

Northloby NorthEast



News from your Parish Council

www.great-linford.gov.uk



A fresh look at local life

BLAKELANDS	BOLBECK PARK	CONNIBURROW	DOWNHEAD PARK
DOWNS BARN	GIFFARD PARK	GREAT LINFORD	NEATH HILL
PENNYLAND	REDHOUSE PARK	TONGWELL	WILLEN PARK

contacts

Below is a list of GLPC parish councillors, the wards they represent and their contact details.

Conniburrow

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Downhead Park & Willen Park

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Downs Barn

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Giffard Park & Blakelands

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Great Linford

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Neath Hill

David Stabler 01908 672599
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Pennyland & Bolbeck Park

Ray Yeates 07525 759815
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Redhouse Park

Cathy Goodman 01908 606613
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spring 2014

councillor comment

New powers for Parish Councils

Just four years ago when I joined the Parish Council its work was quite modest. We managed the allotments, commented on planning applications and worked at a very local level. In a remarkably short time all that has changed. Austerity measures mean that this year alone MK Council has had to find nearly £15m of savings. Key departments such as education, transport, planning and adult health and social care have had their budgets cut. Every resident is likely to see the impact as services are curtailed. For example, neighbourhood wardens, with powers to fine people for offences such as dog fouling, will disappear from our streets. This is why the Government is looking for Parish Councils and the voluntary sector to step in and take on more responsibility.

Nevertheless, we are still a group of volunteers and although GLPC is non party-political, and our Councillors bring a wide range of experience to their work, we must be more careful than ever to represent the needs of our 20,000 residents.

Parish Council resources are limited and no significant additional funding has been made available. Therefore, given our limited resources, we have to make a good case for taking on any new project. Certainly, we will try to find new ways to deliver services by teaming up with other parish councils or voluntary organisations. However the best way to reduce the impact of budget cuts is for you, the local community, to tell us what matters most. Please take part in the upcoming consultations on the Neighbourhood Plan (see page 7) and later on in the year for the next GLPC strategic plan. As well as shaping the future of your local area, your feedback is vital as we start setting priorities for GLPC over the next five years.



Keith Panes OBE

Chair of Great Linford Parish Council

www.great-linford.gov.uk

Parish Manager

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Front Cover:

Parish map
by Robert Rusin
Reporter: Linda Inoki

Imagine life without a park on the doorstep. Where would we go for walks with the dog, enjoying nature or kicking a ball about with friends? Thankfully the founders of Milton Keynes created a superb network of parks so that everyone lives within easy reach of fresh air. Eirwen Tagg, GLPC Parish Manager, says "In our own district we have a surprisingly rich variety with everything from lakeside to woodlands to big open spaces. It's a wonderful resource. As more people are interested in healthy exercise, Forest Schools and so on, it's really important to keep our local parks up to scratch."

The Parks Trust looks after most of MK's parkland but GLPC is also active locally, especially in the area of recreation for adults and children. While the parks at Downs Barn, Pennyland and Downhead Park have seen a lot of improvements in recent years others are showing their age. This includes the large District Park off Marsh Drive and Dragon Park, a small park in Great Linford village.



FRESH START for parish parks

Marsh Drive District Park

Tennis, football and cricket are well established at the core of Marsh Drive District Park, but the park is designed for a wide catchment area, including the growing population of Redhouse Park. GLPC held a recent workshop inviting local groups to look at the big picture.

Fresh ideas for improving the park include:

- New changing rooms and a café
- A new green for bowls or croquet
- Climbing area or outdoor gym
- Nature trail through Millennium Wood

"It was enlightening to meet different groups with similar aspirations, and comforting to know that the Parish Council want to 'add value' to this local resource," says Harry Catherall, of Great Linford Football Club (GLFC). These proposals do not involve any ideas the Parks Trust may have for their own land in the area. GLPC leases the Marsh Drive grounds from MK Council (see map) and is looking to purchase the freehold to secure its future as a community asset.

KEY TO MAP:

█ Parks Trust █ GLPC █ MK Council



Dragon Park

"Last summer residents came to us complaining about vandalism, anti-social behaviour and rusty equipment in Dragon Park," says Eirwen. "We invited everyone to a brainstorming session and had a fantastic response. Traditional swings and roundabouts proved surprisingly popular with the

little ones but teenagers had other ideas!" GLPC has already started work with MK Council's leisure department on plans for three distinctive play areas. One area offers 'Traditional' play. Another theme is 'Wild Play' centred on the magical woodland and pond. The third is for 'Urban Action' games, around the football area, with new embankments for BMX bikes, skateboards and Parkour.

