

The Parish News

THE PARISH OF SHENLEY BROOK END & TATTENHOE



SPRING
2003

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So you want to be a Parish Councillor? (Everything you wanted to know, but were afraid to ask)!

Being a Parish Councillor is a very rewarding way to contribute to the life of the community in which we live. The work is sometimes hard, often demanding but always satisfying – both for you and the people the Parish Council serves.

However, to become a Parish Councillor, you first of all have to stand for election! The elections come around every four years, and the next Parish Council election takes place on Thursday 1st May 2003.

To stand for election on the 1st of May, you need to obtain and complete some very basic paperwork, within a certain set of dates. These are as follows:

- n **Monday 24 March 2003:** Milton Keynes Council will formally announce that the election will take place. As soon as the announcement is made, you have to obtain your papers from MKC. You do this by ringing **(01908) 252523** and they will send them to you in the post. You will receive, amongst other things, the following:
 - c *A form to say that you consent to standing as a candidate in the Parish Council Elections.*
 - c *An Election Nomination form. This is the important one! You have to get two people who live in the Parish to sign your nomination form, to say that they consent to you standing as a Parish Councillor! These must be any two people, over the age of eighteen (18) and who are on the electoral register as living in the parish. You can ask your partner, your next door neighbour – in fact anybody who you know and who has an address in the parish.*
 - c *Various other forms, to help you and guide you through the process.*
- n **Tuesday 1 April 2003:** By 12.00 on this day, you must have completed your forms and returned them to Milton Keynes Council. The elections office will not be allowed by law to permit you to stand as a candidate if your papers are received after noon on Monday 1 April 2003. People have been disappointed because their papers were received on the right day but after 12.00!
- n **Thursday 3 April 2003:** On this day, MKC publish a complete list of all those people who have been brave enough to put their names forward as candidates to be Parish Councillors! You can see your name 'up in lights' in the foyer at the Civic Offices!
- n **Wednesday 23 April 2003:** This is the date when MKC put up reminders about the forthcoming election on notice boards and lampposts, in and around the parish. The notices carry all the names of those who are standing in the election on Thursday 1 May 2003.
- n **Thursday 1 May 2003:** The day of the election! The polling stations are open from 08.00am to 09.00pm – so do not forget to put an 'X' against your name on the ballot paper! Every vote counts – including your own! (See pages 6-7 for where to vote)

Obviously, if you want any help, the current members of the Parish Council will be only too happy to give you whatever advice you need. Also, of course, the elections office, on **(01908) 252523** is always there to call upon.

You can, if you wish, print and deliver leaflets to announce that you are standing and to help your campaign to be elected as a Parish Councillor. However, there are strict rules about how much you can spend on campaigning and literature – one of the forms you receive will give you all the information that you need about expenditure.

Finally, if you do spend any money in your bid to become a Parish Councillor, you have to complete yet more forms, which must be returned to MKC by no later than 5.00pm on Friday 6 June 2003.

This may look a little daunting, but it is really all very simple and quite easy – you will be surprised as to just how quickly the time flies by and the election day arrives! Good luck, and may you spend many happy years as a Parish Councillor!

Some of the items that our Parish Council can influence

For a full list and other details see

www.nalc.gov.uk or www.buckscc.gov.uk/about/parishes.htm

- c Allotments
- c Burial grounds, cemeteries and crematoria
- c Bus Shelters
- c Clocks
- c Commons and common pastures
- c Community centres
- c Education – appoint school governors
- c Litter Bins (provision of)
- c Dog Waste Bins (provision of)
- c Mortuaries and post mortem rooms
- c Open spaces – obtain and maintain
- c Town planning – right to be consulted
- c Transport
- c War memorials

Remember – the elections for the Parish Council take place on **Thursday 1st May 2003!**

SHENLEY BROOK END – TATTENHOE – FURZTON –
SHENLEY LODGE

Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Councillors and Officers are:



George Boston
Planning & Environment Committee; Policy & Finance Committee



Joanna Hall
Youth & Community Committee



Dawn Pobjoy
Youth & Community Committee



Eric Cooper
Chair, Planning & Environment Committee; Policy & Finance Committee



John Napper
Planning & Environment Committee



Lucy Sandikyan
Planning & Environment Committee



Chris Gallacher
Clerk (01908) 521538



Jeffrey Parmenter
Planning & Environment Committee



Alex Swanson
Planning & Environment Committee; Accounts Sautineer



Paul Griffiths
Youth & Community Committee



David Pickard
Chair, Parish Council; Chair, Youth & Community Committee; Policy & Finance Committee



Chris Williams
Vice-chair, Parish Council; Youth & Community Committee

To contribute to **The Parish News**, please write to:
The Clerk, Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council, P O Box 7058, Milton Keynes MK13 7YJ
or you can now e-mail us at: theparishnews@yahoo.co.uk
Visit our website at www.shenleybrookendpc.gov.net

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings of the full Parish Council are held each month commencing at 7pm.
Meetings are usually held at Shenley Brook End Village Hall

March 27th April 24th May 15th

Youth & Community Committee

Meetings of the Youth & Community Committee are held each month commencing at 7.30pm. Meetings are usually held at Shenley Brook End Village Hall. Please note that due to the May elections, a new committee will be formed to meet in June.

