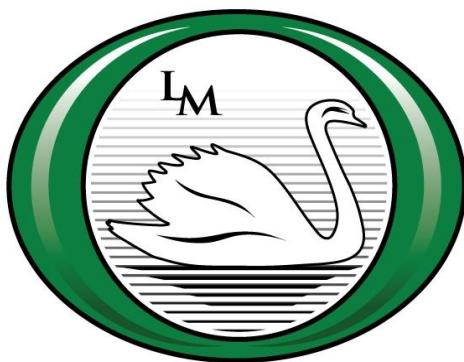


LITTLE MARLOW  
PARISH COUNCIL



YOUR COUNCIL FOR YOUR AREA

NEWSLETTER NO: 31

AUTUMN / WINTER 2016



Dear Little Marlow Resident,

Here is the publication you have been waiting for: the latest edition of the Little Marlow Parish newsletter! I hope that you will manage to spare a few minutes from your busy schedule to read it and to find out what has been going on in Little Marlow and what your Parish Council has been doing on your behalf.

Those of who came along to our Annual Parish meeting on 22 May will have heard my annual report in which I summarised the Council's main activities and achievements in the preceding year. (The Council year runs from May to May.) We have included a copy in this newsletter. If you would like more information about what the Council's priorities are for this Council year, take a look at the Council's Action Plan which you will find on the Council's website. If you do not have access to the internet, you can obtain a copy from our Parish Clerk.

We were delighted that Little Marlow Village achieved a highly commended grade in this year's Best Kept Village 2016. Many thanks to all those who contributed to the village achieving this award. Thanks also to everyone who supported the Little Marlow Village Fete. Details of how much was raised and how the funds are to be spent can be found in the article on the Fete.

You will see that there are a couple of reports about the work the Council has done to improve road safety around the Parish. Much of the credit for this goes to our clerk, Emma, who has found ways of squeezing funding out of WDC and Bucks CC to enable the work to be done.

The Council has made a real effort this summer to improve the state of the allotments. I hope that budding gardeners will read Jane Vincent's report and consider applying for one of the vacant plots. I would also like to draw your attention to the article about the Fern Lane Cemetery and, in particular, the working party there on Saturday 3 December. I hope that a number of you will be able to come along and help do some leaf clearing and ivy cutting.

Many of you will already be aware of the sterling work which the Little Marlow Residents' Association and especially the chairman, Jason Downes, has been doing to improve broadband connectivity in those parts of the parish where the broadband speed is abysmally low. Read Jason's article for further details.

Finally, we would love to see more of you at our Council meetings. Dates and times are on the last page.

*Valerie Brownridge*

## **Annual Council Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

Following our Annual Council Meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> May the following Councillors were elected to serve on the following Committees and Outside Bodies.

### **LITTLE MARLOW PARISH COUNCIL**



### **SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2016-2017**

<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 - Chairman  Cllr A Falk  Cllr V Brownridge
*Burial Ground	Cllr V Brownridge - Chairman  Cllr J Downes  Cllr R Randall
*Planning	Cllr P Emmett - Chairman  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 2016-2017**

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

## **REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2016-2017**

Thameside Preservation Trust	Cllr K Acres
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.

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

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

### **Annual Report given by Chairman of Little Marlow Parish Council Mrs Valerie Brownridge**

It gives me great pleasure to present my first Chairman's report.

During the year, your Council has had 9 full Council meetings and the various Council sub-committees have met on a number of occasions. Your Councillors have represented the Council on numerous outside bodies including the Wycombe District Association of Local Councils, Chepping Wycombe Local Area Forum, Rural Forum, Future of our Village group, the Marlow Society, the Marlow Community Forum, the River Thames Alliance, the Abbey Barn South Liaison Group, the Thames Water Liaison Group, the Spade Oak Liaison committee and the Little Marlow Lakes Community Partnership and has participated in the Little Marlow School Working Party. My thanks to all of the Councillors who give up their time to attend these meetings. The Clerk and a number of Councillors have also attended various training courses and Local Plan consultations.

