

# Maids Moreton Parish Council Newsletter



## Autumn 2021

*Website: [maids-moreton.co.uk](http://maids-moreton.co.uk)*

***We thank THE WHEATSHEAF for sponsoring this newsletter***

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## **1. Parish Council Meetings**

The Parish Council holds meetings every month (apart from August and January) on the first Wednesday of the month. The meetings commence at 7:30pm and are held in the Village Hall. All residents are invited to attend these meeting and the details are emailed (for those on the MMPC contact list) and posted on the Maids Moreton Facebook group. The next meeting is on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 in the Village Hall.

All village residents are very welcome to attend the meetings and bring up any village issues that they would like the council to discuss. If you cannot attend a meeting, then you can contact our Parish Clerk. Also, if you would like to be included in the MMPC contact list, then please email the clerk:

### **MMPC Parish Clerk**

**Jacky Dale-Evans**

**Tel 01280 814483**

**Email [maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com)**

### **Parish Councillors**

Mark Byrne (Chairman)

Patrick Hardcastle (Vice Chair)

Ausra Mohandas

Carolyn Cumming

Graham Maw

Fiona Powell

Kenneth McClintock

## Schedule of meetings 2021/22

Month/Date	Meeting Type
3 November 2021	Full Parish Council Meeting
1 December 2021	Full Parish Council Meeting
January 2022	No Meeting Planned
2 February 2022	Full Parish Council Meeting
2 March 2022	Full Parish Council Meeting
6 April 2022	Full Parish Council Meeting
27 April 2022	Annual Parish Meeting
4 May 2022	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

### Village Street Lights

We are responsible for maintaining street lights in the village, but are not always aware when they stop working. Our residents are the eyes of the parish council. Now the nights are drawing in, if you see a street light that is not working, please let our Clerk know.

### Community Grants

The Parish Council has a budget to help community groups in the Parish of Maids Moreton for the financial year 1st April to 31st March. If you would like to bid for some of this money, this coming year, please download the Grant Awarding Policy from our website and send your application with the relevant documents attached to the Clerk by 1st November.

Visit our website and click on: Parish Council → Grants, to view the Grant Awarding Policy and the Grant Application format. Or contact our clerk.

## **2. Parish Council Actions**

In addition to regular management of the Village resources, such as grass cutting, litter collection, street lighting, and the maintenance of Village assets, *e.g.*, Playing Fields, Playpark, Scout Hut and Cricket Pavilion, the Council has achieved these actions since our Summer Newsletter was issued:

1. A number of planning reviews relating to the parish have been completed. These are all detailed on our website.
2. We have agreed to rent the Cricket Pavilion to a childcare company.
3. We have added anti climbing paint on the Cricket Pavilion roof and replaced the damaged gutters. The cricket nets have now been removed.
4. The Play Area Working Group has drawn up the work to replace the play equipment. This has been agreed by the Parish Council. We have had a number of quotes and are now in the process of agreeing the best one.
5. Events: The fireworks for the Bonfire Night festival have been contracted. It was also agreed that we should have a special event and a bonfire to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June next year.

### **3. Planning and Development**

#### **Role of the Parish Council in Planning**

Parish and town councils are statutory consultees on all planning applications within the parish and for those in adjacent parishes that would directly affect this parish. We therefore review and agree comments on these. Our comments are based on the consensus view of all parish councillors informed by our individual views on each specific application as well as comments submitted by neighbours and others. In our comments, we are required to agree with one of three statements: No Objection; Supports; or Objects. The latter two options require reasons to be given.

We do not have any decision-making powers over planning applications. Our comments are (usually) taken into account by planning officers in their reports for planning committees but the decision is the responsibility of the relevant planning committee, who may delegate the decision to planning officers either directly or with specific points attached to the delegated power.

When an application is validated by the planning section of Buckinghamshire Council, it is given a reference number and posted on the website

<https://www.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/search-planning-licensing-applications> One or more written notices are posted adjacent to the site and members of the public have 21 days from when the notice is published to submit comments, either by post or via the website.

Planning applications to be discussed at each of our meetings are noted in the agenda, which is posted on the notice board by the Rose Garden and on our website. The agenda is also mailed to all who have signed up to receive notifications from our clerk. If time permits, we try and post a written reminder that a specific application is on the agenda to applicants and their immediate neighbours; this is a courtesy and not a legal obligation.