March 20th April 17th No May Meeting

Planning & Environment Committee

Meetings of the Planning & Environment Committee are held month commencing at 7pm. Meetings are usually held at the Ridgeway Centre, Furzton. Please note that due to the May elections, a new committee will be formed to meet in June.

March 13th April 10th No May Meeting

Members of the public are welcome at any of these meetings.
If you wish to attend, you can just turn up but it is a good idea to contact the clerk on **01908 521538** beforehand to make sure that there have not been any changes to the date and/or venue since going to press.

Milton Keynes Council councillors for the parish of Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe:

- Stuart Burke** (LIB DEM)
- Rosemary Drewett** (LIB DEM)
- Martin Snell** (LIB DEM)
 - Emerson Valley (Emerson Valley, Kingsmead, Shenley Brook End, Tattenhoe, Westcroft)
- Jayne Carrington** (LIB DEM)
- Chris Williams** (LIB DEM)
 - Furzton (Furzton, Shenley Lodge)

Member of Parliament for Milton Keynes Southwest:

Dr Phyllis Starkey MP (LABOUR)

Community Information Centre:

Community Information Centre, Central Library
Tel: 01908 254055

The Parish News is published by the Parish Council of Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe.

Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council:
PO Box 7058,
Milton Keynes
MK13 7YJ
Tel: 01908 521538

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Newsletter & Website team:
E. Cooper,
J. Napper,
D. Pickard.

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Parish Councillor Profile

– Get to know a little about one of your representatives

Paul Griffiths

Hello, my name is Paul and I live in Shenley Lodge with my wife Nicci, a freelance marketing consultant, and daughter Phoebe who attends Shenley Brook End School. We moved to Shenley Lodge seven years ago from Neath Hill; Nicci and I having moved to Milton Keynes from London in 1986. My connections with Milton Keynes though go back to when I was a child and lived in Fenny Stratford.

I originally moved to MK to take a job as press officer with Milton Keynes Development Corporation. Although MKDC closed in 1992 I continued promoting MK nationally and internationally with Milton Keynes Marketing Ltd, the Commission for the New Towns and now with English Partnerships.

I really do believe that Milton Keynes is a great place to live and work - but this hasn't happened by accident. A lot of people have worked very hard to make Milton Keynes the place it is today. That's not to say that everything is perfect - far from it. Here in the Parish we can see a deterioration in our environment, with more litter and graffiti; a lack of facilities for young people, who end up hanging around local centres; a growing shortage of school places for the families moving into the new housing areas.

I have joined the Parish Council because I want to try to do something to deal with these and other issues facing our community today. The Parish Council currently raises money through the parish precept that is spent on improving the local environment, supporting local community groups and contributing to joint projects with, for example, Thames Valley Police - such as the Youth Music Project and sponsoring a car for local police to patrol the area.

The Parish Council is refreshingly non-party political. Everyone lives locally and wants to look for practical solutions to the problems facing our community. In addition to attending Parish Council meetings I am also a member of the Youth & Community Committee. You can contact me, or any other member of the Parish Council, by phone or e-mail via the Parish Clerk. Please do contact us and tell us about any concerns you have that you think we could help with, or to tell us about the things you like in your part of the Parish that others might like to see in their area.

Paul Griffiths

Learn to Roller Skate

Here is a chance for all adults and children to be active and fit

**Lessons are held every Saturday morning
9.30am - 10.30am at Woughton Centre**

**Also every Tuesday afternoon
4.30pm - 5.30pm at Bletchley Leisure Centre**

Why not come along and enjoy the fun of skating in a safe environment with skilled and experienced instructors

*Don't worry if you have not got your own skates,
we have all sizes available at no extra cost*

**For more details telephone
David White on 01908 501310**

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE PARISH NEWS

The Parish News is published four times a year and distributed to every home in Shenley Brook End, Tattenhoe, Furzton, Shenley Lodge, Emerson Valley, Westcroft, Tattenhoe Park and Kingsmead.

This makes it a unique local advertising medium ideal to publicise your local business.

*For details, contact the Clerk now on 01908 521538
or e-mail theparishnews@yahoo.co.uk*

Final copy date for the Summer issue is May 9, 2003



Milton Keynes Councillor Report

Councillor Martin Snell introduces himself.

