



Walton Parish Council Newsletter

Autumn, 2010



What can we do for you?

Community clean-up day in
Walnut Tree

Faster broadband in this area?



Walton Parish Council



Clean-up day in Walnut Tree

Saturday September 25th, 11am-2pm—come help out & clean-up

Creating a better environment
Walton & Simpson NAG
have teamed up with local
businesses to arrange a
community clean-up
around the Walnut Tree
Local Centre area.



We're looking for
volunteers to come along
and help out. It's not just
a litter pick, we'll be
painting bollards, and
helping to regenerate the
youth shelter, too. If you
can spare a couple of
hours, you'll be helping to
create a better and safer
environment and creating
pride in our local area.

Put September 25th from
11am till 2pm in your diary
now!

Everyone's involved
Courtesy of MK Council,
we've got all the kit needed
to work safely.
Generously, Tesco
Express is providing some
refreshments during the
clean-up.

So what's in it for you?
After the event, there's a
great opportunity to get to
know others from the
community with a post-
event BBQ! (Weather
permitting).

How to join us
Simply turn up on the day,
just before 11am—we're
meeting at the blue youth
shelter on Hindhead Knoll
for a briefing on the day.
We start at 11am prompt.



Volunteers at a clean-up day

What is a NAG?
A Neighbourhood Action
Group is a problem
solving group set up to
deal with the key issues
identified by a public
consultation on a local
level, covering your local
neighbourhoods.

Your NAG is made up of
local residents, Milton
Keynes Council, Thames
Valley Police, Walton
Parish Council, local
businesses and
associations, who all work
together on these
community issues.

More information
Visit the Walton and Simpson NAG website at www.waltonandsimpsonnag.org
for the latest information on the clean-up day



Faster broadband

Some areas of the parish won't benefit from fast fibre optic broadband

We're all aware of the benefits that broadband brings to our lives. The convenience of email, the variety of websites available and information at our fingertips.

Web sites have been getting more ambitious as time has gone on and nowadays we can get our music over the web, catch up on our favourite TV shows and choose to work from home. That's great as it's more convenient, and reduces congestion on the roads and CO2 emissions as a result.

To benefit the most from all the web has to offer though, you need a stable connection with a good speed. You'll probably have seen the speed quoted in "megabits per second" or Mbps.

Due to the unique grid design of Milton Keynes, we've suffered more than most UK towns with slow speed broadband. In Walton Parish a number of residents can't get broadband and those that can are typically at 1Mbps or slower.

So what's the fix?

BT Openreach has announced that it's installing fast fibre optic broadband with up to 40Mbps speed across the whole of Milton Keynes—except for Walton Parish!

Anyone connected to the Woburn Sands exchange (typically phone numbers beginning "58") will be disadvantaged as a result.

So what can you do? To start, Walton Parish Council is working with MK Broadband Action Group (www.mkbag.org) to make representations to BT Openreach.

Join our petition
The more people who ask for faster broadband in this area, the stronger our argument.

If you would like to get faster 40Mbps fibre optic broadband in this area, to ensure we're not left behind the rest of Milton Keynes, please email us with your name and address to the Clerk (details below).

We will use this petition to help us change BT Openreach's position and report back in the next newsletter!

More information

Let us know you want faster broadband in Walton Parish by emailing your name and address to clerk@waltonparishcouncil-mk.gov.uk



Walton Parish Council



What can we do for you?

Get to know your Parish Council

A parish council is a local authority. Its councillors are elected for 4 years at a time. The last full election in this parish was in 2007. Vacancies occurring between elections are filled by by-election or co-option. A parish council is the ‘**corporation**’ of its village, town, or area.

Each year the councillors choose a chairman from amongst their members. There is also a vice-chairman and a clerk.

Parish Councils have a number of formal powers. Many provide allotments, look after playing fields, play areas and village greens, they maintain and guard things such as rights of way, bus shelters, public seats, small scale street lighting and often provide village halls and meeting

places. However, as Walton is an urban parish the only service we provide are allotments.

Parish councils can do these things by providing the services themselves, or by helping someone else (such as a charity) financially to do so. Walton Parish Council takes just £20,000 per year



Play area, Old Farm Park

in precept (“tax”) which is £4.60 per household per year and the lowest of any precepting parish in Milton Keynes!

Parish councils have the power to improve the quality of community life by spending sums of

money on things, which in their opinion, are in the interests of the residents.

Parish councils are also the focal point for local consultation on matters such as planning applications and borough council strategic planning. The parish councillors know their areas and can represent its views to other authorities such as district and county councils. They are entitled to be consulted on planning applications and are often consulted on

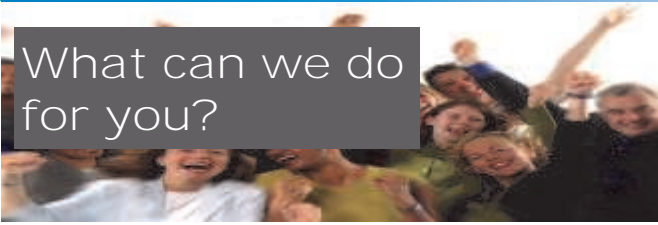


things like schools, roads, parking, traffic, noise etc. The councillors of Walton Parish Council draw no salaries for their time or work—and no expenses!

More information

All parish councillor contact details are on our website at www.waltonparishcouncil-mk.gov.uk — contact us anytime!

What can we do for you?



There's plenty we can help with

Walton Parish Council, over the past 8 years has been vocal, prominent and successful in campaigning with residents against the contentious development plans put forward at Caldecotte Lake, Old Farm Park,



Caldecotte Lake flats

Wavendon Gate, Walnut Tree, the Intervet site at Walton Park, the proposed bakery in Tower Gate and the current concerns with the travellers site at Fenny Lock.