Councillors review the documentation on each application to be discussed prior to the meeting. A short brief is given based on the views and opinions of the planning working group, who review applications in detail and may visit the site to determine the best response. At each parish council meeting, following the brief on the applications received, members of the public are also entitled to speak. Usually the applicant will speak first, followed by immediate neighbours and then other members of the public.

In coming to its view, the parish council considers national legislation, planning policy guidance and local plans. It also seeks to take into account the location, the proposed changes and the immediate and future impact on neighbouring properties and the village as a whole, regardless of who currently owns and or occupies the properties concerned.

## **Walnut Drive Planning Application for 170 Houses (Application ref. 16/00151/AOP)**

As most will be aware, the Planning Inspector did not remove this site from the Local Plan, which has now been adopted by Buckinghamshire Council, despite the stalwart efforts of many people, including the Maids Moreton and Foscote Action Group. He did, however, note at least some of the issues of great concern, including traffic, water and flooding.

We are not clear what is now happening to the application but all three of our county councillors have joined in a request for the application to be called back to committee. We are still awaiting the Council's response to this request. There has been no further information on progress with the Section 106 Agreement (this defines the obligations of the developer to contribute to infrastructure and public services) and we still await a hopefully improved version on which we shall also comment.

Whatever happens, we shall do our best to make the community's voice properly heard on this inappropriate proposal and, if and when it does go ahead, to try and ensure that it does so with respect to the interests of the existing community.

## **Other Planning Applications**

As well as responding to new planning applications, we continue to monitor the two larger developments behind Scotts Farm Close and The Pightle to try and minimise negative effects on the community while they are being built and make sure to the extent possible that work is being done in accordance with approved plans and relevant regulations and requirements.

## **Changes to the planning system and wider issues**

The proposed revisions to the current planning legislation appear to have been put back for more detailed consideration by Central government. We continue to respond to consultation exercises on wider planning matters directly and through the North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium. We recently responded to the consultation on the Oxford to Cambridge Arc. Our main emphasis in all our responses is to try and secure much better opportunity for the voice of local communities to be heard and for greater consideration of the views of current residents in the headlong rush to meet housing targets, the basis and rationale for which is increasingly outdated.

## **4. News from The Wheatsheaf**

Situated in Buckinghamshire's rolling countryside, our beautiful 17th century pub allows you to enjoy a relaxed atmosphere by an open fire and its ever-changing selection of ales and carefully chosen wine.

Our beautiful garden is perfect for drinks in the sunshine with seating for over 100 people. The Wheatsheaf at Maids Moreton is the place to come to relax and unwind.

### **Events:**

Our monthly quiz nights will then be held on the first Saturday of each month from 8pm.

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November Christmas craft fair 12.00 - 16.00

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December The roaring 20s New Year's Eve party 19.30 - 01.00





## 5. News from Maids Moreton Conservation Group

### **Conservation Group Bat Boxes in Scotts Lane**

The places for bats to roost are becoming increasingly hard to find as holes in trees, old tunnels and nooks and crannies in buildings become rarer.

Bat boxes can help bats by giving them somewhere new to roost or can replace an existing roost. Bat boxes are artificial roosts designed to encourage bats into areas where there are few roosting sites. Wooden bat boxes are usually cubic or rectangular, with a grooved 'bat ladder' and a narrow entrance slit at the bottom to keep out predators. They can be nailed to trees or walls.

In a drive to help our local bats the Conservation Group has placed 4 bat boxes in Scotts Lane... your mission if you to choose to accept it is to find all 4! ☺. One of the 4 boxes is pictured below:



All 4 boxes are sited sensitively as bats do not like draughts and they prefer well insulated boxes where temperature and humidity remain constant. As such our 4 are all south facing. Bats also need a rough textured wood to cling to and untreated wood because they are very sensitive to chemicals.

Please note once in place, a bat box cannot be opened legally without a licence. So please look but don't touch.

## **6. News from Maids Moreton CE School**

We have had a very busy and productive start to our new school year at Maids Moreton. Over the Summer, the first part of the school expansion phase was completed, and we were delighted to unveil our new school library. Many months work went into preparing this wonderful space for our children to enjoy from stocking it with lots of quality fiction and non fiction, to setting up and organising the library layout and shelving. It is filled with lots of new books and furniture for our children to enjoy right up to Year 6.



We also launched our new Wrap Around Car service provided by S4A to give working parents extended school hours from 7.30am until 6pm, which is proving very popular.

Our new Reception class has settled into school wonderfully and are enjoying everything that school has to offer. Our first Year 3 children are also enjoying the extra responsibilities this year group brings.

