

APOLLO GREEN

The planting day on 12th February was a great success. As the project had been accepted into the Queens Green Canopy Platinum Jubilee project the Vice Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire Alexander Boswell as the Queens legal representative and the Mayor of Milton Keynes Cllr Mohammed Khan both attended and planted trees.



A plaque has now been received and installed to commemorate the occasion.



The seating area is now completed, and the wildflower seed was sown in early Spring. A programme of regular grass cutting, watering of trees, and replacement planting for the 2022 season has been agreed with the landscape contractors.

This area will be an asset for the community rather than the eyesore it had become.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I write this message having completed my term as Chairman of the Parish Council; a year that has seen many challenges but one where steady progress has been made and work undertaken to continue to improve Fairfields for its residents. Of particular note was the establishment of Apollo Green which will be a facility for all to enjoy long into the future.

Milton Keynes Council is still exploring opportunities to deliver the Community Meeting Place but is on record in saying it is committed to seeking planning permission for the building. Plans are not so advanced for the local centre where the planning application remains with Milton Keynes Council for determination.

For a number of reasons the idea of a large centrally held event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee proved impossible to organise in time but the Parish Council are keen to support residents so instead the Parish Council has under consideration ways to assist residents who wish to

arrange and organise smaller street party events, where safe to do so.

I welcome all those residents new to Fairfields and in this issue you will see details of how to make a real contribution to the development by becoming a councillor. We have recently welcomed Jade Walsh onto the Parish Council and have said goodbye to Piyush Gupta and Jamie Harris who I thank for their service to Fairfields.

Now that Spring is here bringing colour and life and hope to us all may I offer you my best wishes for the year ahead and look forward to seeing everyone out and about on Fairfields.

Jean Hunt

Chairman Fairfields Parish Council

DEFIBRILLATOR

The Parish Council have been working with Fairfields Primary School, "We make footballers" and Barratt Homes to source a defibrillator for the Parish.

We are pleased that this project has now come to fruition and the defibrillator has been installed on the front wall of Fairfields Primary School building to the left of the main entrance in full view of Apollo Avenue. The unit is locked in a special box on the wall to keep it safe.

The defibrillator has been registered on the National defibrillator database for UK ambulance services hosted by British Heart Foundation as well as on the local site for South Central Ambulance Service.

There will be two ways of accessing the unit.

1. If someone is not on Fairfields and they have an emergency and also have the "Save a life" app on their

mobile phone, when activated the app will automatically guide them to the nearest defibrillator position and this unit is registered on that site.

2. In the case of an Emergency on Fairfields when dialling 999 for an ambulance you give them your location as Fairfields they will give you the code to open the box using the keypad. They do of course make a quick check to ensure the call is bonafide.

The rent on the unit is paid for by the Parish Council and if the unit is used the company come out and reset it. They also perform regular maintenance, renewing the pads as required. The unit has pads for adult and child patients and is fully vocal giving instruction as to its use, so that it can be used by anyone on anyone should the need arise.



PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT

Parish Clerk, Mrs Jean Nicholas
clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk

Jade Wash

Jade was born in Milton Keynes and has lived in Fairfields since 2016 with her partner Jay. Her hobbies include gardening (Fairfields allotment holder), crafting and long country walks with her dog, Skylar.

Currently working for the NHS as an Operational Manager, Jade hopes her experience of working in the Public Sector will be an asset to the Parish Council. Jade joined the Council as she loves living in Fairfields and wants help with the development of the community for years to come.

MAKE A CHANGE, BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Are you passionate about your community?

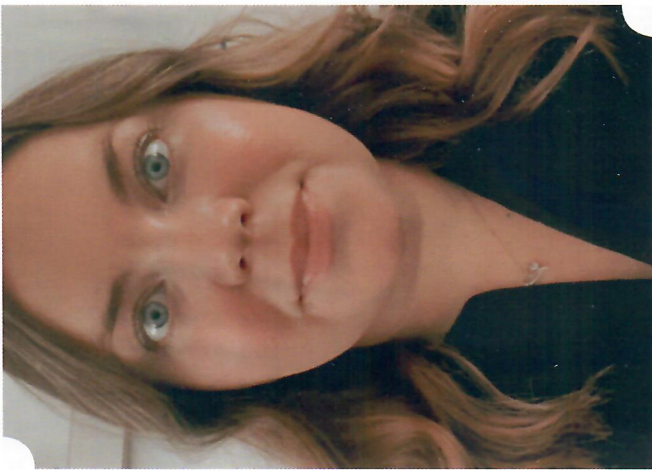
Do you want to help make a long-lasting change? Do you have innovative ideas for the council? Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it?

We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect their community to put themselves forward for co-option.

What do local councils and councillors do?

Local parish councils and councillors make a massive difference to local people's quality of life. They are passionate about their communities and seek to make a change to help improve their residents' lives.

Local councils run numerous services, depending on the size of the council. Many you will see day-to-day, but some are less known. These include managing allotments and certain



open spaces, provision and emptying of dog waste bins and taking up residents' complaints with the developers or main council.

Details of the role and what to expect

Councillors are elected to represent the local community, so you must either live or work in the council area. Becoming a councillor is a rewarding experience as you will be able to make a change in your community to help improve residents' lives. A councillor's role can include developing strategies and plans for the area, helping with problems and ideas, representing the community, working with other local community groups, decision making and reviewing decisions and talking to the community about their needs and what the council is doing.

How do you become a councillor?

For more information contact the Parish Clerk

clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk

20 is Plenty!

Fairfields residents may be aware that the Parish Council has been in discussion with Milton Keynes Council (MKC) regarding the imposition of a 20mph speed limit to our roads.

