Issue 20 Summer 2016

Parks

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Chairman's Note

It was really pleasing to finally hold our annual fete on the park which has been one of our long terms plans. We have been lucky in past years to have great weather for our fete but the odds finally caught up with us this year and we had our first 'wet' event. Despite the rain we had a good turnout and I would like to thank everyone who came along and hope you enjoyed the day.



We are working with Transport for Buckinghamshire to try and address the rat running in the morning on Colonel Grantham Avenue and the drivers turning right from the left hand lane at the traffic lights. It is slow going as it has been a battle to even convince them that we have a problem but following a site visit on the 10th of May we have agreed on a course of action. At this stage it is to collect evidence of the problem by conducting a formal traffic survey which can then form the basis of what action the County council can take.

I attended the EU referendum count during the early hours of Friday the 24th of June and can report that Buckingham Park voted narrowly to remain (56%) while the Gatehouse Ward (of which we are part) echoed the national result with 52.33% voting to leave.

As soon as we hear any definite news about when the roads will be surfaced we will post it on our Facebook Page.

Enjoy the summer

Anders Christensen

ADVERTISING

Advertising space is limited - to book your space please call Lucy Jones on 07766 858050 / 01296 338585 or email lucylovesfitness@gmail.com: Copy deadlines and Advertising Rates for the Winter edition: Winter Issue Contributions to be received before 31st October

£ 35 quarter page (portrait) £120 full page A4 (back cover)

£ 60 half page £100 full page A4

Fees must be pre-paid at the Community Centre office with cheques made payable to "Buckingham Park Parish Council".

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Tell Us What You Think

Dear Residents,

As the development comes to the end of the building phase and we look forward as a community to adopting Buckingham Park the Parish Council is very interested in hearing from resident's your views and feedback on living here, this can relate to any points you would like to raise, concerns you have or issues you feel you would like to highlight.

As a council we would like to collate this information and use the outputs to help shape our plans for the future development of the area.

In order to facilitate this process we will be holding two separate 'drop-in' sessions in the BP Community Centre where we are inviting residents to come along and meet members of the Parish Council to have a discussion on the following dates and times detailed below.

If these dates and times aren't suitable as we appreciate it will be the summer holidays then please feel free to get in touch with the Parish Council directly.

We look forward to meeting you on the 26th and 27th.

Buckingham Park Parish Council



You're welcome...

Every Sunday 10.30am at Buckingham Park C of E Primary School.

Who are we?

A growing Christian Church who love to help out in the community. We run free money and parenting courses and provide a debt advice service.

Interested?

Why not join us for a picnic lunch in the new park on Sunday 31st July or see us at the school fete BBQ.

≥info@exchange.uk.net

nexchange.uk.net



AYLESBURY SMILES DISABILITY FOOTBALL TEAM

BPCC are trying hard to support these guys who are really amazing. They all gave up a day of their time in half term and came and weeded out the flower beds and litter picked for the centre and in the pouring rain!



They have a goal to get a mini bus so they can all travel to the matches together and it's a joy to see how they have developed in communication and consideration for other people around them. One of the players is coming at 1.30 every week to wash the hall floor too. They had a stall at the Summer Fete and raised £201.00 for football shirts. Please read their article as you too may have someone who wants to join or you may want They certainly do make us SMILE!

Jan Turner Centre & Events Manager

Buckingham Park Annual Meeting Chairman's Statement

The Parish Council is now coming to the end of its 5th year. Again, it's been a year of change, challenges, and progress.

The obvious milestone for us as a community is the completion of the last houses which were completed and occupied during January and February. This does not mean we will cease to welcome new residents as people leave and new residents arrive so we must continue to communicate who we are, what we stand for, and what we are trying to achieve.

It has been pleasing to see some long standing issues resolved such as the community park finally being opened, post box getting moved to the square as well as many of the street lights that we have been chasing to get fixed for years finally working. We continue to invest in activities to help make Buckingham Park a nice place to live. Regular litter picks, additional bins, and hanging baskets for example.

Nothing happens easily when dealing with councils or developers and success stories are the result of countless hours of chasing and cajoling by councillors and our clerk.

