listed below. Please get in touch for further details on these or other items.

- **New Damaged Wall, Bottom of Stanford Road:** We are happy that the Town Council are investigating ownership of this wall. We will act if necessary.
- **New Equipment, FLC** – 15 new spin bikes have been purchased by the Vale of Whitehorse District Council. These are due to be active this week.
- **Decarbonisation, FLC** – Awaiting connection date.
- **Artificial Turf Pitch, FLC:** No further information to report.
- **Wessex Leisure Funding** – We are checking with OCC that the funding was allocated in their 25/26 budget. This funding would be transferred to Vale and ringfenced.
- **Lighting, Gloucester Street Car Park** – Awaiting date for the permanent fix.
- **Fernhill Gardens to Belmont Estate** – A date has been scheduled a walk around site visit to check pavements and link pathway.
- **Wicklesham Farm** – Still waiting on a date Oxfordshire County Council's planning committee.
- **SEND School Application** – We are planning an update meeting with the planning officer.
- **Wain Homes/Coxwell Road** - Following up on reports of mud on road and parking.
- **Folly Park Paths & Car Park** - Already investigating if improvements can be made and issues around adoption, particularly of car park, and pedestrian/cycle bridge.
- **Great British Spring Clean** – We are happy to be involved in GBSC, and very supportive of town council approaching district for a Spring Clean pack.

District Update

Social housing allocation policy changes

Our public consultation on proposed changes to the Joint Housing Allocations Policy opened on 18 February. The policy underpins our work on providing homes to those who need them most, setting out the criteria to join the housing register and the rules for how social housing is allocated.

Last updated in 2019, the policy needs refreshing to reflect current housing priorities in the districts. There are four main proposed changes to the policy – all designed to help ensure no one is disadvantaged when it comes to allocating social housing.

[Details on how to take part are on Join The Conversation](#), our Community Engagement website and the consultation runs until 11.59pm on Tuesday 18 March 2025. Please do help encourage people to share their views.

Garden Waste Scheme

This is now live and residents are being urged to update their subscription.

Bringing empty homes back into use

We're offering help to empty property owners so they can bring underused homes back into use for those who need them most. Measures include rent in advance, financial assistance towards refurbishment in some circumstances, and help with finding a tenant.

We're encouraging empty property owners to get in touch with us so we can discuss the benefits and options available, and tying in with National Empty Homes Week beginning on 3 March, we'll also be encouraging residents to report empty homes to us via our website.

Contact Details

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