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# Coldharbour News

The Coldharbour Parish Council Newsletter

June 2021

SATURDAY  
4 SEPTEMBER

# MUSIC ON THE SQUARE SCREEN

FAIRFORD LEYS

# 2021

5PM TO 10.30PM

An Online Evening of Music

More details inside

Published by Coldharbour Parish Council



## Your Coldharbour Parish Councillors

At the elections on the 6th May 2021 the following people stood for and were elected to be parish councillors for Fairford Leys:



### Chairman

Cllr Andrew Cole  
Tel. 01296 334651  
cllr.cole@googlemail.com



### Vice Chairman

Cllr Sally Pattinson  
Tel. 01296 331822  
sally@buskrigg.co.uk



Cllr Adam Poland  
Tel. 01296 291070  
polando@hotmail.co.uk



Cllr Sarah James  
Tel. 01296 398411  
SJJJames75@hotmail.com



Cllr Steve Wadlow  
Tel. 07866 750758  
a.wadlow@btconnect.com

### Clerk to the Council

Keith Gray JP, CILCA, FSLCC  
Coldharbour Parish Council  
The Fairford Leys Centre  
Hampden Square, Fairford Leys  
Aylesbury HP19 7HT  
Tel. 01296 422800  
keith.gray6@btopenworld.com

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If you have any interesting or informative articles you would like to include or are promoting charity events etc., please send them to [sally@buskrigg.co.uk](mailto:sally@buskrigg.co.uk)

Front cover by Cllr Andrew Cole

## A Message from the Editor

I am sure that many residents will have been wondering why there has not been a copy of Coldharbour News since last September. At that time we were optimistic that all our shops and businesses were going to stay open that we would be able to enjoy Christmas with our families and go into the New Year with hope for the future. This time hopefully things WILL get better and we will all be able to enjoy all the facilities that Fairford Leys has to offer again, as well as being able to visit friends and families in their homes. We would like to take this opportunity to send condolences to those who have lost loved ones during this pandemic.

During lockdown a lot has been happening in Fairford Leys - see details from the Clerk and articles by councillors throughout the newsletter. So we thought that now would be an appropriate time to produce a summer edition. We hope you find it full of useful information and maybe keep it for reference if you have any questions in the future.

Don't forget, this is a community newsletter and we are always looking for articles to include. If you have anything to say that you think would be of interest to others, or any special pictures of Fairford Leys you would like to share, please send them to [cllrpattinson@buskrigg.co.uk](mailto:cllrpattinson@buskrigg.co.uk).

### Cllr Sally Pattinson Editor

## News from the Clerk

### Elected and co-opted councillors

We have 11 seats on the parish council and only 5 people stood for election so we have to fill 6 more seats by co-option. With that in mind, we put out a notice and 4 people have come forward to be co-opted as parish councillors. These are local residents:

Caroline Baughan, Sarah Wallend, Nick Blandford and Rio Harper. Some have served as councillors before. We still have 2 vacancies if anyone wants to take on the role. Application can be made to Keith Gray, Clerk to the parish council.

## ECT Covenants

In the article on page 8/9 explaining the role of the parish council and why we do things, it touches on our responsibilities for managing the Ernest Cook Trust Covenants. When the Ernest Cook Trust instructed John Simpson and Partners to draw up the Master Plan for Fairford Leys its objective was to foster a spirit of local community. This has been achieved through the creation of a network of pleasant public spaces which residents can enjoy rather than just a means of access to the houses. The Riverine Corridor and open land areas were established to make the development another place to enjoy.

This Master Plan for Fairford Leys sets down both high standards of design and the materials and architectural forms to be used to reflect the feel of a small traditional village. The houses and street scenes are carefully designed to fit this overall framework. Each street, road, lane and mews is designed from the point of view of the individual using it and each building makes its contribution to the whole. The parish council has set out to protect this design and vision of the architect for Fairford Leys.

Any alterations or extensions to a building within Fairford Leys will therefore, by definition, have an effect on the public realm and the whole community's general environment. The parish council consider it really important that when change is carried out, that it is done in a manner that is consistent with the original objectives.

We do not want to appear to be unsympathetic or bureaucratic, and we totally understand the reasons and need for people to want to alter their properties to make their family lives better and in many cases, to be able to remain in their properties as their family expands or their needs change. However, we have to carefully consider the impact the proposed changes to a property may have on neighbouring properties and also the overall affect not only on the street scene but across the whole of Fairford Leys. We have to consider the impact on the removal of a parking space and how that may affect other people as well as congestion on the roads. It's not about spoiling someone's plans for their home, it's about the impact those plans may have on others which we all need to consider.

# Parish Council News

Contained in the conveyances and leases of all the properties in Fairford Leys are Covenants controlling the alteration, modification and rebuilding of premises. We produced a Development Guide for those contemplating alteration, modification or rebuilding freehold premises. Coldharbour Parish Council manages the Covenant regulations and makes decisions regarding the Covenants on behalf of The Ernest Cook Trust.

**The parish council will need to consider and, if appropriate, give its formal approval to any proposal that involves:**

- **the demolition and complete rebuilding of a property,**
- **an alteration, of any kind or additions of any kind, to the external appearance of the property, or a change of use of the premises.**

A full copy of the Development Control Guidelines may be found at <https://www.coldharbour-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Fairford-Leys-Development-Guidelines-Feb-2017-4.pdf>

It should not be assumed that consent will be granted by the parish council. No proposal should be implemented until the council's consent is issued in writing. The parish council is usually copied into all planning applications. However, it is the property owner's responsibility to make sure that the parish council also receives a copy of any planning applications submitted to Buckinghamshire Council, so that we can consider ECT Covenant Permission for the proposed changes to your property.

**The parish council will not grant permission to changes that significantly affect the design of the property (especially at the front of the property) as this has a negative**

**impact on the street scene and overall design of Fairford Leys.**

Unfortunately, we have seen a number of problems occur when people have not received the ECT Covenant approval for changing their property (even with planning permission in place). The Parish Clerk has, at short notice, had to assist residents who have been told the sale cannot proceed unless Retrospective Permission is granted by the parish council – this often happens at the end of the sale process and near completion when a solicitor picks this up and realises it is a requirement. Sometimes sales have fallen through or further reduction in the sale price has had to be agreed to ensure the completion of the sale. The Clerk can grant Retrospective Permission without referring the matter to the council, but only if the change is minor and within the Fairford Leys Development Guidelines. If the changes are have not been granted then the Clerk would have to refer the matter to a full council meeting and that could take another month. Better to get the permissions sorted before selling a property.

Many residents have altered plans, with some advice from the parish council, to ensure they are granted ECT Covenant permission. Many have left garage doors in place, which we would prefer and expect, and this has not negatively affected their overall design change as they can add windows to the back or side of properties instead. It's often best to discuss a change with the parish council before you submit a planning application or make the change yourself without planning permission.

