**District Councillor’s Update for Blockley Parish Council, July 2024**

Residents can contact me, Clare Turner, at Clare.Turner@cotswold.gov.uk
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1. Coming up: I will be attending an Overview and Scrutiny meeting next week and full council meeting the following week after a hiatus due to the general election that took place at the start of the month. Overview and Scrutiny will be looking at the latest on the Publica transition ([bringing some council services back in-house](https://news.cotswold.gov.uk/news/local-authorities-to-consider-moving-forward-with-plans-to-take-greater-control-of-council-services)) and reviewing the outcome of changes to the times which the telephone line for customer services is available <https://news.cotswold.gov.uk/news/district-council-to-trial-reduced-call-centre-opening-hours>).
2. The Cabinet also meet the following week and are expected to approve the continuation of Crowdfund Cotswold and agree a three year contract with Spacehive (who currently manage the online fundraising platform) and make provision for a £60,000 pot to fund community projects.
3. Waste collection [changes](https://news.cotswold.gov.uk/news/households-in-cotswold-district-reminded-that-waste-collection-changes-are-just-days-away) have now been implemented across the district. There have been a few teething problems (though it seems some of the issues locally did not relate to the changes but to problems with equipment instead). Any issues can be reported after 4pm on the day of collection via the website <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/report-a-missed-bin/> which will also host any updates about any known issues with collections.
4. A sewage Summit took place in July. I was unable to attend unfortunately, but will catch up with the slides and supporting information in the coming weeks. This can be viewed here <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/environment/sewage-summit/>
5. I’m exploring ways to set up a community group to monitor water quality in the ward. A number of volunteers have been identified who are interested in monitoring the water, so I’m exploring possible sources of funding with a view to getting regular testing started in the Autumn. The performance of the sewage works in Blockley has some alarming statistics with regards to the amount of time untreated effluent is being discharged, so I will be following this up with Severn Trent.
6. CDC is looking for volunteers to become fly-tipping guardians you can find out more here: <https://news.cotswold.gov.uk/news/volunteers-needed-to-help-with-our-fight-against-fly-tippers>
7. CDC are working with partners to deliver HAF (Holiday Activities and Food programme) across the District and details of what is on offer can be found here:  <https://gloucestershirehaf.com/cotswold-district-haf/>