



KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH!

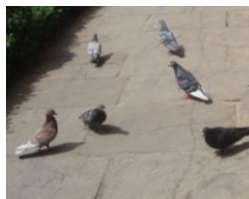
Welcome to your February issue of the Old Woughton Parish Council Newsletter.

Budget and Precept for 2013

You will be glad to know that as a result of tight control and prudent management of our financial affairs we have set a budget of £26,600 and a Band D precept of circa £62.78 for the coming year. The exact precept figure will be published in the MKC Council Tax Notice in March. This is over 50% less than in the 2012/2013 financial year. Your parish councillors do not receive an allowance, we are doing many tasks ourselves including some administration and, apart from the Parish Clerk, we have no paid staff and finally, we do not spend money on renting offices.

Pigeons – poop no more!

Through the persistence of our Clerk Karen, in finding the right department in MKC, we have finally solved the canal and Old Newport Road under-bridge pigeon problem. Metal brushes have been installed that prevent these nuisance birds from getting into the concrete expansion gaps and the mess



has been cleared away. Residents should notice an immediate improvement in our environment.

Annual Parish Meeting 22nd April 7.30pm St Mary's Church, Woughton-on-the-Green

The annual parish meeting is your chance to ask your parish council any questions on any subjects. There is no fixed agenda and the whole evening is for you to decide; what questions to ask and topics to discuss. We can also present information on particular things, given advance warning. Anything from littering and dog poo to budgeting and planning, it is all open. Either let us know beforehand by contacting us or just turn up on the night with your questions. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

Road Safety – Speeding

Despite the speed-humps and 30 mph signs along the Old Newport Road, speeding vehicles are still a problem.

'Speeders' are a hazard to pedestrians, other road users and cause noise pollution. Please spread the word that we have a speed limit for very good reasons and sticking to it enhances our safe, peaceful, rural environment.



'Adopt a Towpath' – The Problem of Canal-side Litter

A number of residents have mentioned we have a litter problem along the towpath of the Grand Union Canal which is mainly caused by fishermen and boaters. We are doing our best to deal with the situation by contacting fishing organisations, the Inland Waterways Agency and MKC (the latter does some litter picking from the hedges). However, we may be some way off achieving an acceptable solution. In the meantime, perhaps the Residents Associations in our parish might like to consider patrolling appropriate lengths of the towpath to keep them tidy? **Please let us know if you think this is a good idea.**

Use it or lose it! Why we want to keep bus route 18



The bus which passes along Newport Road through Woughton Park and Woughton-on-the-Green narrowly missed the chop in the latest round of council cutbacks. If we want to keep it, then we need to use it.

Why do we want to live on a bus route?

Gritting – MK Council grits bus routes as the next priority after grid roads. Speed humps – it is recommended that speed humps on a bus route are no higher than 60mm. The ones on Newport Road are more than twice this and being a bus route helps us campaign for more suitable traffic calming measures.

When does it run?

Route 18 calls in our area on an hourly basis, you can find a link to the timetable on our website

www.oldwoughton.org.uk/environment.

It takes just 8 minutes to get into the CMK shopping area and a return costs less than a couple of hours parking in a red space.

So why not try taking the bus a few times this year? The more we use this service the more chance we have of keeping it for those who do need it and benefitting all users of Newport Road through our parish.

Parish Council Meetings:

Monday 18th February 2013 - St Mary's Church, Woughton-on-the-Green 7.30pm.

Monday 18th March 2013 - Village Hall, Woughton-on-the-Green 7.30pm.

The first 15 minutes of the meeting is reserved for the public to address the Council with questions or issues you wish to bring to our attention.

How to contact us:

- Email us through the clerk: clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk
- Telephone: **Landline:** 01908 465811
Mobile: 07706 709310
- Write to us:
c/o Adams Lodge, 8 Baskerfield Grove,
Woughton-on-the-Green, MK6 3EN
- Visit our website:
www.oldwoughton.org.uk



You can also email your Councillors individually:

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