We have produced two newsletters, both of which have been bumper editions. We hope you enjoyed reading them. We have re-organised our website and put a lot more information onto it in our aim to be as transparent and informative as possible. May I also remind you that we now have a twitter feed.

Our big achievement this year has been gaining Quality Award Status in the new Local Council Award Scheme. We are immensely proud of this and of the fact that we were one of the first Parish Councils in Bucks to do so. We are also delighted that our Clerk, Emma Marsden, passed her Certificate in Local Council Administration which was no mean achievement.

Turning now to our main areas of activity during the year:

#### **Abbotsbrook Hall**

We have had a few boiler problems this year. I would like to apologise to all users who have had to put up with a chilly hall. The good news is that a new boiler has been installed so you will no longer have to put on three jumpers

when you come to an event or activity at the hall. I hope that you were all impressed with the car park as you arrived this evening. We have levelled the car park, repaired the pot-holes and created a new soak-away. The outside of the hall has been cleaned and we have new lights and a projector screen.

### **Pavilion and Recreation Ground**

We have had a few boiler problems at the Pavilion too. More apologies to users! We think that these are now resolved but if not we will replace the boiler here too. We have made a number of improvements to the playground. At the other end of the recreation ground, the Bourne End Junior Sports Club installed some new goal posts. As well as sprucing up some of the equipment, we have installed two new springers, a new wobble board and with the help of a donation from the Amenities Committee have installed a new picnic table. The outside walls of the pavilion have also been cleaned and it is now looking much smarter. The Parish Office has been redecorated and re-organised, hopefully making it easier for parishioners to visit the Clerk.

### **Burial Ground**

We are a couple of steps further on with our project to improve access to the burial ground for officials and funeral corteges by creating a bell-mouth onto Sheepridge Lane. Since the last meeting we have received planning permission to widen the entrance which meant that we could go ahead and remove some of the hedgerow to the North of the entrance in order to improve the sight line for vehicles exiting onto Sheepridge Lane. The next stage will be to create the bell-mouth. We held our usual working party at the Cemetery in November. It was such a windy day that we were unable to have our usual bonfire but in spite of the high winds we managed to do quite a bit of leaf and ivy clearing. Many thanks to all those who came along to help.

### **Street Lighting**

We are continuing our policy of replacing defective street lights with LED lighting which is more efficient and cost effective to run. We are in the process of replacing two lights in Winchbottom Lane and a replacement lantern has also been ordered for Coldmoorholm Lane. I would just like to remind you that lights belonging to the Parish Council have a label showing our phone number. If you see one not working please tell the Clerk.

## **Roads and road safety**

We have made quite a lot of progress on the road safety front this year. Since the last APM, Zeebright beacons have been installed on the zebra crossing on the A4155 at Well End, a Vehicle Activated Sign will be installed on Sheepridge Lane on 6 June thanks in large part to the efforts of our County and District Councillor, David Watson, and our Clerk, Emma, the Green Path connecting Chepping Wycombe Parish to Little Marlow Parish has been extended onto Heath End Road using funding from the Local Area Forum and we have been allocated CIL funding to develop the C100 Green Path starting from the Rebellion Brewery and finishing at Pump Lane North.

## **Allotments**

Rubbish which had accumulated on the allotments has been cleared away into a skip hired by the Council. We are planning to improve the numbering of the plots over the summer and to increase the allotment fees from 2017/18.

## **General**

Bucks County Council devolved a number of services to the Parish Council in April 2015 including grass cutting in 30mph areas around the parish, slip clearance, some hedge-cutting, street sign cleaning and removal of unauthorised signs and fly-posting. The budget allocated for this work was much less than BCC had spent on these services in the past and we knew that we would have a shortfall in funding, but our experience of this first year is that we have managed to provide a better service to our parishioners than we would have received had we not gone down the devolved services route.

In order to obtain the Quality Award, we were required to draw up an Action Plan setting out the Parish Council's objectives for the coming year. The Council actually found this quite a useful exercise as it made us think more strategically about what we were trying to achieve as a Council. I am pleased to say that we met most of our objectives. You will find copies of last year's Action Plan and our Action Plan for next year on our website. I have a few copies here.

