



WOBURN SANDS
TOWN COUNCIL

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SPRING NEWSLETTER 2017

www.woburnsands.org.uk



Dear resident,

At the time of writing we are having a heatwave, which we hope will mean good weather for a number of outdoor events taking place over the next couple of months. Read all about them inside...

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A MUSICAL WEEKEND 14TH & 15TH JULY

We kick off on Friday evening with **The Sands Singers Summer Celebration** in the **Memorial Hall at 7.30pm** and it's **FREE to all!** This will be an informal session, the last of the term, in which the group will run through all the songs they have been learning this term under their new director of music, Karen Clegg. There will be free drinks and nibbles afterwards and a chance to chat to members if you think you might like to join the choir next term. The Sands Singers are honoured to have been invited by Milton Keynes Mayor, Cllr David Hopkins to sing at his inaugural service.

The big event, our **Music Festival**, is on **Saturday 15 July** starting at **12.30pm in the Recreation Ground** and through the afternoon 8 bands of different genres will be playing. The Black Diamond

majorettes will also be performing and caterers and a bar will provide refreshments. At 8.30pm the music will continue in The Weathercock PH. In the Summerlin Centre opposite there will be lots of stalls including face painting, henna tattoos and nail art stalls as well as craft stalls. If it's too far for you to walk, you can park at Fulbrook School. This is a free event, but your generosity in purchasing raffle tickets or donating money to cover the considerable costs will be much appreciated.

If medieval madrigals and ballads are more your bag, there is an opportunity to listen to **The Cryers**, our local group, who are performing in the evening of **Sat 15 July at St Lawrence Church** in Broughton village at **7.30pm**. Tickets at £8 including interval drinks can be obtained from Julia on 01908 691 176.



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLLR DAVID HOPKINS



It's very good to know that our local Ward Councillor is now Mayor of Milton Keynes, an honour well deserved. David has lived in Wavendon since he was 14 and had a

short spell in Woburn Sands itself when first married. He has been married to Sue for 34 years and they have two grown up children, Victoria and Edward. David spent most of his career in Telecommunication and combined this with being a parish councillor for Wavendon since 1979 and for Woburn Sands since 1999. He became a Ward Councillor representing our area in 1991

and has been re-elected ever since...we know a good, fair and hard working councillor when we see one! David is particularly honoured to be serving as Mayor as Milton Keynes celebrates its 50th Birthday, and recently commented that "The multi-cultural nature of Milton Keynes sets something of a benchmark for communities across the country and I have already witnessed how our many communities have come together in unity in these challenging times." In what little spare time he has, David enjoys playing and watching cricket and is a keen supporter of Bedford Rugby Club and more recently of MK Dons. He can frequently be seen keeping fit running the local streets. We wish him all the very best for his year as Mayor.

IMPROVEMENTS AT OUR LOCAL SCHOOL

As you may already know, both Fulbrook School and Swallowfield School have benefitted from Section 106 payments by Taylor Wimpey as a result of the new homes they have, and continue to build, at Parklands. With their money so far, Swallowfield have refurbished 6 sets of toilets, upgraded their wireless

and broadband structures, and created more block paved areas around the site allowing easier movements through the school grounds. Fulbrook are planning a new all weather football pitch which could be a considerable asset to the community as well as the school itself.

THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM
29 JULY TO 13 AUGUST

www.woburnsands.org.uk



DO YOU USE OUR WEBSITE?

www.woburnsands.org.uk

We've been updating it recently and you will find all manner of information on it, so why not have a look!

You can find the WSTC website at **www.woburnsands.org.uk** or by typing Woburn Sands Town Council into an internet search engine. On the Home Page, you get Headlines with news on significant Planning Applications, any major events coming up in the local community, and anything of immediate interest. By clicking on any text underlined on the pages of the website you should get linked to that item.... simple really.

The website is divided into three parts which are shown listed across the top of the page: **Home**, a general information section with links to access the various pages listed down the left-hand side of the page. **Council Information**, also with links to various pages listed down its left-hand side and a **Site Map** that shows the structure of the website.

Going down the links on the left-hand side of the Home Page you'll find:

About our town: a little bit of the history and development of the town and a map of the local area.

Contact us & Enquiry Form: you can use this to get in touch with the Woburn Sands Town Council.

