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Key Dates

Great British Spring Clean	22 Mar-23 Apr
Parish Council Election	2 May
Youth Survey	Now - 22 May
MK Food Fest	14 Sept
Milton Keynes Village Fete	15 June



SAT 14 SEPTEMBER 2019



Hosted within our parish this year, read all about it **P.6**

Broughton and Milton Keynes Parish Council Precept 2019/20

For the 2019/20 financial year starting 1 April 2019, we will be increasing our precept by £10/band D property. The precept is a charge that appears on everyone's Council Tax bill and funds your Parish Council. Any increase in the parish precept is a significant decision and follows detailed discussions. The purpose of this communication is to explain to you why we have taken this decision and what this will be paying for.

What this increase means to households in our Parish

Using a Band D household as an example (mid-point in Council Tax banding) the proposed increase would move the precept to £32 a year, from £22. The £32 is the equivalent of 62 pence per week to fund your Parish Council; see breakdown for all household bands below:

Council Tax Bands 2019/20

Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
House/band	271.50	990.31	887.55	822.25	1254.60	957.31	267.92	2.00
Per/year	£21	£25	£28	£32	£39	£46	£53	£64
Per/week	40p	48p	54p	62p	75p	88p	£1.02	£1.23

At £32 per band D equivalent, we have one of the lowest precepts among the 48 parishes in Milton Keynes and are significantly below the average of £68 per Band D.

What has influenced our decision to increase the precept

As a Parish Council we are facing year on year reductions in grants from Milton Keynes Council (MKC) and the impending transfer of services from the MKC to our Parish Council. At the same time, we want to continue to provide services that benefit our rapidly growing local community (by 2026 it is anticipated that our parish will be one of the fifth largest parishes in Milton Keynes). This is a difficult balancing act.

Local Family Business



**Online Door to Door
Ironing & Laundry
Services**

<https://www.spotlessgarments.co.uk/>

Care Choices

The directory will be available throughout the region from outlets including carers' centres, hospitals, GP surgeries, Age UK and the Alzheimer's Society. It can be downloaded from www.carechoices.co.uk and is also available in spoken word.

Robert Chamberlain, Managing Director of the directory's publisher, Care Choices, commented: "This is an invaluable source of information for anyone considering short or long term care in Buckinghamshire, and contains vital information to help people decide what type of care and support is best for them."

"With the current crisis in social care, finding a care service for yourself or a loved one that meets their needs and is affordable can be a daunting and unfamiliar task. This new independent directory has been compiled to help people understand the process and offer them reassurance at every step of their journey."

Care Choices is the UK's largest independent publisher for social care and adults with additional needs. It is also the largest publisher of care directories for local authorities in England.

For more information, please contact

Gemma Hunter, Care Choices.
Tel: 01223 207770.

Email:
Gemma.Hunter@carechoices.co.uk

The listings of care providers contained in Care Choices' publications are supplied by the regulatory body, the Care Quality Commission.

The Parish Council raised the precept last year for the first time in 10 years. This was a smaller increase, reflecting a need to focus on putting some fundamentals right and to put the Parish Council in a stronger and healthier position to be able to take a more future-focused outlook.

The Parish Council will continue to provide all key services we did this financial year, such as the provision of the Citizen's Advice Service, litter and dog bins, community grants, support for community events, allotments and the landscaping of Parish Council land.

The decision to make a larger increase for the 2019/20 financial year has been driven by two main factors:

1. **A strong ambition by the Parish Council to deliver more services and benefits** to the community than it does now. We are committed to making our parish an attractive, safe and pleasant place to live, with a range of services that support and benefit everyone in our community. This means meeting the needs of a parish which has a mix of established and new communities. With this in mind, we have identified a number of priority projects that we are looking to fund in 2019/20. These projects are listed further on.
2. **We need to be ready for Milton Keynes Council (MKC) devolving services to the Parish Council.** Parish councils will have an increasingly key role to play in maintaining the current standard of services within their parishes. This will start with the transfer of landscaping that up until now has been the responsibility of MKC. At this time, the Parish Council does not have sufficient confidence that the transitional funding that MKC will offer will be sufficient to fund the service at the current level, never mind improving the service to meet local needs. Furthermore, this transitional funding is only for the first three years starting 1 April 2020, after which time this will have to be solely funded by the Parish Council precept.