We were also obliged to ensure that we had a whole raft of policies in place ranging from Health and Safety to Equal Opportunities to Community Engagement. We already had quite a few of the required policies in place. We

took the opportunity to update these and to put any missing ones in place. This is all designed to make us a better Council.

The Council commissioned a tree survey of all the trees on Council owned Land in order to improve the management of the trees for which we are responsible.

Little Marlow Village was runner up in the Gurney Cup in the Best Kept Village Competition. We have entered the 2016 competition and judging takes place in June and July. The Parish Council hope to have a stand at the Little Marlow Village Fete again on August Bank holiday Monday. We hope you will come and see us there.

I would like to end by saying thank you to a few people: first of all we are all really grateful to the Bourne End Junior Sports Club and Little Marlow Cricket Club for looking after the recreation ground and particularly to Richard Tedham for his hard work in keeping the ground in such excellent condition. I would like to thank Christine Samuels, the caretaker of Abbotsbrook Hall, Jane Vincent who is our allotments warden, Greg Taylor the contractor who amongst other duties looks after the burial ground and Peter Lovell the cleaner. We are fortunate to have two active Residents' Associations and I would like to thank the two Chairmen, Jason Downes and Richard Boas, for their support and co-operation. I am also grateful to County and District Councillors David Johncock, David Watson and John Savage for taking such a keen interest in the affairs of our parish, for the support they have given us this year on a number of issues and for attending our Parish Council meetings. Finally, I would like to thank the Parish Councillors for their commitment and hard work throughout the year, much of it done behind the scenes and, of course, our wonderful Clerk, Emma Marsden, who provides enormous support to all Councillors, but particularly to me. She keeps us all on track and makes sure that the Parish Council does what it should be doing which is providing the best possible service it can to all its parishioners.

## Year End Accounts for 2105/16

<b>Item</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
Administration	£725.00	£41,058.00
Precept	£42,065.00	
Grants	£8075.00	£87.00
Abbotsbrook Hall	£12,016.00	£7,929.00
Pavilion / Rec Grd	£5,648.00	£11,462.00
Allotments	£470.00	£1,088.00
Burial Ground	£17,485.00	£15,399.00
Devolved Services	£4,837.00	£2,931.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£91,320.00</b>	<b>£83,796.00</b>

## Little Marlow Parish Council Bank Accounts – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

<b>Current Account</b>	<b>£10,777.31</b>
<b>Precept Account</b>	<b>£5,583.75</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>£345.55</b>
<b>Reserves Account</b>	<b>£39,446.59</b>

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## **Geoffrey Moss Memorial Rose Bowl Presentation 2016**

### **Mr Dallas Banfield**

Geoffrey Moss was a former County Councillor and Chairman of the Parish Council from 1975-1980. He gave this rose bowl to the Parish Council and asked them to present it annually to any resident of Little Marlow who in the opinion of the Parish Council had given outstanding service to the community. Nominations are made by Councillors and the person with the most votes is awarded the bowl. It gives me great pleasure to present the Geoffrey Moss Memorial Rose Bowl this year to Dallas Banfield in recognition of the many years of service he has given to this Parish.

Dallas served on the Parish Council for 28 years, 23 of them as Chairman. Leading the Council for such a long period of time and ensuring that the Council met its responsibilities to its parishioners at all times and that it was a good steward of all the assets entrusted to it is an outstanding piece of service in itself. As Chairman of the Parish Council, he represented the Parish Council and, of course, the parishioners of Little Marlow at countless meetings of outside bodies, and always made sure that he protected the interests of Little Marlow parishioners. The respect with which Dallas was held is reflected in the fact that he was elected Chair of the Wycombe District Association of Local Councils. He also represented the Parish Council at many ceremonial events, thus enhancing Little Marlow's profile. But Dallas is also a hands-on man and over the years he must have saved the Council and by extension the parishioners a lot of money by taking on many of the jobs which needed doing around the Parish such as scrubbing and oiling the floor of this hall, painting the pavilion, fitting the kitchen here having first been to collect all the cabinets from IKEA, deep cleaning the pavilion and Abbotsbrook several times and taking part in the annual working parties at the cemetery.