My name is Martin Snell and I moved to Milton Keynes in 1992. I finally settled in Tattenhoe, where I have lived since 1997.

Born in Plymouth in 1958, I lived the first part of my life in the West Country (i.e. Devon, Cornwall and Dorset). I joined the Civil Service in 1979 after a short spell in catering and have worked in London and Bristol before coming here.

I have been interested in politics since I was fourteen (delivering leaflets in Saltash, Cornwall for Paul Tyler, MP) and whilst I didn't join a political party until I settled here, in Milton Keynes, I have always believed in the inclusive policies that are basic principles of the Liberal Democrat Party and have always voted for them.

In 1998 you elected Stuart Burke as one of your local representatives. It was he who asked Rosemary and myself to consider standing this time around. It was about time, I thought to myself, that I stood up and be counted and try to put something back into the society of which I was a member. Thanks to you I was elected. I can only hope that I do not disappoint you or betray the trust that you have put in me.

I currently serve on the Treasury Overview and Development Control Committees and am a Council Representative on the Milton Keynes Race Equality Council. I am also a School Governor on the new Giles Brook School in Tattenhoe, which is scheduled to be opened in September of this year.

Since taking over the Council the Liberal Democrat Administration has had a number challenging decisions to make. We have not shirked from that responsibility. We have achieved a lot in a short time, e.g. obtaining new money from Central Government for the building of new schools on the east and west flanks (of which Giles Brook School is one), re-introducing a weekly doorstep re-cycling collection service, introducing a pick-up service for unwanted cars (thereby reducing the need for owners to "dump" them) and creating a graffiti-busting unit which is gradually tackling the unsightly messes around our city. This is just the beginning for we intend to do a lot more.

When I have time, my other interests include reading and music, cinema, theatre, and needlework (yes, you do read that correctly). I am also on the stewarding roster at the church I attend.

Stuart, Rosemary and myself are always ready to hear from you and will continue to do what we can to help. Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to do so.

Martin Snell

Peaceful Posies

*Weekly Fresh Flower
Delivery service to your
Loved One's Resting Place*

*Fresh flower delivery service
to cemeteries and crematoria weekly
£7.00 per posy.*

*Grave tending, headstone cleaning,
weeding & bulb planting.*

*Areas covered: Milton Keynes, Luton,
Bedford, Bicester, Buckingham, Dunstable,
Northampton & surrounding areas.*

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***For all your Building
and Maintenance Needs***

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of Residential Properties**

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CARPENTRY ~ TILING ~
PLASTERING ~ BRICKLAYING***

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Freedom of Information

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Parish Council makes available to public scrutiny the following documents:

Council Internal Practice & Procedures

- c Minutes of council, committee and sub-committee meetings
- c Procedural Standing Orders
- c Annual report to the Parish Meeting
- c Agendas for immediately forthcoming meetings

Code of Conduct

- c Members Declarations of Acceptance of Office
- c Members Register of Interests
- c Register of Members Interests Book

Periodic Electoral Review

- c Information relating to the last Periodic Electoral Review of the Council area
- c Information relating to the latest boundary review of the council area

Employment Practice & Procedure

- c Terms & Conditions of Employment
- c Job descriptions

Planning Documents

- c Responses to planning applications

Audit & Accounts

- c Annual Return Form
- c Annual Statutory Report by external and internal auditors
- c Receipt/payment books and bank statements for all accounts
- c Precept request
- c VAT records
- c Asset Register

These documents may be inspected at the parish office, and copies may be taken without charge, at any reasonable time within office hours, by appointment with the clerk at the address below. We will also be happy to provide copies by post, free of charge for reasonable volumes, although a charge may be made for large quantities. Where possible, or appropriate, information will also be carried on our notice boards, in our newsletter and on our website at:

www.shenleybrookend-pc.gov.uk

Free Play Project

The successful Summer scheme will continue in 2003, expanded to include the Easter holidays

We ran a play scheme for youngsters during the summer holidays last year, which proved very popular with all the children (and parents) who attended.

The scheme will be running again this summer and full details will be advised in our June issue.

Meantime, we are running two sessions during the Easter holidays, on the following dates:

17 April on Shenley Brook End Village Green

24 April at Emerson Valley District Park

10.30am to 12.30pm

This is open to all children aged 4-14 and there will be a range of activities. Parents are welcome to accompany their children, but Milton Keynes Play Association will provide supervisors.

The sessions are **FREE**, just come along and join in the fun!

Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council Budget 2003/4

At its January meeting, the Parish Council set a budget of £114,388 for the financial year 2003/4, and fixed the precept at £15 per Band D household. This increase on the previous year reflects the growing responsibility being taken by the Council. Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe is the largest parish geographically, and will soon become the largest in population, with well over 20,000 inhabitants. More of the work needed to cater for the needs of this population is being passed to the Parish Council. Even at the new level, however, our precept is less than the precept set last year by no less than 27 of the other parishes in the Borough, most of which are far smaller.

