

LITTLE MARLOW  
PARISH COUNCIL



YOUR COUNCIL FOR YOUR AREA

NEWSLETTER NO: 30

AUTUMN 2015



Dear Little Marlow Resident,

Welcome to a bumper edition of the Parish Newsletter! I hope that you will all find something of interest among the wide range of local issues covered.

This is my first letter to you and I have to admit that it is with some trepidation that I am putting pen to paper. I am conscious that I have to live up to the high standard set by Dallas Banfield, who retired from the Parish Council in May having spent the last 23 years as its Chairman.

Since the last newsletter we have sadly had to say farewell to three Councillors but I am delighted to say that we have also welcomed three new Councillors. Have a look at their profiles. Like our other Councillors, they are all motivated by the desire to serve the Little Marlow community. And we all want to do this to the best of our ability, hence our decision to apply for the Quality Award in the new Local Council Award Scheme. This has involved quite a bit of extra work, particularly by our Clerk, in order to ensure we meet all the requirements. We hope you will notice the improvements we are trying to make especially in terms of communication, consultation, transparency and looking after the parish's assets! That is not to say that we do not already have a good story to tell as you will see from the articles on playground improvements, the Best Kept Village, the restoration of the war memorial, the cemetery, devolved services and road safety.

If you have ever wondered what the Council's role is in relation to planning, I commend Geoff Fitchew's planning report to you. As Geoff points out, the Parish Council does not have the final say on planning applications, this rests with WDC, but the Council can influence the decision by feeding in its comments to WDC. At its next meeting on 20 October, the Parish Council will be discussing the planning application for a solar farm to be established on the area of land next to the Athletics Track. The article on the solar farm gives details of how you can ensure your views are taken into account.

At that same meeting, we will also be starting our discussions on next year's budget. This affects you all so please come along and let us have your views. We would very much welcome it if more parishioners came along to our meetings. Dates are on the last page. I look forward to seeing you!

*Valerie Brownridge*

## **A New Term of office....**

The Parish Council elections were held on the same day as the General Election on the 7<sup>th</sup> May. It was with a feeling of disappointment that for the first time in a very long time, Little Marlow Parish Council had an uncontested election and did not have a full complement of Councillors.

Sadly we saw the retirement of Cllr Dallas Banfield (26 years), Cllr Barbara Wallis (28 years) and Cllr Ruby Taylor (8 years). These Councillors will be sadly missed as they had represented their parishioners for a considerable time and their knowledge about the local area was invaluable.

The Council resolved that their service to the local community should be recognised and each Councillor will have a tree dedicated to them at the Little Marlow Recreation Ground. It was also agreed to dedicate a tree to Mrs Gloria Barclay who was the Clerk to the Council for 17 years and to Mr Clive Innocent who was a long standing Parish Councillor who sadly recently passed away.

At the election we were pleased to welcome Mrs Anthea Falk and since May we have co-opted two more Councillors, Mr Roger Randall and Mrs Vivien Morton. The Council is delighted that in a short period of time, it is now back up to its full complement of nine Councillors.

At our Annual Council Meeting, Councillor Valerie Brownridge was unanimously elected to the role of Chairman, with Councillor Geoff Fitchew re-elected as Vice Chairman.

Little Marlow Parish Council is represented on a number of Outside Bodies as well as Council Sub-Committees. Detailed below are the respective Council Members elected.

# LITTLE MARLOW PARISH COUNCIL



## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2015-2016

<b>Finance and general business</b>	<b>All members of the Council</b>
Abbotsbrook Hall	Cllr G Fitchew Cllr K Acres
*Pavilion / Recreation Ground	Cllr P Emmett Cllr A Falk Cllr V Brownridge
*Burial Ground	Cllr V Brownridge - Chairman Cllr J Downes Cllr R Randall
*Planning	Cllr P Emmett Cllr G Fitchew Cllr R Mash Cllr V Brownridge ** All Councillors may be asked to undertake site visits if local to the area of the application.
Social Media	Cllr K Acres Cllr J Downes
Trees	Cllr G Fitchew
*Budget Committee	Cllr K Acres - Chairman Cllr Fitchew Cllr P Emmett Cllr J Downes Cllr V Morton

Allotments	Ms J Vincent – Warden  Cllr A Falk  Cllr P Emmett
*Employment and HR	Cllr V Brownridge  Cllr P Emmett  Clerk
Parish Plan	All Councillors
Subscriptions / donations	All Councillors
Emergency Plan	All Councillors

\* Chairman of Sub-Committees will be appointed at the first meeting.

