



KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH!

Welcome to the June 2015 issue of the Old Woughton Parish Council Newsletter.

Message from the Chair

At the recent AGM, I was pleased to be elected Chair of Old Woughton Parish Council for a second year. This is a great honour and it's a pleasure to serve our community in this way. Ray Brown, who continues as a great stalwart in the Allotments Team and advises on planning local matters, has stood down as Vice Chair and is replaced by Stuart Bennett. This is an important role because the incumbent acts as a sounding board and source of valuable advice to the Chair. So, thank you Ray and welcome Stuart.

In the last year we have made huge progress in preserving and enhancing our beautiful locality; everything from keeping the pigeons from messing under the bridges, sorting out land drains and resurfacing roads and footpaths, to mention just a few. Some things though are currently bugging me severely. Someone regularly strews fast food containers and packaging along the side of the road between Woughton Park and South Woughton on The Green. Moreover, despite the availability of dog bins throughout the parish, filled poo bags continue to be discarded alongside the footpaths. This sort of behaviour is extremely anti-social not to mention a risk to public health. The litter law is quite clear so if any parishioner sees this sort of thing happening please report it to MKC here:

<https://my.milton-keynes.gov.uk/Pages/Form%20Pages/ReportIt-FlytippingLitteringandDogFouling.aspx>

and if possible provide a photo of the event and let's hope that exemplary fines are imposed on the miscreants. *Andrew Humphries*

Odds and Ends

Woughton on the Green Playing Fields

Milton Keynes Council has now received bids for the running of the above facilities (freehold to be held by MKC) following on from a tender process started last year. The terms of these tenders gave the community the protection it requested following the aborted sale

of the freehold. Ward councillors and Parish Councillors have been invited to be part of the evaluation process in June with the winning bidder presenting their plans to stakeholders later in the year.

Woughton on the Green Playing Fields Village Green Application

This application will go before the MKC regulatory committee on July 8 at 18.30 pm. Members of the public are welcome. Other applications submitted for the Paddocks, Woughton Park and Passmore are still pending.

Looking for Advice

Our parish has been offered free of charge use of the Woughton Community Advice Service in Netherfield. Residents can take advantage of a range of services including money advice, job club and housing repairs. They are a signposting service and lap tops are available to gain access to information. Please see WCC website or contact Peter McDonald for further details

www.woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk

The Paddocks

Anglian water, in conjunction with the Parks Trust has now completed the drainage works at the Newport road entrance to the Paddocks.

Speeding in Woughton Park

We were very grateful for the 'speedy' response we received from the Road Safety Team Leader at MK Council in getting a speed-check carried out on Newport Road, Woughton Park where speeding had been observed. The results have shown a mild level of infringement but enough culprits to warrant notification to Thames Valley Police (TVP). The Road Safety Team has forwarded the results, with the 'suggestion' of mobile enforcement – the decision remains with TVP.

Community Car Service

Community Action: MK is launching a pilot Community Car Service project in 5 MK Parishes, with support from Milton Keynes Council and South Northants Volunteer Bureau. This will provide safe and reliable transport for elderly and disabled members of the community to access a range of medical services or social care visits. We are currently looking for volunteer drivers and residents who may be interested in becoming passengers.



If you are a car owner with free time, would like to help people in your area and are willing to give your time, please contact us. The journeys will generally be in and around MK, but can

occasionally be to Aylesbury or Oxford. You would not be required to travel to areas you are unfamiliar with, the role is flexible, you would choose when and how often you volunteer and where you go, and costs will be reimbursed by the passenger. You will need to be DBS checked, be 18 years +, and have a clean driving licence.

Do you struggle to get to doctor, dental, hospital and other essential appointments? Would you like a lift? Community Car Service will be using local, friendly car drivers to provide a door to door service for those living in this Parish.

If you would like more information about volunteering or registering an interest, please call Tracy Whitmore or Laura Jeffrey on 01908 661623 or email:

vdsmk@communityactionmk.org

Overstaying Canal Boats

The Canals and Rivers Authority (CaRT) do their best to move overstaying boats or those that cause a nuisance for one reason or another. CaRT officials patrol the towpath regularly.



During the winter months, 1st. November to 31st. March, permits for a 5 month stay may be issued, at any other time the maximum length of stay is 2 weeks. The arrival date of a boat is not always known due to the scheduling of the canal patrols, so it is not always apparent that a boat has overstayed. A legal procedure then has to be followed through before the CaRT has any right to move the boat. Inevitably, any boater who knows the system can achieve quite a long period of mooring.

For any type of problem with a boat, including lack of licence or sinking, the CaRT should be notified of the boat's large 5 digit no., shown on both sides of the boat and/or on the licence paper, along with the position relating to the nearest bridge. CaRT have no jurisdiction over boaters' cars parked in residential areas or noise pollution, these should be reported to the police. Litter and fly tipping require proof that a boater is responsible and action also depends on who owns the land. If all else fails, contact me at:

jhowson@oldwoughton.org.uk

CaRT: customer.services@canalrivertrust.org.uk

Parish Council Meetings 2015:

Council Meetings

13 July 2015

14 September 2015

9 November 2015

**All held in St Mary's Church,
Woughton on the Green at 7.30 pm.**

The first 15 minutes of each 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:

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Telephone: Landline: 01908 465811
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Write to us:
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