Useful Links: takes you to websites of lots of local groups under headings: Arts, Sports, Leisure etc and links to local schools, medical facilities, and places of worship.

Newsletter: The Town Council's most recent newsletter is available here. A printed version is delivered quarterly to houses in the town, but from these links you can access both the current one and older ones on your laptop, tablet or smartphone.

Events, Activities & Useful Info: lists Annual, Quarterly, Monthly and Weekly activities such as the annual Christmas Fayre and the quarterly Community Market that take place in and around Woburn Sands. At the bottom of the page is access to lists of activities and contact points for local clubs and services.

Student Grants: worth looking here if you are going on to further/higher education or an apprenticeship....you might be able to get a little extra cash!

Woburn Sands Library, the Summerlin Centre, and the Memorial Hall: give you details about the spaces that are available for use and hire in the town as well as some activities in the library.

Travel: link outlines the various public services that are available for you to get out of, and come back to, Woburn Sands.

History and Heritage: offers you the opportunity to discover much more



about Woburn Sands from Paul Cox's website on the history of the area. Paul explores the development of the town from the very earliest Iron Age / Romano British habitation site at the Danesborough Camp in the woods to the south of the town through the Victorian expansion and consolidation of the town linked to the Railway line right up to the modern day.

Edgewick Farm: gives information about the town's conservation farm area opposite Mowbray Green and the group of volunteers that maintain it.....why not join them?

Garden Competition: is about our Annual competition generously sponsored by Frosts Garden Centre as well as photographs of the previous year's winning gardens and hanging baskets.

Events in Milton Keynes: are shown from time to time here.

Current Planning Applications: displays those application in Woburn Sands currently under discussion. These can vary from requests to carry out surgery on trees in the town's conservation area to applications to build extensions or to build new houses. By clicking on the Planning and Building Home Page you get a link to Milton Keynes Council website where there are full details of all applications. It also tells you how to make an application or register objections.

By clicking on the **Council information** at the top of the Home page you will

find a section outlining what the Council does, the names of all Town and Ward Councillors and our MP. Links on the left-hand side take you to:

Code of Conduct: sets out our pattern of behaviour as Councillors.

Meeting Dates, Agendas & Minutes: are shown here.

Neighbourhood Plan: links to plans drawn up that became part of the Milton Keynes Core Strategy, approved in July 2013. The Plan is a formal document to be taken into account on any planning applications.

Planning Applications: link mirrors the Current Planning Applications link from the Home Page.

Budget: tells you how we get money and how we spend it.

The WSTC webpage is maintained by the Council Staff and is an ongoing project. If you have any comments, or you think that something should be included or a contact detail changed on the website, please contact the Council.

You could always use the Contact us & Enquiry Form link from the Home Page!

ERRATUM Apologies for the incorrectly named new business in the High St. in our previous edition it is **SPECTRUM RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS**.



NEWS FROM EDGEWICK FARM

A number of local residents joined Cllr Peter Skelton for his guided Nature walk around the fields of the farm in May and learnt a number of interesting facts including about the sex life of ash trees! At the pond, they looked for tadpoles who made their appearance very early this year and the group finished by walking through the copse on the footpath recently opened up by the volunteers of Friends of Edgewick Farm.

There's more about the Farm, owned by the Town Council, on our website. It includes an orchard area off Woodland Way and on Saturday 21 Oct there will be an Apple Picking and Juicing Day to which all are welcome. Have some of our apples, usually left on tables by the side of Woodland Way when they are available, and feel free to bring along

your own apples for juicing....bring suitable containers too.



LOVE WOBURN SANDS

As many will know, Love Woburn Sands, the registered local charity established by Churches Together, recently won £50,000 from the Big Lottery Fund for a Community Smiles project. This new project will focus on expanding the group's work into the surrounding villages which make up our community, working through Fulbrook Middle School and the five

Pyramid Lower schools that 'feed into' Fulbrook, local residents, the churches and other local groups. It will also include improving facilities for older people and hopefully a Community Flower Festival and Pageant next year.



PLANNING MATTERS

Planning matters. The main item occupying our energies this month is the hearing of the Appeal into the proposal to build 203 homes off Cranfield and Station Road by Wavendon Properties. The Appeal starts on 11 July at 10am at the Holiday Inn in Central Milton Keynes and will continue for up to 6 days (excluding Mondays). Members of the public are welcome and there will be an opportunity for local residents to speak if they wish. However, if you intend so to do, we would ask that you contact David Hopkins or the Town Clerk as

we want to coordinate speeches to avoid unnecessary duplication.