Building on our achievements in 2018/19

The Parish Council's aim in 2018/19 has been to focus on addressing some of the fundamentals of running an effective parish council on behalf of the community and to put ourselves in a stronger and healthier position to face future opportunities and challenges. Below is a recap of some of our key focus areas:

Allotments. We have completed the first year of a multi-year plan to get best value from our allotment sites for our parish and allotment tenants. This has already resulted in significant improvements to the standard of our allotment sites.

- We signed a new 3-year contract for landscaping services.
- We have simplified the complex arrangements previously in place and invested in software, allowing us to automate the allotment management to make us more efficient.
- For all our allotment tenants, ensuring that everyone maintains their allotment sites to the new standards is making them a more pleasant and safe environment for everyone.

At the same time, we are moving towards making our allotment sites self-funding and removing the significant subsidy that parish residents are paying from their precept towards them. We value the engagement we're having from allotment tenants with this journey so far. Currently we have 98% occupancy of let-able plots (this excludes our Middleton site - see the update on this site on page 8).

Community engagement. The Parish Council is determined to improve two-way communication. We now have a quarterly newsletter going to every household and recently undertook our first-ever parish survey to get residents feedback and input into our priorities. funding play sessions last summer. In 2019/20 we want the community to come forward with more projects for us to consider supporting, with a particular focus in this year on activities for young people.

Would you like more details on our finances?

If you would like a more detailed breakdown of Income, Expenses and Earmarked Funds (EMR) then please don't hesitate to get in contact with our Clerk

clerk@broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk

Alternatively, if you log onto our website

www.broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk and click on the **Finances Tab**.

What are earmarked funds (EMR)?

These are funds that are allocated to specific assets or projects (buildings and/or community land) for maintenance purposes

Key projects 2019/20

Youth Engagement	£10,000	A funding 'pot' that the Parish Council will be looking for community groups to put forward proposals to draw on.
New Litter/Dog Bins-EEA	£5090	Install new bins in Eastern Expansion Area of the parish.
Phone Kiosk Refurbishment	£5,000	We 'adopted' the phone boxes in Broughton village and Milton Keynes Village. These now need refurbishment.
The Old Forge Refurbishment	£5,000	Vital repairs to a community asset.
Milton Keynes Village Garden	£6,000	Remove section of hedge, grind out stumps, cultivate and seed (community asset).
TOTAL	£26,090	

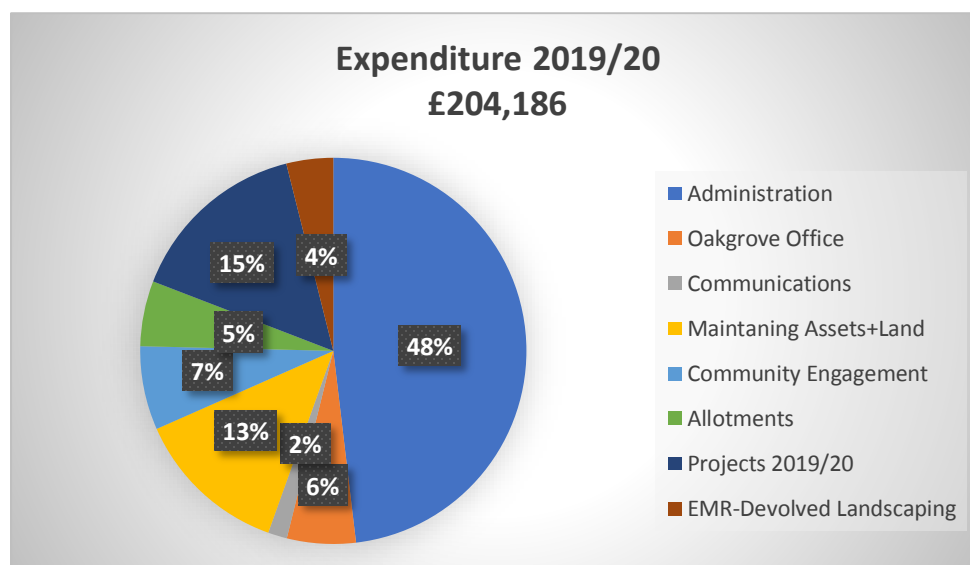
Community assets. The Parish Council owns a number of community assets, including fixed assets that we rent out (Middleton Pavilion; Paddock in Milton Keynes Village, The Old Forge in Milton Keynes Village and the double garages on the edge of the cricket field in Middleton) as well as land that is maintained by the Parish Council. We continue to ensure that we are offering best value to our tenants and parishioners.