### **REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2015-2016**

Wycombe District Association of Local Councils	Cllr V Brownridge  Cllr A Falk
Marlow Society	Cllr V Morton
Chepping Wycombe Local Area Forum	Cllr R Mash
Neighbourhood Action Group	Any Councillor
Little Marlow Lakes Community Partnership	Cllr P Emmett  Cllr R Mash
Spade Oak Lake Liaison Committee	Cllr G Fitchew  Cllr R Mash
Spade Oak Permissive Path	Cllr G Fitchew  Clerk

## **REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2015-2016**

Thameside Preservation Trust	Cllr K Acres Clerk
Thames Water Liaison Committee	Cllr P Emmett Cllr R Mash
Marlow Bus Group	Cllr K Acres Cllr J Downes
Rural Forum	Cllr R Randall Cllr P Emmett
Riverside Users Meeting / River Thames Alliance	Cllr R Mash Cllr R Randall
Marlow Community Forum	Cllr V Brownridge
FooV (future of our village)	Cllr K Acres
Wycombe District Council Reserve Sites Liaison Group	Cllr V Brownridge Cllr J Downes - Deputy

As you can see we are an extremely active Council representing our parishioners' interests.

## **Parish Council has new Chairman**

### **Cllr Valerie Brownridge**



As I am your new Chairman, I was asked to let you have some information about my background, so here goes. I was born in Aberdeen and spent the first part of my life there, hence my Scottish accent. After graduating from Aberdeen University in 1979, I left for London to join the Diplomatic Service. My husband and I moved to Little Marlow in 1998, and apart from a couple of periods overseas, have lived here ever since. In 1999 I was posted to Jerusalem for three years. We came back to Little Marlow in 2002 but I was then sent abroad again for a further three years in 2006. I retired from the Foreign Office in 2009 after a 30 year career culminating in me serving as Deputy British Ambassador in Zimbabwe. I decided that I would like to continue in public service and put the skills I had acquired over the years to local use. I therefore stood for the Little Marlow Parish Council in May 2011 and was elected as Councillor. I stood again at the 2015 election which was uncontested. I was honoured to be elected as Chairman in May 2015.

I am also involved in other local activities in Little Marlow. I have been a member of the Little Marlow Village Amenities Committee (the Committee which organises the Little Marlow Village Fete) since 2003 and Committee Chairman since 2011. From 2009 till I left in August this year I was Secretary of the Little Marlow Lakes Country Park: Community Partnership, an organisation formed to create a country park in the area around Spade Oak Lake and alongside the Thames.

## **Introducing our new Councillors**

### **Anthea Falk**



I have lived in the village for over 40 years. During this time I have been actively involved in most aspects of village life. My children went to the nursery in the Pavilion (in fact my son was a ‘founder member’), they went to the village school and I was both a governor and on the PTA of the school. We have, as a family, been at just about every village fete over the years, both because one or other of us has been on the committee or because we have had a stall. The cricket club has also been an important part of our family life. I attend Little Marlow Church, where my son was married and family members are buried. We love living here and are very keen to see that the best happens for Little Marlow. As a Parish Councillor I hope to be able to make that sure that comes about. I hope that anyone in the parish feels they can raise issues that concern them with either me or any other Parish Councillor and that Little Marlow parish will continue to thrive in the very best way possible



## **Vivien Morton**



I have served previously as a Little Marlow Parish Councillor and it is a great privilege to be offered the opportunity to serve again.

My husband and I moved to Marlow in 1977 where our 3 daughters were born and brought up. We moved to Little Marlow 9 years ago and love living in the village. I am now retired after working in the aviation industry for thirty years. I like to spend my spare time with my family and grandchildren and also sit as a magistrate on the Buckinghamshire Bench.

