

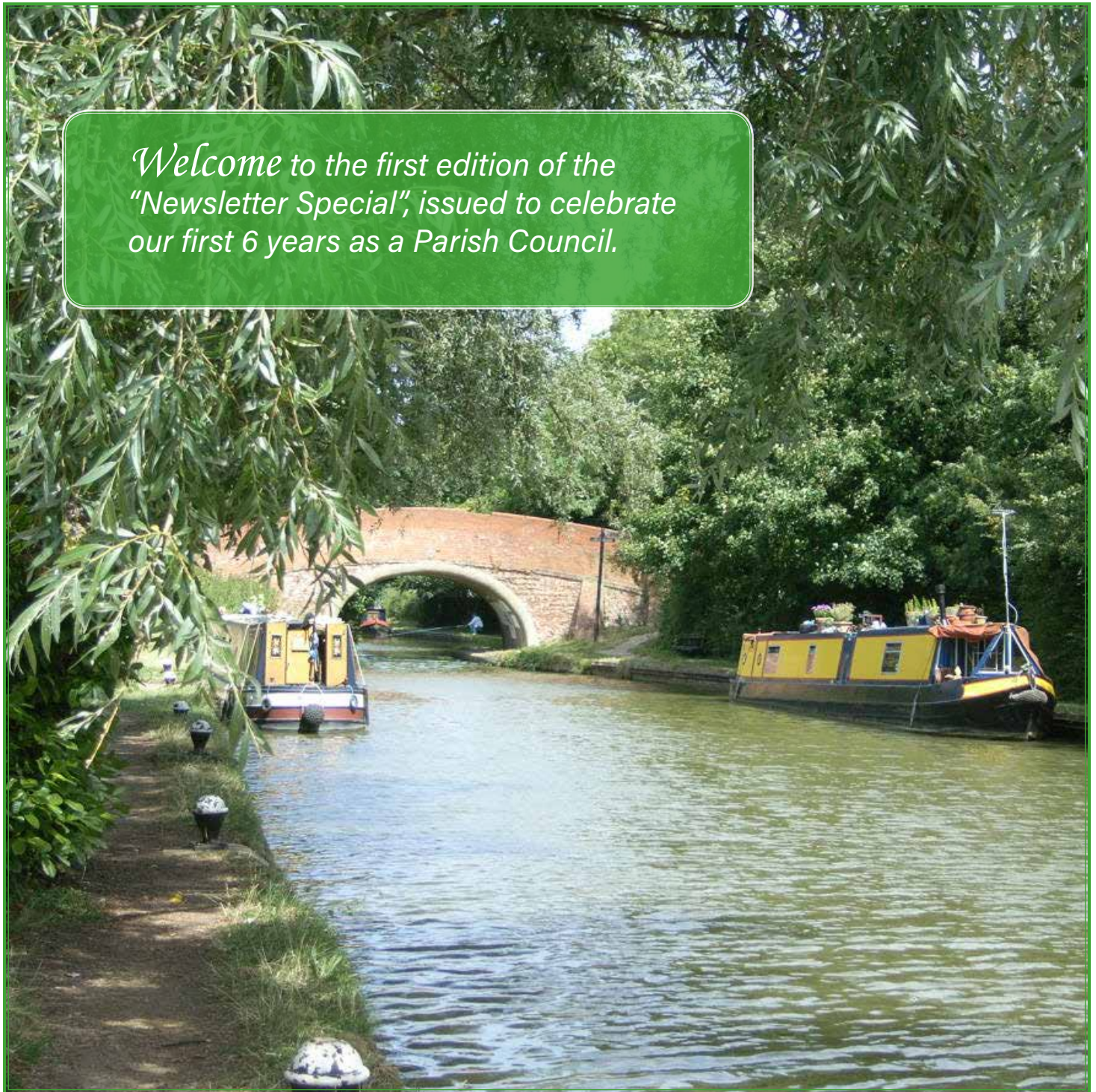
O L D W O U G H T O N

September 2018

News

OWPC
● ● ● ●

*Welcome to the first edition of the
"Newsletter Special", issued to celebrate
our first 6 years as a Parish Council.*



PO Box 7575
Milton Keynes
MK11 9GR

E: clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk
T: 01908 465811
W: www.oldwoughton.org.uk

Who's Who in the Parish

OLD WOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish of Old Woughton is divided into 4 small wards.
Details of your local Councillors are listed below.



