

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 8 May 2024

Title: Appointment to Advisory Committees & External Bodies/Outside Organisations

Contact Officer: Deputy Town Clerk

Background

The Town Council appoints representatives to the following Advisory Committees/Outside Bodies, and it is usually recommended that those appointed as per below should serve until the Annual Council Meeting following the next ordinary election of Councillors in 2023, although Members may wish to step down at this juncture if they so wish.

Witney Traffic Advisory Committee	-	4 – J Aitman, T Ashby, S Simpson, R Smith
Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils [Larger Councils]	-	1 – Leader of the Council
West Witney Sports & Social Club	-	2 – D Newcombe, R Smith
Witney Town Band	-	1 – O Collins
Witney & District Twinning Association	-	3 (Mayor (Ex officio)) R Crouch, J Doughty
West Oxfordshire Museum Centre	-	1 – O Collins
St Mary’s Church Preservation Trust	-	Mayor
Volunteer Link Up	-	1 – J Aitman
RAF Brize Norton – Local Consultation Working Group	-	1 – D Newcombe
Witney Allotment Association	-	1 – R Crouch
Witney Youth Council Mentors	-	2 – G Meadows, S Simpson, J Treloar
Friends of the Cemeteries	-	2 – D Enright, J Doughty
Home Start Champions	-	3 – J Aitman, L Cherry, S Simpson
Lower Windrush Valley Project	-	1 – R Smith
West Oxfordshire Community Transport	-	1 – S Simpson
Witney Fair Trade Action Group Champion	-	1 – R Crouch

North Witney Collaboration Group	-	2 – R Smith, A Bailey
Witney Community Profile Steering Group	-	2 – L Cherry, <i>J Aitman</i>

NOMINEES – SERVING AS TRUSTEES

Listed below are the Town Council nominees serving on other outside bodies. The expiry dates of terms of office on these bodies are shown. The terms of office are set by the various bodies and Council appointments are made on the expiry of the term or vacancies caused by resignation, disqualification, etc.:

(* Denotes non-Member of Witney Town Council) Term of office expires

Witney Town Hall Charity – 4-year term of office

The Witney Town Hall Charity owns the Town Hall, Townhouse and the Buttercross and is the Town Council's landlord. The primary purpose of the Charity is to ensure the properties are kept in good order, and secondly with the rental income a small grant pot is provided to support the work of local organisations.

Mr H B Eaglestone*	May 2025
Ms Mandy Collicut* (Co-opted Trustee)	Feb 2027
Cllr O Collins	May 2027
Cllr S Simpson	May 2027
Mrs R Crouch*	May 2026
Mr D Semaine* (Co-opted Trustee)	Oct 2027
Mrs L J Semaine*	Jun 2026

(The Town Council does not nominate co-opted Trustees)

Witney Town Charity – 4-year term of office

The charitable objectives of the Witney Town Charity are:

1. The provision and maintenance of Almshouses for poor persons
2. The relief of poor persons in conditions of need, hardship or distress. It operates 18 Almshouses and also provides grants for those in need.

Within its constitution it allows for 6 Witney Town Councillors to be on the Trust as nominated Trustees

Mr B Beadle*	May 2026
Mrs M Jones*	Jun 2024
Mrs R Crouch*	May 2026
Cllr G Meadows	May 2027
Cllr J Aitman	Jun 2025
Mr C Woodward*	Feb 2026

Witney Educational Foundation (WEF) – 4-year term of office

WEF provides financial support for the schools of Witney and surrounding communities to enable all students to enjoy full range of activities offered by each school. It also provides grants for families in need, to assist with the cost of extra-curricular activities, educational visits, school clothing and other essential items.

Cllr L Cherry	Jul 2027
Mrs L Duncan*	May 2025
Mr R W Barton*	May 2028
Mr C K Woodward*	May 2026

Cogges Welfare Trust Charity – 4-year term of office

The Cogges Welfare Trust Charity maintains the charities property including the upkeep of the Witney Market Clock and Clock House. Remaining income is used for the relief of hardship etc. by the way of grants to people in need.

Cllr J Aitman	Jul 2024
Cllr D Enright	Jul 2024
Mr H W Chirgwin*	Jul 2024

Madley Park Hall Trust - 4-year term of office

Objectives and aims: The provision and maintenance of a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of Witney and the surrounding area without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for:

- (a) meetings, lectures and classes, and
- (b) other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants

J Aitman	May 2027
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Arising from the above, the nominees required are listed below:

1. Witney Town Charity:- **1 Council-nominated vacancy**

The term of office of Mrs M Jones expires in June 2024 – the Charity has advised that Mrs Jones would be willing to stand for another term. She is an active and valued Trustee and although she is not now a Town Councillor, the Charity would welcome Witney Town Council reappointing her for a further 4-year term.

2. Cogges Welfare Trust Charity:- **3 Council-nominated vacancies**

The terms of office of Cllrs J Aitman, D Enright and former Councillor (and town council representative) Mr H Chirgwin are all due to come to an end in July.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and

- 1. consider the appointments to the outside bodies/organisations, and
- 2. consider the appointments as trustees to the two organisations where trusteeships have or are due to expire this municipal year.