The main challenge for this area and the parish council will undoubtedly be increased pressure for development. Changes are inevitable and parish councils will face many challenges in trying to preserve all that we cherish locally. Wycombe District Council is under pressures from government, as we know, to provide areas to be developed and it will be up to each local parish council to put forward the best possible case to preserve as much of its local character as possible and to resist damaging changes. I will work hard to support Little Marlow Parish Council and the councillors in responding to these challenges as well as the other work involved in keeping the parish a pleasant place to live for everyone in the community. In the meantime please do feel free to contact me with any issues regarding the parish that are of concern.

## **Roger Randall**



My name is Roger Maurice Randall, I was born at Westhorpe Farm, Little Marlow and was educated locally.

I have been married to my wife Janice for 40 years and have 2 daughters and 2 grandchildren. I am a third generation farmer at Westhorpe and have farmed myself for the last 48 years. I also run a successful leisure business along with my wife and family.

For many years I have been actively involved in running the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Society spending 2 years as chairman.

I am a hands on type of person, not one to sit around just talking, but to get stuck in and deal with matters as they arise. I look upon myself as being a representative of all parishioners, acting responsibly and being responsible.

I am passionate to ensure that any developments carried out within our community are done so with proper consideration of both social and environmental concerns.

I really hope I can do something positive for my community.

## **Annual Parish Meeting – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015**

As Mr Banfield was the Chairman during the previous financial year, he presented the Annual Report for Little Marlow Council.

A full copy of our Annual Report can be viewed on the website or copies obtained from the Community Office.

### **Annual Report given by former Chairman of Little Marlow Parish Council – Mr Dallas Banfield**

Can I first of all say how grateful I am to Valerie for accepting the office of Chairman. I am pleased to be handing over to someone who I know will continue to look after the affairs of your Council in as careful a manner as I have tried to adopt during my period in office.

We started the year with a vacancy and I am sorry to report the Council now has two posts to fill. During the year we co-opted Jason Downes to the Council who is of course also Chairman of Little Marlow Residents' Association. Despite various expressions of interest before the recent elections, in the event only Anthea put her name forward for which I will be eternally grateful. It does remain however that there is space for two more and no doubt our new Chairman will be pleased to receive all expressions of interest. Another change occurred; Gloria first of all received a long service award from the Society of Local Council Clerks and then had the temerity to retire after only 17 years' service.(her predecessor managed 25!) However, all was not lost and following a lot of interest and a number of interviews we were able to ask Emma to join us as Clerk.

Following the demise of the Quality Council scheme of which we were part the Council received an award from the Local Council Award scheme at foundation level marking the continuing quality of the service provided. We also signed the Armed Services Covenant for which we have a certificate. Yet further honours were heaped upon us when the village received the Certificate of Merit (Highly Commended) in the Best Kept Village competition.

Thanks to funding arranged by Cllr Watson 2 defibrillators have been bought and are to be installed in Abbotsbrook Hall and the Pavilion.

Looking back at last year's report there has been some progress. Finally after considerable to-ing and fro-ing the lease on the Spade Oak car park has been signed and, thanks to the residents of Coldmoorholm Lane is being kept in good order. Following the controversial building of the athletics track Wycombe seemed to wish to annoy residents even more by setting bird scarers to run throughout the night and it was only after some effort that this was stopped. The track is finally up and running (no pun intended) although it now seems it is not quite as perfect as the Development Manager at WDC seemed to believe. We are still waiting to learn whether the community benefits promised by the Little Marlow Trust at the planning stage will materialise but at least it has opened the way for the no doubt widely welcomed solar farm next door!

Little Marlow was one of the first councils to undertake devolved services from the County Council and despite considerable revision (in other words reduction in funds available) the council has determined to continue with the scheme on the grounds that even with more limited funds better value can be had locally rather than leaving it all to Aylesbury. Risk assessments and training have been had and all we await now are the final details to be confirmed.

During the year the council has organised working parties at the cemetery and recreation ground both of which attracted a sprinkling of other helpers. Good fun was had and a lot of clearance achieved. Anything that ends with a bonfire has to be welcomed!

There was a lot of discussion regarding the funding of the community bus during the year and following a survey of users it was decided that so few people used the Saturday service that its continued support could not be justified.

Other areas that may be of interest are;

### **Abbotsbrook Hall**

Somewhat alarmingly an apparently healthy tree came down over the entrance to Abbotsbrook. Fortunately no damage was done but it was timely reminder that continuing management is needed. The vice-chairman and I spent a couple of afternoons scrubbing and then re-oiling the floor and woe betide anyone who makes a mess!