Staying connected

Starting with our recent parish survey, we are keen to understand from you the priorities and the services you would like us to focus on from 2020 onwards. Over the next 12 months we are looking to consult with as many of you as we can to understand what services you want to see us provide and to what level.

All our meetings are open to the public and begin with an opportunity for you to ask questions about our work and to contribute your ideas to our thinking. We look forward to welcoming you to one of our meetings. The dates are available on our website www.broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk and the Parish Council noticeboards, which are sited at various locations in our community.

You can find out more information about the work of the Parish Council on our website and you should be receiving our quarterly newsletter through your letterbox.





Parish Survey

We would like to say
THANK YOU to those
of you who took the
time to share your
feedback with us
through this survey.
Your feedback has
given us some valuable
insights, which will help
guide our thinking and
actions.

Results

The summary of the
survey feedback is now
available on our
website for those that
wish to look at the
results in more detail. If
you have any questions
on these results, please
email us at

[clerk@broughtonandmkv-
pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk)

Parish Survey

Introduction

This was the first time we had attempted to undertake a survey of our Parishioners and none of us knew what to expect. In the end we were pleasantly surprised by the results, 261 responses, which equates to approximately 5% of the parish households. Whilst this may not seem a lot, we feel it is a good start in our aim to better communicate and connect with all of you.

What was particularly encouraging from the results was the good spread of responses from across the different areas of our parish (although significantly less from Oakgrove sadly) and from across all age groups. The fact that the responses were from such a cross section of our community allows us to give more weight to the views that were expressed.

So, what have we learned?

- 90% of respondents felt that the parish was a pleasant place to live however, almost half of respondents still felt that the parish had deteriorated over the past 12 months, so we need to address why that is and try to tackle the causes.
- The most anticipated part of the survey for us was learning what you see as the priorities. Respondents clearly highlighted clean streets, crime, road/ pavement repairs, speeding and parking as their top 5 priorities. Whilst these areas may not all be the direct responsibility of the Parish Council, our role is to make the voice of our community heard. One way in which we will continue to do this is through the strong working relationship we have with the Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors for our areas.
- Whilst only a quarter of respondents take part in local community activities/ groups, over 60% of those make use of community facilities, predominantly the three pavilions in our parish and the Hall in Milton Keynes Village.

Therefore, it is important that wherever possible, we continue to support these to be an integral part of community-life. You confirmed what we already suspected, that less than half of respondents know what we do, how to contact us or who we are. Clearly, we need to do more work to explain what we do, how we can help our residents and engage more closely with all of you. That is our intention and this survey was our first step to achieving that goal.

- Unsurprisingly, given the point above, only 20% of respondents had ever raised an issue with the Parish Council but of these over a third did not feel we had dealt with the issue effectively, so we need to work harder to improve this.
- Finally, and perhaps the least surprising in this digital age was the significant preference for our news to be delivered more by e-mail and social media, than printed newsletters and noticeboards. We were encouraged that 142 of you chose to provide us with your e-mail addresses so that we can continue to communicate with you in the future. We know that more electronic and online comms is the way forward and look forward to more of you signing up to e-mail comms in the future.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone that took the time to complete our first ever survey. We look forward to hearing from even more of you in our future surveys.

Alzheimer's Society

Contact Milton Keynes
Office:

417 Midsummer Blvd
Milton Keynes
MK9 3BN

miltonkeynes@alzheimers.org.uk

Tel: 01908 232612



Milton Keynes Hard of Hearing Support Group Charity No 1179826

Milton Keynes Hard of
Hearing Support Group
meets on the 1st and 3rd
Tuesday every month at
the **Sensory Advice and
Resource Centre
(SARC), Gloucester
House, 399 Silbury
Boulevard MK9 2AH
from 10.30-12.00 Noon**

For those with mobility
issues or who find public
transport inaccessible then
taxi fares will be
reimbursed upon
production of a receipt,
whilst funds are available.
If you would like to join this
diverse and very lively
group, please contact **Ros
Bloor on MK 01908
678472 or email:
rosaliebloor@yahoo.co.uk.**

A warm welcome awaits
you!

Our focus on Youth Engagement



In our recent parish survey, facilities for teenagers was the most mentioned of all groups that you said we should prioritise. This aligns with our own discussions about bringing a specific focus to this important group in our community and to back that with investment. In our plans for our 2019/20 financial year we have allocated a specific fund to do this.

We have many groups already doing great activities and support for youngsters in our community and we don't want to duplicate what they are doing.

Our aim is to use this to create something which makes a step-change over what exists today.