Of the total budget, more than £65,000 is allocated directly to funding of community projects, schemes and grants. Projects being undertaken in the coming year will include:

- c Mobile sound project on 2 nights per week for youngsters
- c Youth drop in project 2 nights per week at Coldharbour Centre
- c Summer Play Scheme at 2 locations
- c Traffic Calming in Shenley Lodge
- c Water management at Shenley Brook End
- c New allotments and maintenance of the existing sites
- c Sponsorship of a car for use by our beat police officers
- c Increased provision of dog waste bins
- c Support for local schools and other organisations

The cost of landscaping will again appear as a 'Special Expense' on your Council Tax bill.

Full details of the budget can be found on our website at www.shenleybrookend-pc.gov.uk



Dog Waste Bins

Additional bins are here at last!

Milton Keynes Council have finally begun installing the dog waste bins ordered last year and eagerly awaited by so many pet owners. Some of the bins may need to be resited, but

they will not be moved far from the planned locations at:

- Shenley Lodge –** Edison Square
(entrance to the park)
Paxton Crescent
(opp Hansen Croft)
- Shenley Brook End –** Garthwaite Crescent
(opp Tacknell Drive)
- Furzton –** Viewing Point near Premier Lodge Hotel
Parkside
(by entrance to the linear park along the brook)
Kingsbridge/Countisbury
(by entrance to the linear park along the brook)
- Emerson Valley –** Bowland Drive
(entrance to district park opposite Winfold Lane)
Wolfscote Lane
(on redway near Alstonfield and Beresford Close)
- Tattenhoe –** Chaffron Way
(by the car park at Howe Park Wood)
Hengistbury Lane
(on redway near Oldcastle Croft)

Dog mess is one of the greatest causes of complaint to the Council and we plan to install more bins in the coming months. You can help by suggesting locations for the next supply of bins. Contact the clerk at the usual address (See Page 2).

PET~CARE~MK

THE CARING PROFESSIONAL HOME VISITING SERVICE

- * FULLY INSURED
- * REFERENCES
- * POLICE CHECKED
- * PET FIRST AID
- * FREE CONSULTATION VISIT

CAT MAID



Home visits for contented cats and to help house security with curtain closing, post removal etc. Garden care for hot weather.

DOG CARE

Is your dog getting enough? Exercise promotes physical & mental health. Walking or visits to feed and play.



PET HOTEL



For small pets such as guinea-pigs and rabbits. Secure inside or outside hutches

* SPECIAL VISIT RATES FOR MK3 MK4 MK5 MK8

ANIMAL LOVER WITH 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN PET CARE FROM HAMSTERS TO HORSES

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Mobile: 07961 889191

MRS H ACFORD, 93 LYNMOUTH CRESCENT, FURZTON LAKE, MK4 1JP

S. W. A. S. P.

Daily After School Child Care

3.00pm - 6.00pm during term times

At Monkston, Westcroft, Two Mile Ash, Wolverton, Bradville, Great Linford, Olney, Giffard Park & West Bletchley
Pick-up service available from other schools