"With budget cuts biting we cannot expect MK Council to fund all these improvements," says Eirwen, "so we're finding new partners and looking to local people to get more involved. Volunteers from the Green Gym have already started a clean-up operation to bring wildlife back to the pond, and GLPC has just applied for a national grant. If we succeed, we hope to completely refresh this much-loved park."

ABOVE: Precious local parkland.
Photo by Tony Bedford.

LEFT: Map of the Marsh Drive District Park showing approximate boundaries for GLPC-managed areas, MK landholdings and PT landholdings.

TAXING TIMES

By Councillor David Stabler

Local taxes reflect changing times and your Parish Council has certainly changed in recent years!

Ten years ago we employed just one clerk, who worked from home. Although we had sports grounds and four underused allotments to look after, we managed to get by. Council meetings were held in the cricket pavilion and we had just started producing a small black and white newsletter for residents.

Fast forward a decade and we have a busy office and meeting room at Neath Hill, six popular allotment sites, a Parish Ranger, website and colour magazine. We hold a five week Summer of Fun activity programme attended by hundreds of children, and throughout the year we are out and about cleaning up graffiti, litter, overgrown paths and street signs. We encourage responsible disposal of dog waste by providing dog bins and subsidise poo bags. Plus the parish is actually bigger; it now includes Redhouse Park!

To deliver this level of service to 20,000 residents we now employ three part time staff, plus Simon our Parish Ranger, complete

with van and equipment, all managed by Eirwen Tagg, our dedicated Parish Manager.

Ten years ago the precept for each household was just £14.34 a year. Most of this was spent on maintaining the High Street, Marsh Drive and Downs Barn sports grounds. Last year it was £34.04 but, considering the services we now need to provide, a rise of £20 in ten years is not excessive!

Then there is the impact of government cuts. Last year we used £58,500 from reserve funds to keep the precept lower and still managed the budget to employ a Ranger, start up a Neighbourhood Plan,

increase parish grants for community projects and prepare for the possible acquisition of community assets.

What about this year? After careful consideration, the Parish Council's net expenditure will be £292,169, up £12,734 on last year. Due to Government cuts the Local Authority grant of £26,374 is likely to be the last we get from MK Council, so we have added £23,100 to reserves to help with shortfalls in future years.

We hope you will now understand why we have had to increase the precept to £45.78 for a Band "D" property, which equates to £3.82 a month.

GLPC Precept Chart 2014/15				
	2013/14		2014/15	
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income
Operating Costs				
Office, salaries, Ranger, NbyNE and website	118,203		144,643	
Residents' Facilities Costs				
Allotments, sports grounds, dog bins, community events and street care.	54,771		80,960	
Income from hire of halls and pitches		22,528		20,334
Project Costs				
Includes Summer of Fun, Community Asset Transfer, Neighbourhood Plan and project support	128,989		63,800	
Add to reserves	nil		23,100	
Sub Total	301,963	22,528	312,503	20,334
Net Expenditure Required	279,435		292,169	
Deduct MK Council Grant	26,969		26,374	
Less transfer from Reserves	58,507		nil	
Total Precept Charged	193,959		265,793	



Summer of Fun 2014 - see back page

Get ready for all your old favourites and some new activities too in GLPC's ever popular Summer of Fun programme of school holiday events.



SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

► happily planting bulbs

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

► mindless vandalism

With MK Council and the Parks Trust undertaking major coppicing works over winter, I have been venturing where few people have trodden for many years. My target was litter and fly tipping. You can't imagine some of the horrid things that turn up.

Graffiti is another type of anti-social behaviour that gets people down, so I have been removing graffiti in Conniburrow & Downs Barn.

Sadly we have had a spate of ill-natured vandalism at four of the six parish allotment sites. On three sites vandals cut the fences to get into the allotments then smashed greenhouses, damaged sheds, tools, frames and produce. On the fourth site they smashed up two beehives, which was very cruel. This killed over 2,000 of our precious bees. They also smashed the electrics in street lighting columns and cut live wires with garden shears. Stupid and shocking behaviour! We had already replaced fences on one allotment site, as planned, but after this criminal damage we decided to bring the schedule forward.