*Our next Parish Council
Meetings are on:*

*12 November 2018, 14 January 2019,
11 March 2019*

Woughton on the Green North



Rob Grindley
Planning, Projects,
Transport, Liaison
for Woughton Playing
Fields/Pavilion

rgrindley@
oldwoughton.org.uk



Roy Kenyon
Allotments, Finance
& Budget, Projects,
Liaison for Transport

rkenyon@
oldwoughton.org.uk



Phil Nash
Allotments,
Communications,
OWIS/IT, Projects

pnash@
oldwoughton.org.uk

Woughton on the Green South



Ray Brown
Allotments, Finance &
Budget, Planning, Projects.
Village Greens/
Rights of Way

rbrown@oldwoughton.org.uk



Charlotte Hall
VICE CHAIR
Finance & Budget,
Planning, Projects Lead, Liaison for Parks
Trust, OWPC Representative - Welfare Trust

chall@oldwoughton.org.uk

Woughton Park



**Vanessa
Freeman Gwynn**
Planning, Projects,
Liaison for MKC Consultations,
Parks Trust

vgwynn@oldwoughton.org.uk



Andrew Humphries
CHAIR
Finance & Budget,
Village Greens/Rights of Way, Projects,
Liaison for MKC Consultations,
Woughton Playing Fields/Pavilion

ahumphries@oldwoughton.org.uk

Passmore



Mary Major
Dog Bins, Noticeboards
& Projects



Judith Howson
Communications, Dog Bins,
Projects, Liaison for
Canal & River Trust

jhowson@oldwoughton.org.uk

Clerk



Julian Vischer
Finance & Budget,
Environment, OWIS/IT

clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk

The Borough of Milton Keynes is divided into larger wards,
OWPC is part of the Campbell Park and Old Woughton Ward.
Your ward councillors are:



Terry Baines

terry.baines@milton-keynes.gov.uk

T. 01908 730314 / 07846 697237



Peter McDonald

peter.mcdonald@milton-keynes.gov.uk

T. 01908 673279



Ric Brackenbury

ric.brackenbury@milton-keynes.gov.uk

T. 01908 691691 Civic Offices

Editorial

OLD WUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



When the Council was first formed, there were those who commented that, because 7 out of the 9 new Councillors had never served before, we would be unsuccessful as we had no idea what we were taking on. They were correct in their assumption that we did not have a clue about the commitment this would require, but I hope you will agree that we have made a success in many areas of this small Parish.

As we have gained in experience, our aspirations have become larger and we are now tackling some difficult and time-consuming issues. These range from traffic noise from the dual carriageways disturbing our peace to conserving the larger areas of green space, including our heritage sites. It is time to celebrate the achievements of the past and outline some of our hopes and intentions for the future.

There is a survey attached to this newsletter and we would encourage you to fill it in. We try to communicate with all our parishioners but we need your help to ascertain that we are achieving this to your satisfaction.

If you have suggestions for ways in which you think our Parish could be improved, please do get in touch by:

VISITING THE PARISH WEBSITE AT:

www.oldwoughton.org.uk,

CALLING THE PARISH TELEPHONE:

01908 465811,

EMAILING THE CLERK AT:

clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk,

WRITING TO US AT:

OWPC, PO Box 7575,
Milton Keynes, MK11 9GR

We hope you enjoy reading this larger than usual newsletter and as always we welcome your comments.

Judith Howson

The Chairman

OLD WUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

"This is a democratic movement by the residents of Woughton on the Green, Woughton Park and Passmore to establish their own Parish Council; a new, smaller Parish Council, which will serve the interests and aspirations of the people. In our eyes, that will be beautiful." (John Bint MKC)

This was the strap line for a campaign that began in July 2009 when a Parish Boundary Review gave us the opportunity to break away from Woughton Community Council. At the 8th November 2011 Full MK Council Meeting the vote in favour was decisive (30/21) and Old Woughton Parish Council was officially formed on 9th May 2012.

Given our background it is easy to understand our philosophy of minimalist local government and highly efficient management. We treat public money as if it was our own and only spend when it is absolutely necessary. You will notice that within a year we slashed our precept and have kept it at this level for the last 5 years. From one of the highest in Milton Keynes under WCC, it is now one of the lowest. We meet every two months and, unheard of in the city, we always have some residents in attendance.

In these 6 years we have pursued two major strategies. The first is to preserve our green spaces and the quality of our beautiful, rural environment. With the considerable help of our Ward Councillors we have achieved the registration of 3 Village Greens – a UK National achievement. This secures these areas for public use in perpetuity. We have also applied to designate the footpaths across the Playing Fields as Public Rights of Way. In this day and age with huge pressures on local authorities to build houses we must seek permanent protection solutions.

