### STANTONBURY PARISH NEWS



Nov/Dec 2016

BANCROFT BANCROFT PARK BLUE BRIDGE BRADVILLE LINFORD WOOD OAKRIDGE PARK STANTONBURY



FREE TO RESIDENTS OF STANTONBURY PARISH

126 KINGSFOLD, BRADVILLE, MILTON KEYNES, MK13 7DX

www.stantonbury-pc.org.uk email: info@stantonburyparishcouncil.org.uk tel: 01908 227201

### CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Since the last Parish magazine the council have been engaged in a number of issues that will greatly impact all our parishioners. In particular, MK Council's move to devolve the services they currently provide to the Parish Councils is by far the biggest challenge we have had to deal with to date. In the magazine you will find some information regarding what is proposed and what we as a council have undertaken to date. Please take the time to fully read the article fully and comment to us with your views.

Land acquisition is still an ongoing matter within the Parish. For us to respond formally to MK Council it is important that you forward your comments to us.

We are aware that YourMK has been talking to residents regarding regeneration and again we need your comments if you wish the parish council to respond to MK Council. Any comments you may have are important. Often it's the small items that have the biggest impact.

With so many changes coming forward at this time we have decided that the Parish newsletter is probably not the fastest way to pass on or receive information. Commencing early next year we will issue a monthly e-newsletter update advising what is coming and how we are responding. Tied to this is the Parish Facebook account. This will be a subscription service. An article in this newsletter will tell you how to subscribe.



I am pleased to report that Ms Lisa Emmanuel has restarted the Neighbourhood Plan committee with a view to completing the draft document in eighteen months' time. In due course all households will be asked to complete a more detailed questionnaire stating their preferences in developing the parish.

About a year ago we initiated a campaign to prevent parking on the amenity spaces. It was by and large successful. Regrettably, some inconsiderate, selfish car owners still park on and damage these areas. MK Council did notify some drivers and issued enforcement notices. We therefore, subject to devolved services, have to consider a system of issuing fines to stop this ongoing damage.

This year's firework display at Roman Park was a great success and was attended by a sizeable crowd. On behalf of the Parish Council we wish to congratulate the organisers for another outstanding display.

Finally, from all the Parish Councillors, the Clerk and all the office staff may we wish you all a Happy Christmas and prosperous new year.

### STANTONBURY PARISH NEWS



We always welcome articles and community notices for inclusion in this magazine, and items of local interest, old photographs, etc.

For submission deadlines please contact the Parish Office on 01908-227201 or email: info@stantonburyparishcouncil.org.uk.

Handwritten items can be accepted and photographs could be scanned by the Parish Office. Stantonbury Parish Council reserves the right to edit, defer or refuse articles and advertising submitted for publication.

supported by





## **SMOKEFREE** Milton Keynes

### 'FEEL LIKE GIVING UP? LET US HELP....'

**FREE Stop Smoking Support at: Stantonbury Parish Council** 126 Kingsfold, Bradville, Milton Keynes, MK13 7DX

> **Every Wednesday 1.00-4.00pm** starting from 7th December 2016 You will get:

FREE support from a Specialist Stop Smoking Advisor Up to 3 months of FREE NRT (Nicotine Replacement Products) Prescriptions for Champix

You're 4Xmore likely to guit with help than guitting alone.

To find out more or book an appointment call 01908 254026 or text 'QUIT' and your name to 07860 916318

Please note this is not a drop in clinic and an appointment needs to be made



### THINKING ABOUT SUMMER HOLIDAYS?

It's not just at Christmas that you might need extra money. Perhaps you're already thinking about next year's summer holiday or that new sofa you've got your eye on. And what if an emergency arises – your car breaks down or the boiler needs replacing?

So now is the time to join your local Credit Union and start saving. If you start tucking away regular amounts now you will be able to take out a loan (after three months of regular saving) at an interest rate that you can afford. And if you receive Child Benefit and arrange to pay your benefit directly into your account you can apply for a loan immediately.