Ranger days and tidy up days have gone well and considering the small number of volunteers we cleared large amounts of litter. It is a satisfying way to spend an hour or two and it would be great to

see more residents join in this year. It's also a good way to get to know each other. We managed to tidy up in Blakelands, Bolbeck Park, Downs Barn, Great Linford, and Pennyland.

I lost count of how many bollards I painted last year but it is well over 80. It's important to keep these bright so that cyclists know when they're approaching a junction. This is a big parish and there are more on my list, but if you know of any needing attention please contact the Parish Office.

With a few dedicated Parish Guardians we also planted a quarter of a ton of daffodil bulbs! These went into Downs Barn Boulevard and St Stephens Drive, Bolbeck Park. The Great Linford Scouts and Beavers spent the day planting on Hainault Avenue, Giffard Park. If you are passing by, we hope the spring flowers will brighten up your day.

This year we are planning more ranger days and I will be out dealing with safety issues and trying to reduce dog fouling. If you see me in my yellow jacket or unloading my freshly painted GLPC van, please come up and say hello!



By Simon Bates

TOP: Simon – the man with the van!
 ABOVE (TOP): Bulb Planting in Downs Barn.
 ABOVE: Vandals smash allotments.

Fresh views of **MILTON KEYNES**

GLPC has commissioned artist Robert Rusin to produce a fresh series of images celebrating the rich variety of our parish. The first is the colourful map on the front cover of this issue. Others, based on local landmarks, will be featured in future issues and on the website.

Interview by Linda Inoki

“We live in a visual culture,” says Robert. “When you give people a picture of a place, even somewhere they know well, they sometimes see it in a different light.” Plus, in a fast-changing world, “the images are there for the next generation.”

Like many MK residents Robert hails from overseas. “When I was a child in Warsaw I sketched in newspapers or anything I could get my hands on,” says Robert. “At Art College I was interested in fashion and magazines but hated sculptures. My teacher said ‘you’re not going to be an artist!’ I said ‘We’ll see about that!’”

Robert started work as a journalist but after Poland opened up to Europe he decided to try life in England. He was staying in Hatfield when he first heard about Milton Keynes.

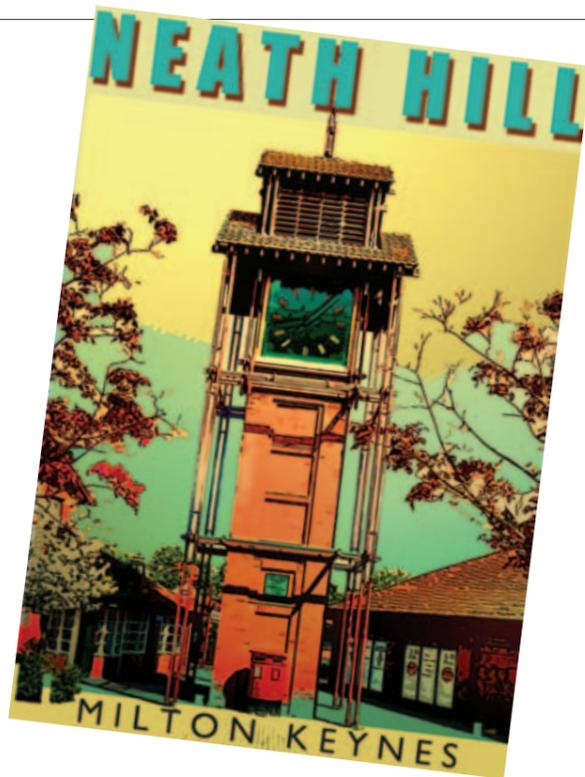
“A neighbour said ‘you should go to Milton Keynes. It’s so different!’ I did, and absolutely loved it. Within three months I was living here. My mum said ‘send me a postcard’ but I couldn’t find any I liked, so decided to make some myself.”

That was the start of a successful new enterprise; selling images of Milton Keynes to the world. Robert, or ‘Ziggy’ to his fans, has now sold 1700 posters to 24 countries; plus cards, calendars and T-shirts. Most of his international buyers have never been to MK but they are clearly attracted to his fresh perspectives of this unique city.

So far, he has produced about 500 different images of Milton Keynes. “Apart from making a living,” says Robert, “it’s a way of giving something back and saying thank-you.”

