

Caversfield cluster- Community Profile: July 2017

1. **Map and Overview**



Caversfield Parish Cluster (Source: Ordnance Survey Election Maps)

Overview

The Caversfield cluster consists of Caversfield, Bucknell, Fringford, Stoke Lyne and Stratton Audley.

**Caversfield** is a village and civil parish about 1 ¹⁄₂ miles north of the centre of Bicester. In 1844 Caversfield became part of Oxfordshire, but until then it was always an exclave of Buckinghamshire. The village has a long history of association with the Air Force, particularly with RAF Bicester which is no longer operational. The airfield has been recognised as a Conservation Area by English Heritage and is one of the most important examples of a green airfield constructed between the first and second world wars. The airfield and surrounding buildings is now owned and operated by [Bicester Heritage](http://bicesterheritage.co.uk/) and the airfield is currently leased to the [Bicester Gliding Centre](http://www.windrushers.org.uk/). The previous RAF Domestic site in Skimmingdish Lane is being redeveloped by City and Country as ‘The Garden Quarter’ for residential use.

**Bucknel**l is a village and civil parish 2 ¹⁄₂ miles northwest of Bicester. After the Norman Conquest of England, William the Conqueror granted the Manor of Bucknell to Robert D'Oyly. In 1300 the Lord of the Manor of Bucknell was Sir Robert d'Amory, father of Roger d'Amory. Near the church in Bucknell are a few attractive old cottages, including the odd one with a thatched roof, and elsewhere in the village there is modern development.

**Fringford** is a village and civil parish about 4 miles northeast of Bicester. The parish is bounded to the east by the Roman road that linked Alchester Roman Town with Roman Towcester, to the south by a brook that joins the River Bure, to the north mostly by a brook that is a tributary of the River Great Ouse, and to the west by field boundaries. Fringford village is in the north of the parish, surrounded on two sides by a bend in the tributary of the Great Ouse.

**Stoke Lyne** is a village and civil parish about 4 miles north of Bicester. In AD 584 a Saxon army led by King Ceawlin of Wessex and his son Cutha fought an army of Britons "at the place which is named Fethan leag". Cutha was killed but his father Ceawlin won "many towns and countless war-loot". A 12th-century document records a wood called "Fethelée" in a reference to Stoke Lyne, so it is now thought the battlefield was probably near here.

**Stratton Audley** is a village and civil parish about 2.5 miles northeast of Bicester. The Domesday Book of 1086 records that Robert D'Oyly held five hides of land at Stratton. Like many D'Oyly manors, Stratton later became part of the Honour of Wallingford. The Honour of Wallingford became part of the Earldom of Cornwall and thence in the 15th century a number of former Wallingford manors became part of the Duke of Suffolk's Honour of Ewelme. The Parish of Stratton Audley is a small community of just over 400 people living in some 190 dwellings.

**Godington** is a village and [civil parish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_parishes_in_England) about 5 miles (8 km) northeast of [Bicester](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bicester) in [Oxfordshire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxfordshire). The parish is bounded on all but the west side by a brook called the Birne, which at this point forms also the county boundary with [Buckinghamshire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buckinghamshire). The parish was included in the figures of Stratton Audley for the purposes of the [United Kingdom Census 2011](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom_Census_2011).

The Caversfield cluster population at the time of the 2011 Census was 9,025. Both the proportion and absolute number of those aged over 65 is expected to continue to increase over the coming decades. 1

Ward forecasts for the Parishes supplied by Oxfordshire County Council predict the population of this age group will increase by 114% in the 15 years from 2011 to 2026. The forecast of the total Caversfield cluster population in 2026 is 16,252.1

1 <http://insight.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/oxfordshire-county-council-population-forecasts-january-2014-excel-format>

School

* Fringford C.E. Primary School currently has 92 pupils on roll aged 4-11 years. The Green, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DY Tel: 01869 277397. <http://www.fringford.oxon.sch.uk/>

Transport Services

* Caversfield has a number of buses. The E1, X5, S5 and the Oxfordshire Comet. The Oxfordshire Comet is a bookable transport service from Oxfordshire County Council, available for people in Caversfield Parish who do not have access to suitable public transport. However route 8 from Bicester to Northampton via Brackley, and Routes 22 and 23 have been discontinued due to the cuts from Oxfordshire County Council.
* Stratton Audley **X5 City Coach**runs between Cambridge and Oxford. It is every half hour and can be boarded at the bus stop opposite the Caversfield turn on the A4421 which is next to the entrance to Bicester Heritage..
* Langston and Tasker run one No 18 bus through the village daily, leaving at 10.18 for Bicester and returning from Bicester at 13.30.
* Volunteer Connect. This charity-based organisation runs a community transport scheme which offers a service helping people with problems accessing public transport or getting to essential appointments. To find out more call Pip on 0300 3030 125 info@volunteerconnect.org.uk.  [http://volunteerconnectbanbury.com](http://volunteerconnectbanbury.com/)

Fringford has made an unsuccessful application for funding for a Community bus, and continues to explore transport options.