We've already got some ideas. We want to get your feedback on these and more importantly, give you the opportunity to add your ideas. Your feedback and ideas will help guide our direction and decisions.

To gather your feedback, we've created a short online survey, which only takes a few minutes to complete.

The survey closes on 22 May 2019.

Simply go to our website and link to open the survey:

www.broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk

If you'd rather complete it on paper, then either call the Parish Council office on 01908 087499 or leave a message on the website under "Contact Us" and one will be posted to you.

Your feedback is confidential and all the responses will be merged together anonymously.

Please be assured that as a public body the Parish Council will never use your feedback to sell or market anything to you or pass on your details to any third party. You can see our Privacy Notice at the bottom of our website home page.

Thank you in advance for your feedback on this important priority for our community.

Coming to Middleton Pavilion 14 Sept 19

<https://www.mkpavilion.co.uk/>

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/mkvpav/>



Please visit

www.mkfoodfest.org

or follow MKFoodFest on Facebook, twitter and Instagram.

Email:

hazel@mkfoodfest.org
for all enquiries.



On 14 September this year MKFoodFest will be taking place at Middleton Pavilion. This is a real coup and follows three successful years in Linford Manor Park.

The one-day festival, which will probably be one of the largest events to be staged in our community, is a celebration of local food and drink and all the stallholders come from within a 20-mile radius of the venue to make it a truly local experience. There will be 15 street food traders to choose from, a diverse farmers market selling handmade and artisan food items, a craft marquee to browse and a well-stocked bar selling local ale, craft cider, gin, wine and Prosecco. Hot drinks, cream-teas, freshly-baked pastries and ice-creams will encourage you to stay and soak up the atmosphere all afternoon.

This free to enter family event will run from 11am until 5pm and the day includes a time-table of chef demos and foodie talks from award-winning local chefs and experts. There will be live music and a variety of hands-on activities for children to enjoy.

The MKFoodFest is run as a not-for-profit community interest company and the organisational team are keen to support food-related charities and to include the local community in the event.

Once again, the Food Bank will be present, raising funds and collecting donations, and there will also be other food-related local charities and community groups exhibiting on the day allowing visitors to find out more about their work and opportunities. If you know of an appropriate charity or community group that would like to be involved in the event, please get in touch with the MKFoodFest team.

Having run the event smoothly for the last few years, the MKFoodFest are committed to ensuring the day is successful for the local businesses involved, the visitors to the event and for the surrounding community.

This means having measures in place to make sure visitors can find the venue, park and safely enjoy their day and then to return the site to its pre-event state by the end of the day. The Parish Council is working with MK Pavilions (Middleton Pavilion tenant) and the MKFoodFest organisers to ensure that they have the best possible traffic management and parking plans in place.

As you may imagine, this would not be possible without the help of a pool of volunteers so if you would like to volunteer to help out on the day then the MKFoodFest team would love to hear from you.

Please register your interest at www.mkfoodfest.org/volunteers

Everyone loves food and drink and it is even better when it is local. So bring along a picnic blanket and the whole family, enjoy sampling local food, stop for lunch and a lazy afternoon drink and watch the chefs showing off their skills in this open space in the heart of your community.

Look out for more news on the event nearer the time!

YMCA MILTON KEYNES

1/3 of rough sleepers in Milton Keynes are under the age of 25. YMCA are on a mission to change that, starting with a new campus in September 2019.

Broughton & Milton Keynes Parish Council is pleased to announce they have sponsored a room.

Single bed with storage
Mattress
Double cupboard
Beside table
500mm fridge
32"tv
Bucket chair
Coffee table
Roller bind
Delivery and installation
Total £2,550.00

<https://mkymca.com>

Become a Parish Councillor

Your
opportunity to
make a local
difference!

YMCA MILTON KEYNES



YMCA are developing a new eight-storey building in Central Milton Keynes. Not only will their new premises have more space, but most importantly, it will enable them to revolutionise the way they work, creating a positive environment in which their residents can belong and participate as they work towards a brighter future.

Based on successful models implemented at other YMCA's, their new facility will offer a pathway of support focusing on independent living, health and well-being and employability. The new building will offer three stages of accommodation, creating a pathway for residents to access support and services:

Stage one will be emergency accommodation for 30 people with access to 24-hour support. Support at this stage will focus on improving health and well-being and basic independent living skills.

Stage two consists of 63 studio flats organised around seven communal living and kitchen facilities. Support at this stage will focus specifically on employment skills. Residents will only be able to move onto the next stage of accommodation once they have achieved their agreed goals.