**The process for seeking approval is clearly set out in The Development Control Guidelines.**

**Continued on page 12**

## Grounds Maintenance update June 2010

The winter bedding is now coming to an end and we hope that the tulips and daffodils and planters provided you with colour throughout the winter.

The months seem to be racing by and we are nearly half way through the year We have been busy over the last few months grass cutting and dealing with other maintenance issues at the same time.

The baskets are now down and ready to be cleaned, prepared and filled with lots of summer plants which we hope

you will enjoy during the summer We are very proud of the colourful show that the summer bedding provides,

Our new fruit trees which we planted in the autumn are now in bloom and hopefully will produce fruit later this year. There are several mini Orchards around the village. Please feel free to pick and enjoy, remembering to leave some for your neighbours.

The Mobile Vehicle Activity Sign is being moved around the village with data being

**Continued on page 12**



## Chairman's Message

At Mays Council meeting I was delighted to be elected as Chairman of Coldharbour Parish Council, I would like to thank Councillor Poland for his expert stewardship during what has been a difficult and unusual year. I would also like to congratulate him and Councillor James on their recent election to the Buckinghamshire Unitary Council, I know they will be great champions for our community.

It has been an unusual 12 months, but the council have continued to hold monthly council meetings remotely and carry out the business of the council. We have also continued to meet regularly with HS2 and its contractors to tackle local issues including flooding, noise and traffic to mention just a few. We have been pushed for mitigation measures and funding for local projects as well as trying to ensure they are being 'Good Neighbours'. You can read more about our meetings with HS2 inside the Newsletter.

As we move slowly out of the current lockdown the council are looking to the future, unfortunately due to the uncertainty earlier in the year it was decided we would not be holding our summer events. We are however looking to hold our music festival 'Music in the Square' as an online event and there are more details in the Newsletter. It is hoped we may be able to host our Christmas event this year and our Leisure Committee will be looking how we can do this safely.

Throughout the last 12 months our maintenance team have continued to keep the village looking amazing and our centre manager and staff have made sure that users of the centre have been safe and COVID compliant. I would like to personally thank them for their ongoing efforts in these difficult times.

The Council have now started to meet again in person in a COVID safe environment, Council meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 8pm in the community centre.

I hope to see us get back to more normal ways over the next 12 months.

**Councillor Andrew Cole – Chairman of Coldharbour Parish Council**

# Annual Reports fo

## Annual Reports by Councillors given at the Annual Meeting of Coldharbour Parish Council on Thursday 1st April 2021

### Annual Report of the Parish Council Presented by Cllr Adam Poland



#### Introduction

2020 to 2021 has been a year like no other in over 100 years. As a parish, county, nation and planet we have all faced unparalleled difficulties and adjustments to the so called 'new normal'. It is important to remember, and reflect, that members of our community have either passed away or lost loved ones.

#### Thank You

On behalf of the parish council, I would like to thank Andy Barnett, Steve Webb, Steve Baughan and Brian Neil for their efforts over the past year.

During these turbulent times, we have had to adjust to rapidly changing rules and regulations and interpret new guidelines to the best of our abilities. I would like to pay a personal tribute to our Clerk, Keith Gray. Keith has negotiated these turbulent waters and managed to keep us both Covid compliant, fully legal, and still maintaining the unique look and feel of Fairford Leys. He has been an invaluable support to both me and the parish council as a whole. Our community would not be what it is, without Keith!

The Fairford Leys Community Centre is superbly managed by Andy Barnett and. although bookings were cancelled and the centre was forced to close, Andy and his team demonstrated resilience in the face of adversity and have managed to keep the centre operational and sustainable, when it was allowed and some essential works were carried out in these times. In addition, we have

an amazing grounds team. Despite operations ceasing for 4 weeks at the start of Lockdown 1 they have made our community a wonderful place to be locked down in. The planters have been amazing, the riverine is being cleared, grass is cut, fences repaired, and all the maintenance needed has been completed to a high standard. A special mention is needed for the amazing Christmas decorations in the square this year that was really appreciated by the community in difficult circumstances.

#### HS2

High Speed Two has suddenly become a reality for our community following nearly 15 years of protest from the parish council. The parish has sent representatives at all stages of the HS2 bill and has had members appear before the Government select committee. We have been attending monthly meetings with representatives of HS2 and we are working to mitigate the increase in noise and traffic which is to be expected as part of a major infrastructure project.

It is important to note that our own parish councillors have been leading the fight/mitigation against HS2 for our residents and as a parish; we have never received any support from Buckinghamshire Council or its predecessors. We have become part of a network with other parishes along the line to share experiences and lessons learnt in dealing with HS2. Our parish councillors have been working hard in the background to protect Fairford Leys in the future once HS2 is completed with ambitious plans for the land between us and the line.

There have been some concerns connected with some HS2 works regarding flooding. As usual, our riverine flood defences have performed admirably whilst surrounding areas have suffered from some flood damage. There has been some very localised flooding which we suspect has been caused by some HS2 works. Although

we cannot say this conclusively, it is causal that the flooding stopped after HS2 performed some mitigation work on their side of their newly installed fence.

#### Anti-Social Behaviour

There has been some anti-social behaviour in our community recently and this has centred around the Benjamin UK residential care home on Wren Path. Parish councillors have been involved in meetings between residents, BenUK, Buckinghamshire Council and Thames Valley Police. It has been disappointing that there has been a lack of engagement and actions from BenUK, following the disapproval of their claim that as a parish we were not engaging. This has led to the property being served with a Community Protection Notice by Buckinghamshire Council and we will wait to see the long-term outcomes from this.

#### The Riverine Corridor

Negotiations regarding ownership of the Riverine Corridor continue between ECT, Buckinghamshire Council and lawyers. As a parish we will continue to chase this up to the benefit of our residents and to clarify the ownership and responsibilities of all parties.

#### Buckinghamshire Council and Aylesbury Garden Town

It has been a positive step to agree to the new Buckinghamshire Councils new parish charter (which recognises the roles and legal authorities of parish councils as (now) the first tier of local governance.

Members of our parish council have been involved with the newly formed community boards for Aylesbury and we are delighted that one of our members chairs a sub-group of the community board. Aylesbury Garden Town are continuing with their plans for their orbital greenway. Our parish council have been involved in discussions about the route and look

# r 2020 to 2021



of our section. There is still concern that AGT struggles to understand the legal status of parish councils.

I would like to personally thank our unitary councillors for their efforts in representing our community at a county level this past year and chasing up those annoying things that always get forgotten.