Doctors

The nearest GP services are in Bicester where there is also a Community Hospital which provides walk in care ( but no X-ray facilities) and some beds for non acute patients.

Parish Councils

* Caversfield Parish Council meets once every 2 months in the Chinnery Room of Fringford Village Hall, Fringford OX27 8DY on the third Wednesday at 7.30pm.
* Bucknell Parish Council can be contacted on via the Clerk to the Council clerk@bucknell.me.uk
* Fringford Parish Council meets on the third Monday of every month at 7.45pm in the Village Hall. Parish Council Clerk:
Anne Davies 01865379645 fringford.parishclerk@gmail.com.
* Stoke Lyne Parish Council. meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every 3rd month in the Parish Rooms St Peter’s Church. Clerk Anne Davies 01865 379645 stokelyne.parishclerk@gmail.com
* Stratton Audley Parish Council meet on the first Wednesday of each month from 7-9 pm in the Red Lion Public House. Clerk .Anne Davies .

01865 379645. strattonaudley.parishclerk@gmail.com [www.strattonaudley.org/parish\_council.html](http://www.strattonaudley.org/parish_council.html)

Post Office/Shop

* Bucknell has a Post Office service that visits once a week. The Village Post Office is open for business at the Village Hall on Thursdays from 1pm to 2pm. The Post Office in G.B Wrightons, Fritwell operates this service. As well as offering the basic Post Office Wrightons also provide a shop service. Orders made by the close of Wednesday are brought to the Village Hall to collect and pay on the Thursday. Shop contact details: 01869 345229.  gbwrighton@aol.com [www.wrightons.co.uk](http://www.wrightons.co.uk) East St, Fritwell, Oxon, OX27 7PX.

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| **Hall for Hire** | **Contact details** |
| **Bucknell Village Hall**Middleton Road, Bucknell, Bicester, Oxfordshire, OX27 7LX | Sue Gammond  01869249563 suegammond@talktalk.net [www.bucknell.me.uk](http://www.bucknell.me.uk/) |
| **Fringford Village Hall**[5 Crosslands, Fringford, Bicester OX27 8DF](https://www.bing.com/local?lid=YN1029x3822173192587284696&id=YN1029x3822173192587284696&q=Fringford+Village+Hall+Committee&name=Fringford+Village+Hall+Committee&cp=51.9559440612793%7e-1.12089705467224&ppois=51.9559440612793_-1.12089705467224_Fringford+Village+Hall+Committee&FORM=SNAPST) | Ant and Jo Parker on 07964 490865 |
| **Stoke Lyne Parish Meeting Room**St. Peter, Stoke Lyne, Oxfordshire, OX27 8RU | Mr James Holden-White, 6 The Close, Stoke Lyne 01869 345211 |

1. **Areas of Deprivation**





1. **Service Overview**

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| **Day Care** | **Transport** | **Service Care** |
| Fringford Village Hall. Darby & Joan ClubThird Tuesday of the month pm.Marian Golding 01869 278355[5 Crosslands, Fringford, Bicester OX27 8DF](https://www.bing.com/local?lid=YN1029x3822173192587284696&id=YN1029x3822173192587284696&q=Fringford+Village+Hall+Committee&name=Fringford+Village+Hall+Committee&cp=51.9559440612793%7e-1.12089705467224&ppois=51.9559440612793_-1.12089705467224_Fringford+Village+Hall+Committee&FORM=SNAPST) | Caversfield **Elmsbrook Bus** – E1The Elmsbrook bus (E1) is run by Grayline Coaches.**X5**Oxford – Bicester – Milton Keynes – BedfordThe bus stops are either side of the A4421 near the Garden Quarter / Bicester Heritage.**S5**Two S5 buses to Oxford are available from the Caversfield Turn early in the morning.**The Oxfordshire Comet**This is a bus which can be booked by individualsIt is a not for profit service, created to allow people without suitable access to public transport to make the journeys they want and can be booked for any type of trip. |  |
|  | Stratton Audley**X5 City Coach** runs between Cambridge and Oxford. It is every half hour and you can board at the bus stop opposite the Caversfield turn on the A4421 which is next to the entrance to Bicester Heritage.Langston and Tasker No 18 once a day**Volunteer Connect**. This charity-based organisation runs a community transport scheme which offers a service helping people with problems accessing public transport or getting to essential appointments. |  |