There are 8 councillors on the Parish Council all of who are either residents or work within our community. We welcomed four new councillors to the Parish Council after last May's election and I am grateful for the contribution that they are making.

The community centre continues to be well utilised by community groups and general hirers and provides a venue for toddlers groups, healthcare workers, youth groups, and active Beaver and, soon, Cubs group to name a few. The events for residents such as the Summer Fair and the Christmas Carol event continue to grow in popularity each year. As Chairman, and on behalf of the Council, we continue to acknowledge the fantastic work done by our centre manager, Jan Turner, and her team. There has recently been a change of project management for the completion of Buckingham Park and we welcome the appointment of Developers Eyes by Taylor Wimpey and Caryes to oversee the completion of Buckingham Park. Their work is a step change from the previous arrangement where we had to battle to get street lighting fixed and basic facilities completed. They have given me a new found confidence that outstanding work will now be completed, including the tarmacking of roads in the next few months.

The council received representations from a number of residents opposed to the new pizza takeaway shop on the corner across from Jubilee Square. The council objected at every opportunity and highlighted a number of areas where the application did not meet planning requirements at planning hearings at AVDC. However, after changes to plans by the applicant AVDC found that there were no legal grounds for refusing permission and the application was granted.

While on the subject of planning I note that, due to a lack of enforcement action by AVDC, a number of residents have taken to adding extensions, large garden buildings, and converting garages to residential or business use without planning permission. We have highlighted the need for planning permission in the most recent Park News and I will continue to press the AVDC enforcement officer for action.

While the change of contractor is welcome I should, for the record, highlight the continued lamentable response from Taylor Wimpey. Together with our MP, John Bercow, we wrote to the Group CEO of Taylor Wimpey in January to ask for his commitment to completing Buckingham Park. To date, neither of us has even received the curtesy of a holding response.

Other issues we have dealt with during the year include arranging for the removal of 8 abandoned cars and two sofas'. We have chasing housing associations to properly maintain their tenant's properties, and removed





fly tipping. Often these activities go unnoticed by all but the residents immediately affected but they take up substantial amounts of time and are important maintain Buckingham Park's appearance.

We have also started discussions with AVDC in relation to taking over the playgrounds and open spaces and continue to support the GP surgeries efforts.

A number of challenges remain outstanding:

Parking and traffic remain high on the list of residents' concerns. After encouraging residents to call 101 regarding road rage complaints at the traffic light junction Thames Valley policy have now had enough calls to classify the junction as a problem. This evidence will be passed to Transport for Bucks in the hope that they will review the layout of the junction. Speed remains a concern and as soon as the roads are tarmacked we can arrange for the installation of the Speed monitoring sign on Colonel Grantham Avenue.

Cllr Witlock will be leading our traffic survey which is a first step in the consultation process that is required to introduce yellow lines after adoption. This will be an ongoing process that will still take several months after adoption so communication with residents, in terms of realistic expectations, remains important.

Reports of anti-social behaviour have reduced significantly and the work of our community policing team is largely to thank for their proactive approach to working with the residents that were responsible in past years. As is usual for the spring season we need to remain vigilant for mini motor bikes and encourage residents to report them to the police on 101 as often as possible.

The production of park news has proved challenging over the last twelve months which has resulted in the number of editions falling from four to three. One of the objectives for the next year is to put in place a better solution for the editing and production that does not put too much pressure on any one member of the council.

Since the last annual meeting the prevalence of social media groups and in particular, Facebook groups, has emerged. They seem to be poorly controlled and often contain speculative or inaccurate information in relation the Parish Council and other events on Buckingham Park. They have also become a common way for resident to raise concerns rather than report them to the appropriate authorities, be that the parish, other councils or the police and then complain, on the same group, when no action is taken. So far, I have taken the view that I do not want to engage with these groups as it takes up inordinate amounts of time to answer to each comment and invariably fails to calm the individuals concerned. However, I am conscious that the time may come that the council will need a social media strategy to counter the negative effects of some comments on these groups.

