

MAIDS MORETON PARISH COUNCIL

Autumn
October 2015

Welcome to the first Maids Moreton Parish Council newsletter. The main purpose of any parish council is to represent the views of its parishioners; so consulting with residents to understand your views is one of our top priorities. Our plan is to deliver a newsletter to all parish households, three times a year, to share information about what is happening in the village and to highlight issues that may be of interest to you. If you have any comments on this newsletter, would like to make suggestions about what is included in future editions and/or have suggestions about improving communication between parishioners and the parish council, please contact Ruth Millard;

email: maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com or call 01280 814739

Your Councillors are;

Clr Kevin Robinson

Clr Jill Farrell

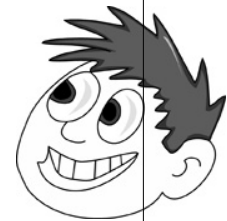
Clr Clare Krajnyk

Clr Keith Howell

Clr Jon Harvey

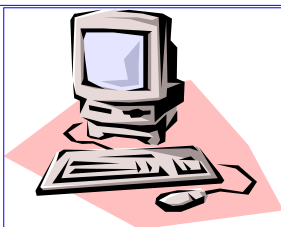
Vacancy

Vacancy



Parish Council Finances

In the 2015/16 tax year, Maids Moreton Parish Council will receive a precept of £17,070. This has remained unchanged for many years. This income is collected by AVDC from each household as part of everyone's council tax bill and is then passed to the Parish Council. The money is used to fund things such as street lighting, grass cutting on Parish Council land, dog poop bins and the emptying of them and providing facilities such as the playground and playing fields. Details of how this money was spent in the year ending March 2015 will be able to be viewed on the Maids Moreton Parish Council website. The budget & precept for the 2016/17 financial year will be discussed at the council meeting in November 2015.



Website

Whilst recognising that not all residents have access to the Internet, a village website is a very useful resource for many people. Maids Moreton Parish Council has its own website under development at <http://www.bucksvoice.net/maids-moreton-parish-council/> this web site will be linked to the village website in the near future. You will be able to see more about the work of the parish council,

Village News Update

Here are some of the issues currently facing Maids Moreton

Scotts Lane Development

The council has been approached by the owner of the land on either side of Scotts Lane regarding his ideas for development. In response to a request from the owner to present these plans to the village, the Council has suggested the landowner attends the Parish Council meeting in December.

Street Lighting

The current high pressure mercury street lights in the village are being phased out in the next few years and will need replacing. A decision will need to be made about the type of lighting the village has in the future.

Resurfacing of Main Street

The Parish council have been advised by Bucks County Council that Main Street will be resurfaced sometime before 17th December 2015.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

We are living in a time of unprecedented change, with a growing demand for housing in the area. We need to respond to this demand, whilst trying to protect the quality of life and the rural environment for local residents.

There is currently no Vale of Aylesbury local plan in place and the Maids Moreton Parish Plan has not been updated since 2004. Having a Neighbourhood Plan in place, supported by the majority of residents, would give us a better chance of seeing the village develop in a way that residents would like. Together we could produce a neighbourhood development plan, which is a legal document and should carry weight when planning applications are being decided by the District Council.

Some villages in the area have written, or are currently writing neighbourhood plans to set out the wishes of their residents. Some of the points to be thought about before deciding whether we should develop a plan for Maids Moreton are:

- *It will cost a significant amount of money, so additional funds will need to be raised. There are grants that the Parish Council could bid for.*
- *There is a formal, legal process with consultations and a referendum we have to comply with if the plan is to be accepted, therefore we will need specialist advice.*
- *There is a substantial amount of work required from a team of volunteers with the necessary skills to put a plan in place. The Parish Council does not have the resources to do this without additional help.*

The Parish Council is currently considering holding a consultation event in the village hall for residents in the new year so that we can all learn more and discuss whether we should go ahead. The Parish Council will keep you posted about this event. Please check the notice boards in the Village.

If you have any views on developing a neighbourhood plan for Maids Moreton and/or feel you would like to be involved in this important project, please contact Ruth Millard by email: maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com



What is a Parish Council?

A Parish Council is a democratically elected body, it is the first tier of local government and has a range of statutory powers. Parish Councils have a statutory power to precept (tax) the local electors in their areas to finance activities following decisions made within the council.

A Parish Council is **NOT** responsible for services such as waste collection, street parking, traffic regulation, environmental health, planning, licensing, housing and education. These areas are the responsibility of the local authority (i.e. Bucks County Council or Aylesbury Vale District Council).

In 2015/16 Maids Moreton Parish Council will spend approximately £17000. In November this year, a budget will be produced to show how taxpayer's money will be spent in the following year.

Maids Moreton Parish Council
32 Campbell Close
Linden Village
Buckingham
MK18 7HP

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED?

The Parish Council's function is to help manage the village and support the general welfare of the community. The Parish Council is made up of 7 elected members plus the Parish Clerk and is the first tier of Government. The Parish Clerk is a paid official and deals with the minutes, agenda and correspondence and generally does the Council's legwork. A Parish Councillor is the holder of a public office, not a volunteer.

Currently there are two vacancies on the Council, so if you would be interested in getting involved, either as a member of the council or as part of a working party, please contact the Clerk;

maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com or
 01280 814739