1. **Distance to Services**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Community | Barriers to Housing and Services | Geographical Barriers | Distance (km) to: |  |   |   |
| LSOA |  |  | PO | Food | GP | Primary school |
| Caversfield cluster |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| E01028477 | **1** | **1** | **2.58** | **2.14** | **6.66** | **2.76** |

Source – Road distance to key services (km) in 2014. IMD 2015 Barriers to Housing and Services domain

1. **Community Assets**

Bucknell Village Hall

There is an entrance lobby containing a small bar with a sink unit. Toilets, including a fully equipped disabled washroom are accessed from the lobby. The main hall measures 12 x 6 metres and at one end has a 6 x 2.5 metres raised stage 600mm high. The stage can be accessed independently from the main hall and from both sides. The side extension off the main hall measures 6 x 2.4 metres and is used for storage of 16 folding tables 700 x 1800mm, 3 folding tables 700 x 900mm, 80 stacking chairs and 8 upholstered chairs with arm rests. Access to the stage. The kitchen measures 3.7 x 2.5 metres and is equipped with double sink and drainer, a single oven, separate hob, a refrigerator, freestanding Urn and a hostess trolley.  80 Dinner & Dessert Plates with cutlery are also available for hire. Audio visual equipment is also available for hire at additional cost to the main hall.

Fringford Village Hall

Built in 1900 and extended in the 1960s.  The extension had fallen into disrepair and in the summer of 2015 was replaced with a new timber frame extension which, as well as providing a new, refurbished Chinnery Room with kitchenette, also added a new kitchen, and other state of the art facilities. The hall is well used for a variety of activities: regular hiring’s; parties; themed suppers; electoral voting; community meetings. Anyone can book the hall for a family, business or other type of event. See the links for more information on [regular activities](http://www.fringford.info/village-hall-2/village-hall-events/) and [hiring costs](http://www.fringford.info/hire-chrages/).

The hall is owned by Fringford Parish Council and leased to Fringford Village Hall Committee to manage on an ongoing basis.  The Committee is a registered charity, number 1077028 and is responsible for hirings, building maintenance and fund raising.

The Committee meet every 4 to 6 weeks, dependant on the level of seasonal activity.  Meetings are held in the hall, generally starting at 7.30pm.

Stoke Lyne Parish Rooms

St Peters church has a parish room that can be used for community activities.

1. **Community activity: overview**

It is important to recognize that the space provided in Churches can significantly enhance the offer to the community –e.g. to provide meeting facilities, entertainment facilities (Stratton Audley hosted a performance of the Tempest in 2016) group activities.

It is also important to recognize the part the Public houses play in the social life of the Village.

Parish Councils can seek to enhance community activity – both Stratton Audley and Fringford purchase a Christmas tree which is lit over the Christmas period

Parishes hold fete -type events for their residents and others – see the Stratton Audley website for the Scarecrow and Open garden event, the Ferret Racing and the planning for the 2018 Food Music and Beer Festival.