### **Pavilion/Recreation Ground**

Once again my thanks to Bourne End Junior Sports Club and Little Marlow Cricket club in maintaining the grounds in such a good state and my thanks to Richard Tedham for all his efforts.

Following a report of rot, maintenance continued on the trees, further renovation to the play equipment took place including 2 new springers and a wobble board. BEJSC installed some fine new goal posts.

Sections of rot were removed from the pavilion's cladding and the whole of the front redecorated.

Less welcome were break ins to the LMCC and pre-school storage containers.

### **Burial Ground**

The chapel once again hosted an exhibition of glass crafts during Bucks Art week and we look forward to welcoming them back again this year.

Planning consent was finally given for the widening of the entrance from Sheepridge Lane which will enable this to be used for mourners as well as the funeral directors. Parking is tight at the Chapel and the extra space this opens up will be very welcome.

### **Roads & Footpaths**

Funding has finally been obtained for the improvement of the Zebra Crossing on the A4155 by installing "Zeebrite" lamps. These are LED, far brighter and hopefully will alert drivers to the need to give way. Funding has also been obtained to investigate the installation of a VAS sign in Sheepridge Lane. This comes after many years of unsuccessful attempts to get the speed limit lowered and of course many accidents.

I am painfully aware that despite funds being agreed we still await the work actually being done. All this Council can do is keep pressing the County Council for action.

In conjunction with Chepping Wycombe we have also sought funding for the completion of the footpath from Abbey Barn Lane to the M40.

When I joined the Council in November 1989 Ray Cowen was clerk and Barbara chairman. In May 1992 I took over as Chairman and in these 23 years as well as the present Councillors have had the pleasure of working with;

Dave Blumire, Edward Daniell, Terry Juby, John Lunnon, Amy Meaden, Richard Soundy, Rod Taylor, Reg Watkins, Brian Lee, Clive Innocent, Julie Hall, Vivienne Morton, Patrick Walmsley and of course Ruby and Barbara.

### **Parish Accounts.**

### **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

We set up a new Account, called Precept to enable the Council to not incur any bank charges. This account was used to ‘draw down’ monies into the current accounts which is where the majority of the Council’s financial business occurs.

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
Abbotsbrook Hall	£9,722	£12,588
Allotments	£979	£429
Burial Ground	£22,398	£11,249
Pavilion / Recreation Grd	£6,504	£17,359
Street Lighting	£0	£4,759
Precept	£40,650	£0
<b>Total Council to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015</b>	<b>£81,700</b>	<b>£82,150</b>

## Little Marlow Parish Council Bank Accounts – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

<b>Current Account</b>	<b>£2,381</b>
<b>Precept Account</b>	<b>£5,001</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>£173</b>
<b>Reserves Account</b>	<b>£39,427</b>

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### Little Marlow and Well End Women's Institute

This year the WI is celebrating 100 years and the local branch meet at the Pavilion in Little Marlow on alternate Tuesdays. As part of their celebrations WI branches decorated a tree and it was a lovely day when the Little Marlow and Well End dedicated their tree with the help of the Parish Council Chairman and Marlow Town Mayor.

**Valerie Brownridge – Parish Chairman** officially opening the WI Centenary Tree.



## **Local Council Award Scheme – Quality Status**

Being a Quality Council is something the Parish Council feels very strongly about. Our members feel that it demonstrates that the Council has proven that it operates in the best interests of its parishioners. Little Marlow was first accredited as a Quality Council in 2005 and was subsequently re-accredited in 2009. At the end of last year the Quality Council scheme was replaced by the Local Council Award Scheme. Little Marlow Parish Council applied for and was granted the Foundation Award in this new scheme in January 2015.

Always striving to be the best isn't an easy task and it is very easy to be complacent. In the desire to keep improving our service to our electorate, Little Marlow will be submitting an application for the next level in the new Local Council Award Scheme – the Quality Award. Watch this space!

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## **Qualified Clerk**

Our Clerk was delighted to pass the CiLCA qualification. This is the Certificate in Local Council Administration and is a professional qualification recognised within public sector community. Passing is not an easy task and we were very pleased to offer our congratulations.