Stage three is the final stage of accommodation for residents who are in employment or training. 106 studios and flats will be available at a low rent.

Their aim is to create a community in which young people feel safe and can work towards a brighter future. Each resident will stay for an average of three years, with 75 residents leaving each year as a confident, independent young adult with a home and a job, and the skills to sustain both.

This not only benefits the young person directly, but also their family, friends and ultimately the whole community.

Parish Council Elections 2 May 2019

Do you care about where you live? Are you passionate about your community? If so, you could make a great local councillor. Stand for election and make a local change.

What do local councillors do? Councillors are the champions of their community and give residents a voice on the decisions the council makes. Becoming a councillor will allow you to make a real difference in your community by engaging with residents, local groups and businesses to find out their needs; making decisions on which services and projects the council should take forward; and getting involved locally to ensure the services are meeting your community's needs.

Becoming a local councillor As a local councillor you can become a voice for your community and make a real change. Councillors are community leaders and represent the interests of the communities they serve. Local councillors have three main responsibilities: • Decision-making • Monitoring • Getting involved locally

Can I stand? There are only a few rules to stand for election; you must be:

- A British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth, or the European Union
- 18 years of age or older
- Live in an area that is served by a local council

How can I get involved?

Contact clerk@broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk or call 01908 087499 for more details. Alternatively, if you want to see more about what local councils do, log onto our website www.broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk and view the NALC Publication.



Contact

Vicky Mote
(Clerk/RFO)

27 Atlas Way,
Oakgrove, Milton
Keynes, MK10 9SG

Tel:
01908087499

Email:
clerk@broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk

Website:
www.broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk

Your councillors, who volunteer for their community

David Monk (Chair)

Tim Small (Vice-chair)

John Bint
Peter Brown
Gary Brighton
Julie Chambers
Ricky Oates
Yemi Olayemi
Jo Small
Patrick Stiles
Liz Swinton.

Log onto our website
for more details about
your local councillors

Allotments- Middleton Road site update

We want to update you on a complex issue that we have been wrestling with and the decision we have reached.

Our allotment site at Middleton Road has had long-standing issues which have called into question its viability as an allotment site as it currently stands. With its thick clay base and poor quality soil it has continued to be prone to flooding

The Parish Council felt that it would be irresponsible to let plots that will not be good enough for their tenants. Therefore, we have not been letting plots for some time and encouraging allotments holders to look at our alternative sites, which the majority have done. The upshot of this is that the cost of maintaining the site has become greater than the allotment rental we collect.

We want to find a long term solution for the use of this site as community land. Community land is the sole purpose it can be used for. Amongst many ideas, this could include returning it to use as allotment site in the future if there is a cost-effective solution to the issue of the soil and flooding.

We have been inviting existing allotment holders to consult with us on potential long-term solutions and we appreciate the feedback they have given us.

There is no quick, simple, low-cost solution. Whatever we decide to do, including potentially returning it to allotment usage, will need the site to be worked on and then rested for a long period.

We have reached a point where we believe the right decision is to close this site whilst we consider the right long-term solution.

This closure won't happen until 6 April 2020. This respects the notice period we have given to the handful of remaining allotments holders, as per their agreements. We have offered them further assistance in identifying and moving them to one of our other sites, which we hope they will do.

Brooklands

We are looking at two new sites in the Brooklands area to better serve the new part of the Parish. Before committing we will ensure they are fit for purpose and offer good value to our residents.

Allotment sites available

- ✓ Broughton Rd, Milton Keynes Village
- ✓ Walton Rd, Milton Keynes Village.
- ✓ Kemsley, Broughton
- ✓ Cranmore, Broughton Gate
- ✓ Brooklands (coming end 2020)

If you are interested in an allotment plot or want us to keep your details on our waiting list; please contact
admin@broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk

The Great British Spring Clean!

This national campaign aims to collect and safely dispose of litter from our streets, parks and beaches, recycling as much as possible.

As the Parish Council we have litter picking kits available to loan to groups who want to be 'part of the pick' during the Spring Clean.

All you need to do is:

- Email us at clerk@broughtonandmkv-pc.gov.uk telling us the name of your group, what you plan to do and how many litter picking kits. We have a limited supply of these, so book early!
- Go to the Great British Spring Clean website and register your activity – www.keepbritaintidy.org/home
- Have fun taking part and please send us some pictures!



Great British Spring Clean 22 Mar-23 Apr

To find out more about the Great British Spring Clean visit:

www.keepbritaintidy.org