We now face a serious challenge with MKC claiming that it has insufficient money to carry out effective landscaping. Its solution is to pass on its responsibility to the Parishes and shift the burden of taxes to pay for it to precept-payers. This flies in the face of efficient contracting and, as well as increasing costs, will result in fragmented services and standards. OWPC is working hard to find an acceptable way through this but all residents should put pressure on MKC through the press and Ward Councillors to bring a return to common sense.

Our second strategy has been to invest in our allotments and create an amenity that is a pleasure to use in order to prepare it to become self-governing. The Devolved Management Agreement was signed this March with a target for complete handover to the Trustees of the Patch Allotment Association in October.

We are actively considering some Parish Investment Projects that will look good and bring benefits to such things as road safety. As a quirk of our parish's formation, we inherited about £65,000 that currently sits in our reserves. We will spend it wisely, you can rest assured.

Finally, too many people have supported the Parish. We have a really great community in Old Woughton with thriving residents' groups providing fun and healthy activities. Whether it is picking up litter, helping to fix the canal towpath, planting spring bulbs, tending mini gardens round the road signs or helping our more senior neighbours, this is the kind of place I want to live in and support.

Andrew Humphries

Patch Allotments - Did you know?

The Patch site covers three and a half hectares, holds 220 individual allotment gardens or plots.

It also has first class facilities which include water for irrigation, a toilet, a shop and a meeting hut. Since OWPC took ownership in 2012 there has been a continuing programme of improvement works

- The site was formerly a field known as the Patch and was dedicated in 1973; the Patch Allotment Association (PAA) formed the same year. Originally managed by MK Council, allotment sites transferred to parishes in 2008, with the Patch passing to WCC and then OWPC on its creation in 2012.

- On transfer from WCC, the Patch came with a paid allotment manager, but OWPC preferred to run it via a small team of delegated councillors and divert the funds to site improvements. A shop, tea and meeting room already existed but space was limited, so OWPC purchased two used shipping containers, one for a shop and one for machinery, leaving the hut for just tea and meetings.

- Boundary security remains an issue. Initially, natural materials were used for reinforcement and several hundred pyracantha were planted, but these struggled due to a combination of lack of light and moisture from external boundary trees. Now palisade fencing reinforces the more vulnerable sections and recently green mesh fencing has been installed along the Southern section of the Western boundary.

- A programme of replacement has started for plot staking, involving wood preserving, painting, drilling the ground and hammering in the stakes; this process will take three or four years to complete. There are two new notice boards: at the main entrance and near to the West pedestrian entrance. Several skips a year are provided for waste collection.

- It was hoped to provide site water via a borehole. A geological survey found that the ground was not suitable, but the inherited chemical toilet is now compostable following



PAA's securing a grant in 2013; OWPC provided the enclosure materials.

- The PAA holds social events including Open Days when parishioners are invited to view the site and enjoy refreshments including a BBQ; best vegetables competitions are also held.

- There are two co-operatives on site, one operates a chicken run and one is for bee keepers, with training sessions from time to time.

- A poll was commissioned from MK Council on whether tenants were in favour of devolved management. On a 57% turnout in Spring 2017, 76% voted Yes and a handover was set for Autumn 2018. OWPC immediately set about the handover, which will culminate in full autonomy to the PAA on the 1st October. Congratulations!



Village Greens



Aware of the need to protect our open spaces in the face of house-building pressures from government plans, OWPC has been pursuing a programme of designating new village greens. This is the only approach that guarantees a protection that is permanent and cannot be overturned by political change.

A village green has long been used to describe land, rural or urban, over which the inhabitants of a particular locality hold customary recreational rights. The courts have formally recognised such customs as good in law since at least the seventeenth century. Specifically, the main benefits are to:

- secure permanent recording of the land as a town or village green,
- protect the land from development and other forms of detrimental activity by bringing the registered land within the protection of the nineteenth-century legislation under which it is an offence to build on a green or to interrupt its use or enjoyment by the local community,
- secure the right of local people to enjoy the land for recreation in perpetuity,
- give the registered land a new status as land for the community, to be valued and enjoyed,
- ensure that existing and prospective owners are aware from the outset of the established recreational function of the land, so helping to avoid any future conflicts.

Accordingly, Old Woughton Parish Council has identified six areas for designation, three of which have already been successful (see map):

1. the land on the Green bordering on Bellis Grove
2. the redway Land (east of the canal) in the centre of Woughton Park
3. the land between the redway and Passmore on the south side of the estate

Thanks are due to all residents who took the time to support the application and fill in the questionnaires. It is only as a community that we are able to achieve our goals.