For more MK images see www.mkfive.co.uk or online print store www.zazzle.co.uk/ziggymk

TOP: one of Ziggy’s eye-catching posters © Robert Rusin



Art in the park

Great Linford offers a happy chance to discover arts and crafts in a picturesque parkland setting. Since our last report, Artworks MK has re-launched as Milton Keynes Arts Centre with a fresh, light-filled gallery in the old barn. Events can spill out onto a new terrace in the courtyard, and a small café serves treats from the Camphill bakery. “Now we have a social space and a beautiful gallery where things are really happening,” beams director Emma-Jayne Taylor.

Refreshing new courses include drawing with iPads and making comics, along with firm favourites such as pottery and life drawing. Dave Ronalds, who recently joined as Public Programme Co-ordinator, says “We’re also planning more events at weekends and in the evenings, such as music and film shows. If people find it’s an enjoyable place to meet, it will encourage more people to get involved in the arts.” Milton Keynes Arts Centre is also looking for more volunteers, so if you are interested please get in touch.

Visit www.miltonkeynesartscentre.org or phone 01908 608108



THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

*Your community,
your future, your say!*

Whether you live in an established neighbourhood such as Downs Barn, or a new one such as Redhouse Park, the one thing you can be sure of is change. Transport, shopping and leisure are just three examples where life is changing fast, and this will bring real changes to the look and feel of your neighbourhood.

In the past, residents have had little choice but to wait for developers or the local authority to come up with plans. All that changed in 2012 with the government’s new Localism agenda.

Neighbourhood Planning is a key part of Localism. It is part of a national drive to simplify the planning system and get the right balance between economic, social and environmental needs. Lots of parishes throughout the country are getting involved in Neighbourhood Planning. Why? It is a fantastic opportunity for people to shape the future on a local scale.

So where do you fit in? Perhaps you want to preserve or improve an open space or historic street scene. Or maybe you think your community needs a new transport link or sports facility?

The good news is that GLPC is ready to get the ball rolling.

Let’s begin!

The parish has now received official approval to prepare twin neighbourhood plans, which cover the whole parish. One plan will cover the area north of the H3 and the other the area to the south.

Each plan will produce a vision, aims and draft policies; the ‘house rules’ for future development. Residents will look at the way Housing, Shops, Community Centres,

Local Businesses, Transport Routes, Parks and Open Spaces could be preserved, developed or improved over the coming years.

The plans must be realistic, meet the needs of local people, and comply with MK Council’s over-arching, strategic policies for the whole of Milton Keynes.

Once adopted, the Great Linford Neighbourhood Plans will have considerable power. Developers will have to take them seriously if they start to plan new housing estates, schools and so on in the area.

Key steps in the process include:

- Steering Group set up to ensure process is fair
- GLPC issues a questionnaire to all residents
- Meetings to confirm the planning issues that local people wish to address and how they wish to see local areas developed and/or preserved over the next 15-20 years
- Produce draft plan based on agreed vision, aims and policies
- Residents give feedback on the

draft plan, which is amended where necessary

- An independent examiner checks that the plans are consistent with MK Council’s Local Plan and Core Strategy and gives the all clear
- Referendum: residents vote for or against their Neighbourhood Plan
- If a majority vote ‘yes’, the Plans will join the top tier of planning policies and guide future development in the entire parish.

Within the next few weeks you will receive a questionnaire which we urge you to fill in. To make it easy, we will be setting up special post-boxes around the parish.

Please get involved.
This is your future, your community and your say!
For more information see local posters or visit www.great-linford.gov.uk



FRESH START for Peartree Pond



Thanks to volunteers, thick waders and a tractor, new life is set to blossom at Peartree Pond. The ancient pond, along with a small woodland, lies next to the Great Linford Local Centre. It was originally rescued by local residents in the 1980's, when they persuaded the Milton Keynes Development Corporation not to fill it in but shore up the sides and install a pump. Forty years on, and it needs some serious maintenance.

"It's become so choked up with rubbish, silt and dead things it's more of a primeval soup than a pond," says Parish Councillor Ian Foskett. Left to its own devices it would turn into a marshy copse with little to offer wildlife or the community. Using GLPC funds, Ian has devised a plan to revive its fortunes in conjunction with the Peartree Pond Association, which has been caring for the pond since 1986.