While the parish council does not wish to stop progression, development

has to be sustainable and in-keeping with the locality.

As a Parish Council we have supported our four schools with project funding and have provided other local amenities such as bus shelters and dog/litter bins. We have also provided start-up funding for a new youth club at Old Farm Park, which will be operational this Autumn – see the article in this newsletter.

Walton Parish Council meets the first Wednesday of every month (except in August) at the Heronsbrook Meeting Place, Walnut Tree at 7.45pm.

The Parish Council is not political and serves no



Heronsbrook Meeting Place

political party. We are here to help with any difficulties you have and if it is not possible for us as a parish council to solve the problem, then we should be in a position to point you in the right direction of somebody who can assist you.

Every resident is encouraged to come join us at the meeting and get **involved**. If you can't make it in person, we suggest signing up on our website to the news alerts so you keep constant with the latest news from this vibrant, exciting parish!

More information

All residents are welcome and encouraged to join our meetings—see the back page for dates, times and location details.

*Until December 2010 **Above £700 pcm rates may vary



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WHY CHOOSE US?

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TEL: 01908 271898 MOB: 07584 283217

More information

Walton Parish Council does not endorse any individual product or service.

Useful services directory



Walton Parish Council

Your “cut out and keep” guide to services in Milton Keynes

Abandoned Vehicles 01908 252277/252570	Education Special Needs 01908 253414	Neighbourhood Watch 01908 686169
Alcohol Use 020 7928 7377	Equal Opportunities 01908 254628	Noise Nuisance 01908 252398
Asbestos 0800 0350087	Ethnic Support Groups 01908 270409	Parent and Toddler Groups 0800 035 0335
Asylum Seekers 01908 254628	Flooding 01908 252328	Parking 01908 252309
Benefits 01908 253100	Garden Waste 01908 252570	Parks & Open Spaces 01908 252592
Black Sacks 01908 252570	Flytipping 01908 252277/252572	Pavements 01908 252353
Blocked Drains 01908 252625	Food Hygiene 01908 252398	Pink Recycling Sacks 01908 252570
Bullying 01908 253052/253117	Footpath Repairs 01908 252353	Planning Applications 01908 252358
Calendar of Council Meetings 01908 252567	Graffiti Removal 01908 252570	Potholes 01908 252353
Childcare and Pre-school 01908 254509	Grass Cutting 01908 252592	Recycling 01908 252570
Childminding 0800 035 0335	Highway Maintenance 01908 252353	Refuse Collection 01908 252570
Citizens Advice Bureaux 0844 499 4122	Homelessness 01908 253481	Social Services 01908 691691
Composting 01908 252277/252568	Household Waste - Collection of Bulky items 01908 252570	Social Services (Emergency out of office hours) 01908 265545
Council Tax 01908 253794	Housing Benefits 01908 253100	Timetables (Public Transport) 0871 200 2233
Councillor Information 01908 252567	Icy Roads 01908 252289/226699	Trading Standards (Shopping) 08454 04 05 06
Day Care Centre for the Elderly 01908 253159/253547	Job Centres 01908 455500	Truancy 01908 657800
Disabled Parking 01908 253449	Job Seekers 0845 6060234	Winter Fuel Payments 0845 9151515
Dog Fouling 01908 252398	Landscape Maintenance 01908 252592	Youth Centres 01908 253691
Dog Litter Bins 01908 252398	Litter - Cleansing 01908 252570	
Domestic Violence 01908 691691	Milton Keynes Council 01908 691691	
Drugs, Alcohol Action Team 01908 247731		

Get involved with your parish council

Your parish council is your first stop for local services and assistance. Get involved by attending our monthly Parish Council meetings—see back page.



About Walton Parish Council

We cover the areas of Browns Wood, Caldecotte, Old Farm Park, Tilbrook, Tower Gate, Wavendon Gate, Walnut Tree, Walton Hall and Walton Park.

Walton Parish Council

A Parish Council is the first tier of government in England and is independent of any other local authority.

Each parish council consists of a chairman and a certain number of councillors, all of whom are elected and hold office for 4 years. WPC has 8 councillors: Chairman Amanda Taylor, Vice Chair Jeannette Green, Mick Parker, Marisa Cork, Rebecca Walton, Suzanne Nti, Ian Boulden and Adam Chapman.

WPC is apolitical and will not be drawn into party political issues. We exist to help our residents by putting our funding to good use for the benefit of the parish, in addition to the services provided by MK Council.

Public Meetings

We meet every first Wednesday at 19.45 in Heronsbrook Meeting Place, Walnut Tree. Come and get involved!

Next meeting dates in 2010

- 6th October
- 3rd November
- 1st December

Feedback to the Parish Council

We're always keen to get your input, ideas and feedback. If there's anything you want to discuss, or to address with the Parish Council, please get in contact. To speak at a meeting, please book a slot with the Clerk.

Go paperless!

To receive this newsletter direct to your inbox and save paper, just let the Clerk know

Get in Contact

Email Sonia Evans, Parish Council Clerk
clerk@waltonparishcouncil-mk.gov.uk

You can contact individual councillors, too. Details are in the "Meet Your Councillors" section of our website
www.waltonparishcouncil-mk.gov.uk

Phone:
01908 550775

Post:
Walton Parish Council, PO Box 6010,
Milton Keynes. MK10 1HX

Local Meeting Venues

Wavendon Gate Pavilion
Isaacson Drive, Wavendon Gate
www.wavendongatepavilion.com

☎ 01908 584860

Heronsbrook Meeting Place
5, Wadesmill Lane, Walnut Tree

☎ 07752 684081

Britten Grove Community Centre
76 Holst Crescent, Old Farm Park

☎ 01908 375442