## Annual Report by Cllr Andrew Cole Buckinghamshire Councillor for Aylesbury West



### Appreciation

It has been a most unusual year to say the least, last year's Council elections were cancelled due to the pandemic and all serving councillors were asked to serve 12 months on the newly formed Unitary Council. Whilst it has been a strange and often sad year, we have seen amazing acts of kindness, generosity and community spirit across the country, along with the unselfish hard work of volunteers and keyworkers. Within our own community we have seen residents looking after the vulnerable, collecting shopping and prescriptions, giving lifts to vaccine centres and appointments and generally just looking out for each other. We also have our fair share of volunteers and keyworkers living amongst us and a personal thank you goes to them for everything they have done.

Along with the acts of kindness of leaving flowers for strangers, cartoon trails and the pebble snake for the younger members of the community, I have seen wonderful community spirit especially when Bernie the Bus came to collect for Aylesbury Vineyard in May. We collected 12 crates of food and raised over £200 for charity and did similarly well when Bernie came back before Christmas, brining Father Christmas with him and my thanks must go to all those who came out and supported us. Our residents have

### Parish Council

In May, this parish council may look very different. Some will return, some we know already, will not. I personally want to thank each and every one of you for your contributions to making our parish a wonderful place to live. Members of the public do not often see what happens behind the scenes,

really shown why Fairford Leys is such a wonderful place to live, and it has been an honour to represent them over the last 5 years.

### HS2

Of course it has been a challenging and varied year; one of the biggest issues has been the start of works at the old golf course by HS2. In October I joined residents protesting against HS2 and we were joined at one protest by our MP who continues to oppose the project. I have joined our parish councillors in virtual HS2 meetings putting the concerns of our residents and my own concerns about flooding to them, as well as trying to obtain the best mitigation we can to protect our village.

In January I was called out by residents to water pouring from the upper fields where ironically HS2 have started work, my thanks to the Clerk and the maintenance team for helping to prevent water entering residents' houses. Although this cannot be directly linked to HS2 it has not flooded like this since 2004 and since HS2 contractors have created a ditch we have thankfully not seen a repeat.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

I have continued to meet with the parish council Chairman, Residents, Benjamin UK and the Buckinghamshire Anti-Social Behaviour Team to discuss the ongoing issues of ASB from Ben UK's property. This has been ongoing for many years and at the end of February Ben UK were issued with a Community Protection Notice. This is a major step for Buckinghamshire Council one which is not taken lightly and made in conjunction with Thames Valley Police and the Councils Legal Team. I wait to see what result this notice will have on tackling the ongoing anti-social behaviour that residents

and I know it works thanks to the hard work, commitment and diligence of all of you. The new council may look different, but I hope it continues the good work that this council has done since its formation.

**Councillor Adam Poland**

have had to put up with for so long.

### The Riverine Corridor

I have also continued to push Buckinghamshire Council for the handover of the Riverine areas; this has not been as successful as I'd have liked, with a lot of backwards and forwarding between legal teams. But following the meeting I called for with Stakeholders as an AVDC Councillor, and the successful hand over of Phase 1, I am ever hopeful this will be completed in the near future.

### General Matters

I continue to work with residents around issues of parking, speeding, overgrown foliage, street lighting, potholes and pavements, environmental services and dog fouling.

### Planning

As one of the Aylesbury West Councillors I have continued to represent our residents at a variety of meetings including, Council meetings, Aylesbury Community Board meetings and subgroups, the Transport Environment & Climate Change Committee and Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Committee meetings. As well as calling in planning applications on behalf of the parish council and meeting with our local area technician to pursue concerns raised by residents.

And Finally...

One of the strangest things this year has been video meetings, I can't wait to return to meeting face to face and the preamble and after meeting catch ups and not being told 'You're still on mute'. It is with pleasure that I submit my annual report and hope to see you all in person very soon.

**Cllr Andrew Cole**

# Annual Reports - continued

## Annual Report by Cllr Steven Lambert Buckinghamshire Councillor for Aylesbury West



### Thankyou

Mr Chairman

Like many reports that will be tabled this year up and down the country. I cannot let the extraordinary events of COVID-19, lockdowns one two and three or our community's amazing local resilience and support go unmarked.

The volunteers who looked out for their neighbours, nearly all of us on our doorsteps clapping for our Front-Line heroes, the medicines dropping, the community phone calls, grocery bags delivered to front doors. To our School –St Mary's, it's staff, volunteers and governors working so hard to keep education going,– thank you! .

### Unitary Council

Mr Chairman I have served this council as a member since 2004, as its chairman for seven years and since 2007 as a District Councillor and from 2013 also its County Councillor. Last year in the midst of the pandemic my role changed to Unitary Councillor. It took many years to bring the Unitary Council into being. It

came into being on the 1st of April 2020 just as lockdown one started and the elections postponed.

There are now 200 councillors and like this council, its meetings have all been on-line. I have to reflect that the meetings of our parish have made the switch with professionalism and with ease. The public can and do observe and take part – unlike the unitary meetings where the public can only observe.

### Planning Applications

Sadly, one of the casualties of the new authority has been the withdrawal of our right as a parish council to call planning applications to committee as a statutory Consultee. As a result, I have used my role as Unitary Councillor to make representation on behalf of our Parish and our Community with 'call-in' requests Made more complex by the Government's planning law changes last autumn, planning law and our ability as a parish to place shape, maintain our distinguished character set out in the Ernest Cook vision is now harder than ever before.

### HS2

I continued my personal opposition to HS2, but begrudgingly accept the law of the land passed by this Government is that HS2 will be built.

I have attended meetings and briefings; I have lobbied and helped our residents with claims, concerns, and right to sell applications as well as being a shoulder to cry on. I am delighted that our Chairman, Adam Poland, and our parish councillors have joined the protests and marches and continue to meet HS2 to protest about what is happening to our village our community and landscape.

### General Matters

Other matters I have been working on more recently for our community are reporting blocked drains – a significant problem at the roundabout of Arcott Way and Coldharbour Way which is regularly a swimming pool sized lake.

I have secured the repainting of all white lines in the village and a review of the Traffic Regulation Orders now that they have been in place for nearly ten years. Whether they change or not, they will be repainted! I am also exploring with the health authority how our Dr Surgery can reopen fully following the pandemic.

There are some days I sit down with 100 or so emails from our residents and I try hard to make a difference; to serve our community to be part of its everyday life. But I couldn't do all that, without our outstanding Clerk, Mr Gray or Steve Webb and the grounds maintenance staff of Andy Barnett and the Fairford Leys Centre staff and hirers. I couldn't do it without all of you also. Thank you.

### Looking Forward

As Mr Chairman I shall not be standing for re-election to the parish council this time – to the Unitary council, yes, but seeing how far we have come over the past 17 years that I have been a parish councillor I think it is time for me to hand over my place to a new generation of parish councillors.

Mr Chairman I wish you and the future parish council all the very best for its new term.