We are also responding to Plan:MK and the Central Beds Local Plan, both of which threaten the remaining few green fields around our local community. At the time of writing, the applicant for the development of the land off Asplands Close is considering amending the scale of the dwellings and the planning officer wants more details from them on the trees. So it's ongoing, and any further news will be on our website.

WARNING: HAZARD

We must stress that the **lake to the west of Parklands** is **Private Property** and **trespassers could be prosecuted**. It is a popular haunt for youngsters in the summer holidays, but the **lake is DANGEROUS**. It is an old clay pit, artificially dug, and consequently has very steep sides and is very deep. There has been a death, many years ago, in the lake of a youngster who got into difficulties, so don't let there be another. Warn your children, please.

LIBRARY NEWS:

Summer Crafts For Children

Again this year the Town Council is supporting a **Summer Activities Programme** by subsidising the cost for skilled leaders to run craft sessions. Please be quick off the mark to avoid disappointment as places are limited:

Sessions 10.30 – 11.30am and tickets will be available from July at the library counter. Each session will have 10 places suitable for ages 6 – 13 yrs. **£2 per ticket.**

25/07/17 Printing using Coloured Inks
03/08/17 Pop-Up Cards
08/08/17 Making Clay Faces
24/08/17 Drawing cartoon characters from your imagination



SNIPPETS & DATES

CLlr Paul Farrant became our new chairman of the Town Council in May, and hence **our Town Mayor**, and CLlr Keith Temple was elected Vice Chair. Paul lives in Parklands with his wife and shows a keen and active interest in many aspects of our work, supporting both the Christmas Fayre and the Community Market committees, as well as being a Fulbrook School governor.

We are hopeful of a grant from MKC towards the cost of **two new town maps** for the High Street and by the Summerlin Centre, some **new notice boards** and LED lighting at the Summerlin Centre.

New 300 bus timetable: sadly we didn't make enough use of the half hourly service for it to be continued, so we are now down to one and hour, but it does go on to the Winterhill Retail Park and Westcroft Centre after CMK. The new timetable is on our website: click on Travel on left hand side of the Home Page.

Network Rail are holding a series of public consultations on their proposals for changes to the many crossing points along the **Bedford Bletchley line**. The two most local to here are in Bletchley on 11 July at the Scots Sports and Social Club in Selbourne Ave MK3 5BX from 2-8pm, and then again, same time at the Marston Vale Forest Centre on 19 July. There are no proposals at this stage for our level crossing on Station Road.

Rev Diana Young, the **new Vicar for St Michaels**, our Parish Church, will be officially installed at the Induction Service on 18 July at 7.30pm to which everyone is invited. Diana read English Literature at Oxford University and after working in administration for many years, returned to Oxford to undertake her theological training. She has been curate in Hampstead before joining us here. Diana's husband is Simon and they have three now grown up children. We offer her and her family a warm welcome to Woburn Sands.



The deadline for entering your front or back garden or that of a neighbour into our **The Annual Garden Competition** is 18 July, with judging to take place on 25 July. Remember, there are prizes, generously donated by Frosts Garden Centre, for best front garden, best back garden and best hanging basket with runners up in all categories and a community garden award.

Prizes for the above will be presented at **Annual Summer Fayre on Mowbray Green** on the afternoon of the August Bank Holiday Monday, 28th August. Run by The Woburn Sands Band it is always a most delightful occasion (weather permitting) with the band playing and various stalls. So do wander by.

If you like what you hear, you can buy tickets for the **Band's next concert**, to be held at The Venue, Walton High, on the afternoons of 14 and 15 Oct. This will feature the massed bands of the A,B, C and D bands and tickets understandably are selling fast. So book your's at 0770 454149.



As part of Milton Keynes Heritage weekend in September, Paul Cox has very kindly agreed to lead a couple of walks around the town following **our Heritage Trail**. These will be on Fri 8 Sep at 6pm and Sun 10 Sep at 3pm, meeting in the shoppers car park at the bottom of Club Lane. Paul is always a wealth of information on the buildings and people of our local history, so do put these dates in your diary.

The next community coach trips

"Springfields" Spalding 19th July, Henley-on-Thames 16th August.