FOR MORE INFO:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-common-land>



30 *for a reason*

In response to concerns raised with OWPC about speeding in the parish, arrangements have been made for a Speedwatch survey to take place along the Newport Road, in the first instance.

Expect to see the team during the autumn, they'll be difficult to miss in their high viz jackets!

For more info:

<https://www.communityspeedwatch.co.uk/>

Dog Bins

In the Parish of Old Woughton we have a "green and pleasant land". Maintaining this area as a beautiful and clean place to live can sometimes present a real challenge. As part of our efforts we have one litter bin and fourteen dog bins which are regularly maintained. See central map for positions of the bins. Unfortunately there are still those few people who persist in abandoning the mess their dogs have left behind. This is an offence which results in fines where prosecution is successful. We are aware that some dog walkers hang the little bags on trees and collect them on their return journeys – a pragmatic approach, but if you are reported doing this, you could still be prosecuted.

This is because dog faeces can be harmful to humans, especially children and that parasites and serious disease can be transmitted to livestock via dog waste. Consequently, professional dog walkers using the local parks and green spaces need a licence to operate - issued by the Parks Trust – to ensure that:

- They are fully insured
- All activities are fully risk assessed
- They are following DEFRA guidelines
- All activities follow The Parks Trust code of conduct for walking dogs in MK parks
- Access to and use of public parks is not inhibited by any activities

To apply for a commercial dog walking licence, contact the **Events and Community Engagement Manager** on:

T. 01908 233600

E. j.dawes@theparkstrust.com

Councillor Retires

Mike Blomley, one of the founding members of Old Woughton Parish Council, has now retired. A keen activist in the fight to separate from Woughton Community Council and form our own parish, he gave effective speeches at Milton Keynes Borough Council meetings, delivered many leaflets and spoke with many local residents.

During the last 6 years he has been instrumental in setting up and running the Dog Bin scheme and installing and maintaining new notice boards. He organised the magnificent and extremely time consuming achievement of the registration of the Passmore Village Green and has been regularly involved in the team working with the Canal & River Trust on projects such as improving the tow path.

He would like it to be known that his successor would very much enjoy working with the parish in such a rewarding and valuable role. Our grateful thanks go to him for his long and dedicated service and we wish him the very best for a long and happy future.

Mary Major, a long standing resident of Passmore, has agreed to step into his shoes.

Notice Boards

When OWPC was first formed, we inherited a sad-looking wooden notice board in Woughton Park and a rusty, leaking metal one in Woughton on the Green, both along Newport Road. Thanks to the efforts of one of our councillors the Woughton Park board was repaired and re-varnished and the Woughton on the Green board was replaced with a beautiful new wooden one. Since then, a third board of similar quality has been placed in Passmore and a fourth at the end of Baskerfield Grove.

After a few years, our boards were beginning to look a little weathered so last year all four were restored to their former glory. The board on Woughton Park was vandalised last year. This was expertly repaired. We are grateful to Councillor Mike Blomley for his patience and hard work with all this.

These boards are primarily for the display of OWPC notices, but a resident of the Parish may request that a notice be displayed and this will be done subject to space being available. Notices need to relate specifically to the Parish or to adjoining Parish areas and/or their residents. They cannot be of an overtly political, religious or commercial nature, or be bigger than A4. Each notice should be clearly marked with the date of posting and will be removed 30 days after posting unless otherwise previously agreed with a Councillor.

If you have news of events that fit these requirements, please do not hesitate to speak to your local councillor.



Local Landscape

A GROWING CONCERN



A regular topic at OWPC meetings is the question of landscape maintenance. Our parkland setting is a key feature of our area and the work of local charity Milton Keynes Parks Trust is a source of considerable pride, representing over 70% of green space in the parish (*see central map*).

The Government's continued funding reductions of local authorities, however, means that like many councils, Milton Keynes' budget for its discretionary public realm services is being squeezed by the pressures arising from the mandatory functions such as Adult Social Care and this trend is set to continue for the foreseeable future. Already we notice evidence of this in the reduction of leaf-clearing and weed control routines, whilst tree and hedge maintenance reports are only actioned on Health and Safety grounds.

MK Council has, therefore, opened a debate about transferring its residual landscape budgets to local councils like OWPC, so that we can decide what we want to tackle where, how often and to what standard. For example, would we like some areas mown less and some hedgerows maintained more actively?