Dallas' service to the Community is not limited to his work as a Parish Councillor. He has also served the community through being a warden of St John the Baptist Church for many years. Although he is no longer a warden, he continues to serve the community through his support of church activities.

This is just a very brief resume of the outstanding service Dallas has given to the community. I am sure that you will agree that he is a very deserving recipient of the memorial rose bowl.



*Dallas represented with the Rose Bowl by Chairman Valerie Brownridge*



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

## **ABBOTSBROOK HALL & THE PAVILION**

Are available for Hire  
**at very competitive prices**

Preferential rates for Parishioners of Little Marlow.

Contact – Pavilion Hire – 01628 890301

Abbotsbrook Hall – 01628 528936



## Best Kept Village 2016



Little Marlow achieved a highly commended grade in this years Best Kept Village Competition. The competition is divided up into a number of categories. Out of a maximum score of 100, Little Marlow scored 80 marks. The judge's comments included:

- The graveyard surrounding the church is well maintained and tidy and the notices within the porch contained helpful information. A stylish means of an entrance at the Church boundary would possibly benefit its longevity with some sympathetic maintenance?
- A tidy playing field was prepared for cricket. There was a small and tidy play area at the edge of the ground with access to good equipment. The Bradish Ellames Pavilion is reasonably sized facility which accommodates various community functions.
- The Spade Oak Lane Nature Reserve is a vast area of water and woodland with a detailed visitor information board upon the boundary, a good community venture.
- The boundary area bordering the cricket ground is well managed and the small 'triangle' tidy. The retail area alongside the Marlow Road was well presented and patronised.
- Both public houses had good surroundings and were busy. The notice board along Church Road was newsworthy.
- The War Memorial by the church entrance was of wooden construction and contained a metal plaque in memory of the fallen.

- The panel were pleased at the absence of litter throughout the village, a credit to the community.

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## **Road Safety Improvements**

### **Vehicle Activated Sign**

We were delighted that after lots of campaigning a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) has finally been installed in Sheepridge Lane! The sign has had an immediate and positive impact on the safety of the road. As we go into winter, we haven't had any cars in ditches (touching wood!) since the sign has been stalled - a huge improvement! The cost of the VAS is not cheap, they cost £15,000. The Parish Council could not fund this sign alone and we are very thankful for the Chepping Wycombe Local Area Forum and County Councillor David Watson who provided some of revenue needed to purchase, install and maintain this sign.



*County Councillor David Watson and Parish Council Chairman Valerie Brownridge with the VAS*

## **Two new Green Paths are in place!**

We are delighted that two new Green Paths have been completed! The first one is on the C100 (Wycombe Road) from the Rebellion Brewery to Pump Lane North. This is a notoriously busy road with no safe area for pedestrians to walk. The new path is made with bark chippings to reflect the rural nature of the area.

Sheepridge Lane also has had the final part completed from the roundabout on Marlow Road to the rear entrance of Fern Lane Cemetery. There is now a safe path for parishioners to walk from Well End to Flackwell Heath.

Little Marlow Parish Council would like to thank Wycombe District Council for their financial assistance which enabled these two paths to be completed and the Rebellion Brewery for making a contribution to the maintenance of the C100 Green Path.



**Sheepridge Lane – extended Green Path**

## **Street Lights – Little Marlow Parish.**

The clocks have turned back and the evenings are definitely drawing in! This invariably means that parishioners notice the street lights and more importantly if they are working or not! Little Marlow Parish Council is responsible for a number of street lights around the parish – in Winchbottom Lane,

Coldmoorholme Lane, Wendover Road, Burroughs Crescent, Church Road to name but a few!

All Little Marlow Street Lights have a LM stamp and a number. Any parishioners seeing a light which is not working correctly, should please call the Clerk with the number of the street light and its location. The Council has a maintenance contract with SSE to repair the lights and from reporting the fault to SSE - it should take approximately 10 days for the repair to take place. This of course relies on the fault being repairable on site and without the need to order new parts. The reality is the street lights are getting old and some of the parts are now obsolete. This does cause delays as the new parts are ordered and the Council does understand that parishioners do find this frustrating. Repairs also can be delayed if there are cars parked in the vicinity of the street light and the Engineers can't get access to the faulty light.