Your local Credit Union is MK Community Bank, a branch of Swan Credit Union. It is a locally based "not-for-profit" financial co-operative owned and run by its members. We offer savings and loans at affordable rates to help our members save and manage their money responsibly.

Joining is easy - you can do it online at www. mkcommunitybank.org.uk, by post or you can call in at our local service point (details below). You can then register to manage your account online - check your balance, withdraw savings or even apply for a loan. You can save any amount regularly by standing order or with cash by using our PayPoint card. You can also check your account balance instantly any time with our automated text message service.

Until the end of December 2016, the first fifty new regular savers will receive a £25 bonus (you need to save at least £65 over three months) courtesy of the "Proceeds of Crime Fund".

#### Why should you borrow from us?

individual needs

Affordable interest rates - our standard rate on loans over £500 is only 2% per month (26.8% APR) No arrangement fees or hidden charges You only pay interest on what you owe No penalty for early repayment Our decisions made quickly based on your

Free loan protection insurance
Save for the future while you repay your loan
Immediate loans if you arrange to pay your Child
Benefit directly into your account.



And from 1 September the first 100 new loans over £1000 issued to new members, or existing members who have not previously borrowed from the Credit Union, will receive a £25 bonus paid into their CU savings account.

MK Community Bank is supported by a number of local organisations in Milton Keynes, including MK Council, MK Community Foundation; and the following town and parish councils: Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council, Bradwell Parish Council, Campbell Park Parish Council, Kents Hill & Monkston Community Council, New Bradwell Parish Council, Simpson Parish Council, Stantonbury Parish Council, Stony Stratford Town Council, West Bletchley Council, Wolverton Town Council, Woughton Community Council.

For more information about our loans and all our services got to our website:

www.mkcommunitybank.org.uk

You can get also get advice or any information weekdays on our hotline:

**03030 300147** (national rates apply)

Our local service point is open every week at Foundation House, The Square, Wolverton on **Tuesday morning 10.00 -12.00**.

Or you can email us at:

enquiries@mkcommunitybank.org.uk



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOOTBALL SESSIONS OCTOBER 2016

The children that attended the two days of football coaching in the October school holidays thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Come and join us again in the two Easter 2017 school holiday football sessions at Cawarden, Stantonbury. All ages are welcome.



#### Funded by





## Angels at the Abbey

Christmas Fair at Bradwell Abbey with lots of Craft & Gift Stalls

Sunday 4th December 11am - 4pm



Festive Refreshments with Mulled Wine,
Tea, Fresh Coffee & Refreshments
Childrens Amusements, Candy Floss, Ice Cream
Carols & Singing throughout the day
Childrens Art & Craft Activities

Santas Grotto, St Mary's Chapel Open
Meet Twizzle & Twirl 360 Play mascots

Win tickets to Silverstone in our Raffle/Tombola

For more information please contact email: jeanettebaldock@sky.com



First I would like to thank all the members of the group and our communities who have helped in this year's actions.

So how have we done this year?

- **1.** We obtained a grant from Community Foundation for our insurance.
- **2.** Dog Fouling Priority we continue to action this and have contacted SPC on several matters including the lack of poo bags in the dispensers, areas that would benefit from poo bins.

Residents made request for help in Kingsfold with a spraying poo and a letter sent to residents so this issue was resolved and we were thanked.

We put up "No Dog Fouling" notices on the yellow bollards that we had painted.

**3.** Parking – In some of our communities this is impossible to cure. However SPC are taking this forward and we will monitor the situation and will assist where we can.



**4.** Rubbish – Another ongoing issue and through our articles in the Parish Newsletter we have been able to pass on information on rubbish collection, recycling and how to dispose of large items. We have been in contact with MKC reporting areas of concern and fly-tipping.

- **5.** Bollard Painting We have continued with this and have now completed Blue Bridge with thanks being received and a cuppa tea from a local resident.
- **6.** Consultation We have begun our consultation and are asking residents to let us know what they would like us to do to make their area a nice place to live in.



So what have we planned so far?