But, to finish on a positive note, I am looking forward to a summer where, and while I have said this before, we will see significant works to complete the roads and infrastructure to a point where we can consider ourselves to be a community no longer in development. It may even be worth the council considering organising a late summer event, say late August or early September, to mark the completion of Buckingham Park. The big steps are behind us, the final work to completion is within touching distance and the day of completion and the parish council taking on its full range of responsibilities is now closer than ever before.

Anders Christensen

Chairman

BEGINNERS SEWING CLASSES - £10



Children age 8 + - Adults-evening courses **Buckingham Park Community Centre**

STARTING MARCH 2ND - wednesday evening 6-7pm

Learn how to use your sewing machine How to set it up, and thread it and sew different stitches etc. I have projects we will be making.

If interested Call me Sue 07725 333 967 or email me zetecsue@hotmail.co.uk

Bring your sewing machine or I have a spare one small projects include fabric.



PETTING FARM - FAIRGROUND RIDES -**BALLOON SHAPING - PANNING FOR** GOLD - FOSSIL HUNTING - MARTIAL ARTS DISPLAYS - T.S.O.D - IRISH SPIRIT DANCING - GYMNASTS - KASO DANCE - BOUNCY CASTLE DOME - GIANT SLIDES - TOMBOLA'S - COCONUT SHY



GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE (Prizes Worth Over £175) **BBQ & REFRESHMENTS** GAMES FOR ALL THE FAMILY AND MUCH, MUCH MORE ...

forward to seeing you there 9th July From 12pm to 3

School News

As we approach the end of the school year we look back with a number of very positive memories. We have recently met with all our new families as our School continues to grow. We will be welcoming new families to Nursery and Reception classes in September. Since the last edition of Park News, much has taken place in the school and here are some of the highlights.

Easter at Buckingham Park School

We loved celebrating Easter will our children, families and local community. Our Year 3 and 4 children led a special Easter presentation during which they re-told the story of Holy Week superbly.

As part of our Easter Celebrations, our wonderful PTA organised a cake baking and decorating competition. The 'Great Buckingham Park Easter Bake Off' was a huge success with some amazing creations from children, parents and staff. The competition was judged by Anders Christensen, Chairman of Buckingham Park Parish Council.

Nyandiwa School and Sport Relief

Our link with Nyandiwa School continues. Niyandiwa Primary School is situated about 3.5 kilometres from the town of Oyugis in Western Kenya.

In the Spring Term our children participated in a 'Get Active' sporting event in aid of Nyandiwa School and Sport Relief. We were able to split over £3,300 between the charities which was wonderful. Nyandiwa School have used some of the money to purchase new furniture, put in new concrete floors in classrooms, and to extend the provision of electricity in to more areas of the school.

Sport and Physical Activity

As well as our 'Get Active' event, our PTA organised Buckingham Park's first ever Fun Run. This event, for children at the School and their families, enabled walkers, joggers and runners to enjoy courses around the school and community. We were joined by Aylesbury Town's Mayor, Barbara Russell, and we were grateful for the support of our sponsors, Developer Eyes and Taylor Wimpey.



Houses

Our new house system is fully underway and the children are working very hard to earn house points for Emerald, Sapphire or Ruby. The house names have been selected to reflect the three colours on our school logo.

We have recently undertaken a democratic process to elect a boy and a girl house captain for each of the teams. Year 5 children delivered a short presentation to their house members followed by a secret ballot.

The Creative Curriculum

We enjoy a broad and varied curriculum at Buckingham Park. This term's learning has been supplemented by visits to Mop End Field Studies Centre, Waterside Theatre, Woburn Safari Park and St James Church. Our Year 3 children have had an 'Ancient Egypt' day where they all dressed up as Ancient Egyptians and undertook a range of exciting learning activities.



In November our Year 4 and 5 children will be participating in 'Energize' at the Waterside Theatre. 'Energize' is a festival of music, dance and drama performed by children from schools in the area. Our children will be taking part in a collaborative choral and dance piece called, 'Play on Words'.

Some of our older children have participated in curriculum events at other schools. A group of children attended the 'Big Bang' science conference at the Gatehouse Conference Centre, and another group participated in the Primary Maths Challenge event at Aylesbury Grammar School.