So how are we making improvements?! The Council has resolved to replace all obsolete equipment on a case by case basis. This year we have replaced two entire street lights in Winchbottom Lane and put new lanterns on some lights in Wendover Road and Burroughs Crescent. The Council has also recently undertaken a 'tree prune' on the street lights which have been covered by over grown branches. The contract for maintenance of our lights is due to be renewed next year, so we are actively looking at ways we can improve the service to our parishioners.

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### **Allotments – Chapman Lane by Allotment Warden – Jane Vincent**

A lot has been happening at the allotments! We now have numbered posts marking the plots, overgrown plots have been strimmed and the hedges trimmed. There are quite a number of vacant plots, some needing a little more work than others, but with a little hard graft and tending of plants they can be returned to the fine tilth of the past. Small fruit trees this year have borne weighty masses of apples, pears greengages and plums. It's a bumper year for pumpkins and beetroot, sprouts, chard, spinach and other vegetables and cut flowers that will see many of us reaping the benefits of our labour.

The gateway into the allotments has become rutted and work will be carried out to lay a firmer surface to make it accessible to more than the larger wheeled cars.

Whilst Parish Councils are obliged to provide allotments for their community it is obvious that they should want to do so in a way that does not lose them money. To this end full occupation of the allotments, coupled with a £10 per plot increase for 2017, is planned. Existing tenants look forward to a 2017 season with neatly cut paths, new neighbours and perhaps even a competition or two.

Those of you who may be deterred by the idea that you will have to take on a 10 rod plot will be pleased to hear you may have a plot to suit your needs which can be much smaller. To explain this allotments are measured in rod/pole/perch 1 = 5.5 yards. A square rod is 30.25 sq yards thus a standard 10 rod plot is 302.5 sq yards or roughly 250 square metres. This is the size of a standard allotment – about the size of a tennis court.

Thanks go to Emma and team for coordinating the rejuvenation of the neglected plots and to the tenants who keep their plots in such a tidy and exemplary state.

We welcome new plot holders and applications should be made to the Parish Clerk (01628 890301) should you be interested. Plot holders from outside of LMPC are also invited to apply so please do pass on the word.

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### Little Marlow - Fern Lane Cemetery

There have been some improvements to Fern Lane Cemetery. A new entrance sign is now in place. Hopefully this will make it easier for people to locate the Cemetery when driving along Fern Lane. There have been repairs and improvements to the path by the grave sides and on the road leading into the Cemetery itself.

The Annual Spruce Up is on the **3<sup>rd</sup> December** where we ask for volunteers to come and assist Councillors spruce up the Cemetery. This is for a morning only, from 10am – 1pm. Tea and coffee and light refreshments will be available. We would ask that all volunteers bring and be responsible for their own equipment.

Over the winter we hope to make some progress with the repairing of some of the headstones.

## **Budgets 2017/18**

This is the time of year when the Council decides its budget and precept for the 2017/18 financial year. There are a number of projects which the Council has earmarked in its 2017 /18 Action Plan. This includes some refurbishment of The Pavilion and Abbotsbrook Hall. Should any parishioners wish for any projects to be considered by the Council, they should contact the Clerk as soon as possible as the precept and budget will be decided at the **6<sup>th</sup> December meeting.**

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## **National Plant Monitoring Scheme**

### **A big thank you:**

The second season of the National Plant Monitoring Scheme is well underway with volunteers up and down the country going out to visit their squares. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to promote the NPMS in 2015, this has resulted in the recruitment of over 1100 volunteers.

### **Results from 2015:**

We thought you might be interested to see what your hard work has helped us achieve. Follow the link to see the results from 2015 and the projects plans for the year ahead.

