

# WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

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N e w s l e t t e r

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## WINTER 2013

May we wish all our readers a good 2013. For us, it looks, yet again, to be a busy one particularly on the planning front, kicking off with the Inspectorate's consideration of the Tesco Appeals against Milton Keynes Council's refusal of their earlier applications to open a Tesco Express at 5 High Street. All your previous letters will be forwarded to the Inspector and only new information/facts can be submitted at this stage. The deadline for any such new letters must be with the Inspectorate by 22 Jan and full details are on MKC's website.

We are anticipating an application for the final phases of the Parklands development from Taylor Wimpey shortly and will have the plans on display once these are available. Do watch our website and our column in Hogsty End Handbook for further information on this. The plans are likely to include the provision of a small sports hall adjacent to the Summerlin Centre which the Town Council thought would be more use to the community than the previously proposed Muga (multi use games area) which would have been an outdoor facility the location of which was proving difficult. Before we comment further on the sports hall development it would be extremely useful to know just how many people might use such a facility. Please complete the short questionnaire on the back page and return to the Town Clerk or e-mail her with your response as soon as possible. The playing area will be large enough for a badminton court and would also therefore accommodate two or more table tennis tables, short mat bowls, soft ball junior tennis, and anything else you may care to suggest! It could also be available for private hire and there will be adequate storage for equipment for the sports. Some activities could be geared specifically for our more senior citizens whilst others could be targeted at juniors. All ideas welcome so we can judge the viability of such a facility.

### **Woburn Sands Library**

The library in the High Street will be one year old at the start of February and will be celebrating its first birthday with a morning of activities for children along with drinks and cake on Saturday 2 February. Do pop in and if by any chance you haven't been in it yet, this would be good time to come in and see what's on offer. Remember also that the library can be hired for events outside opening hours and the shelving can be pushed back making a seating area for about 40 people comfortably. So it is highly suitable for more intimate gatherings such as the poetry evening held in December. Contact the library or Town Clerk for more information.

### **Woburn Sand Youth Club**

The Town Council would like to thank Dave Burns and his team of helpers and Churches Together for the great work they have done over the past few years in their efforts to establish a Youth Club here. It has been very successful for the group of young people who used it but this cohort has now moved on and it has proved more difficult to energise new members, so regretfully, the Youth Club has now been disbanded. The proposed sports hall may fill a need for some sports activities for this group so even more reason to complete our questionnaire!

### **The Coals Charity**

Now no longer providing sacks of coal for the needy in the Woburn Sands and Wavendon, this charity gives financial help for winter fuel costs to those in need. Funded largely by a legacy in trust it is also supplemented by some local people who do not feel the need of the Government's winter fuel payment for themselves and who kindly donate this to the trust's funds. If you come into the latter category, please contact the Charity's secretary, Sue Hopkins, on 582632.

### **HELP wanted!**

There are lots of clubs and organisations which many enjoy in Woburn Sands and the local community, but some are struggling to find people willing to give a hand with the running of these and it would be such a shame to see them close.

The Gardening Club with over 150 members is one such. This very successful club puts on two shows each year with many categories for anyone to enter; 3 coffee mornings; 3 social evenings with a speaker, not necessarily garden related; an outing often to a garden; a quiz night; an annual dinner. With a larger committee, the tasks of organising these can be shared by several people so please consider joining and offering your help. Gardening is NOT the prerogative of old folks! Contact Paul on 584958 or Roz on 586806 for more information.

Our two big community events, the Christmas Fayre and the Summer Folk Festival, always welcome new members and ideas for their organising committees. Contact the Town Clerk for information if you can spare a little time, even if just on the weekend of the events themselves, late November and early July

The Town Council also needs someone to do an internal audit. This should be someone familiar with parish council procedures and finances. It only takes a few hours each year going through our accounts with the Town Clerk, so please contact her if you could volunteer.

### **Happening now or Coming soon:**

- Consultation on our Neighbourhood Plan and Sustainability Appraisal is now underway and your comments are most welcome whether you live or work here. Documents are available at our Library and on our website. Please take some time to look at these and make comments, if you wish, to the Town Clerk by the end of February.
- Superfast Broadband hopefully in February. That's what lots of the small road works recently have been about.
- First detailed application for the Strategic Land allocation south of the A421 and north of Wavendon and Lower End expected soon.
- Discussions on Networks Rail's plans for the upgrade and extension to the Bedford/Bletchley railway, part of EastWest Rail project, will take place this year....
- Abolition of the South East Plan, so long promised by the Government: fingers crossed! (vital for our Neighbourhood Plan to be effective). Latest date :“by end of Feb”.
- Coach trips will resume in March

**RE: SMALL SPORTS HALL NEAR THE SUMMERLIN CENTRE**

State sport/activity and age group if applicable in answer to following:

I/we would be interested in organising:

.....

I/we would like to take part in:

.....

.....

I/we would suggest: .....  
would be a suitable sport/activity.

Other comments

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.....

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Name (optional).....

**Please return to: [l.stapleton@wstc.org.uk](mailto:l.stapleton@wstc.org.uk)  
or to The Memorial Hall, letter box on front double doors**