Aylesbury Smiles Disability football team





Smiles was created in 2015 by Mick Dorr, Graeme Catten and Kelvin Wong sitting around a table in the Watermead Inn discussing how can we help adults with a learning disability play football in the Aylesbury area.

We named our self's Smiles because of the enjoyment and happiness we see on faces of people who have a disability playing sports.

Smiles started with 1 player turning up on a Wednesday evening at the Stoke Mandeville Stadium, learning basic football skills through 1: 1 coaching. The player enjoyed himself so much he went and told his brother and friends about the evening.

At present we now have changed venue and now play at Buckingham Park Community Centre. We have 14 players on the books, all players are 16 and over, and have a disability. They range from Autism, hearing impediment, physical and learning disability. In September 2015 Paul Freeborn joined the club as a coach and has now become a director of Smiles.

In September 2015 Smiles joined the Middlesex FA Pan disability League; all games take place at Goals in South Ruislip on the 1st Sunday of every month. The players compete against more established teams these include, Chelsea, QPR, Tottenham and Brentford. Throughout the season coaches and referees monitor all players and clubs making sure they follow the rules and comply with the code of conduct relating to behaviour. Smiles were awarded a The Fair Play League trophy in there respect to fellow players, referees and FA officials

When Smiles train at Buckingham Park on Wednesday evenings they are always made welcome into the Community Centre by Jan and her team.

In the near future we are looking at starting up an under 16 disability football team training at Buckingham Park. If anyone is interested please call Mick on 07939396314.

If anybody is interested in joining the Smiles football team please contact or come down and visit the Smiles team on a Wednesday between 5pm-6.30.

Beginners Running Group



The Active Bucks project aspires to help all Bucks residents lead happier, healthier lives. The project supports more people to get more active, more often.

On the Run running club have teamed up with ActiveIn to be part of this project, by providing two fully qualified run leaders to bring a new beginners running programme to Buckingham Park.

The, free of charge, sessions started at the beginning of June and will run until October. The aim is to lead people in structured sessions with the end goal of completing a 5k.

These sessions work on a similar basis as the Couch to 5k programmes. Each week we have a set to follow such as jogging for 60 seconds followed by a recovery walk for 90 seconds. These sets will then steadily progress every two weeks.

BUGGYFIT



The ultimate fitness class for mums and babies. (The Times) - IS HERE!

- Outdoor exercise class for new mums
- Shift postnatal weight
- Strengthening and tone the body after childbirth
- Get out the house and have an hour of you time, with your new arrival
- Make new friends

With two weekly classes right here on your doorstep (Buckingham Park Monday 11am and Watermead, Thursday 10am), and summer on the way, what are you waiting for?

Contact your local trainer Kate, for more info: 07985 048880 / kate@kasostudios.co.uk

The sessions are aimed at complete beginners, walkers and people that are just returning to exercise after a long break or iniury.

We're now on our 4th week and we've had people join us who haven't exercised since leaving school many years ago. They've found it challenging but totally enjoyable.

"I was nervous when I started 3 weeks ago & tonight I was on my own without my running buddy & I managed to do it on my own (of course with the other fab ladies). I was pleased I went, I actually look forward to going every week"

So why not come and join us, we are a very friendly and welcoming group. Bring your friends and family, or come as you are and meet some new friends in your community.

Every Wednesday at 6.45pm outside the Community Centre.

Rachael & Suzy





Useful Numbers

Z&S Buses - Route 1 - Silver Rider 01296 415468

Redline Buses - Route 7 (early mornings and evenings only) 01296 426786

Buckingham Park Community Centre 01296 435239

BT Fault Line 0800 800151

Clerk to Buckingham Park Parish Council 07789 586594

McCoys Fish & Chips 01296 427648

Berryfields Medical Centre 01296 310940

Buckingham Park CofE Primary School 01296 415687

Buckingham Pharmacy 01296 332901

Barnardo's Shop 01296 330096

Express Tanning & Beauty 01296 393311

Budgens 01296 485137

Electricity - Power Loss 0800 3163105

Gas - Emergency 0800 111999

NHS Out of Hours Service 111

Stoke Mandeville Hospital 01296 315000

Thames Valley Police Call 101, the 24-hour Thames Valley Police non-emergency number to report a non-emergency crime. You can also report a non-emergency crime at your local police station during its opening hours.

