



WOBURN SANDS  
TOWN COUNCIL

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AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2017

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



Dear Resident,

Our apologies on two counts: our last newsletter went out under the heading Spring newsletter instead of Summer newsletter and it was a week late in its delivery as the delivery firm let us down. Consequently it arrived too late for most of you to hear about the Summer Festival (see inside). This newsletter should be delivered in the week beginning 16 Oct so please let the Town Clerk know if you haven't received your copy.

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## SUCCESSFUL SUMMER FESTIVAL



Next year we'll get better publicity for what was a very enjoyable event this year held in the Recreation Ground on 15 July on a lovely sunny day. The event was organised by Cllr Gill Brookes (then Gill Bunker) and a small team of helpers and was a follow on from the Folk Festivals previously held at Edgewick Farm. The music from lots of bands was a wider variety than pure folk and many people sat on the grass enjoying picnics and drinks, ice creams during the day. Gill is already looking towards some improvements for next year so put the date in your

diaries now: **SATURDAY 7 JULY**. All profits from the day are going to two local charities: Mad about Harry and Willen Hospice who each receive about £500. The former is for Harry, a local child just 8 years old who has stage 4 high risk Neuroblastoma: a rare and aggressive children's cancer. Money in this charity goes towards his treatment and support as well as research into the disease.



# GARDEN COMPETITION

We are as always very grateful to Frosts Garden Centre for both sponsoring and guiding the judging of our annual garden competition.

On the front cover you can see the winner of the back garden competition at 31 Theydon Avenue and here are pictures of the winners of the front garden and hanging baskets/tubs competitions at 27 Hardwick Road and 6 Pine Grove respectively.

You can see photos of all the prize winners along with the judges' comments on our website: just click on "Garden Competition" on left hand side of the front page.



The WSTC webpage is maintained by the Council Staff and is an ongoing project. If you have any comments, or you think that something should be included or a contact detail changed on the website, please contact the Council.

You could always use the Contact us & Enquiry Form link from the Home Page!

We are very sorry to have lost two respected members of our local community by their sudden and unexpected deaths: **Adrienne Rutter** who died in the summer had been closely involved in DEGA and in recent years set up the highly successful Senior Friends coffee mornings which she ran with Julie every Wednesday morning. Then late in September, **Cllr Ian Pickering**, Chair of Aspley Guise Parish Council for the past several years died. Ian worked tirelessly to prevent unwanted developments in the local area and his contributions will be very much missed.



# HERITAGE WALKS

The two Heritage Walks we organised in September were a great success, enjoyed by all those who joined them. Paul Cox had an amazing knowledge of lots of the former occupants of various properties and knowledge about the buildings and everyone learnt something new. The rain cleared away for the first walk but dampened those on the second walk. We have been asked by several people to organise one again...maybe next year to once again coincide with Milton Keynes Heritage weekend. Sadly one of the buildings which featured and is in our Woburn Sands Heritage Trail, no.3 Church Road, has recently been demolished to make way for two new homes. This strange looking building had few windows on the ground floor but large ones on the first storey as it was used by bonnet makers and the hats were dried in the sun through the big windows. We still have a few copies of our Heritage Trail which we published in 2007 to mark the centenary of Woburn Sands becoming a parish in its own right, so if you would like one perhaps as a newcomer to our town, please pop in to the Town Council office to ask for one.



*We hope you like the two new town maps which have been installed, one to replace the present one on the wall of Shelton House in the High Street and a new one outside the Summerlin Centre. We are grateful to Woburn Sands Business and Community Association for their contribution towards the cost of these from their funds on closing the Association.*



# PLANNING MATTERS

We should have had the result of the Appeal into the building of 203 homes by Wavendon Properties by the time of writing this newsletter, but there has been a delay in the Inspector's decision due to Iain Stewart MP asking for a recovery request into the appeal which Ministers are currently considering. There are specific circumstances which allow MPs to put in this request for determination by the Secretary of State and the one used by Iain is as follows:

*Proposals for residential development of over 150 units which would significantly impact upon the Government's objective to secure a better balance between housing demand and supply and create high quality, sustainable, mixed and inclusive communities.*

Iain's argument, as was argued at the Appeal hearing, was that use of the Sedgefield approach to calculate housing land supply which the Inspector seemed to favour as against the Liverpool method used by Milton Keynes Council will prejudice MKC's long term plans for the delivery of housing as it currently proposes in Plan:MK where the land for this development remains open countryside. As soon as we know the outcome it will be headline news on our website.

We have, however, been notified of another Appeal, this one by Domino's Pizza against Milton Keynes Council's decision to refuse their application for an outlet at 1 Station Road (TJ's off licence at present). A number of local residents

worked very hard along with the Town Council to stop this development but we are now faced with an Appeal which will be dealt with by correspondence only. This means that all the letters you sent on the application will be forwarded to the Inspector and only new evidence against or for the application should be sent in triplicate to the Inspectorate by 31 October. The reference number is APP/Y0435/W/17/3180590 and further details are on our website.

There is a further application for another food outlet, a tapas bar, in the premises formerly occupied by the chemist in the High Street. Details again are on our own and MKC website. This will be a restaurant, not a take away. It is a reflection of the changing function of High Streets that we now have so many eating and drinking facilities in the High Street at the expense of the traditional retail food outlets many of us grew up with. It is, however, good that our High Street, unlike many others, remains fairly well occupied and busy.