The first step was to clear out dead and dying willows. "It was like going into a jungle," says Ian. "We had to cut our way in!" Chopping back brambles and hauling out excess trees has let light back into the woodland, creating a better environment for a variety of plants, insects and birds to take up residence.

The next step takes place this Spring, when water will be pumped out to temporarily lower the pond level. This will help the team reach layers of rubbish and stop the reeds in their tracks. "It's going to be a voyage of discovery," says Ian. "If anyone wants a battered traffic cone you know where to come!"

Cutting back reeds and repairing the pump will bring sunlight and vital oxygen to the water, making the pond clean and healthy once more for ducks, fish and frogs.

Inevitably, the work will disturb wildlife but the team is trying to keep this to a minimum. For example, all the cut reeds will be left on the side so that creatures can slip away, before members of the Great Linford Allotment Association take away the fertile debris for their vegetable plots.

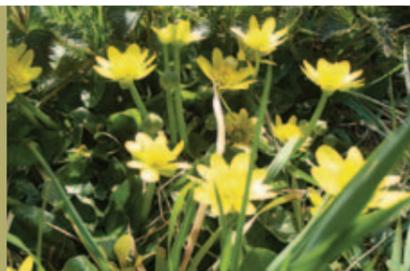
TOP LEFT & CENTRE: Step one: clear the dead wood!

RIGHT: Bad parking blocks pavements.

TOP RIGHT: Mrs Mallard. Photo by Tony Bedford.

Calling plant lovers!

If you are an experienced gardener or botanist the team would like to hear from you. They need a new planting scheme to encourage bio-diversity in the cleared woodland. Please contact the Parish Office.

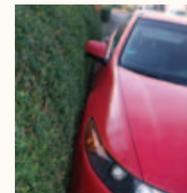


A JOLLY GOOD NAG!

Anti-social behaviour hits many people but a jolly good **NAG**, or Neighbourhood Action Group, can help. Your local NAG covers the whole of the parish and meets every month to raise problems from bad parking to drug dealing. Since the NAG brings the Police, MK Council, GLPC and residents together some problems can be dealt with quickly, but prevention is also vital.

Current projects include:

Parking



This spring we will issue a leaflet in Willen Park about the dangers of inconsiderate parking.

Dog fouling

Spraying dog poo with an eye-catching dye can cut dog fouling in half!

Bicycle thefts

Bicycle marking events will help restore stolen bikes to their owners. See back page for dates.

New members are always welcome, so why not join us next time for a friendly NAG? (Dates on back page.)

REDHOUSE PARK Ready to roll!

Work has now started on the final phase of Redhouse Park after GLPC succeeded in improving the parking arrangements. The problem was that most of the spaces were designed as tandem plots (where one car parks behind another) which inevitably leads to more on-street parking. We also calculated that there was not enough room to open a car door without hitting the house or fence, or to use the garden gate. Clearly, this would make life difficult for residents, and lead to more on-street parking endangering both road users and pedestrians.

Finally, the developer agreed to provide wider, deeper spaces, so that residents will be able to get out of their cars more easily and reach their garden gates!

Phase 4 includes 116 houses and 2-bedroom apartments, 24 of which will be affordable/shared ownership flats.

Every developer has to pay towards local infrastructure via Section 106 contributions. In this case, MK Council's Development Control Committee (DCC) approved S106 contributions of over £328,000, which is considerably less than the £525,499 considered "essential" by officers.

We asked for £20,000 to be added to the £160,000 already earmarked for community facilities, to help fund the expansion of the Marsh Drive pavilion. This seemed fair as it is the nearest sports facility for Redhouse Park residents. However MKC Leisure



TOP: New homes at Redhouse Park. Photo by David Stabler.

LEFT: Typical on-street parking problem. Photo by Simon Bates.



Services recommended that the full £180,000 should be used for their project of improving the Giffard Park Community Annex. If this does not go ahead the funds could be spent elsewhere, so we will keep an eye on progress.

We also asked for £65,660 to provide a play area, but due to insufficient S106 funding the DCC decided that the allocation of funds would be delegated to officers, in consultation with GLPC, the Ward Member and chair of the DCC.

Welcome Break plan new hotel, HQ and homes



To enable the development, up to 60 new homes will be built on the greenfield site overlooking Redhouse Lake. Despite objections MK Council's planning committee agreed to only £5,625 Section 106 funding for community facilities which will go on allotments, leaving nothing for parks, sports or community hall.