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## **Budgets**

This time of year the Council's attention turns to budgets for 2016/17! Little Marlow has a number of projects in the pipeline including the Bell Mouth at the cemetery and various road safety improvements. This budget will form the basis of determining the precept we will request from WDC. The precept forms part of the Council Tax levied by WDC. The Council will be discussing and setting its precept over the next two meetings – 20<sup>th</sup> October and 1<sup>st</sup> December. Difficult decisions have to be made to make sure we meet the needs of our parishioners. We urge our parishioners to attend these meetings so we can hear your thoughts first hand. This is your community and ultimately your money – help us spend it effectively and wisely.

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## **Playground Improvements**

A lot of investment and maintenance has been undertaken in the playground over the last few months. The swings and the multiplay unit have had a spruce up and two new Springers and a Wobble Board has been added. This represents over £2000 of expenditure. We hope our younger parishioners enjoy the improvements. We have even bigger plans for 2016 /17.



**Repainted Swings and better matting underneath**



**Re-painted Multiplay Unit and repairs to the platforms and ladder**





**New Springers**



**New Wobble Board**

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## **Geoffrey Moss Memorial Rose Bowl Presentation 2015**

### **Mrs Barbara Wallis**

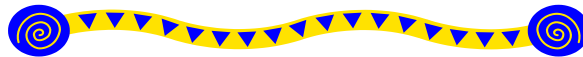
The Chairman, Mrs Brownridge was delighted to present the Geoffrey Moss Memorial Rose Bowl to Barbara Wallis at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. This was recognition of the years of service Barbara had given to the Parish particularly in the fields of planning and conservation which have greatly benefited this community.

Barbara built up a phenomenal knowledge of planning regulations over the years. She used this and the good relationship she had developed with the Planning Officers at WDC to protect the interests of Little Marlow parishioners. She played a key role in fighting off the plans for a football stadium in Little Marlow and in getting as good a deal for the community as possible following the decision to site the Athletics Track in Little Marlow. Barbara's passion for ensuring that the country-side was open for all led her to push for maintaining and extending the foot-path and cycle path network in our parish. Barbara was the Parish Council member of the Chilterns Conservation Board for some 10 years. In this role, she contributed to protecting the AONB areas in the parish. Barbara was involved in a very early stage in the development of the gravel pits, becoming a member of the Little Marlow Gravel Pits Community Partnership and later the Little Marlow Lake Country Park: Community Partnership whose aim was to create a country park in the lakes area for the enjoyment of the local community. She was a champion of maintaining the community bus service and took an interest in local rail services. Mrs Brownridge also mentioned Barbara's charity work. Barbara volunteers several afternoons a week at the Oxfam shop in Marlow and organises the Christian Aid collection in Little Marlow. This brief snap shot of the outstanding service Barbara has given to the community shows why Barbara so richly deserved the memorial bowl.

**Our Chairman presenting Mrs Wallis with the Geoffrey Moss Memorial Bowl.**



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**Planning an event and need a location?**

***ABBOTSBROOK HALL & THE PAVILION***

Are available for Hire

Preferential rates for Parishioners of Little Marlow.

Contact – Pavilion Hire – 01628 890301

Abbotsbrook Hall – 01628 528936





## **VOLUNTEER AND INCREASE YOUR WELLBEING!**

**Looking at ways to increase your wellbeing now spring is well and truly here? Why not try volunteering as a way to boost your health and wellbeing as well as increasing someone else's...**

The Volunteer Hub will be recruiting more volunteers for charities which support older and vulnerable adults. There are many different roles; you could volunteer one to one and help someone maintain their garden, co-ordinate a local group walk, provide company by enjoying a mutual hobby or activity as a befriender. Depending on your spare time and interests, a perfect role can be found to suit you.

By giving a few hours during school time, after work, or at the weekend you could transform someone's life and your own. Above all you'll get the satisfaction of knowing you've made a difference where it matters most.

For more information about volunteering and roles, call the Volunteer Hub on 0300 1111 250 or email [gillian@communityimpactbucks.org.uk](mailto:gillian@communityimpactbucks.org.uk)

*The Volunteer Hub actively recruits volunteers for charities and groups in Buckinghamshire who support older and vulnerable adults as part of Buckinghamshire's County Council's Prevention Matters programme*



## Best Kept Village Competition 2015

Little Marlow was delighted to be awarded the Runner –Up in Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition.