With 2017 being MK 50th Birthday we have been requested to re-paint some of our underpasses. We have permission from MKC and will be concentrating on two first, Bradville to Stantonbury Campus and Stantonbury to Gt. Linford. We will be calling on members from the local communities for their input.

We have also been asked to help inform people about Neighbourhood Watch & Dog Watch and hope people will be interested in taking part.

So do keep helping us out so we can make our community the places where people want to live.

We have had a few of our members who have moved out of our Communities so if you would like to be part of an organisation that really DOES make a difference then please contact us via our email action-4@outlook.com or pop along to one of our meetings which are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Bradville Hall Community Centre Mercers Drive Bradville MK13 7AY

After all the only people who can really make a difference to our communities are the people who live there.

### **Electronic e-newsletter**

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE KEPT UP TO DATE WITH ITEMS WITHIN THE PARISH?

We will be starting an electronic emailable newsletter to cut the costs of our printed one.

We understand that not everyone is one the internet so we will still be printing our paper one times a year but additional news will be sent out via email.

Cutting down on the amount of newsletters per year and consideration for our environment there will also be a cost saving we estimate of £2.20 per household.

This will be on a subscription only basis, so if you would like to receive them starting next year, please email:

#### info@stantonburyparishcouncil.org.uk

Don't forget you can also follow us on Facebook Stantonbury Parish-Clerk and our website

#### www.stantonbury-pc.org.uk



If you would like to submit an article or feel passionate about something local. Drop us an email or write to us and our newsletter team will consider your article for the next paper or electronic edition.

#### **Newsletter Committee**

Stantonbury Parish Council 126 Kingsfold, Bradville, Milton Keynes, MK13 7DX







### Wishing you a safe and Happy Christmas







Check your Christmas tree lights carry the British Safety Standard sign. Test the batteries in your smoke alarm every week. Never remove them.



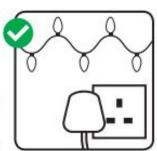




Most fires start in the kitchen. Avoid leaving a cooker unattended. Make sure your family and visitors know how to escape in an emergency. Make sure cigarettes are put out properly.







Decorations can burn easily – so don't attach them to lights or heaters.

Keep candles, lighters and matches out of children's reach. Never leave burning candles unattended.

Never overload electrical sockets. Always switch Christmas lights off and unplug them before you go to bed.







Store fireworks safely. Never go back to a lit firework and keep a bucket of water nearby.

Take care around open fireplaces as clothes may catch fire.

Take time to check on elderly relatives and neighbours this Christmas as they are at greater risk from fire.

## DEVOLVED SERVICES WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO THIS PARISH?

Central Government funding to Local Councils has markedly reduced over the last few years, presenting Councils with the inevitable choice of redundancies and reduced services or increasing rates to residents. Milton Keynes Council has therefore considered the option of devolving responsibility and costs of maintaining many of the services to the Parish Councils.

### What advantage is Devolved Services to the Parish?

Briefly we will have/be able to, subject to agreements being in place:-

- Complete control of the amenity lands within the Parish. This includes all grass areas together with shrubs and bushes.
- Ownership of Crosslands depot for maintenance equipment.
- Manage and negotiate with subcontractors for competitive prices for work based on our terms and conditions.
- To create parking spaces where demand requires it
- To maintain landscaping to our requirements.
- We will be in a position to respond directly to issues raised by residents, in respect of services, rather than referring them to Milton Keynes Council.
- We will be able to take legal enforcement action in respect of littering, dog fouling, and off road parking.
- We would be in a position to instruct our subcontractors directly and expect an immediate response.

#### Not all services can/will be transferred.

The full list of services that could be transferred is given below. Those we recommend the Parish should take on are shown in bold.