OWPC has expressed an interest in exploring these possibilities 'in principle' and we are awaiting the indicative numbers on any proposed budgets to be transferred from MKC.

What are your thoughts? Is this an approach you think OWPC should be pursuing more actively based on your priorities or do you think that MKC should remain responsible with whatever monies it has left? The only change that can happen before the re-tendering of the existing Serco contract for 1st April 2020, is if OWPC votes to purchase additional services, but we could use this period to experiment with being more actively involved with MKC landscaping, if there is an appetite. It's time to put our thinking caps on in any event.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/your-council-and-elections/councillors-and-committees/parish-and-town-councils/serco-services-for-parishes>

WANT TO MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN:

E. vgwynn@oldwoughton.org.uk



WOUGHTON WALKERS



'Woughton Walkers' is a walking group set up over two years ago. We're a very friendly lot and, in fact, our nickname is 'walkers and talkers.' We meet *every Wednesday at 2pm* - by the Castle Rose post box in Woughton Park - and walk for roughly 90 minutes on a different Redway each week ending back at Castle Rose.

Walkers bring along their dogs and, occasionally, their grandchildren and come from Passmore; Woughton-on-the-Green; Walton; as well as Woughton Park. Membership is free and there is no expectation that you walk every week. So, if you would like to join us for some walking fun, please do make contact with Norma.

FOR MORE INFO:

norma.jamieson@btopenworld.com



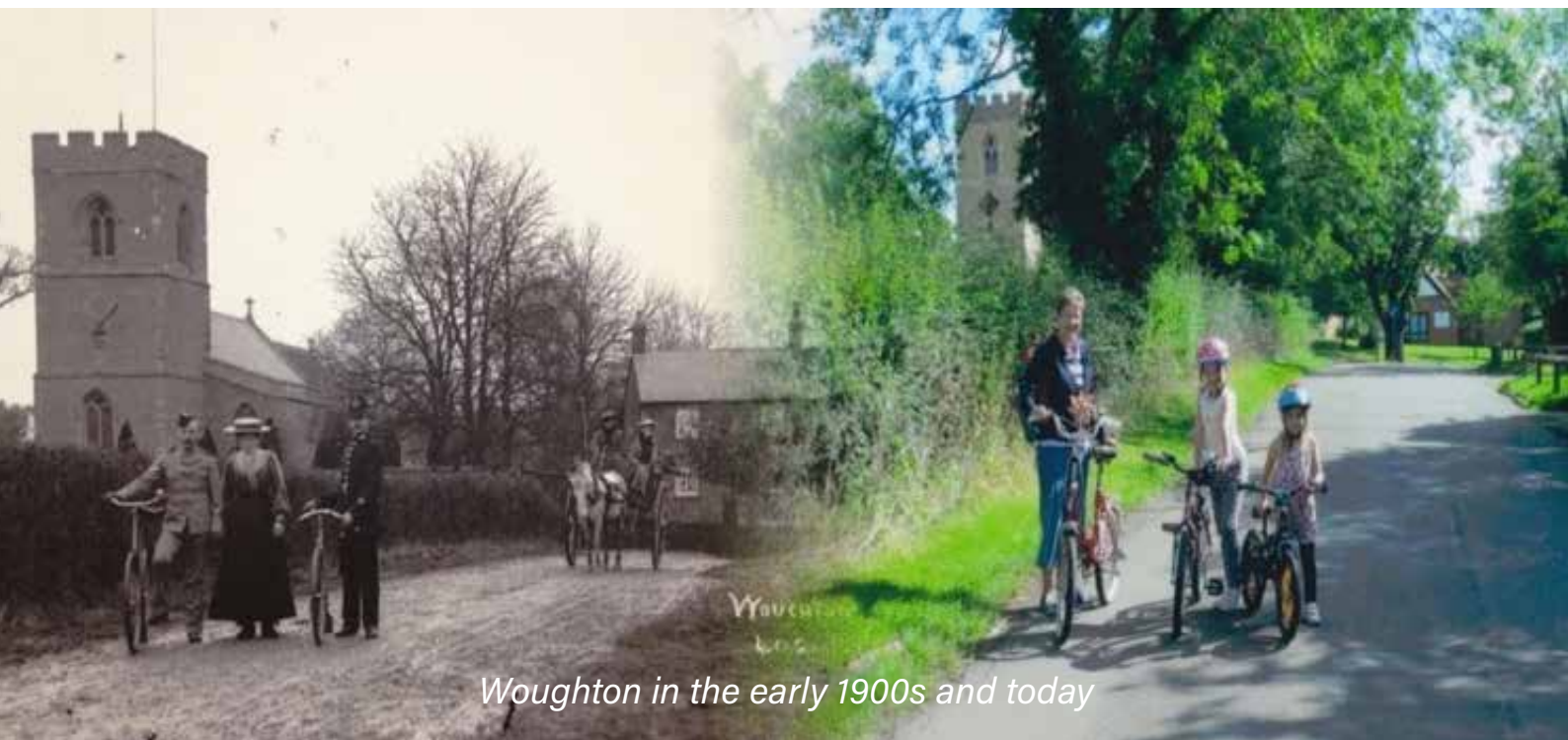
Key:

-  Dog Bins
-  Parish Council Boundary lines
-  Pathways
-  Village Greens



Old Woughton Parish Council





Woughton in the early 1900s and today

The Parish of Old Woughton is exceptional in that it contains one of the 13 villages taken in by the New Town development in 1967. Woughton is the most 'unspoilt' of the villages, having been maintained within a grid square and bounded by the Ouzel Valley Parkland, protecting it from much of the character changing consequences of development. At its core the Scheduled Ancient Monument and extensive Village Greens protect the shrunken medieval village landscape which has resulted in minimal impact to the heart of the Parish and original village.

Woughton Heritage is a local group of volunteers who share an interest in this rich historical and rare heritage landscape. The group was established in 2015 and has, since its inception, delivered three high quality Heritage Open Day exhibitions, attended and displayed work at other events (Archaeology Day; Heritage Festival) and has had over 1,700 people enjoy, share, and learn more about the area from the research achieved to date. Further, the information gathered has contributed to helping to secure a further Village Green, protect local heritage buildings at risk and feed into the Conservation Area review and recently the New Town Register Consultation.

The work has been supported by the Community Foundation and Ward Councillor Grants which have provided the means and resources to produce and display material in a professional and most engaging way. Recently, a generous donation in memory of former Councillor Richard Freeman, born locally, will enable us to leave a legacy with a guided walk booklet underway. Something for residents, visitors and future generations to enjoy. We now have over 60 information panels / boards / maps and posters that provide a wealth of

information that can be reused and presented in a 'pop-up' fashion making the most use of each piece of research.

We plan to develop a website, platform and other mediums to share our work and celebrate this amazing and very special Parish. In the meantime, if you would like to join the team and participate at any level that suits you (informally or socially, mailing list or major research!) then do contact us at: woughtonheritage@gmail.com

If you have any resources, pictures, books or memories and knowledge of the area that you would like to share with us, we would love to hear your story...

As well as exhibitions we have held a number of other events which has allowed us to develop as a group and provide further forums to present our work and bring the community together. We have had quiz nights, coffee mornings and walks and talks.

Heritage Open Days: did you know that every September Heritage Open Days take place across the country. It is the largest festival of history and culture bringing together over 2,500 organisations, 5,000 Community and History Groups and ... it is all **FREE!**

Woughton Heritage has participated in these Open Days since 2015 Look out for the 2019 event!



Parish Website

www.oldwoughton.org.uk has been in operation for two years providing online information about all parish council activity and useful general information for residents. It can also be used to contact the parish council. It is in three main sections, *the first concerns the Parish Council*:

- Its size and scope and what it does.
- Some background to the parish and information about the current parish councillors.
- Online access to published parish council policies
- Records from past council meetings
- Published parish finance papers
- Information about the Patch Allotments off Newport Road
- A projects page, showing activities undertaken by the parish council.

The second main section contains Community Information.

- About the Parish Environment
- An explanation of the parish council's role in MK Council Planning process
- About local groups within the parish

The third main section contains News and Events:

- Parish News
- MK News
- Selected Thames Valley Police Alerts
- Events
- Notice Board: items posted on the public boards
- Community Notices: other items which may be of interest to parishioners
- Access to the newsletter archive

There is a search facility on the main menu bar at the top right of all pages for finding particular topics.

Please visit the website to explore the information available. We will be posting a copy of the survey to obtain feedback from residents to enhance the website and ensure that it contains all the information that residents require.

Planning

OLD WOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Our parish is a unique and beautiful place so any planning application should respond to this context. There is a variety of new and old buildings including many designated listed buildings within a Conservation Area and Ancient Monuments all interspersed by the creative legacy left by new town developments.