The judges were very complimentary and we look forward to the challenge next year of going for the win!



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## Restoration of the War Memorial

Rather appropriately for this year of remembrance, work has started on restoring Little Marlow War Memorial. The memorial, located on a wall of the Manor House next to St. John the Baptist Church, remembers those men that fell in the Great War of 1914-18. Some years ago, Sue Norton, a member of Little Marlow Church, researched the history of some of the 44 men listed on the Role of Honour. You can read her accounts online\*.

The years have taken their toll on the memorial's small protective roof, which is now barely hanging on and in need of some maintenance. Local tradesman Will Rockell (pictured) is donating his time to the restoration and materials have been sourced from within the village to ensure a minimal change in the memorial's appearance.

***Councillor Jason Downes***



William Rockwell



The Role of Honour



## **Little Marlow Village Cemetery**

If you have visited the Cemetery recently, you will notice that a few of the graves in the older part of the cemetery have been taped off. We recently carried out a “topple test” on all the memorial stones in the cemetery and found that quite a large number were unstable. We have taped off the most dangerous and are now making arrangements to have them repaired. We also discovered some unstable memorial stones in the newer part of the cemetery. We will shortly be putting notices on the stones in question requesting that the families contact us so that we can discuss having them repaired.



Some of you will be aware that we are planning to create a new entrance to the Cemetery from Sheepridge Lane for use by grave-diggers, hearses and funeral cars. This involves the creation of a bell-mouth entrance. We have just completed the first phase of this work by removing part of the hedgerow to the North of the entrance in order to improve the sightline.

We have had some work done to the trees in the cemetery including pruning the lime trees and fir trees and felling a dangerous fir tree. We are planning to commission an arboriculturalist to carry out a survey of all the trees at the cemetery as well as elsewhere in the parish before carrying out any further tree works.



We are aware that the composting and waste bins are full and are making arrangements to have them emptied.

We are hoping to have a working party at the cemetery in November. Once a date is set, details will be put on the website and the Parish notice-boards. We look forward to seeing our regular volunteers there and hope that some new volunteers might also come along.

***Valerie Brownridge – Chairman***

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### **Devolved Services**

Little Marlow is now into its first season undertaking devolved services for the parish. It has been very difficult delivering a good service with such tight budgetary constraints. There are areas which we would like to improve and we believe that parishioners like to live in a well kept and beautiful area. With our budget due to be reduced in 2016/17, the challenges to do this will only get harder.

Due to a restriction on central government funding, Bucks County Council will only cut 'rural grass' twice a year now. This rural area covers the junctions of Fern Lane, Winchbottom Road and Sheepridge Lane where the grass has got very high this year.

The Parish Council is really interested to hear the thoughts of its parishioners. Are residents willing to pay a bit more to ensure a better level of service? Please contact the Clerk with your views.

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### **Road Safety Issues**

The Parish Council is very active in trying to improve the safety of roads around the parish. We are delighted that the Zeebrite Beacons are now installed in Well End which is making the pedestrian crossing a lot safer to cross. The Council would like to congratulate the Road Safety Team at Claytons School for initiating a Speed Watch Group with Thames Valley Police.

The Council is still working with BCC to try and get a Vehicle Activated Sign on Sheepridge Road. This road has had many accidents and we hope we can improve the road safety there. Watch this space!

## **Little Marlow Village Fete, 31 August 2015**

On behalf of the Little Marlow Village Amenities Committee, I would like to thank all the residents of Little Marlow who contributed in any way to the success of this year's Fete. So many people helped in a variety of different ways and we are grateful to you all. We were pleased to see that our team of set-up and take down volunteers had dried out following the drenching they received last year, but sorry that they got wet once again this year as they put up the gazebos and staked off the car park. We were delighted to welcome a few new volunteers. We hope they will all come back again next year. I would like to say a huge thank you to them, to all the stall holders and the many volunteers who organise the different activities as well as to everyone who donated goods to the stalls and home baking to the teas. Yet again we also owe a massive vote of thanks to the local businesses who kindly took out adverts in the programme and donated prizes to the prize draw and tombola. Thanks to all of you, we took in just under £5000. Needless to say, we are absolutely delighted with this magnificent amount.