- Landscape maintenance including shrubs and all grass areas
- Street cleaning
- Footpath maintenance
- Footpath weed clearing and curbs
- Removal of dog bin waste (already provided by the Parish Council)



- Litter bin emptying (not recycling nor waste collection)
- Removal of fly posting
- Low level graffiti removal
- Leasing the play areas and then maintaining
- Painting of bollards
- Sign cleaning and maintenance

What will not be devolved to the Parish will be:-

- Maintenance and removal of trees
- Removal of fly tipping
- Highway maintenance including street lighting
- Waste and recycling collection

Milton Keynes Council cabinet have not formally sanctioned this transfer of services and initial discussions with them suggested implementation of transfer commencing in Spring 2017/2018. However latest information indicates a revised time scale of Spring 2018/2019 with a gradual passing over of services in a three year time frame.



### However it's very important that you the residents have a say about this:

- a) Do we take on these services?
- b) Which of these services do we take on if any?

We would welcome all your comments on this via email or post to either:

info@stantonburyparishcouncil.org.uk or Parish Office, 126 Kingsfold, Bradville, Milton Keynes, MK13 7DX

#### Taking over existing contracts

Much of the services offered by Milton Keynes Council are undertaken by SERCO and the contracts will stay in place until 2022. If the service is transferred to the Parish Council the contract for our element of work could be transferred to the Parish who will then instruct SERCO (or its subcontractor) as to our requirements.

By taking on these contracts we will need to abide by the existing specifications for the work currently undertaken.

Whilst this basic process seems simple enough there are a considerable number of points the Parish Council have already made to Milton Keynes Council.

- There are numerous examples of services not being provided to the standards nor the scope of work required of Milton Keynes Council's subcontractors.
- All of the items in each service will need to be brought up to the required standards and all incomplete works must be finalised and signed off to our satisfaction, before transfer of the service to the Parish Council could be considered. This includes footpaths, landscaping (maintenance of shrubs and bushes), weed clearance, maintenance of play areas and equipment and so on.



#### **Cost implications**

Yes, it's going to increase the precept to residents! We have been provided with the following information from MKC, provisional figures regarding costs of some of the services for Stantonbury Parish Council per year.

Street Cleansing: £24,043.00

Landscaping: £88,434.00

Play Areas: £25,000.00

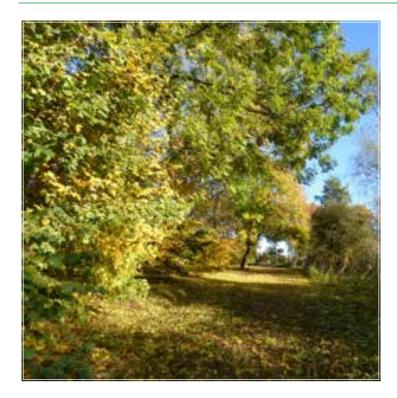
At the time of going to print this could cost approximately 87p per week per household.

In addition, as part of the current SERCO contract the following costs are across the borough.

- £54,842 is spent on weed killing,
- £77,081 is spent on a graffiti removal crew and
- £446,605 is spent on rapid response crews which pick up fly tips and excessive littering.

We are waiting for the proportion of costs for our Parish with respect to weed killing.





These figures do not contain any allowance for the administration of providing the services through the Parish and need to be added in. Other parishes have been considering the impact of devolved services and collectively we see advantages in combining together to share resources.

For example an initial scoping discussion has been held with Great Linford Parish Council with a view to sharing resources and potentially setting up an independent company to manage the subcontractors. By doing this any legal liability and financial matters for works will be taken separately by the company and will not impact the Parish Councils.

These discussions are preliminary and at a very early stage and can be terminated at any time.

The costs of maintaining the services will be taken on incrementally over a three year period.

As an example consider the landscaping service.

 Landscape maintenance including shrubs and all grass areas

Contractual costs are now £88,434.00 per year. Administration we would allow 15% of costs per year, provisional for budget purposes. Inflation could be an additional 1.5% per year.

#### What if we do nothing?

Well, Milton Keynes Council will simply stop providing the services commencing April 2017. No new contracts will be issued to subcontractors forthwith.

They will respond to matters where a health and safety risk exists but that is it.

Landscaping, footpaths weeding etc. will not be maintained.

Regrettably this is the stark reality of what is to come.