Holiday Playscheme

All School Holidays Catered for

Age range 4-12 years

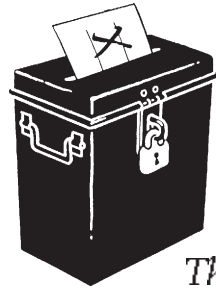
Full and part time places available

8.30am - 6.00pm

8.30am - 1.00pm 1.00pm - 6.00pm

Registered with Social Services and Insured

Phone Sue – MK 314022



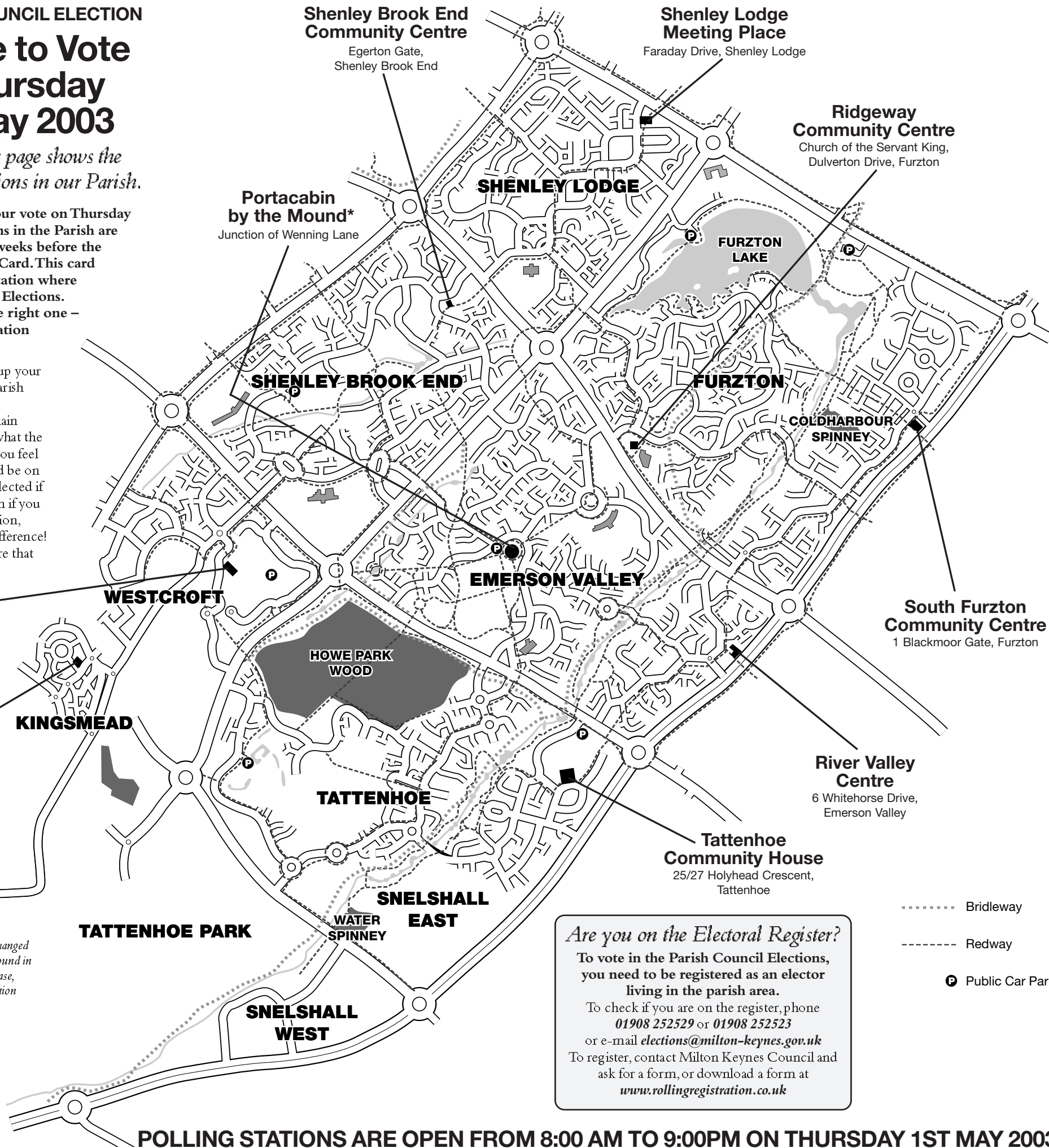
PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

Where to Vote on Thursday 1st May 2003

The map on this page shows the location all of the polling stations in our Parish.

If you are not sure where to cast your vote on Thursday 1st May 2003, all the Polling Stations in the Parish are indicated on this map. About two weeks before the election, you will receive a Polling Card. This card tells you the name of the Polling Station where you can vote in the Parish Council Elections. Please make sure that you go to the right one – you can only vote at the Polling Station indicated on your card.

Remember, if you don't vote, you give up your right to influence who will be on the Parish Council and how our Parish is run. You will also forfeit your right to complain about the people who get elected and what the Parish Council does! Also, of course, if you feel that there are certain people who should be on our Parish Council, they will only get elected if you cast your vote! You should vote even if you feel the result may be a forgone conclusion, because your vote could make all the difference! So, on Thursday 1st May 2003, make sure that YOU go out and vote!



Are you on the Electoral Register?
 To vote in the Parish Council Elections, you need to be registered as an elector living in the parish area.
 To check if you are on the register, phone 01908 252529 or 01908 252523 or e-mail elections@milton-keynes.gov.uk
 To register, contact Milton Keynes Council and ask for a form, or download a form at www.rollingregistration.co.uk

Westcroft Meeting Place
 Wimborne Crescent, Westcroft

Kingsmead Community House
 37 Picton Street, Kingsmead

Portacabin by the Mound*
 Junction of Wenning Lane

Shenley Brook End Community Centre
 Egerton Gate, Shenley Brook End

Shenley Lodge Meeting Place
 Faraday Drive, Shenley Lodge

Ridgeway Community Centre
 Church of the Servant King, Dulverton Drive, Furzton

South Furzton Community Centre
 1 Blackmoor Gate, Furzton

River Valley Centre
 6 Whitehorse Drive, Emerson Valley

Tattenhoe Community House
 25/27 Holyhead Crescent, Tattenhoe

* Wenning Lane portacabin: This temporary location may be changed if a more suitable location can be found in Emerson Valley North, in which case, electors in the area will receive location maps of their new Polling Station.