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/dff607ff-4243-4b5d-a845-04071fcfedfc7>

### **More help please:**

There are still lots of squares available for surveying so we would be hugely grateful if you can use your communication channels to promote the scheme again using either the newsletter (above) or the NPMS flyer (<http://www.npms.org.uk/sites/www.npms.org.uk/files/PDF/NPMS%20flyer.pdf>). The live map on the NPMS website shows the squares that are available:[http://www.npms.org.uk/square-near-me-public?dynamic-return\\_all\\_squares=true](http://www.npms.org.uk/square-near-me-public?dynamic-return_all_squares=true)

We particularly need to promote the scheme in remote areas as well as areas containing coastal and upland habitats.

### **A reminder of who we are and what we need:**

This scheme is a partnership between Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI); JNCC; Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) and Plantlife and is

backed by the government. The scheme will recruit and support volunteers to survey 5 plots in a kilometre square close to where they live. The plots will be surveyed twice a year. The kilometre squares to monitor have been identified by stratified random sampling. The plants have been chosen as indicators of the health of individual habitats. There are 3 levels volunteers can participate at depending on confidence and knowledge and support will be provided both through training; web and telephone

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### **Transport for Bucks**

Transport for Bucks are again running Winter Driving Workshops They have asked us to circulate the details below

#### **Free Winter Driving Workshops**

Would you like to brush up on your skills when driving in difficult weather conditions?

Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) is once again running the Winter Driving Workshops and would encourage all drivers to attend. The Winter Driving Workshop includes:

- A presentation on essential driving skills
- How to drive on winter roads
- Preparing your car for winter
- What to do in the event of a breakdown
- Practical basic vehicle checks from experienced garage technicians
- Checking tyre pressure, tread and depth
- How to change a wheel
- How to check your battery condition

The **free** workshops are being held at the three venues listed below during November and December 2016.

#### **Chesham**

Date: Tuesday 29th November 2016

Time: 7.00pm – 8.30pm approx.

Venue: STS Tyre Pros, Amersham Road, Chesham HP5 1NG

## **High Wycombe**

Date: Tuesday 6th December

Time: 7.00pm – 8.30pm approx.

Venue: Kwik Fit – High Wycombe, 97 London Road, High Wycombe HP11 1BU

## **Aylesbury**

Date: Wednesday 7th December 2016

Time: 7.00pm – 8.30pm approx.

Venue: STS Tyre Pros, Park Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1DX

For more information please contact

June Howlett, details below.

### **June Howlett**

Road Safety Officer

Network Safety Team

Transport for Buckinghamshire

New County Offices

Walton Street

Aylesbury

Buckinghamshire

HP20 1UY

[t-jhowlett@buckscc.org](mailto:t-jhowlett@buckscc.org)

01296 382338

Visit our website [www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport)

Follow us on twitter @TfB alerts

## **Little Marlow Village Fete, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

After two years' absence, the sun finally returned to Little Marlow Village Fete. And a very welcome visitor it was too! It meant that we were able to run all our usual activities, that it was (I hope!) a much more enjoyable experience for everyone who came along to the Fete as well as for the stall holders and that we made more money for local good causes and organisations. In addition, we set up and cleared up in record time and did not have to spend the rest of the week drying out wet gazebos.

As always we owe a huge debt to the many people who contributed to making the Fete the success it was. This really is a joint effort by the residents of Little Marlow. We are immensely grateful to our team of volunteers who put up and took down the gazebos and manned the car parking, to the stall holders and their helpers, to those who ran the different activities, to those who served the teas and the BBQ, to everyone who donated home baking and other goods to the stalls and to all who bought raffle tickets. A huge thank you to you all. We are also very grateful 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, the Fete raised £6700. This is a truly fantastic amount.

We were delighted to welcome back the Chiltern Jazz Quartet who played for us throughout the afternoon. We were also pleased that St John the Baptist Church and Little Marlow School which are both such integral parts of our village also returned again this year. The church's stall looked magnificent and its chutneys and plants did a roaring trade while the children's activities run by the school proved to be very popular. Our two local pubs, the Queen's Head and the King's Head were also present at the Fete through the teams which they put forward for the Tug of War. This was once again a highlight for many fete-goers with the Queen's Head lifting the trophy this year.