Devolved services is not just happening in Milton Keynes, across the whole country Councils are having to decide which services to cut or pass down to Parish/Town Council. This is due to Central Government imposing financial cuts to all local authorities and enforcing Council Tax caps.



Please make your comments to us via letter or email to the address on the front cover.

### LOCAL SITE ALLOCATION - BRADVILLE

Within the Stantonbury Parish, Milton Keynes Council has marked one area for development under the site allocation scheme.

The area is the land at the end of Harrowden on Bradville North, very close to the Wylie drop in. The site allocation has been prepared to boost housing land.

Notices have been displayed on the roads adjacent. A map showing the exact location can be viewed and any comments can be made via

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/consultations

or alternatively you can contact



Milton Keynes Council on 01908 252358 or email siteallocations@milton-keynes,gov.uk

### RECYCLE THIS CHRISTMAS

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR PINK SACK THIS CHRISTMAS

#### Add all of the following:

- Plastic food containers: fruit punnets, meat and fish trays, yoghurt pots, ice cream and margarine pots
- Plastic bottles: milk, fizzy drinks, detergents, shampoo bottles. Lids can be included.
- Greeting cards and envelopes: (without windows please)
- Paper & Card packaging: please remove bows, ribbons and plastic coated paper
- Aerosols: Spray cream, room freshener aerosols, hair spray and deodorants







- Tetrapak and waxed cartons: Juice, sauce and soup containers
- Aluminium foil: mince pie cases and clean disposable roasting trays
- Steel and Aluminium cans: food and drinks cans

Please rinse all containers and remove film lids from container.



## WELL DONE CHRIS CLARKE – OUR VERY OWN STANTONBURY PARALYMPIAN

We would like to congratulate local lad and ex Stantonbury Campus pupil, Chris Clarke on his amazing performance at the Paralympics in Rio this September.

Libby Clegg made it a golden double at the Paralympics alongside Milton Keynes' guide Chris Clarke, as the pair won a second gold medal in Rio in the T11 200m.



## OUTSTANDING NEW TEACHER OF THE YEAR, LOCAL OAKRIDGE PARK RESIDENT



Helena Carter, local resident of Oakridge Park and teacher at Oxley Park Academy, achieved Outstanding New Teacher of the Year at the Pearson Teaching Awards 2016.

The ceremony was broadcasted on 30 October 2016 on BBC2. Helena was seen on stage collecting her award with the other outstanding winners.

Helena joined Oxley Park Academy as a graduate trainee four years ago, Staff, children and parent see Helena as an inspiration to the children and a role model.

Parents and students who think their teachers make a difference can visit **www.pearsonteachingawards.com/** to nominate their teacher for next year's awards. Doing so means they may be in with a chance of winning at next year's ceremony.









#### **EVER CONSIDERED VOLUNTEERING?**

Milton Keynes University Hospital NHS

We are currently recruiting additional volunteers to support our patients, visitors and staff across all areas of the hospital.

If you have two hours free once a week for a minimum of six months, we want to hear from you! Interested?

Contact the volunteer recruitment line on

01908 996059



### Help the NHS, choose the right course of action:

# Illness? Injury? Ask yourself is it a real emergency?



### Self care

Many illnesses and injuries can be treated at home Ensure you are well stocked with: Paracetamol, Anti-diarrhoeal medicine, Rehydration mixture, Indigestion remedy, Plasters and thermometer

### **Pharmacist**

For confidential medical help and advice
To find your local pharmacy visit www.askyourself.org.uk

### **GP Surgery**

For non life threatening minor illnesses and injuries
To find your local GP surgery visit: www.askyourself.org.uk

#### Call 111

Need urgent medical treatment but it is not life threatening?
Unsure where to go? GP surgery not open? Can't get an appointment?

For confidential health service advice & information call 111, available 24 hours a day. They will direct you to the best place to get treatment, including:

- GP Out of Hours
- Minor Injury Service/Urgent Care Centre
- Minor Emergencies

#### A&E

For LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES only Kettering General Hospital, NN16 9UZ Northampton General Hospital, NN1 5BD

If you make an appointment please make sure you attend, the DNAs (Did Not Attend) in the last three months for Oakridge Park Medical Centre are: August 205, September 179, October 177

If you miss 3 appointments you will be removed from the doctors at Oakridge Park Medical Centre.