**Councillor Steven Lambert**

A full copy of all reports may be obtained from the Clerk to the parish council

Mr Keith Gray - 01296 422800

## Music on the Square Screen

As you will have seen from the front cover we are hosting our music festival 'Music in the Square' online this year. This is because the planning and booking for this event starts months in advance and unfortunately at that time it was still unclear whether we would be out of lockdown or what restrictions would still be in place. The parish council Leisure committee had already decided not to host 'Fair in the Square' for a second year for the same reason but wanted to try and host at least one community event this year. A suggestion was made by Councillor Baughan that maybe we could host the music event online.

Through the first lockdown I had dusted off my decks and taken to the airwaves once again via the Mixcloud platform. Mixcloud is an online audio and video streaming service which is free to watch/listen to. We decided to see if any bands would be happy to perform on this medium. I approached the bands who were due to perform last year and they loved the idea and although they will miss the atmosphere of being on stage they have all agreed to record their sets for the event.

To tune in you will simply need the link which we will post on the Coldharbour Facebook page and share on the Fairford Leys Community page. You don't need to sign up to Mixcloud to listen but if you would like to interact and message the studio then you will need a FREE account. There is a Mixcloud app for iOS and Android devices and you can access the site online from a smart TV as well.

It won't be the same as being there and I really hope we can get back to the live event next year. But in the meantime, dust off your dancing shoes and join me on the 4th September from 17:30 as we play some great songs and go digital for a cracking night of live(ish) music.

To find out more visit [www.mixcloud.com](http://www.mixcloud.com)

### Cllr Andrew Cole



## Town Mayor recognises Fairford Leys resident with appreciation award

The Mayor of Aylesbury Cllr Mike Smith has presented Fairford Leys resident, DJ Dan Blaze with a certificate of appreciation for supporting the Aylesbury community during the pandemic

Cllr Smith said "Recently I did a Zoom interview with DJ Dan Blaze to celebrate the one-year anniversary of his weekly community TV broadcast. This is aired every Monday to care homes and others in isolated situations across the Aylesbury area – working in particular with the Gateway Club and their members. There are music requests, birthday dedications and karaoke but, most importantly, the broadcasts have kept spirits high in a fun, friendly and safe atmosphere.

"I thank Dan for giving his time and commitment to carry out such an important line of communication to those who may not be able to socialise with their own friends and family."

Marie Biswell and Vicki Parker have also been awarded a certificate of appreciation to honour their dedicated and compassionate work.

## Parklife Weekend to return this summer

Aylesbury Town Council is thrilled to announce that Parklife Weekend will return to Vale Park this August bank holiday weekend (28-29 August 2021).



The ever popular, jam-packed, free family festival is set to bring all the events the community have grown to know and love including Live in the Park, Stars in the Park, Church in the Park and Proms in the Park. However, if government restrictions of any type are introduced prior to the event, Aylesbury Town Council will have to pull the event at short notice.

All the key features will remain the same – at "Live" (Saturday 28 August) festival-goers will still find nine and a half hours of continuous live music across two stages, the Community Involvement Area, market stalls, a fun fair ride and an array of local businesses serving cold beer and hot food.

The Town Council will be making a few exciting new changes, including the introduction of a brand new "Kids Ent Tent". More details on this and all the other developments in the coming weeks.

As always "Proms" (Sunday 29 August) will feature the wonderful Aylesbury Concert Band, performing a selection of popular classics as well as the traditional Proms anthems – all wrapped up with a spectacular firework display.

All event plans are subject to there being no government guidelines in place at the time of the event.

**For further information please contact:**

**Rachel Noon – Marketing and Communications Officer Aylesbury Town Council  
07399 887 442**



# The Making of a Village

by Keith Gray Clerk to the Parish Council



## Village or Estate?

The various decisions made for, and on behalf of Fairford Leys have always been made with the community in mind and the protection of the community we live and work in. Call the place what you want, we prefer “village”, but the main thing is “people and community” and that’s what we want to protect and encourage.

## The Beginning

Phase 1 on Fairford Leys was the first of the houses to be built on the Fairford Leys development. The land was owned by The Ernest Cook Trust and was in the Parish of Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell. Fairford Leys has never been part of Aylesbury and when the Secretary of State established the Coldharbour Parish Council we became an Urban Village in our own right. We decided to promote the “village” as we thought this would help to establish our own identity being so close to the town of Aylesbury and help our community become what it wanted to be and what it is today. Many residents at the time supported this decision and encouraged the parish council to do what it needed to do to create a community in a village type setting that would bring us altogether and also let other communities know that we were serious about what we wanted and who we were. We think we have done well in establishing a community and seek to build on that initial vision.

## Fairford Leys Parish Council

The parish council is a statutory designated Local Authority with the relevant powers and responsibilities that a parish council has. It was a sensible decision to establish the parish council as it meant that Fairford Leys could manage its own affairs and ensure that the community was well looked after. The benefits of having our own parish council are immense and we hope residents can understand and appreciate

having a parish council and what that brings to our community. Our remit is to manage Fairford Leys and to serve and protect the community. We don’t have as many enforcement powers as we would sometimes wish, or the resources to take them on, but we do have a platform to be able to comment, urge, encourage and sometimes demand action where needed. Because we are a “First-tier Local Authority” the various other government departments will take notice of what we say – they might not always agree and do what we want, but they are obliged to listen, and we can hold them to account when necessary. No decisions should be made on matters relating to Fairford Leys unless engagement with the parish council has taken place – that is the right approach and an approach we have always insisted on in order to protect our community.

The first group of residents to start taking an interest in the management of Fairford Leys was the Fairford Leys Residents Group; made up of several residents. They were later asked to consider standing for election as parish councillors and several of them did and were elected councillors.



*The First Parish Councillors*

An advertisement was issued for a Parish Clerk for the new parish council in Fairford Leys. Keith Gray, a resident of Fairford Leys, applied for the post of Clerk to Coldharbour Parish Council and was successful. He was initially appointed as Deputy Clerk to Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell to begin the clerkship and experience first-hand what the role was to be. Keith lived just off Coldharbour Way, and the village centre hadn’t been built and no other houses built from the roundabout on Coldharbour Way.

## Early Memories

Keith remembers: “I could see the farmhouse from my bedroom window and there were cows in the field next to my house and being able to walk the dog along the farm tracks which is now the village centre. Those early days

in Fairford Leys for new residents were very different to what they are now.

My son became friends with the children of the then parish council chairman, Paul Hughes and they had many a happy time



playing in the riverine, collecting frogs, building camps and just enjoying the open spaces that we have, which many developments don’t have. I feel lucky to be able to live here and have the amenities we have. It’s not until you move away from such a place that you realise what the place, you have left behind, is all about. I am sure many people have moved and enjoy where they live now but for me, Fairford Leys is a lovely place to live and I am very aware of all the hard work that many individuals have done, and continue to do, to make this happen.”