Fortunately, long before Welcome Break submitted a planning application, GLPC started working with their consultants on behalf of residents.

We are pleased that the company adopted a lot of our suggestions including:

- Houses set-back from the bridleway (similar to nearby Redhouse Park)
- Special landscaping to minimise motorway noise
- New bus and Redway connection to

be constructed early and at no cost to Council Tax payers

- Space for a new play area at no cost
- Residents may use the hotel facilities and a meeting room for community use at no cost
- Residents will be able to access the restaurants and shops in the MSA providing a convenient 24-hour 'local centre', with related job opportunities.
- Finally, the new Redway and bus route from Wolverton Road to Little Linford Lane will feature a bus-only gate to prevent vehicles from the motorway services, hotel guests and Welcome Break staff driving through Redhouse Park.

TOP: Old hotel with site for new homes behind. Photo by David Stabler.

news&views

why not send us your news & views?

We welcome your views. Please send your letters to:

POST

Parish Council Offices
10 Tower Crescent
Neath Hill Local Centre
Neath Hill
MK14 6JY

EMAIL

parish.manager@
great-linford.gov.uk

SEA CADETS MAKE WAVES

Milton Keynes might be a long way from the sea, but that doesn't stop local youngsters learning seafaring skills with the Sea Cadets. The Milton Keynes Unit won the overall Oxon & Bucks District Trophy for 2013 and was judged to be one of the best units in the national Sea Cadet Corps. With a little help from a GLPC parish grant, they recently acquired a mini-van (pictured).



ABOVE: Off to sea in a mini-bus!

Treasurer Michael Snell says "Needless to say the minibus is being well used, taking cadets to courses at RAF Halton, and at Longmoor Camp near Guildford, in Marlow. It takes them to our local boating station at Emberton Park, and has also taken them to Gosport for the Sea Cadets Southern Area 5-a-side tournament, where our unit represented the Oxon & Bucks District. The vehicle has proven a real asset, without which we would not have been able to participate in many of these events. Perhaps we can go on to win more district trophies and go forward to the National Finals."

Ten parish councils along with the Community Foundation provided the bulk of the £17,000 needed to buy the vehicle. "We purchased a 17-seat Ford Transit with just 25,000 miles on the clock - pretty well exactly what we sought funding for," says Michael. The cadets' reaction to their new transport was simple: "absolutely brilliant!"

Play baseball this summer!

A tip-top new baseball and softball diamond is set to bring a sparkle to the Milton Keynes sports scene.

The diamond is built to American standards and will be one of the best in the country. Since January 2009 Great Linford Parish Council has worked with MK Council to ensure that the £400,000 Section 106 funding from the Gyosei School playing field development was used locally to build the baseball diamond and also improve the existing football pitches at Conniburrow.



ABOVE: Step up to the plate this summer. Photo by David Stabler

After fire destroyed the Conniburrow pavilion in July 2010, throwing the future of the community facility into question, some of the unspent S106 funding was added to the insurance payments to create the large modern community centre you see today.

The diamond should be completed in May, ready for the baseball season.

GLPC will be sponsoring five evening baseball coaching sessions for boys and girls aged 12 - 16 in this year's Summer of Fun. Look out for details in next issue.

LITTLE BOOKSHOP NEWS

Since John McArthur and Anwen Lewis opened The Little Bookshop they have certainly been busy. Planting flowers, reducing litter, looking after wildlife and hosting community events in the cosy coffee shop; the Little Bookshop has cheered up Great Linford's Local Centre.

Thanks to a parish grant, a new bench and bike stand has been installed in the courtyard and John and Anwen are fund-raising for a second bike stand. "We have hundreds of brightly coloured children's cycling jackets, with '1 Less Car' printed on the back," says John. "If everyone could donate just £2 per jacket it would raise enough money to

complete the bike stands. So if you would like one, just call into the shop."

The Little Bookshop has started a monthly afternoon coffee for local carers, supported by Carers MK, which meets every third Wednesday of the month.

For more information tel: 01908 412591 or visit www.thelittlebookshop.net



ABOVE: A satisfied customer!

Leading lights

In the last ten years residents of Summerhayes in Great Linford have raised over £31,500 for Willen Hospice by "lighting up the sky" with their annual Christmas display. Last December alone they raised £4775!

Neighbours help each other decorate their houses with thousands of figures and lights and people moving away even leave their lights for the new owners.