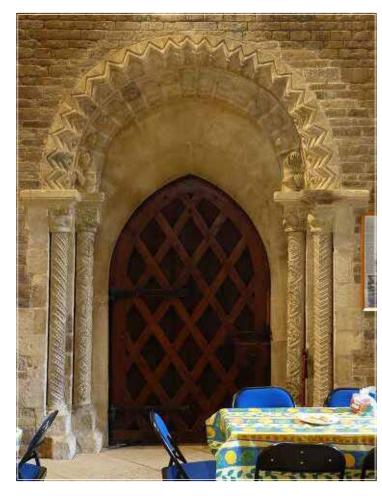


### PUTTING NAMES TO FACES FROM THE PAST

The Save St Peter's Group enjoyed a successful Heritage Open Days weekend in September courtesy of St James Church, New Bradwell. Visitors to the exhibition were able to see the spectacular Norman arch, which was saved from the ruins of the old church and rebuilt in St James in the 1969. Also on display was a beautifully carved panel from the Jacobean pulpit, found doing service as a kitchen cupboard door in a local farmhouse, an oak altar table, hand engraved by the Rev. Guest, a carved wooden head thought to be from the 15th century as well a display of pictures and information about Thomas Harrison, steward to the Radcliffe Trust, the last wedding in the church in 1909 and a communion service held in the ruins of the church of St Peter's in 1963.

Thanks to several eagle-eyed visitors we were able to name all but four of the celebrants attending the service led by Rev Russell and one of the archaeologists who took part in a dig at the site in 1955. Other people supplied useful information about the church and the village at Stanton Low and further research has identified who built the Boer War rifle butts for training – the Wolverton Railway Company. A folder containing the information from the exhibition was presented to the church for

future visitors to see the connections between the two churches.













HISTORICAL WEDDING at STANTON-LOW CHURCH, BUCKS, on April 10th, 1909.

After 50 years it has been discovered that about 1,000 illegal weddings have taken place at St. James' Church, Stantonbury, owing to the Church not having been licensed for marriages. The above photograph shows Mr. & Mrs. GEO. PEDDER leaving, after being married at the old Church of St. Peter's, Stanton-Low, where no wedding had taken place for over 60 years. Photo. by HUTCHINSON, WOLVERTON.

### HAVE YOU FED YOUR GREEN BIN TODAY?



Meat
Fish
Dairy
Fruit
Vegetables
Bread & Pastries
Cooked food waste
Vegetable peelings
Plate scrapings
Tea bags
Coffee grounds

#### **FEED YOUR GREEN BIN DAILY**

Up to 40% of material in black sacks could be food waste which goes to landfill at a large cost.

Green bin waste gets recycled and turned into good compost which is sold to the local farmers.

Food waste attracts the birds, cats, foxes and dogs that rip apart your black sacks on bin day and make a mess. If the food waste is in your green bin the animals cannot make a mess for you to clear up.

MAKE AN EFFORT THIS WINTER, ESPECIALLY OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD AND RECYCLE ALL FOOD WASTE AND STOP LANDFILL COSTS.

Food and Garden Waste = £46 per tonne (and goes to Envar for In Vessel Composting)

Residual waste (black sack) = £102 per tonne

However, if contamination goes into the wrong bin there is the cost of processing that waste plus the cost of alternative disposal (could be £150+)

A food caddy can be obtained free of charge from MK Council and so can the green bins.

Black bags have to be paid for by you, green bins are free, it makes sense.

If you are worried about the 'YUK' factor wrap the food waste in newspaper or buy compostable food bags for your caddy.

#### Phone 01908 252570 or

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/waste-recycling/bins-bags-and-boxes





STANTONBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## children spage

Colour and cut these out to make your own Christmas Decorations