## Building a Community

Fairford Leys didn’t happen overnight, it had to be created, the community had to be established and we did that in different ways. A Parish Clerk represents the parish in an administrative and legal capacity. The parish councillors make the decisions and the clerk actions those decisions – still the same today. The clerk gives advice on protocol, policy and ensures the council remains legal in what it does. We established and encouraged community groups and activities, worked with the school and local groups such as The Friendship Club, the WI and other local groups were established by residents, with support and encouragement by the parish council. We also gave beneficial financial grants to local groups to be set up – the Fairford Leys Football Club was sponsored by the parish council and the Youth Club and Over 55 Club was established. The Community Centre Manager at the time was Sue McEvoy, who supported and





assisted the parish clerk and the council, to get things done.

We arranged the first Fairford Leys Fair (held in the school grounds) later to be called Fair in the Square and now we have the additional annual event, Music in the Square. We have the Christmas Carol event and the very important Remembrance Sunday service. When Keith first suggested that Fairford Leys arrange a Remembrance Sunday event, some people said "But we don't have any memorial or past fallen soldiers" – his reply was that we didn't need an established memorial to remember the fallen and there will be some residents who have family members who have served and died for their country. Let's remember them by laying wreaths on the bandstand and bring the community together. We are pleased to see that this event is now attended by many residents and its now part of what we do on Fairford Leys. That's the kind of thing that the parish council does – it brings the community together.



The parish council established the community events we have today, and we did this to establish a community. These events and activities cannot be managed without the full support of the council's community centre and maintenance teams and we are very grateful for the commitment and support each person gives in making this happen. There are also many parish councillors who have donated their time and energy in making these events work from the beginning of Fairford Leys to what happens today. The parish council also ensured that we were an exemplary parish council and worked well within the council sector – Keith took qualifications to ensure the parish council could take on more powers and responsibilities, councillors attended training courses and some moved on to being district and county councillors whilst remaining as a parish councillor. Fairford Leys and Coldharbour Parish Council soon became known to be a community to be respected and listed to – we were, and still are, prepared to fight for our community and ensure anything that was proposed, or changes made would first be discussed with us as the local authority for the parish and we still make sure that happens.

## Fairford Leys Master Plan

The first parish council was made up of seven parish councillors and Keith as Clerk. His office was his spare bedroom with a filing cabinet and a laptop – how we have grown! In those days, a great deal of work took place engaging with the builders and the Ernest Cook Trust, the county and district councils and several other stakeholders associated with this exemplary development. The architect for Fairford Leys was John Simpson, a well-known and respected professional who worked on Poundbury (Prince Charles' model village in Dorset) and the Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace. Fairford Leys had a strict and well thought out Master Plan (We still have a copy) and it was down to the county and district councils to ensure that the developers adhered to the plan. There were many changes and short cuts being made and that's where the parish council stepped in. We were the eyes and ears of the local community and on many occasions, we had to step in rather assertively and demand that the Master Plan be adhered to. Keith would get many telephone calls to rush and deal with things at short notice. He once had a phone call to say that builders were installing plastic chimneys with a brick effect pattern on the houses in Disraeli Square. He quickly ran to the site office and "kicked-off" demanding that they be torn down and proper brick chimneys be installed as per the plan. This was one example, of many, that had to be dealt with and all the site managers from the different building companies quickly got to know who the parish clerk was and what the parish council wanted to see take place in the building of Fairford Leys. We have had to deal with so many issues and we have many interesting and sometimes very funny stories to tell. A local residence was being used as a brothel at one time! We have fought off bad planning applications that would have significantly changed street scenes as well as changes that were carried out without planning permission. We have attended hundreds of meetings to ensure the parish was protected from changes we didn't want or need and we still do those things as part of our responsibilities as a parish council. We know we cannot please everyone but we endeavour to make sure that the place we live and work in remains a good place.

We all have many stories to tell of the battles to ensure that our village/estate/community (call it what you want) is what it is today, and we continue to ensure that the overall design by the architect is as protected as it possibly can be. We were the main instigator of the Fairford Leys

Development Guidelines and asked for help from the Ernest Cook Trust to draw up a set of development guidelines that would protect the overall design and the covenants that are on each property. We have moved with the times and made changes to the guidelines to allow families to make changes to their properties, and remain on Fairford Leys, but we are careful not to allow too much change in order that we protect the overall look which is why many of us came to live here, because we like the look of the place, its buildings, streets, layout and friendly community. We are not perfect, but the main driving force of the parish council is to protect and look after Fairford Leys for its residents – making it a lovely place to live and work and for our children to grow up with happy memories. The land areas take such a lot of work. We manage them like a large estate would, preserving trees and wildlife but allowing access where we can. We don't want everywhere to look pristine as we encourage the wildlife we have.

We have an uncomplicated vision and plan - keep the place looking nice, keep building community, protect our residents and community and do as much as we can to maintain what we have. However, we cannot do this entirely on our own and we need everyone who lives and works in Fairford Leys to help us. The overall responsibility for the place we live in is everyone's!

Our future plans are to re-vamp the main play areas, manage the riverine corridor to the original standards and vision in the Master Plan – open up some of the riverine corridor areas and make it visible, manage the trees as a good land owner does and plant new trees and flora where necessary. Protect the wildlife and keep some of the wilder growth areas for animals to thrive.

With the continued help and support from the whole community we can easily do this.

There is lots more to tell. Some situations we found ourselves in, stories and the antics of people, need to remain private but many are both funny and sad and have all helped in making Fairford Leys what it is today and what it can be for the future.

The parish council appreciates the continued support of the whole community. Without it the work would be much harder and might never take place. We have vacancies on the parish council – do you think you could be a parish councillor now or in the future? Have a chat with a current councillor or the parish clerk and find out what the role is all about.

THANK YOU, FAIRFORD LEYS

# Fairford Leys Centre News Update

When I was asked to provide an article for the latest Coldharbour News I must admit to being slightly perplexed as to what I could write about.

Looking back over the past year in desperate need of inspiration, I came across an email dated Friday 13th March 2020, and I believe it represents my “Personal Bes”t in terms of understatement – it simply said, ‘Hi Keith, I am sure it is nothing to worry about, but just to let you know, we have just had our first class cancel because of this Covid thing’. Just about a week later the last of the centre was being deep cleaned with bleach everything electrical disconnected and the building effectively mothballed, and we entered a year or more that very few of us are likely to forget.

Page after page of guidance was issued and had to be understood and followed, social distancing was introduced halls that could previously hold 100 and 60 people respectively could now have maximums of 15 and 9, sanitising stations, one way systems, pinch points, perspex screens, bubbles a whole new way of living was introduced.

It does now seem that after such a long time we are beginning to see a gradual transition to some form of a new normal, the last two weeks have seen the return of some of our children’s groups and adult exercise classes. Clearly, we hope that the improvement continues and we aim to make the Fairford Leys



Centre a venue where people feel safe and as the regulations relax and allow life to resume as we knew it.

We have had some changes to our timetable with both our Weightwatchers and Slimming World classes closing and some of our existing classes adjusting their bookings as working online has been successful and is still some people’s preference. Please contact us for details of our current classes.