For further information, or if you have any queries, please telephone the clerk on 01908 521538

POLLING STATIONS ARE OPEN FROM 8:00 AM TO 9:00PM ON THURSDAY 1ST MAY 2003

The Parish of Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe

At present the parish council is not divided into wards but this will change in May when the same wards used for Milton Keynes Unitary Council will apply. Existing parish councillors will be divided as below.

In order to hold an election in which you actually get to vote, we require more candidates in both wards (see Page 1 for details of how to apply to be a candidate).

It follows that there may be a parish council election in one ward but not the other, depending on the number of candidates in each ward. If there are insufficient candidates in a ward, all candidates will be automatically elected unopposed.

Don't forget that there will also be a council election on the same day with one seat in each ward coming up for re-election so do exercise your vote even if there is no parish council election.

Listed below are all the councillors and parish councillors who represent the residents of the parish of Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe at the time of going to press, shown by ward. The next issue of **The Parish News** will show the revised lists after the elections.

Furzton Ward
 (Furzton, Shenley Lodge)

Unitary Councillors	Parish Councillors
Jayne Carrington	George Boston
Chris Williams	Paul Griffiths
	Jeffrey Parmenter
	Alex Swanson
	Chris Williams
	One Vacancy

Emerson Valley Ward
 (Shenley Brook End, Westcroft, Emerson Valley, Kingsmead, Tattenhoe, Tattenhoe Park)

Unitary Councillors	Parish Councillors
Stuart Burke	Eric Cooper
Rosemary Drewett	Joanna Hall
Martin Snell	John Napper
	David Pickard
	Dawn Pobjoy
	Lucy Sandikyan
	One Vacancy

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

The National Childbirth Trust is Europe's largest pregnancy, childbirth and early parenting charity with around 40,000 members, helping at least 500,000 parents and parents-to-be every year. The charity wants all parents to have an experience of pregnancy, birth and early parenthood that enriches their lives and gives them confidence in being a parent. It offers information and support in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood to all parents to give them the opportunity to make informed decisions and also campaigns for improved maternity care and better services and facilities for all new parents.

Locally Milton Keynes branch of the National Childbirth Trust is very active, providing a range of services to support pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood (or childcare!) in the city and surrounding villages. We have coffee groups running in every area of the city, including a group at Centrecom, CMK (Friday 2 to 3.30) ideal for those who prefer a neutral location, use public transport, or just live in CMK. Call **639863** for details.

Breastfeeding support is available through our local counsellor **Sarah** on **504849** and also our national helpline **0870 444 8708**. We also hold two Nearly New Sales of quality nearly new maternity, baby and young children's clothes, nursery equipment, books and toys each year. These sales offer a valuable opportunity for parents (including expectant ones) to purchase baby and child related items at a fraction of the cost of new, with the reassurance that the items are of good quality. Parents who have items that they no longer require are able to sell them and the NCT receives a commission from the sale of the goods. The next sale will be at Lovatt Hall, Silver St, Newport Pagnell on Saturday 5th April 2003 from 1-2.30pm. Admission is 50p per adult and a supervised buggy park is available as buggies are not allowed into the hall for safety reasons. Call **Bev** if you would like more details or to register to sell (**569097**) or email mmsmag@richardsonmk.plus.com. Members and non-members alike are welcome to use all our services including buying and selling at the Nearly New Sales.

The National Childbirth Trust Milton Keynes Branch

NEARLY NEW SALE

Babies' & children's clothes, toys,
nursery equipment and maternity wear

Saturday 5th April 2003

Lovatt Hall, Silver Street, Newport Pagnell

1.00pm – 2.30pm

Admission: 50p per adult

For more information on selling or buying
please contact Justine (MK 582050) or Bev (MK 569097)

Payment for sale goods is by cash or cheque only.

Please note: for safety reasons pushchairs & wheelchairs cannot be taken into the hall;
however, a free, supervised "buggy park" is available throughout the sale.

Disabled access before 1.00pm can be arranged by phoning the organisers on the above numbers.

The National Childbirth Trust (NCT) offers information and support in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood. We aim to give every parent the chance to make informed choices. We try to make sure that our services, activities and membership are fully accessible to everyone.

Registered No. 237053 (England) c Registered Office: Alexandra House, Oldham Terrace. London W3 6NH c Registered Charity No. 801395

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Pegasus Photographic is committed to producing quality, affordable portraits, tailored to our customers requirements faster than any traditional photographer and in the comfort of your own home.

Events

We use state-of-the-art equipment to produce on demand prints for our customers. We believe that with our speed and professionalism you can be confident of a successful event whatever the venue. Pegasus can cater for any function inside or outside.