The plate smashing, coconut shy and football sideshow all returned this year to test the skills of young and old alike while the fun dog show gave our four legged friends the chance to show what they could do.



We had some great children's races and games this year and are grateful to Little Marlow School for lending us some of their equipment. The School also ran a children's activities stall which proved very popular as did the bouncy castle, the Rotary Club's train and the tombola. Our large tea tent came into its own again as a shelter from the rain while people enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea as they listened to a wide selection of music provided by the Chiltern Jazz Quartet.

The highlight for many fete-goers was the Tug of War between teams from the two local pubs, the Queen's Head and the King's Head. It was a very hard fought contest which eventually ended in a draw. The trophy will spend 6 months in each pub, providing that the Queen's Head can wrest the trophy from the King's Head in February! The stakes are already high for next year's return match as both pubs are determined to win the trophy outright.

The proceeds from the Fete will go towards local good causes and projects and activities which benefit the residents of Little Marlow. Following a decision taken at last year's AGM, it has already been decided that some of the funds will go to the Wye Valley Volunteers. If you have any suggestions on how to spend the money, please pass them on to me or any other member of the Little Marlow Village Amenities Committee before 14 October. The Committee will present the proposals at the joint AGM of the Little Marlow Residents' Association and the Little Marlow Village Amenities Committee in the Pavilion at 8pm on Tuesday 27 October. Residents will be able to have their say on each proposal. We look forward to seeing you at the AGM – and, of course, at next year's Fete which will be on August Bank Holiday Monday, 29 August.

***Valerie Brownridge***  
***Chairman, Little Marlow Village Amenities Committee***



## The titanic battle!

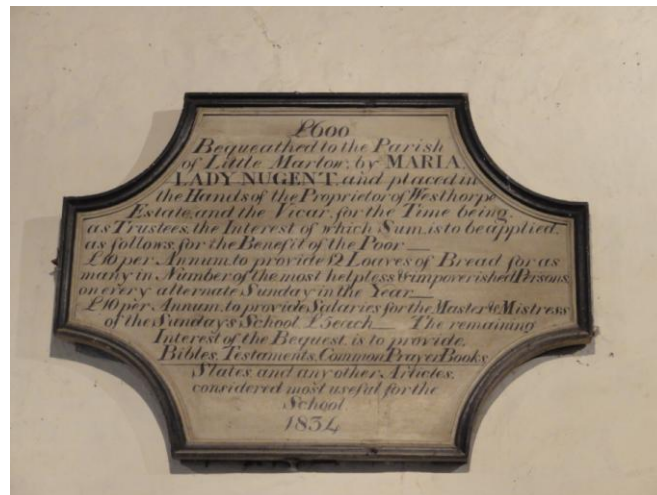


Queens Head Team



Kings Head Team

## Little Marlow In Need Charity



You may or may not be aware of the old charities that exist in Little Marlow. The first was set up in 1633 by William Alanson, the second in 1847 by Sir George Nugent and the third in 1863 by Margaret Birch and the fourth in 1915 by the Coal Club Charity. In 1974, these charities were amalgamated to become the Little Marlow Relief in Need Charity. Monies were originally intended for clothing, coal, bread, tools and books. The charity still donates to residents in the Civic parish and the Trustees would like to hear from anyone who might benefit from it. Money can be paid for or towards an item necessary to alleviate an ongoing illness or condition, to help towards heating or food costs, or for travelling expenses to hospital and for 'comforts' for the housebound.

Recently it has made gifts to young people in need of equipment or therapy to improve mobility, older residents who are facing bills for heating and lighting, and gifts to the School and pre-school group for the purchase of books.

### **\*\*Notice\*\***

The Trustees will be meeting shortly to consider the year's donations. If you, or someone you know would benefit from the charity, or would like further information, please contact the Clerk to the Council. Tel: 01628 890301

[clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk)

## Solar Farm – Little Marlow Trust Land

A company called Anesco had been given an option on establishing a solar farm on the area of land next to the Athletics Track. They came and gave a presentation at our April meeting to advise the Council of their plans.