One thing is for sure, we all hope that the last half of 2021 and 2022 are an improvement on the last 14 months, a chance to return to and perhaps appreciate the parts of life that we took for granted, friends, family and community.

**Andy Barnett - Fairford Leys Centre Manager**

## A Message from the Church on Fairford Leys

### *The only thing that is constant is change*

What do you say to family or friends whom you haven’t seen for many months, perhaps a year or even longer? Well we’re beginning to find out aren’t we. There will of course be lots of news to catch up on, plus those obligatory conversations about hairstyles, level or lack of fitness, how the children have grown, etc. etc. But I think that we will fairly quickly find ourselves picking up where we left off. Even through lockdown we’ve had the benefits of many channels of communication. Lots of us are now proficient at online meetings, video calls and various social media platforms.

And of course we can still make good old-fashioned telephone calls. Personally, we’ve probably had more contact with some parts of our family, especially those who live at the other end of the country whom we rarely saw prior to lock down. We are all hoping that this new found way of connecting will continue.

Across the church community we’ve done our best to keep in touch with people, including moving to a completely online Sunday service and Zoom coffee-time since March 2020. We have missed out on many of our regular social events and activities involving our wider community, but I’m sure it will be easy to pick these up again as circumstances allow. We have found that for some people it has actually been easier to investigate what goes on at the church by taking part in an online activity. We fully intend to continue with these - we’re not sure exactly what the format will look like yet - but it’s clear that, as in so many other aspects of life, we will return to a new kind of normality.

In its ecumenical nature, Fairford Leys Church represents various strands

of Christian development across the centuries, and one of these has a high regard for the Latin phrase *Ecclesia semper reformanda est*. This means that the church should always be in the process of reformation. The church is never a finished work, either in terms of its institution or its members. Just as we grow and learn, develop and change throughout life, so our corporate gatherings in worship and service need to be ever-evolving.

As I write this article, the church is preparing for Pentecost Sunday. This marks the end of the Easter season, and the time at which the early disciples were sent out on their mission. God’s task, which began at Bethlehem and was concluded at Calvary, now becomes the responsibility of the church, to bring life and hope into the world. As we emerge from our periods of isolation, slowly and cautiously, I think we are entering a brave new world, although, if you’ve read the book, one which is much more wholesome and attractive than that envisaged by Aldous Huxley.

**Revd Anthony**



# St Mary's CE School



As I sit and write this, in mid-May, I am hopeful that by the time you read this we are coming to the end of what has been an extremely challenging time for all of us. When the pandemic started back in March 2020 and we were told that schools were closing in two days for the foreseeable future, who could have predicted what was to come!

The pandemic and associated restrictions affected us all in different ways. For us as a school, we had to adapt to the ever changing guidance with very little notice. However, the staff team have been incredible and worked tirelessly to meet the needs of our school community. The move to remote learning in January was such a steep learning curve not only for the teachers but for the parents and carers who had to become teachers at home, many of them juggling their jobs as well as supporting their child/children's learning. However, we all worked together to adapt to this new way of learning and over time, with lots of support and communication, it became, for a period of time, 'normal'.

As part of our continued school improvement work we had a review of our remote learning against a set of standards and we

were thrilled to be awarded the Gold, the highest award. The assessor noted that parents were overflowing in their praise for the staff and how they organized and managed the whole process for them and their children and at all times families 'felt very supported' and it was a 'massive help to not be too pressured to get work done.'

All the effort and dedication the staff team put in to everything we do at St Mary's really does support our vision and ethos of supporting all members of our school community to 'shine as lights in the world'. This sits alongside our Christian values of Love, Hope, Compassion, Respect, Truth and Forgiveness which I hope you can see are also universal values that apply to all of us.

Hopefully, as we return to normality we will get back to being involved in projects and events in the Fairford Leys community.

**David Liddle – Headteacher St Mary's CE School**

## Fairford Leys WI

Hello everyone

Fairford Leys WI has managed to keep going through out the last 15 months. Although we haven't been able to meet in person, we have been ringing each other, having zoom meetings and sending each other funny videos, pictures and words of encouragement throughout this hard time.

Our very talented crafters have been absolute stars, knitting and sewing for anyone that needs it. The baby unit at Stoke Mandeville hospital have had knitted

blankets, little hats and mittens and even last year dozens of scrubs were made by our ladies. I can't tell you how proud I am of every single one of our members, they've all stepped up and in true WI fashion put those in need first.

We are hoping to get back to face to face meetings starting with a garden party for our July meeting. Our WI is also celebrating its 21st birthday in September, and we have the rest of the year is booked with interesting speakers and events as long as

restrictions allow.

The community spirit of Fairford Leys has been absolutely incredible, my Husband and I have loved reading the little inspirational notes tied to trees and lamp posts, looking for the fairy doors and watching the stone snake growing. Living in Fairford Leys you really do feel you're surrounded by friends.

**Jane Rice -  
President of Fairford Leys WI**



## From Your PCSO

Hello

I am one of your local PCSOS (Police Community Support Officers). There are three PCSOs who cover Aylesbury West. These are me (PCSO Wilshere), PCSO White and PCSO Ludlow. This month we also welcome back PC Norman. Aylesbury West is comprises Fairford Leys, Quarrendon, Haydon Hill and Broadfields Retail Park.

With the promise of summer slowly moving towards us we are aware that there is often an increase in ASB (Anti-Social Behaviour) with the nicer weather. To help combat this we have carried out talks around ASB in local schools, particularly focusing on how ASB can affect people as well as the types of behaviour which fall under the category of ASB.

Our current priorities in the West include burglary prevention and preventing theft

from vehicles. With regards the second priority, recently a criminal behaviour order was obtained for an individual who prolifically targeted vehicles, including those in Fairford Leys. This criminal behaviour order will last for two years. With the warmer weather its worth a reminder not to leave windows open whilst your vehicle is unattended. Most vehicle thefts are carried out by opportunistic thieves and thefts can be prevented by carrying out actions such as locking vehicles and ensuring that all valuables, even loose change left in a dashboard are not stored in a vehicle overnight. Keyless cars are rapidly becoming a more common site. Keyless cars can be convenient, however they can be targeted by criminals who can amplify and capture the signal used to open your cars. RFID blockers, such as Faraday bags, can prevent RF signals from being both

sent and received.

We often work with local partnership agencies such as Buckinghamshire Council and housing agencies in order to effectively solve problems which are negatively affecting the community. Working with these agencies we have secured a number of closure orders for properties in which ASB was frequently occurring, which had been causing great distress to the community.

**PCSO Catriona Wilshere  
Your Local neighbourhood team**



# Parish Council News - continued

## Refurbishing Playgrounds



The parish council is discussing plans to refurbish the 11 playgrounds we have on Fairford Leys. Different equipment is being considered for the main park to incorporate more interesting activity for older age groups. Would you like to see a zip wire in the main play park?