Investigations have revealed that the developer has no requirements to install the speed limit at 20mph for this development. There was no requirements made under planning to do so therefore MKC cannot force them to change it. However, MKC would have the power to impose a 20 mph limit if the roads were adopted.

Although the roads are looking closer to completion, there is still much outstanding before MKC can commence with adoption of the roads. There are a number of roads without agreements signed, these roads will then be required to have a 12 month maintenance period once works are completed. Before the 12 month maintenance period is issued all works including remedial works needs to be completed and sewers adopted by the water authority.

So it will still be a couple of years before roads start to get adopted on Fairfields.

20 Facts about a 20mph default speed limit for England

Crash Reductions 8097	CO₂ reduction 26% NOx reduction 28%	One-off cost £197m Casualty savings £3.2bn 5 year benefit £2.403m <small>as a proportion - this is saving £27.7m per mile</small>	Payback time 4½ months
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Source: Department for Transport, 2015. For more information visit www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/438222/20mph_factsheet.pdf

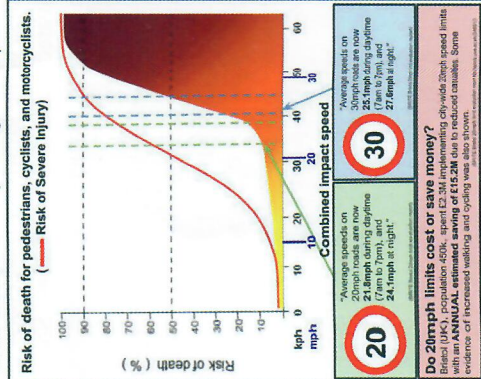
A spokesperson for MKC said '...I know that this process can take some time to resolve as the Council needs to be certain that the roads are ready for adoption and that when they become the responsibility of the highway authority that they are up to standard and are not subject to potential damage during the development. That's why this process is not normally started until towards the end of the development phase. Once they have been adopted or we know when they are due to be adopted, we can add them to the next available batch of applications for consideration.'

The Parish Council is looking at mounting a petition to assist an application for a 20 mph limit so in the meantime let's keep our speeds down - you know 20 mph makes sense.

See graphic courtesy of the 20's Plenty for Us campaign group.

RISK OF DEATH FOR CHILDREN

A child is 3 times more likely to die if hit by a car on a 30mph road than on a 20mph road. We need a 20mph national speed limit in urban areas, with 30mph being the exception.



PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT UNCHANGED FOR 2022/2023

We are pleased to announce that the precept for Fairfields has remained at the same rate for a fourth year. Our precept is one of the lowest 10% of those levied by parishes in Milton Keynes as we spend wisely to build our community.

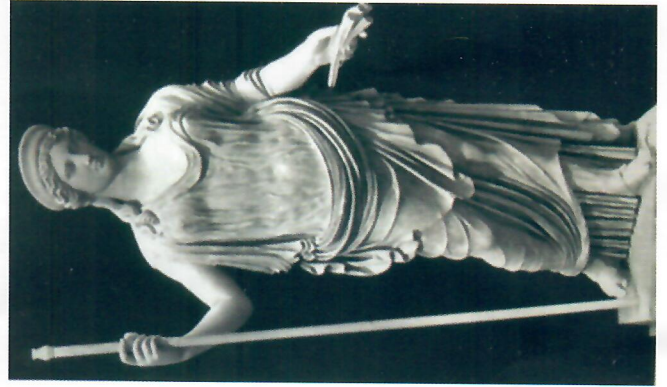
A "precept" is the money which we have notified Milton Keynes Council (MKC) is required to meet our budget for 2022/2023. It is collected by MKC with the Council Tax on behalf of the Parish Council and paid over to us twice a year. The precept will be spent by the Parish Council on continuing our work in making Fairfields a community where people want to live.

Parish councils are non-profit making and precept money raised from our parish must be

spent on the parish. We are governed by strict statutory rules in this respect.

In the past we have provided dog bins, a bus shelter, a Speed Indicator device, a play scheme in the summer school holidays and this newsletter. In 2021/2022 we also part funded the Apollo Green area next to the school in Apollo Avenue, and a defibrillator on the front of the school which is accessible to all in case of emergency. We have also started to build up our reserves so that we will have funds to set up our Community Building once this gets underway.

We will continue to fund such items as are required to make this a great place to live.



Ceres Grove by Jenny Burn

In ancient Roman religion and mythology Ceres was the goddess of the growth of food crops including grains cultivated fruits and vegetables. She was associated with the earth, women, fruitfulness and fertility.

As far as Roman deities go, Ceres was clearly one who had a direct role in Roman life. She caused the seasons and was responsible for either spreading or stopping famine. So important was Ceres to the Romans in times of famine and grain shortage that a temple was built on Aventine Hill in Rome following the great famine of 493 bce to honour her benevolence. The word cereal comes from her name.

Today, Ceres is the largest known asteroid in our solar system and is also named after this goddess.

RIVERSIDE FAIR

The Stony Stratford Riverside Parks Group riverside fair is an annual event and has been running for 15 years. Usually held in June, this year it's on 11th June after a week of Stony Live. Last year it was September but that was because of the restrictions due to Covid.

It's free, including the rides with the intention of providing a fun filled afternoon for families to enjoy. As you can see from the photos, we have a band, wide range of activities for the children, stalls, food vans and craft tent. Each year the theme in the craft tent changes, and this year it's **monsters and flags**.

This year, because of the Queen's Jubilee we will be offering a poetry competition. We will be visiting the local school to explain the competition, and hope all the children take part. There will be a prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Hope as many people as possible can come, as it should be a fun afternoon.

How to find the place, it's on the **Millfield, Stony Stratford** at 1.00pm on **11th June 2022**.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