There is a formal consultation process for all applications:

The parish clerk is notified by Milton Keynes Council of new applications in our area. OWPC reviews the full list at its meetings. Details of these are issued via the public meeting *cont.*



FACEBOOK PAGE



There is also a Facebook page which is not an official Old Woughton Parish Facebook account, but on which we do display selected posts from the website. If you would like to receive these posts via Facebook, the Facebook page is **Friends of Old Woughton PC**.



agenda with discussion as appropriate. As a parish council we can respond to the consultation by either:

- objecting to the application
- supporting the application
- passing no comment

If you have any specific concerns regarding a planning application in your area you can make representations as a member of the public direct to the relevant Planning Officer at Milton Keynes Council.

You can also contact your Old Woughton Parish councillor to discuss any specific concerns that you would like us to consider when we make our representations on the application.

Milton Keynes Council also provides a useful website that allows you to keep track of planning applications and other information near to you:

<https://mapping.milton-keynes.gov.uk/mymiltonkeynes.aspx>

The main Milton Keynes Council Planning Hub is:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building>

Historic England has a useful page on their website, concerning the rules for making changes to properties within a conservation area:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/>

Parish Gardeners parishgardeners@oldwoughton.org.uk

In the last year an informal group of parish residents have got together to look at ways of beautifying the parish by tidying up some overgrown areas and planting flowers. The initial efforts have been directed at street name signs. You may have noticed some of the planting. It is hoped that in the future larger projects could be undertaken with the support of the parish council.

Four years ago the parish council supported a group of residents in Woughton on the Green north to replace a number of dead trees along Baskerfield Grove and Verley Close. At the same time a large number of daffodils were planted in two corners of the green space bounded by Baskerfield Grove and Adams Court. A patch of tulips was also planted on Newport Road at the end of Baskerfield Grove.

In Woughton Park, individual residents, generally adjacent to road signs, have taken up the challenge and planting has followed. To date maintenance has continued to be undertaken and very favourable comments have been received, both from other residents and even by people passing through. A lady taxi driver who had dropped off a fare said the signs looked so nice, she considered doing it in her own area.

A resident on Passmore has planted small shrubs and flowers under a road sign and the notice board, which have been much admired. There is also a small rose garden which is tended by two other Passmore residents.

There are other projects that could benefit from work being undertaken. Some are quite large, too big for us to tackle currently. As the old saying goes "Many hands make light work".



If you have any ideas about such schemes that would help make our parish more attractive, please contact the parish gardeners at:

parishgardeners@oldwoughton.org.uk

The Canal in Old Woughton



OWPC's aims are to work with local organisations and agencies to improve the quality of our residents' lives and encourage healthy living. There is much scope for enjoying outdoor activities within the parish, one of which is walking, in particular along the towpath. Repairs are urgently needed as this is frequently waterlogged in several places.

A team of volunteers started work in 2016, moving two tons of hardcore by shovel, bucket and wheelbarrow. The following month, three tons of hardcore were similarly despatched and now we regularly lay four tons.

It was a natural progression to agree, when asked by the Canal and River Trust ("CART") if we would be willing to adopt our stretch of the canal and establish a regular group of volunteers to help with maintenance. At the outset we were very thankful to have a retired master builder, Richard Freeman, as part of the team. His enthusiasm and knowledge were a great help and encouragement to all of us. Not only did he know what a wacker plate was, but also how to use one!

On March 20th 2017 OWPC formally adopted the full stretch of waterway. We have a list of about 20 keen volunteers, 10 – 15 of whom turn out on a Saturday morning each month to do the work. We finish with a real sense of achievement, having enjoyed much conversation and laughter.

CART support the work by arranging for the hardcore to be delivered and supplying the comfort wagon, equipped with tea and coffee, as well as extra wheelbarrows and shovels. It is not unknown for four tons of hardcore to be moved, laid and 'wackered' in the space of little over an hour. Camaraderie has developed in the team and with so many willing helpers the time commitment is not huge. Much can be achieved in a short time when people work as a team.

We are thrilled to have won the Volunteer Organisation Recognition Award shield in our first full year of existence as an adoption group. Our sincere thanks go to all the willing supporters who have worked whatever the weather, as once the hardcore is delivered, it has to be laid in all conditions, even when it is wet and heavy and needs to be manhandled up

steps! Following this, one of the Councillors was interviewed on local radio "Drive Time" and the Award Shield is currently on display in St. Mary's Church, Newport Road.

For the future, we are looking to set up a regular monthly workday on the first Saturday of each month. There are no more suitable access points for delivery lorries so a canal boat will drop ton sacks of hardcore at intervals along the towpath and a C&RT van will arrive on the day with the wacker plate. Do come and join in if you are free to help, all are most welcome and we do have a lot of fun!