What else would you like to see installed in parks? Let us know by sending us your thoughts via our council Facebook page or by pictures and suggestions sent to the Fairford Leys Community Centre – please label your envelope: Parish Clerk – Playground Ideas.

We are also looking at the removal of some smaller parks which we know are not used as well used and new flooring for the sites so they can be used in the winter time.

**Keith Gray – Clerk to Coldharbour Parish Council**

## Taking control of your dog

### Dog Fouling and access to play areas

DOG POO HAS INCREASED BY A MASSIVE 200% DURING LOCKDOWN. News reports all over the country state that dog fouling has increased in all areas. In Fairford Leys we have certainly seen an increase in dog fouling especially on footpaths and in areas where dog owners are walking dogs. PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG. Please also note that NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED in any of our playgrounds regardless of whether there is a sign on the playground or not – do not allow your dog in the play areas. We are making sure all our playparks have relevant signage.



### Keep your Dog on a lead

ALL DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEAD NEAR LIFESTOCK With the lambing season upon us, sheep and lambs are often grazing in fields close to footpaths. Your dog can harm or kill sheep and cattle. Cattle are in the fields near Fairford Leys and dogs should not be allowed near them, off leads. No matter how well behaved your dog is, do not take the risk of cattle being chased or your dog being hurt or killed.

Please remember, when enjoying the countryside with your pet, use a lead to keep them and farming livestock safe. If you are a dog owner, please check your property is dog proof. A loose dog from a nearby house could cause havoc to livestock. Our countryside is also someone's working environment. Dog attacks cost! It could be you and your pet that pays. Allowing your dog to chase and attack livestock is a serious animal welfare offence and can lead to significant fines as well as your dog being shot by a landowner. PLEASE put your dog on a lead anywhere near sheep and other livestock.

## Grounds Maintenance update June 2010 - continued from p3

recorded and downloaded. Whilst the average speed is coming down, there are still some shocking speeds being recorded. The local PCSO and Thames Valley Police are being kept up to date with this issue.

Weed spraying continues when the weather permits, and the Riverine Corridor is being monitored and blockages cleaned as and when it is safe to do so.

As always please do let us know of anything you see that you think requires our attention, If we know about it we can try our best to do something about it. tel. 01296 422800 and leave a message and we will get back to you.

**Steve Webb – Grounds Maintenance Manager for Fairford Leys**



## HS2 Update

Over the last 12 months the parish council have continued to meet with HS2 and its contractors to raise the concerns of residents as well as trying to plan for the least disruptions in the months and years ahead. We have continued to push for up-to-date flood data, following calls from residents that were seeing water flowing off the upper fields and into their back gardens. We raised this with HS2 as we suspected that they had blocked the runoff channels that divert the water away. Following HS2 digging a trench along their fence line we have not seen a repeat of this run off.

We have also been challenging them on their environmental impact; we were horrified to be notified that they had not put a way for animals to climb out of the newt traps and have continued to question them on the devastation of trees on the golf course. One

small win was getting EKFB to change their compound around to protect a 200-year-old oak tree. The tree which formed part of an avenue of Oak trees that ran from the front of Hartwell house to the A41 has now been fenced off to prevent accidental removal and we will be keeping a close eye on it.

We are also continuing to question them on the noise and traffic associated with the railway especially around Andrews Way where we have seen lorries queuing to enter the site making the road very dangerous for traffic and pedestrians. Also, we are questioning noise levels for when the line is operational as indications may be that this has changed.

We are in communication with other parishes along the line and are sharing experiences and best practice in dealing with HS2 and not

allowing parishes to be picked off 1 by 1.

We are also in the process of trying to secure some mitigation from HS2 in regards to the disruption caused by the works to try and provide facilities and amenities for local residents.

We will be continuing our meetings and would encourage residents to report any issues to the HS2 complaints team by calling the free phone number 08081 434434. We would also urge residents to sign up to the HS2 newsletter that will inform you of any works being carried out in the area, you can sign up at <https://hs2inbucksandoxfordshire.commonplace.is/>

**Cllr Adam Poland • Cllr Andrew Cole**



# WHAT THE COUNCILS DO

It can get quite confusing about which council to contact when you need something doing or want information about something. However, with the newly formed Buckinghamshire Council in place, there are now only two councils to consider.

Here is a quick guide, hopefully, to what we do as a parish council and what the Buckinghamshire Council does.

## PARISH COUNCIL

**Coldharbour Parish Council,  
Fairford Leys.  
Tel. 01296 422800**



- We are responsible for the management of Fairford Leys.
- We have the right to be consulted before any changes are made on Fairford Leys as the parish councillors are the legally elected and co-opted people to represent Fairford Leys and made legal decisions on many things that affect the community.
- We also have the right to decide what the local council tax amount should be and to instruct Buckinghamshire Council to raise the local tax for us. Buckinghamshire Council has no authority over a parish council. A Town Council operates in the same way as a parish council but is often a larger community with more responsibilities
- All the land areas on Fairford Leys (some are in the process of being transferred to us). That means we manage the trees, hedging and grass as well as protecting the areas in line with what that parish council wants the land to look like. (Some maintenance works have not taken place because we are in the process of receiving some land areas and need the finances to be transferred to us as well before we can start some major works.)
- All the play parks and these are checked each week by the maintenance team and annually for an audit inspection by an external company. The play parks are currently being considered for a refurbishment and possible overall design change, especially the main park which needs to cater

for older children and have better equipment installed to encourage an older age range.

- The Fairford Leys Centre
- We keep clean and manage the main square in Fairford Leys as well as the larger car park. We do not own this land; it is owned by a private company who also own the freehold of shops and apartment blocks.
- We have the right to close off the main village areas should we need to do so.
- The Riverine Corridor maintenance but not flood defence responsibility. The Environment Agency is also responsible for the riverine corridor and streams and rivers on matters relating to flooding. The parish council is responsible as the Riparian Landowner and we make sure that there are no specific blockages to the watercourse.
- Fairford Leys is designed to flood in certain areas as well as across pathways, which are designed to be used when they can. Fairford Leys homes have not flooded in respect of the Riverine Corridor / Bearbrook management. We have well designed flood defences and ditches to deal with excess water when needed.
- Allotments. We rent the land, as well as a small barn, from the Ernest Cook Trust.
- Ernest Cook Trust Covenants – we manage the covenants on all the properties on Fairford Leys.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL

**The County of Buckinghamshire  
Tel. 0300 131 6000**



- Amongst other things, they are also responsible for:
- Footpaths – pavements as well as public footpaths and Bridleways across private or public owned land. The Rights of Way Team deal with these matters.
- The highway – all Fairford Leys roads. Transport for Bucks (TfB) deal with all highway matters.
- Double Yellow Lines as well as enforcement matters.
- All trees on the side of the highway – although Transport for Bucks should contact the parish council before any works are carried out on Fairford Leys trees as these are protected within the Master Plan for Fairford Leys.