A decision had already been taken at last year's AGM to donate some of the proceeds of this year's Fete to the Bucks/Berks/Oxon Air Ambulance. At this year's AGM, residents decided that funds should also be allocated to St John the Baptist Church for display boards and kitchen equipment, Little Marlow School towards an outdoor shelter, Little Marlow Residents' Association towards its project to improve broadband connectivity, Little Marlow cricket club for replacement nets, Wye Valley volunteers, Bourne End and Cookham Rotary, Well End and Little Marlow Women's Institute, the Red Cross, maintaining the

Pound and the Recreation Ground shrubbery and the purchase of some new card tables for the teas. It was also agreed that some of the proceeds from next year's Fete would be allocated to the Bucks/Berks/Oxon Air Ambulance as well as the Wye Valley volunteers.

We look forward to welcoming you to next year's Fete which will be on August Bank Holiday Monday, 28 August.

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



....just one more pull!.....



....Dogs can enjoy the fun too....



...plenty of the jam for all.....

## **Superfast Broadband for Little Marlow**

After 3 years of phone calls, emails, badgering and pestering, we can finally say that the end is in sight for our quest to upgrade our community to Superfast Broadband. A joint effort of the Parish Council and Little Marlow Residents' Association, we have just signed a contract with BT Openreach for the first phase of an upgrade program that will bring speeds of up 80mbps to parts of Little Marlow Parish! This will have a huge positive impact on local businesses and residents, especially those that work from home.

Properties in our Parish are connected to different telephone exchanges, dependent on location. Those in the West; Little Marlow Village, Winchbottom Lane, Westhorpe and Pump Lane (North & South) are connected to Marlow. In the East; Fern, Coldmoorholme Lane and Well End are connected to Bourne End. There are also some properties to the North of our Parish connected to High Wycombe.

In the most part, those in the East have decent broadband, though some at the end of the lines do suffer at busy times. Those in the West have slowest speeds, most well below what is now recognised as proper broadband. The Government has been running programs to upgrade those in rural areas that are not connected to fibre-enabled cabinets for some years, but our cabinets have been upgraded already; we are just too far for it to have a positive impact.

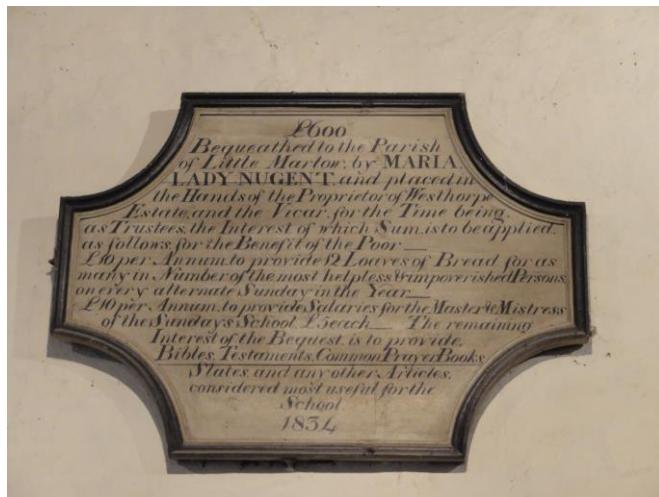
The first phase will upgrade just over 100 homes and businesses in Little Marlow village and Winchbottom Lane. Pump Lane North is expected to be next, followed by Westhorpe. Of the total infrastructure cost of £35,000 for Little Marlow village and Winchbottom, residents and businesses contributed £17,500. Thanks to Little Marlow School, we benefitted hugely from a matching grant for the other £17,500 from a BT grant program for areas that include a non-upgraded school.

Having signed the contract for Phase One, we expect the new network to go live in 12 months' time. We have to thank various residents, and also Thames Water, for donating a little extra to make this happen. Thank also go to the Little Marlow Amenities Committee who donated £1,000. This will be put towards the next phases of upgrades, where grants are less available.

All going well by the end of 2017, Little Marlow Parish will no longer be in a broadband blackspot!

***Cllr Jason Downes (Chair, Little Marlow Residents' Association)***

## 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 struggling to pay bills for heating and lighting, and gifts to the School and pre-school group for the purchase of books.