To report any issues with the canal, email:
London.southeast@canalrivertrust.org.uk



MK'S CANAL GETS ITS SPRING CLEAN

For their Canal Cleanup on 13-14 April, members of the Milton Keynes Branch of the Inland Waterways Association were joined by staff from the Canal & River Trust, volunteers from The Parks Trust and volunteers from throughout the city. The event was sponsored by the Wyvern Shipping Co Ltd, Linslade, who provided staff, a boat and specialised equipment.

65 volunteers clocked up over 500 hours work over the two days, not counting the dozens of hours spent preparing for the event despite the extremely muddy towpath.

Over the two days, the Cleanup worked north from Fenny Stratford to Old Wolverton, with an overnight stop at Giffard Park. Walkers cleared the towpath and hedges of litter and larger items of rubbish. Volunteers working from a "pan" (shallow-draught workboat) cleared the non-towpath side of the canal. Submerged items in the centre of the canal were grappled by volunteers working from a "hopper" (large workboat with an open hold). The Canal & River Trust dredger helped to retrieve the heaviest submerged items. The chance was also taken to cut back vegetation that was affecting visibility on blind bends on the canal.

The usual variety of items was recovered, including a large dinghy, bikes and motorbikes, supermarket trolleys, timber, chairs, a car clamp, running machine, various shoes, old fishing rods, and a ship in a bottle! The haul amounted to an estimated six tonnes and will be disposed of by Canal & River Trust's contractors.

Sonny King, Volunteer Development Coordinator, Canal & River Trust, said: "500+ hours is a fantastic achievement, and you all have much to be proud of. Thank you to every volunteer who came from all groups to help."

IWA Milton Keynes Branch will hold its next Canal Cleanup in the autumn, from Fenny Stratford to Leighton Buzzard, and will cover Fenny Stratford to Wolverton again in the spring of 2019.

**Further details from the Branch Chairman,
Tim Armstrong, at:**

tim.armstrong@waterways.org.uk

or visit

<https://www.waterways.org.uk/miltonkeynes cleanups>



The IWA is a:

"Membership charity, volunteer led with a focus on campaigning. It protects existing navigations and supports the restoration of derelict ones and the building of new ones (eg Bedford to Milton Keynes Waterways Link). It represents all waterways users, works with all navigation authorities. It has no government funding, is independent, campaigns for all 6,500 miles of inland waterways in England, Wales and Scotland, including all waterways with a right of navigation (open, derelict and under restoration). It has a small Head Office team - 13 Full Time Equivalent staff."



OLD WOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

What are your views?

We are seeking your views and ideas. We are committed to meeting the needs of our residents so we would appreciate it if you and other members of your household could complete the following survey by 31st. October 2018.

Please go to the OWPC website @ www.oldwoughton.org/Survey and complete the survey on line.

Alternatively fill in this paper survey, tear off the page and fold it; then either deliver to your nearest councillor or ring the Parish telephone no. (01908 465811) and arrange with the clerk for it to be collected.

Questions:	Yes	No	No view	Comments
Newsletter				
Do you think the newsletter is useful?				
Would you like to receive this electronically as well as in print?				
Is the frequency right, if not what should it be?				
Is there other information you feel should be in the newsletter, if so what?				
Would you like an opportunity to submit your own articles?				
Parish Council Notice Boards				
Do you know where your nearest notice board is located?				
Do you ever refer to the notice board?				
Is the information displayed helpful?				
Parish Council Website				
Do you ever visit the Parish Council Website?				
Do you find the website useful?				
Is it easy to navigate?				
Does it provide the information that you want? If not please suggest additions.				



What are your views?

Questions:	Yes	No	No view	Comments
Friends of Old Woughton Parish Facebook Page				
Do you find the Facebook page useful?				
Meetings and Events				
Do you ever attend Parish Council Meetings?				
What changes would encourage you to attend?				
Parish Councillors				
Do you know who your local Parish Councillors are?				
Do you know how to contact them?				
Neighbourhood Watch				
Are you a member of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, if so which one?				
If not, would you like to join a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme?				
About how many years have you lived in Old Woughton Parish?				
The Parish Council routinely receives notifications of local events, road closures and alterations to MK Council services. If you would like to receive these communications, please provide your name, postal and email addresses here:				
Name				
Email				
Address 1				
Address 2				
Address 3				
Postcode				
Comments and Ideas: are there any other matters that you would like to raise with the Parish Council?				

Results will be published in a future Edition