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| **Theme** | **Group and Details** | **Contact** | **Notes** |
| Adult | **Bucknell “Drop in Club”**Every Friday in the Village Hall between 2 and 4pm. |  | Afternoon tea is served around 3pm – home-made cake/scones etc., and a cup of tea/coffee. |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall.** Puppy StarsDog trainingTuesday 7 .00- 9.00pm. Friday 6.30 – 7.30pm and 8.00-9.00pm | 07542 131400 [www.puppystars.co.uk](http://www.puppystars.co.uk) |  |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall.**Whist DriveAlternate Tuesdays 7.30pm | Mervin 01869 253290 |  |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall.**Shelswell W.I.First Thursday of the month 8:00pm | Contact Linda Mustill 01869 277577[www.fringford.info/shelswell-wi](http://www.fringford.info/shelswell-wi) |  |
|  | **Stoke Lyne W.I.**Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in Stoke Lyne Church Hall OX26 8RU. | <http://www.stoke-lyne-wi.org.uk/> |  |
|  | **Stratton Audley Church. Singing for Fun.**Alternate Mondays at 1.30pm in during term time**.** | Amanda Frater 01869 249943 | The group sing a huge repertoire of songs, ranging from show stoppers, current hits, 60’s and songs from all over the world. |
|  | **Coffee Morning Red Lion Stratton Audley.** An informal group meets every Tuesday at 11 am to chat. |  |  |
| Children | **Bicester 2507 Air Cadet Squadron** (for those aged 12-18) is very active on the Garden Quarter site with parade nights on a Tuesday and Thursday evening 19.00 – 21.45.Duclos Hall34 The ParadeThe Garden QuarterCaversfieldBicesterOX27 8AD | T: 01869 249416E: 2507@aircadets.org | Sponsored by the Royal Air Force and can give hands-on experience of activities and courses that will challenge and develop skills to help young people succeed in whatever they want to do. |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall. Youth Club.**For young people 11 to 16 years old.Alternate Thursdays (term time only)7.00 – 8.30pm | Penny Wood 01869 277310 penelope.wood@btopenworld.com |  |
|  | **Shelswell & Fringford Pre School & Playgroup.**Fringford Church of England School | [www.fringfordplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.fringfordplaygroup.co.uk) | Playgroup operates from a semi-permanent single storey timber lodge with ramp access in the grounds of the school. |
|  | **Stratton Audley****Little Lambs Toddler Group**. Held in the Stratton Audley Parish Church on Wednesdays during term time from 10am – 12 noon. | Amanda Houston admin@shelswellparishes.info |  |
|  | **Stratton Audley****Playbus.** The bright red double decker Playbus parks up in Mill Road at the back of the Manor outside the Plough House, on Mondays during term time from 10.30 – 12 noon. |  |  |
| General | **Bucknell Bingo**1st Friday of the Month throughout the year at 7:15.Bucknell Village Hall. | Pat Brain 01869 322562 | A long standing activity of Bucknell Village Hall.All are welcome.All profits go towards the upkeep of the Village Hall. |
|  | **Bucknell Film Nights**2nd Friday in the month. Doors open at 7pm and the film begins at 7:30. | Jane Ashe – 01869 243602Tony.ashe@btinternet.com | Tea, coffee and nibbles are available.Bring your own drink and a comfy cushion. |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall**Fringford School of DanceWednesday afternoon/evening term time. | Melissa Allen 07876 253744 or e-mail fsdance@live.co.uk[www.fsdanceuk.com](http://www.fsdanceuk.com) |  |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall.**Take 5 Cinema ClubFringford Village Hall Cinema ExperienceUsually 2nd Saturday in the monthDoors open 7.00pm | Peter Silver 01869 278949email: cinemaclub@fringford.info[www.fringford.info/take-5-cinema](http://www.fringford.info/take-5-cinema) |  |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall.**Family Prize BingoLast Saturday in the monthEyes down 6.30pm. | Anthony Parker 07964 490865 |  |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall.** | HistoryGroup@fringford.info | A small group meets to gather together historical information about Fringford and the surrounding area. |
|  | **Stoke Lyne Diggers** Allotment Group | <http://212.48.89.169/stokelyne.org/diggers.php> |  |
|  | **Stratton Audley**Historical Society meets every two months on the second Tuesday in the Red Room of the Red Lion at 7.30pm | Chairman Jeff Wakefield  jeffaud21@btinternet.com  | Members meet to discuss projects and to plan interesting activities. |
| Sports | **Bucknell Boot Camps**11:00am at Bucknell Playing Field | <http://www.dean-pt.co.uk/bootcamps.html> |  |
|  | **Fitness Trees -** Bucknell Playing Field |  | There are two Fitness Trees at the Playing Field for adult use. Details on exercises that you can perform on the Fitness Tress can be found at the Fitness Tree website. There are specific sections for exercises that use: bodyweightresistance bandssuspension straps. |
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|  | **Fringford Village Hall**KarateEvery Monday7.00 – 8.00pm Beginners8.00- 9.00pm Higher grades. | Tony Clark 01869 277961 | Age 8 to adults (Term time only) |
|  | **Fringford Village Hall****Pilates**Tuesday 9.15 – 10.15 am. | Frances Reader 01280 702964 [www.prehab-rehab.uk](http://www.prehab-rehab.uk) |  |
|  | **Fringford Cricket Club.** | Les Fagg  01869 277543  leslie.fagg@btinternet.com | Fringford are in Division 3 of the Oxfordshire Cricket Association. |
|  | **Fringford Freewheelers.**Fringford Freewheelers are the village cyclists.Usually meeting up once a month on either the first Saturday or Sunday. 10:30am at the village hall for each ride. |  |  |

**7. Summary of key local issues –to be discussed with parish councils**

Banbury community bus project is likely to close in 2018 if funding is not available .

**Potential mitigation projects**

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