We recently celebrated our Harvest Festival at St Edmunds. It was lovely to invite parents to attend once more. The children enjoyed performing songs and poems and made generous donations to the Buckingham Food Bank.

Although the new school year has only just started it is the time of year when parents with pre-school/nursery aged children have to make the important decision about which school will be the most appropriate for their child starting in September 2022. We are offering individual tours as normal, by appointment. To contact the school, please email the office on [office@maidsmoreton.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@maidsmoreton.bucks.sch.uk) or telephone 01280 812058.

Our personalised visits will give interested and prospective parents the opportunity to tour the school and see the classes in action, meet with the head teacher and staff and raise any questions they may have.

We look forward to the term ahead with anticipation and excitement. You can follow all the school's activities and information on our website [www.maidsmoreton.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.maidsmoreton.bucks.sch.uk)

Keira Ainsworth

Head Teacher

## 7. News from the Maids Moreton Allotments Association

The Parish Council Awards for 'The Best Kept Allotments' 2021 went to:

### Full Plots

<b>1st</b>	Plot 6	Neil Stuchbury
<b>2nd</b>	Plot 32	David Goodger
<b>3rd</b>	Plot 2	Tim Fricker
<b>3rd</b>	Plot 22	John Matanda
<b>3rd</b>	Plot 31	Bob Kersey

### Half Plots

<b>1st</b>	Plot 1A	Paul and Amy Stairs
<b>2nd</b>	Plot 5B	Mal
<b>3rd</b>	Plot B	Peter Butcher
<b>3rd</b>	Plot A	Linda Nelson

We had success with our entry in the St Edmunds' Scarecrow Day. Ours was 'Charlotte Do Garden' (Dujardin) on her horse Gia aka Pumpkin and we won!

The next Allotments event is the Quiz Night on Saturday 6th November in the Village Hall. Maximum of 4 people per team. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. For further information please contact Alan on 07897 212409. So come on all you quizzers, help to make it a great evening!

There may just be a display in The School's Winter |Window Wonderland, on 12th of December, so watch out for that!



## 8 News from Maids Moreton WI

The WI provides women with fun and friendship, plus the chance to learn new skills, get involved within the community and take part in a wide range of activities.

Why not give Maids Moreton W.I. a try? We meet in the village hall on the 2nd Wednesday every month except August at 7.30pm.

Topics for the future include Silk Painting, The countryside of Canada, The Flying Sikh, a Chocolatier and so much more!

We are holding a Carol Concert in St. Edmunds Church, Maids Moreton on 20th December at 7.00pm. All welcome.



## 9. Upcoming Events



### Where and when?

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Maids Moreton Playing Fields.

Fire lit at 7pm, fireworks at 7,15pm.

### Thanks to our organisers:

Gary Robinson and his team are dealing safely with the fireworks display

Dave Ward (Special Event Safety) is covering first aid and fire safety

Buckingham Rugby Club are marshalling

The Scouts will be offering burgers and hot dogs

We would ask that no sparklers are used at the event. These are dangerous at large scale events. There is also no safe way of cooling these down, and if left on the playing fields these are a hazard to other users as well as wildlife.

As usual, we will be collecting donations from the attendees who wish to contribute.

## **10. What happens to our household waste?**

**Recyclable waste** is transported to a waste sorting facility in Leicester from where it is sent to specialist recycling facilities.

**Garden waste** is processed and composted.

**Food waste** is processed then sent either for composting or digesting.

**Non-recyclable waste** is taken to Calvert recycling centre and incinerated. While electricity is generated, both waste heat and CO<sub>2</sub> are also vented.

To assist in our community contribution to tackling climate change, please minimise your non-recyclable household waste by making sure that you take full advantage of recycling opportunities, starting by putting everything into the correct bin! This will help reduce the amount the amount of non-recyclable waste burned at Calvert, which currently is around 100,000 tonnes each year.

### **Some tips for improving recycling**

Follow the guidance from the Council on what is acceptable for recycling

Avoid packing different materials together when putting them into the bin, as this makes subsequent sorting more difficult

Try not to put recyclable material into non-recyclable bags, such as plastic ones, since these are likely to be missed if so packed

if there is a preference, choose recyclable containers rather than non-recyclable ones

The cumulative effect of small individual efforts can make a valuable contribution to waste reduction and, ultimately, to climate change.

To paraphrase a well-known supermarket's strapline, while perhaps diplomatically drawing a veil over their contribution to excessive waste, please remember:

**Every little helps!**