Slimming

WORLD

**No Humiliation
Total Confidentiality**

TUESDAY EVENINGS

5.45pm & 7.30pm

Loughton Memorial Hall,
Bradwell Road, LOUGHTON

Tel. Ann MK 505943

£3.75 Weekly – HALF PRICE MEMBERSHIP £5

Lose Weight, Feel Great!

Men & Women Welcome

Parks Trust Report



*Ruth Townsend our Area
Ranger, tells us what's going
on in the Parish Parks this Spring*

Thank you to everybody who has sent in the Howe Park Wood Survey forms, the information is proving to be very useful. We will let you know the results of the survey in the next issue. The draw for the digital camera will have taken place at the end of February when you read this and the winner will have been notified by telephone. If anybody has any issues they wish to raise about the woodland, or indeed, any of our other sites then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Our events for April 2003 until March 2004 are currently being confirmed and the main events leaflet should be available from March onwards, along with our leaflets for cycle rides and Pushchairs in the Park. The following events leaflets are already available: Parks and Run; Working for Wildlife; Women's Walking Network. If you would like us to send you any of these then let us know your address and we will pop them in the post. Some of the events already confirmed are:

Thursday 3rd April

10am to 12 Noon Women's Walking Network – Spring Woodland walk Meet at car park off H7, opposite Westcroft District Centre

Sunday 20th April

2pm to 4pm Spring Into Howe Park Wood – a walk looking at spring flowers and history of the woodland Meet at car park off H7, opposite Westcroft District Centre

Weds 23rd April

10.30am to 3.30pm Pond Planting – Furzton Lake. Planting a newly dug pond Park in Pavilion car park off Lynmouth crescent and follow signs to pond.

Sunday 5th May

6.00am to 7.30am Dawn Chorus – RSPB and Park Ranger listening for the early morning sounds of the wood Meet at car park off H7, opposite Westcroft District Centre Sunday 13th July Pond dipping platforms – Howe Park Wood. Help make the pond safer for school children. Meet at car park off H7, opposite Westcroft District Centre

If there is anybody out there with some time on their hands or who walks their dog regularly, then you could be just what we are looking for. There is always room within the Parks Trust for some more volunteers.

Rover Rangers are people who regularly walk a local park (with or without a dog) and help the rangers by checking bridges, safety signs and car parks for damage, dumping etc. We give you some training on what to look out for and a guide to the site showing where all the things to check are.

Voluntary Rangers work for half a day or more per week and carry out more detailed checks on our sites. They are issued with a uniform and also help out at events, school visits etc.

Practical tasks are run one Sunday and one Wednesday every month on sites across Milton Keynes, so if you want to get fit and help wildlife this may be the opportunity for you.

For more information on volunteering opportunities contact Pete Blyth on 01908 233600.

Ruth Townsend

Area Park Ranger. Tel: 01908 233600

E-Mail rtownsend@mkparks.co.uk

Community Centres in the Parish of Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe

- Emerson Valley -

River Valley Centre

Whitehorse Drive, Emerson Valley.

Telephone for bookings: Call Lyn on 01908 367329

Regular Users of the Centre

*Weightwatchers • Playgroup • Parent and Toddler
Guides • Brownies • Dancing Classes • Youth Club
Church Meeting on Sundays.*

*Christian Fellowship (Thursday mornings)
MK Synagogue (alternate Fri/Sat)*

- North Furzton -

Ridgeway Community Centre

Dulverton Drive, North Furzton.

Telephone for bookings:

Call Mrs Luxon on 01908 503974

Regular Users of the Centre

*Over 60s Keep Fit • Tae Kwondo
Rosemary Conley Fitness & Diet
Beavers, Cubs & Brownies
Tutti-Frutti Pre-school • Mothers & Toddlers
Square Dancing • Geological Society
Maths & English Clubs
Keyne Crafters • Naiken System*

- South Furzton -

South Furzton Community Centre

Blackmoor Gate, Furzton.

Telephone for bookings: 01908 253632

Regular Users of the Centre

*Brownies • Scouts • Rainbows
Mums & Tots • Pre-school
Fitness & Self-defence
Slimming Club • Aerobics • Nifty 60s*

- Shenley Brook End -

Shenley Brook End Community Centre

Egerton Gate, Shenley Brook End.

Telephone for bookings:

Call Lyn on 01908 367329

Regular Users of the Centre

*Puddles Pre-School • Ballroom and Latin Dance Classes
Children's Dance Classes • Karate for Children
Karate for Children • Fusion after school club*

Milton Keynes Society of Artists



Are you an artist? Come along to Westcroft

As Membership Secretary of Milton Keynes Society of Artists who meet regularly at the Westcroft Centre, I would like to give you some news about our activities.