This would be a significant development within the parish so we were pleased that Anesco held an Open Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> July. This gave the community an opportunity to look at the proposed plans and ask any questions.

Little Marlow Parish Council has now received a formal planning application from Wycombe District Council and we will be discussing our response at our meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> October. We would welcome the thoughts of the community. Should you not be able to attend the meeting, you can contact any Parish Councillor with your views or make your comments direct to Wycombe District Council via the Planning Portal on their website

[www.wycombe.gov.uk/planning](http://www.wycombe.gov.uk/planning)

Quoting Planning Application Ref: 15/07001/FULEA

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### Little Marlow Preschool

The Pavilion  
Church Road  
Little Marlow  
SL7 3RS

07967597516

[littlemarlowpreschool@talktalk.net](mailto:littlemarlowpreschool@talktalk.net)



Opening hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 12 noon

***'Where children are safe and learn whilst having fun.'***

Ofsted judgement 'Good'

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## **LMPC Planning Report**

### **The role of the Parish Council in Planning**

Little Marlow Parish Council, in common with most other Town and Parish Councils spends a considerable amount of time viewing, discussing and commenting on planning matters.

Planning, or ‘what are we going to do about it’, is also the most common question I’m asked when meeting parishioners so I thought a quick overview of where the Parish Council fits in the planning jigsaw may be of interest.

The role of the Parish Council in planning matters is as a statutory consultee to the local authority, in our case Wycombe District Council (WDC) who will inform us of received applications, whether for full planning permission, change of use or in conservation areas tree applications, amongst others. All applications and the thoughts and concerns of parishioners are considered and if meetings coincide they are discussed at full council, if not certain councillors will be asked to view applications and comment back to the Clerk. We will frequently visit neighbouring properties at this point to gauge local opinion.

Larger applications for major projects such as the recent athletic track and the proposed solar farm require far more effort and attendance at planning meetings. In some cases we will organise our own public meetings at which we invite the applicant or their agent to set out their case and to hear then the informed views of those attending the meeting.

It is important to note that we can only comment on matters pertaining to planning as contained within the various acts and local policies as adopted by Wycombe District and adherence to policy set out in the Local Plan. For example we can make no comment on an application not before us even though we may suspect that application A will be shortly followed by application A+, similarly the perceived setting of a precedent is not a valid reason for objection, although that may be our conclusion, as it is only the planning application before us to which we may comment.

Once we have a considered opinion, the Clerk will then inform WDC of our conclusions through their website where our comments are published and can be viewed by all.

All the information we gather and comments we make are forwarded to WDC who in turn collate the data and use it, alongside the other consultees' comments to inform their eventual decision. What the Parish Council **cannot** do is determine planning applications, but simply inform the planning authority of the thoughts of the local electorate and the elected Councillors.

*Geoff Fitchew – Planning Chairman*

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 **Hearing Dogs**  
for Deaf People

# Hearing Dogs Christmas Market

Saturday 21 November 11am – 8pm    Sunday 22 November 11am – 4pm

Adults £5  
Concessions £3  
Under 5s free

The Grange  
Wycombe Road  
Saunderton  
HP27 9NS

[www.hearingdogs.org.uk/market](http://www.hearingdogs.org.uk/market)

Registered charity in England and Wales no: 293358 and in Scotland no: SC040486 • Royal Patron HRH The Princess Royal



### **Contact Details**

Valerie Brownridge, Chairman	01628 523367
Geoff Fitchew, Vice-Chairman	01628 523107
Phillip Emmett	07939142480
Richard Mash	01628 485552
Jason Downes	01628 477189
Kathryn Acres	01628 531521
Vivien Morton	01628 486680
Anthea Falk	01628 483817
Roger Randall	07946 108705
Clerk to the Council: Emma Marsden	01628 890301

### **Dates for your Diary**

Council Meetings:

**2015**

20<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> December

**2016**

22<sup>nd</sup> January, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>  
May(Annual Council Meeting) & Council  
Meeting

**Annual Parish Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> May**

All meetings are held at The Pavilion, Church Road, Little Marlow, SL7 3RS.  
Most meetings start at 8pm and all public and press are invited to attend.

Little Marlow Parish Council

Community Office

The Pavilion

Church Road

Little Marlow

Bucks SL7 3RS

Tel: 01628 890301

Clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk

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