Every year, on the first Saturday of December, around 200 residents, friends and visitors gather for a grand



switch-on while the MK Brass plays traditional carols. There is a steady stream of visitors up to New Year's Eve, who come to enjoy the atmosphere and donate a little to charity. Many people now refer to it as 'Christmas Street'.

What started out as a few strings of lights on a conifer tree over 20 years ago has turned into a major event on the MK community calendar. Well done Summerhayes!

LEST WE FORGET

Captain Ronald M Purvis
Sergeant William Hobbs
Lance Corporal Frederick T Seamarks
Private Ernest Brightman
Private Glencoe Fincham
Private Walter R H Flute
Private Walter C Riddy
Private Christopher L Sapwell
Private Harry Seamarks
Private Joseph Spriggs
Private Walter Chamberlain

A small group of friends from St Andrews Church are on a mission: to discover the stories of village life from 1914-19, please get in touch with Mr Kent on 01908 316677.

The plaque is a memorial to men from Great Linford who died in the First World War; a conflict that touched every village in Britain, and

still resonates today. "From burial records and newspaper archives we discovered, for example, that Private Christopher Sapwell died after being invalided back to Britain in 1918. His coffin was draped in the Union Jack, and attended by soldiers from Newport Pagnell," says David Kent, whose own grandfather died in the Great War.

So far, the group has found descendants of four of the men who live in Milton Keynes. If you know any of these eleven men, or have any photographs of village life from 1914-19, please get in touch with Mr Kent on 01908 316677.

The plan is to publish a booklet with proceeds going to restore the Roll of Honour, inside the church, naming men who served in the war.

BELOW: Some of the village men who survived the Great War, by Harry Bartholomew, a photographer in the High Street.



BELOW: As reported in the last issue, hosts of golden daffodils are back in Giffard Park thanks to great community spirit. Photo by Simon Bates.



and finally...

a calendar of local events to look out for

APRIL

NAG monthly meetings Monday 14 April and Monday 19 May

Problems in your neighbourhood? Why not come along to our friendly Neighbourhood Action Group and together we can help sort them out? 7.30 pm Parish Office, Neath Hill.

Bike Marking Event, Wednesday 16 April

Protect your bike this Easter. Have your bicycle permanently security marked, register it with the Bike Register website and find out how to keep your property secure with help from Thames Valley Police Officers. 10 am, Parish Office, Neath Hill.



MAY

Annual Parish Meeting

Please check website or Parish Office for date and venue

Dog Walk and Tidy Up Thursday 29 May

You don't need a dog to join in this sociable walk and litter pick. Concentrating on areas where dog fouling is a problem, we will use biodegradable paint to 'highlight' the piles. This sends out a warning to offending dog walkers that they have been noticed.

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JUNE

Waterside Festival Friday 20 – Sunday 22 June

A community celebration of live music and performance beside the scenic canal in Great Linford Manor Park.

LEFT: Neighbourly tidy-up day in Downs Barn.

JULY & AUGUST

Community Fun Day Festival Sunday 6 July

This year the eco-festival has been re-launched to include more demonstrations and displays.

Exciting performances from Paramount Parkour, Mary Drake School of Dancing, Karate club, Medical Detection Dogs, Mike's Line Dancing group and maypole dancing by Great Linford Primary School. Plus craft and food stalls, conservation groups, charity stands and a new football tournament to mark the 20th anniversary of the Great Linford Football Club.

Proceeds to the Medical Detection Dogs charity. Bring the family for a whole day of fun at the Marsh Drive sports field, Great Linford.

Summer of Fun 28 July – 29 August

A full and varied programme of events and activities for all ages throughout the Summer Holidays.

PARISH RANGER DAYS

APRIL Saturday 12 and Friday 25

MAY Friday 2, Wednesday 7 and Thursday 15

JUNE Thursday 19 and Friday 27

JULY Wednesday 9 and Thursday 24

AUGUST Wednesday 6 and 13

SEPTEMBER Wednesday 3 and Thursday 18

OCTOBER Wednesday 1 and Friday 17

NOVEMBER Wednesday 5 and Thursday 13

DECEMBER Wednesday 3 and Thursday 18

For an updated calendar of events please visit the website www.great-linford.gov.uk

don't forget...

COMMUNITY FUN DAY FESTIVAL Marsh Drive Great Linford

Sunday 6 July 2014



www.great-linford.gov.uk

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