We meet every last Wednesday evening at the Centre and have regular demonstrations, talks and painting workshops. We also hold exhibitions in local halls and have encouraged members to show their work. We welcome visitors and members to come along and see what we have to offer. We are a friendly club and would like to have a higher profile in the area. If anyone knows a hall which is available for hire on a Saturday and Sunday locally (*the Westcroft Centre is regularly booked on Sundays*) we would like to hold an exhibition in the parish so local people can see what we do. We have a wide range of skills and a great variety of media used by our members.

Anyone who is interested in joining or just coming along can contact me on **Milton Keynes 521964** or e-mail me at celia@clara.net for more information.

You can also visit our website at www.mksa.org.uk where a selection of work from some of our members can be viewed (*in full glorious colour*). A few are shown here but, of course, the reproduction process used for **The Parish News** cannot do them justice. You will also find an application form which can be printed out if you wish to join Milton Keynes Society of Artists.

Celia Keech



A silk painting by Celia Keech

Peter Bowtell's Conte Crayon drawing of a Yugoslavian Village



"The Potter", an oil painting by Jim Hall



Tony Dyson's oil painting "Oto" which depicts one of Milton Keynes well known landmarks



Can the Parish Council help you?

Grants are available to help local organisations – don't be afraid to ask!

If you have read the article at the top of page 5 concerning the Parish Council budget, you will be aware that a large proportion of the Parish Council's funds is reserved for use as grants to local organisations.

Any group, society, playgroup, school or charitable organisation in the Parish, or benefiting residents of the parish, can apply for a grant from the Parish Council. Provided that it can be shown that the grant will be put to good use, we are only too happy to help. Obviously you stand a better chance of having your application accepted if it is for a relatively small sum. However, if a large amount of money needs to be raised we would probably be prepared to make a contribution if we were satisfied that it would benefit people in the Parish. You never know what you might get if you don't ask.

We will also provide space in **The Parish News** to publicise the work of organisations that receive grants. We can include an article for any organisation that benefits the community irrespective of grant applications. The Parish Council is only too willing to publicise anything that helps local residents so let us know about it.

Policing in the Parish

More Police Officers and Less Crime

Police manning levels are increasing in the parish, with one full time officer (PC Hyles) and two part time (PC Hughes and PC James). Sgt. Serle controls schools liaison, while Sgt. Williams is in overall charge of operations in the sector, working under Insp. Everitt.

The music project, jointly funded by Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council and West Bletchley Council, has proven very popular. Begun late last year, it is almost a victim of its own success. Up to 60 youngsters attend at Derwent Drive and about 35 at Furzton sports pavilion, which is a smaller venue. Staffing levels have been problematical, especially at Derwent Drive, but problems with youngsters have been few. A range of activities is offered, including dance lessons and there is the possibility of creating a band to play at MK Bowl during the summer. There are also informal discussions and education on drugs, health etc.

A small minority uses both centres, but most are local to the venue they attend. An extra evening per week in both parishes can easily be accommodated on the numbers wishing to attend. In our parish, it would help to have a venue to draw youngsters from the Cressey Avenue area.

Crime figures for the parish are down, especially burglary and criminal damage. The former may be due to changes in the pattern of criminals or to increased security awareness by the public as a result of recent campaigns. The mobile sound project seems to be having an effect on numbers of youths committing criminal damage, while the alcohol designation order in Furzton Local Park seems to have had a good effect with alcohol consumption and related incidents down. Although the area is still littered, this appears to be from lack of cleaning by MKC in recent weeks.

There is more highly visible police activity and they have also been using mountain bikes in and around the parish. The car sponsored by the Parish Council is seen as being of great assistance to Area Beat officers.

Sgt Williams will focus on projects to help the elderly in the coming year.

The Annual Parish Meeting

You are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting

at

Shenley Brook End Village Hall

and have your say

at 7pm

on Thursday April 24, 2003.

This is your opportunity to question the Parish Council about anything that concerns you in the Parish.

There is no set agenda for this meeting so you can ask anything you like.

If you've got a gripe, this is your chance to voice it.

The chances are that the reason nothing has been done about something is because the Parish Council has not been made aware of it so come along and tell us.

If you just want to know more about what the Parish Council does, come along and ask.

Shenley Brook End Fete

**Every Year We Need
50-70 Volunteers!**

Can You Make a Cup of Tea?

Can You Do Face Painting?

Can You Man (or Woman) a Stall?

Can You Help On The Tractor Run?

Can You Put Up A Gazebo?

If You Can, We Need Your Help.

If you can help or want more information please contact Fran or Peter on MK 505093 Or visit www.shenleybrookend.net

**Fete Date Saturday 12th July
Tractor Run Date Sunday 6th July**