We continue to deal with numerous applications for extensions and some infill developments in Woburn Sands every week, but aim to draw to your attention to any that can affect many people. Another such is for the land south of the railway where the car wash and car sales currently operate. This is an application to build up to 9 industrial units which could include business premises and/or warehousing. The application number is 17/02395/OUT if you wish to comment.

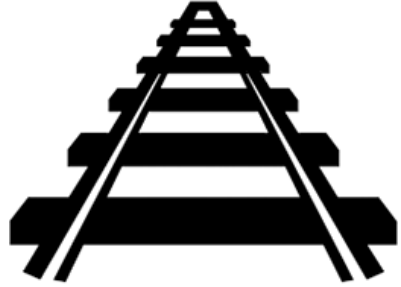


## FRIENDS OF WOBURN SANDS STATION

We are pleased to announce that this group is now officially formed with the main aim of enhancing the station in Woburn Sands. The group has an action plan the first actions of which will be to establish some tubs with plants on the platforms and replace the existing mural.

A number of other ideas for further work are being considered. If you have ideas or would be willing to help

with plants and planting up, please contact the chairman: **Robert Allan** on **rob Allan1301@gmail.com**.



## GULLY CLEARING

Following several incidents of serious flooding in a number of homes in Woburn Sands during exceptionally heavy downpours in recent years, we have had several meetings with both Central Beds and MKC in an attempt to get the situation improved before another heavy downpour. Much of our problem is water gushing down from the higher land in Aspley Guise and Aspley Heath on to our own roads and into homes. MKC has over 62,000 road drains across the city for which it is responsible and has published a programme for the next three years under which all the drains in Woburn Sands will be cleared in May 2019. But, don't despair! There are days reserved

each month to respond to priority clearing of blocked drains and you should notify the Town Clerk if a drain near you is obviously blocked or report it yourself at [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways-and-transport-hub](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways-and-transport-hub).



# SNIPPETS & DATES

**Local Charities.** We have been asked to bring to your attention a new venture at The Jalori on the second Tuesday of each month when a local resident is organising a quiz for teams of four and a buffet style meal for £20 per head. All profits from each evening will be donated to a different named local charity. Don't forget also that any local charity can seek a small grant from the Town Council at this time of the year. We set aside a sum each year from our precept (a very small proportion of the money you pay as part of your council tax bill) and allocate this usually in November. Please contact the Town Clerk to find out how to apply for these small grants and deadline dates.

**22nd October Oak Tree Plaque on Mowbray Green.** As mentioned in the Winter newsletter, an oak tree has been planted on Mowbray Green in memory of all those from Woburn Sands who fell in the First World War including Captain The Honourable Henry Feilding, great uncle of a local resident. He died at Passchendaele in October 1917 and the tree has been grown from an acorn which was collected from the cemetery in Belgium where he is buried. On Sunday 22 October at 12pm, a memorial plaque will be unveiled on Mowbray Green next to the tree which is growing well. This will be done in a very short ceremony together with the sounding of The Last Post, fittingly 100 years since Captain Feilding along with hundreds of compatriots died. Everyone is more than welcome to attend and reflect on the sacrifice made by so many in that War.

**Remembrance Sunday 12 November.** We will as always gather at the War Memorial in the High Street near the Library at about 10.45am following the service at St Michaels and the parade from the Church to the Memorial Green. The names of those who gave their lives in the World Wars will be read by the Mayor and a short service held with the two minutes silence at 11am. We are always enormously gratified at the large number of residents who come together on this occasion, filling the High Street round the green. Any newcomers to Woburn Sands need to know that the High Street is closed to all traffic between about 10.30 and 11.30am for this service.



**Sunday November 26 Christmas Fayre** sees a very different mood in the High Street with stalls, fairground rides, food, music and other entertainments. Again, the High Street will be closed to traffic between Russell Street and Vicarage Street from 10.00am until about 18.30. The Fayre festivities will begin at 1pm and end after the Grand Raffle and switching on of the lights by the Mayor of Milton Keynes soon after 4.30pm. This event involves a great deal of work by the organising committee who raise money for charities and share the costs of the Christmas Lights throughout Station Road and the High Street with the Town Council. We are as always most grateful to them but your added help on the day is always welcome. Anyone willing to help on the day should contact **Patti** at [woburnsandschristmasfayre@gmail.com](mailto:woburnsandschristmasfayre@gmail.com). If you can spare an hour to help at the road closure points, that too would be most welcome: contact **Cllr Keith Temple** at [kj\\_temple@hotmail.com](mailto:kj_temple@hotmail.com) or **07799 061081** to go on the rota.

**Friday 8 December** The Sands Singers Christmas Concert our Community choir will be in full swing at 7pm on in the Memorial Hall all welcome. Festive nibbles and drinks will no doubt be available.



**Sunday 10 December Community Market** a chance to buy some locally produced items for Christmas will be from 10am until 2pm in the High Street around the Memorial Green and Library. Delicious items for the table will be available.

**Christmas Eve on Mowbray Green.** Another great community event takes place with Christmas music and carols provided by Woburn Sands Band. It lasts about an hour starting at 7pm and you should bring a torch to see the song sheets and join in. Mulled wine and hot snacks will be sold by the Band. Hopefully many of you had tickets for the Band's concerts on Oct 14 and 15 when we were treated to the massed bands of all sections from beginners to the very experienced. We are greatly indebted to Len Jenkins and Karen Boote for their dedication to the Band introducing brass instruments to whoever wants to learn and providing the local community with a great asset.