- Planning Application decisions – although the parish council has the right to be consulted and our comments noted and taken seriously before a decision is made to grant planning permission.
- All mews areas as part of the highway, unless a mews area has been delegated “privately owned” by the neighbouring properties – this is shown in people’s property deeds.
- All lighting on Fairford Leys – Lamp posts
- Garage Covenant – on all garages on Fairford Leys. This is affected when planning applications for garage conversions are made.

# Jonathan Page play Centre

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB & HOLIDAY PLAYSCHMES

Spring is finally here... and we're back at the Jonathan Page Play Centre! We're busy sprucing up the centre with some lovely spring planting. Not only have we planted primroses and daffodil and tulip bulbs outside in our new colourful pots, but we also planted them in our big planters in the play area. We had a sea of colour once the first rays of sunshine came out, which cheered us all up, especially as some of us haven't seen each other for a long time due to the school closure.

Now that we're all back, the JPPC team are busy enhancing the outside play area for us, so we have even more play and development opportunities. We loved the mud kitchen they created last year and we really would like another one, so fingers crossed our wish may come true.

We also heard the team whisper something about a new creature which may make the garden its new home. We wonder what it may be?! We

will definitely let you know once we find out!

During the Easter holidays we had a brilliant time, making lots of springtime arts and crafts and playing games again with our friends. As the weather was good, we spent a lot of time outside looking for ladybirds, playing football, tennis and seeing who can go round the go-kart track in the fastest time.

We are already counting down to the summer when we can spend even more time at the centre, having lots of fun, during the Summer Playscheme, which runs from 22 July to 1 September. The team have lots of great things planned for us. Topics will be making friends, holidays, play and explore, afternoon tea, fashion and design, walk on the wild side and going back to school. Why don't you give them a ring or send them an email to find out more and see how you can join us? We always love making new



friends and showing you what a great time we have at JPPC.

We want to thank Beccy, Hannah, Fezi, Mary, Lisa and Karen for looking after us so well and for making sure we are always having a great time.

**Judith Priest – Aylesbury Town Council**

## How does your garden grow?



Would you like to be part of a fantastic & floral new fundraising initiative for Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity?

Being confined to our homes for much of the last year, we know that lots of you have turned to your gardens as a lockdown project or haven of peace and safety away from Covid-19. With restrictions relaxing would you be willing to share and show off your hard work and help raise funds for the Hospice in our season of Open Gardens?

We are looking for individuals, streets and communities to open their gardens for a day or two between May and August this summer. So whether your garden is small or large, urban or rural, traditional or modern, please get in

touch to find out more at [fundraising@fnhospice.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@fnhospice.org.uk) or call Claire on 01296 429975.

We will support you to ensure that all Open Gardens are Covid-19 secure and comply with any government restrictions in place at the time.

**Bonnie Doe, Marketing & Communications Manager  
Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity**

# Aylesbury Community Board: Working together

## Improving the Environment

Our Improving the Environment action subgroup welcomes local partners and residents with a passion for working collaboratively on a host of environmental topics. Conversations range from wildflower planting to electronic vehicle charging. Members are currently working together to develop projects which benefit our environment, and the wellbeing of our community. The subgroup meets monthly and we welcome passionate residents, community groups & local businesses to join us.

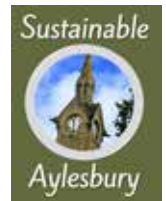
There are two new opportunities for our community to take part in projects supported by the Aylesbury Community Board:

- Wild Aylesbury Vale - a competition for residents, community groups, schools & town & parish councils to design & create a wildlife habitat based around the three main elements required to sustain wildlife: water, food and shelter. To download a competition pack and get started visit <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/events/wild-aylesbury-vale-competition/>



Community Board  
Aylesbury

- Sustainable Aylesbury's 'Sustainable Smart Swaps' helps residents to make informed choices about switching everyday items to their more sustainable alternatives. Visit <https://sustainableaylesbury.org.uk/sustainable-smart-swaps> to find out more and tell us about your swaps!

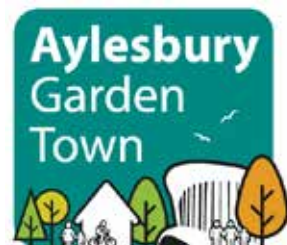


## Working with Thames Valley Police

As part of our commitment to collaborative working, we are pleased to announce our main community board meeting in partnership with Thames Valley Police on 29 June 2021. Residents will have an opportunity to learn about Aylesbury's Community Board and take part in a Q&A session with TVP representatives.



To join a meeting, email [aylesburycb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:aylesburycb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) or follow us on Facebook-@Aylesbury Community Board to keep up-to-date with all of our latest news.



The parish council is engaging with Aylesbury Garden Town project and the Gardenway project. It was Aylesbury Garden Town who purchased the bike rack at the side of the Co-op. Fairford Leys is being considered as part of the Aylesbury Gardenway walk which is part of the Aylesbury Garden Town project.

Working in partnership with Chiltern Railways, AGT commissioned artworks to help improve the station environment. The murals were designed by award-winning Bucks artists, Hatiq Mohammed, aka 'Teakster' and Dan Wilson, artists in residence at Wycombe Arts Centre and Chiltern Rangers.

## Useful Numbers

### Arriva Buses

01296 468730

### BT Fault Line

0800 800151

### Childline

0800 1111

### The Church on Fairford Leys

01296 424980

### Clerk to Coldharbour Parish Council

01296 422800

### Doctors Surgery

01296 424488

### Eastgate Dental Practice

01296 433222

### Electricity - Power loss

0800 3163105

### Fairford Leys Centre

01296 422800

### Fairford Pharmacy

01296 485050

### Gas - Emergency

0800 111999

### N.H.S. Out of hours

111

### Silver Rider - Red Rose travel

01296 747926

### Stoke Mandeville Hospital

01296 315000

### Thames Valley Police

101

### Thames Water

0800 714614

### Train Times

08457 484950

## Dates for the next full council meetings

Meetings are held at the Fairford Leys Centre at 8pm but please check the Parish Notice Board and the website to ensure that no last minute changes have been made.

• **Thur 1st July** • **Thur 2nd Sept** • **Thur 7th Oct**

There is no meeting in August [www.coldharbour-pc.gov.uk](http://www.coldharbour-pc.gov.uk)



# Photograph Competition

We recently asked you to send us your pictures of Fairford Leys for us to use on our new website. We had an amazing response and it was with great difficulty that the following 3 were chosen as winners. Many thanks to everyone who sent in their pictures; look out for them on the website in the future.

**1st The Tulips!! - Ian Morris**

**2nd The Pond!! - Michael Vaughan**

**3rd The Winter Trees - Naomi White**