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

The Trustees have met to allocate the funds for this year, however there is a small amount of funds which are available please contact the Clerk to the Council. Tel: 01628 890301 [clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk)

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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

**Ofsted judgement 'Good' October 2016**

"Children are motivated to learn and are confident and happy"

\*

## A Record Breaking Summer for Little Marlow Cricket Club

The 2016 season saw a familiar tale of mixed fortunes for L.M.C.C.

The 1<sup>st</sup> X1, after an indifferent start, put together a run of victories that inspired optimistic thoughts of promotion. These culminated in consecutive run chases in excess of 300, the first of which saw records tumble at The Bradish Ellames Recreation Ground as the team made its highest ever score (327 for 4) to overcome Penn and Tylers Green. Skipper Tahir Rashid, who enjoyed a golden summer, led the way with a magnificent and undefeated 167, the club's highest ever individual innings. He and Arfan Sharif shared an unbroken 256 for the fifth wicket, the club's highest ever stand, as they carried their side across the line with 7 balls in hand. A week later visitors Winchmore Hill were the unfortunate victims as Little Marlow scored 301 for 5 to secure their seventh consecutive win.

Sadly that proved to be the last of our successes as the team lost form and gradually slipped back down the table, finishing a disappointing 7<sup>th</sup> out of 11. 'Should have done better' is an honest assessment of that position.

Neil Lancum's 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 recorded a fairly even split of wins, draws and losses which is pretty much what was expected. Double headed victories over Knotty Green and Hurley were the highlights, with Nicky Jn Marie making substantial contributions to three of those. He produced a remarkably consistent run of

scores and richly deserved the 2nds' 'Batsman of the Year' shield. The team finished 5<sup>th</sup> out of 9.

Our Sunday/Mid-Week team enjoyed its most successful season since 2003. Some fine performances earned 11 wins, of which the home victory over Wargrave was remarkable. Chasing a daunting 281 runs target we slipped to 118 for 7 before Sri Lankan newcomer Asanka Austin Peiris joined Farooq Hussain, who'd opened the batting. They began a thrilling counter attack, Farooq continuing to anchor the innings while Asanka launched a furious assault. Wargrave shuffled their attack in vain as the pair stroked their way to a new club record seventh wicket stand of 118 before Farooq fell for 106.



With 45 required from 37 deliveries Asanka monopolized the scoring while Rob Fuller put up a stout defence. They took the **Player of the Year Tahir Rashid** match to the wire - six needed from the final over and the scores level with one ball remaining. Asanka imperiously lifted it over the bowler's head for 4 to seal a thrilling triumph, closing on 94 not out. I doubt whether anybody would have begrudged him another six.

Little Marlow's junior colts, managed in association with professional coaching outfit 'Future Legends', continue to prosper. After two years of fun, training and soft ball tournaments the more senior lads are ready to make the big step up to hard ball cricket. Next season we'll be running an under-10s league team. Preparation for this will begin in January when indoor practice sessions start at The Redgrave Centre in Marlow. They'll be on Friday evenings, 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm, with the first one on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Later, in March and early April, we'll be running three recruitment sessions for younger kids. They'll be on Saturdays, 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm, at The Redgrave Centre. So, if you have a 7 to 10 year old who'd like to join our happy band, please contact Youth Development Officer Guy Thistlethwaite on 07557 307977 or [guy.thistlethwaite@gmail.com](mailto:guy.thistlethwaite@gmail.com)

Indoor nets for seniors will also begin early in the new year. New players will be made very welcome. Give me a ring on 07442 039284 or write to [rtd@live.co.uk](mailto:rtd@live.co.uk) for further information.

***Richard Tedham – Little Marlow Cricket Club***

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## 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:

**2016**

6<sup>th</sup> December

**2017**

17<sup>th</sup> January, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 11<sup>th</sup> April, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 4<sup>th</sup> July,  
15<sup>th</sup> August, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 19<sup>th</sup> December

**Annual Council Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

**\*Annual Parish Meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> May**

**\* at Abbotsbrook Hall**

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

[www.littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk)



#littlemarlowpc