Always call 999 in an emergency. It is an emergency when: a crime is being committed, there is a risk of injury, or there is a risk of serious damage to property.

Childline 0800 1111 101

Thames Water 0800 714614

Train Times 08457484950

Community Concerns Who should I contact?

Using the social networking site Facebook to report concerns and issues around Buckingham Park may seem the best way to share and find the right information, however our local Aylesbury Policing Team advise using the following telephone numbers/email provided by AVDC website.

If it's a criminal matter? Report the incident to Thames Valley Police on 101, or 999 if it is an emergency.

If you have information about a crime, but would like to report it anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 1111.

If it's a hate crime (racial/homophobic/disablist incident) report the incident to Thames Valley Police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

If you or the person responsible for the Anti Social Behaviour is a tenant then contact your housing provider who will have a specialist officer who will deal with ASB matters.

If you are a tenant of the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust contact your neighbourhood manager on 01296 732600.

If you or the person responsible is a home owner / occupier contact the Public Safety Team on 01296 396093 or 396094.

If the problem is due to excessive, persistent noise or public health issues contact Environmental Health team on 01296 585605.

If you want to report an abandoned vehicle please note the make, colour and registration number along with the location, then call 01296 585076.

To report graffiti - Email contractservices@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk with details of the content, location, date and time you noticed it, if it's on private property, AVDC can make the owner aware and request them to remove it.

To report a concern about the safety of a child you may want to contact Social Services on 01296 383999 or out of hours the Social Services Care Line on 0800 137915.

If you have anything that you would like to report to the taxi licensing team, an incident you witnessed, a poor journey, a driver using a mobile, then please report it https://eforms.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/ShowForm. asp?fm_fid=140

Meetings Diary

The dates for the forthcoming meetings of the Parish Council are: **Tuesday 6th September 2016 Tuesday 1st November 2016 Tuesday 6th December 2016**

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at Buckingham Park Community Centre at 8pm. Everyone is welcome but please check the Parish Noticeboard or the website to ensure that no last minute changes have been made. **www.buckinghampark-pc.gov.uk**

Your River Needs You!

Would you like to learn more about your local river and its wildlife? Do you have a small amount of free time each month, ranging from 10 minutes to a few hours? Have you always wanted to volunteer but weren't sure where to start? Would you like to be part of a group that makes a real difference to the way that we see and treat our local rivers?

If you have answered yes to any of these questions, then we would love for you to get in touch. The River Thame Conservation Trust is a small charity, founded by a group of local people in 2012. Over the past few years the organisation has grown and is now working hard to improve and protect our local river. You can read more about the Trust and what we do on the website www.riverthame.org. If you are reading this article, then it is very likely that you like less than a few miles from the River Thame or one of its many tributaries.

We are desperately seeking volunteers who would like to help us collect information about our local river, this information can range from taking a quick water sample once a month to surveying for birds, insects, mammals or even recording the habitat. We will provide full training and support to all volunteers, we will also endeavour to show you how the information that you collect is being used. We need to learn more about this incredible river to help us plan our future work and ensure its long-term protection; but we can't do this alone, please call or send an email to Emily Godfrey (Project Officer) if you have any questions or would like to sign up Email: emily@riverthame.org Mobile: 07413936048

Active Bucks

Do you fancy trying something new and getting a little more active



Activities are open to everyone; whether you're young or old, male or female, fit or unfit. Aimed at beginners, so don't count yourself out if you currently do little or no activity. In fact, you're the sort of person we really want to join in!

142 Active Bucks activity programmes have been commissioned which each run for 6 months from June 2016. Activities will cost £2 per session for residents, with the exception of Simply Walks which is free of charge. Buckingham Park nearest activity is a walk, jog and run session held on Wednesdays from 7.00pm till 8.00pm at the community centre.

Simply register at www.activebucks.co.uk to get your first session free.

River Thame Conservation Trust



