



## Litter Pick planned for later this year.

Following on from the successes of last years litter picks, the Council is arranging for another litter collection later in the year. We assemble in the Children's playground in Banbury Lane and all equipment is provided. Please follow our facebook page and website and we will post details once a date is confirmed.



Save the Date

July 16th

## Party in the Park

The Parish Council are having a Party in the Park in the playpark on Banbury Lane. This is going to be a family fun day, there will be a marquee, DJ, entertainment, food and drink with a licensed bar, childrens entertainment and a bouncy castle.

We welcome residents participation. Stalls will be available to rent so please contact the Parish Council (our contact details are on the front page) if you would be interested or know any suitable groups who may wish to get involved.

### USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency Numbers	
Police, fire or ambulance	999
Electricity	0800 028 0247
Gas (24 hr)	0800 111 999
Water (24 hr)	08457 145145
The Samaritans	08457 90 90 90
Social Services (out of hours)	01604 626938

Advice & Information	
Age UK	01604 611200
Alcoholics Anonymous	0845 7697555
Citizens Advice Bureau	0844 4111 4444
Crime Stoppers	0800 555 111
National Drugs Helpline	0800 776600
NHS 111	111
General Hospital	01604 634700
Sleeping Rough	01604 629804
Community Law Service	01604 621038

Northampton Borough Council  
All Council Services (Standard Rate) 0300 330 7000

Waste and recycling collections are provided for Northampton Borough Council by Enterprise Managed Services.  
recycling@northampton.gov.uk or visit www.northampton.gov.uk/recycling

#### Out-of-hours

To report a stray dog out-of-hours 01604 837999  
To report other complaints eg noise ring 01604 838000 to leave a message. This will be dealt with on the next working day

#### Northamptonshire County Council

Switchboard	0300 126 1000
School transport	01604 236132
Street Doc (Road Maintenance & Lighting)	0845 6011113
Trading standards	08454 04 05 06

#### USEFUL WEBSITES

Report Rubbish & Graffiti online  
http://selfserve.northampton.gov.uk/mycouncil

Report problems with Potholes, Street signs etc. online  
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/contactusstreetdoctor

## Parish Council Budget/Precept

The Council has agreed a budget for the next financial year (2016/2017) totalling £26,930. By using balances however, the Council has been able to set its precept (the amount we actually raise from Council Tax payers) to just under £14,700. This is a small increase on the current year's £14,220, but because of the growing parish, the annual amount demanded on each household should be exactly the same as last year - £29.08 for a Band D property. This will be the 3rd year in succession in which the Council Tax for your Parish Council has remained the same.

## Proposed Development-Upton Valley Way/ Banbury Lane

(Planning Application N/2015/ 0872)

This application is still being discussed by the Borough Council and, so far as we are aware, no date has yet been fixed for it to be considered by the Planning Committee. It is known that the application was due to go before the Planning Committee at the end of December, but that was delayed at the request of the Developer.

## New Parish Clerk

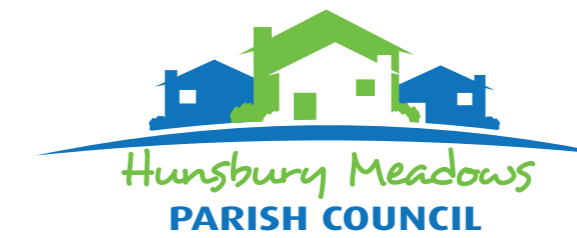
We are pleased to welcome our new Parish Clerk; Mr. Lalitkumar Patel. Mr Patel has a wealth of experience both as a Clerk and as a Parish Councillor himself and we are very pleased to have him on board.

We also wish to pay tribute to our retiring Clerk; Vivien Hartley, who had been our Clerk since the Council's inception. We thank Viv for her fine efforts and wish her every success in her future endeavours.

## YOUR ADVERT HERE

Your Parish Council is keen to provide a facility for local tradesmen and businesses to advertise their expertise in this newsletter; which will be distributed free to every household in the Parish, whilst at the same time helping the Council to reduce the cost of newsletter production.

The cost of an advert this size is just £24 per issue, or £60 per annum (a minimum of 3 issues) inc VAT. Please contact the Council to place your advert in the next issue.



# PARISH NEWS

March 2016

## A message from our Chairman

Dear Residents

I am certain that you will find the content of our latest newsletter of real local interest as we deal with a good number of current community issues, including an exciting Hunsbury Meadows fun day announcement. Since our last newsletter, was posted through your doors by willing volunteers, much has been happening at Hunsbury Meadows. Throughout this time your Parish Council has remained hard at work dealing with an ever-challenging list of current issues that potentially affect us all here at Hunsbury Meadows. We have made every effort to highlight these within this edition.



Much hard work goes into the publication of our newsletters and as usual we welcome all your contributions of local news items and your assistance in its door-to-door distribution. We always appreciate your feedback and comments, if you run a local business, you think may be of interest to our readers, why not take a small advert here at a very affordable annual cost.

I am pleased to report that the Council at long last is able to boast a full compliment of eight caring individuals who are keen to accept the responsibilities of being a Parish Councillor, details on our website, and to collectively work together to ensure that Hunsbury Meadows is a great place to live. We are delighted to welcome Ms. Manjit Garlick and Mr. Alan Buckley to the Council as our latest recruits; Manjit will bring drive and energy together with much needed commercial experience, working in a local Swan Valley based business and Alan brings to the Council his local knowledge and experience. We also officially welcome Mr. LalitKumar Patel to the vital role of Parish Clerk and (RFO) Responsible Financial Officer. Lalit brings to our Parish Council vast experience in the role of Parish Clerk and RFO from his time in a Yorkshire Parish. We will benefit greatly from his commercial and local authority experience and more recently as a Parish Councillor at Little Houghton.

Many of our residents will remember the fun day, organised in celebration of our Queens Jubilee in June 2012, held on the Banbury Lane children's play area open space. A highly successful event organised by the Banbury Lane Residents Association, the forerunner to your Parish Council today. Well the good news is that it will happen again this year on July 16th. You can find more details of the party in the park inside this issue.

Once again you are invited to attend any of the Parish Meetings held at the Parsons Mead Community Room, Hunsbury Hill usually on the first Wednesday of every month (except for August and December). You can follow us on our website at www.HunsburyMeadows.co.uk, our Facebook page or email us on hmhc13@gmail.com for more information.

Steve Jelley - Chairman, Hunsbury Meadows Parish Council

Five ways to keep in touch with us, with regular updates and local news issues for Hunsbury Meadows.

Website: www.hunsburymeadows.co.uk  
Email: hmhc13@gmail.com



Like us on Facebook /Hunsbury-Meadows-Community



Follow us on Twitter @HunsburyMeadows

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE

101

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

Clerk: Mr Lalitkumar Patel, 52 Meadow Lane, Little Houghton, Northampton NN7 1AH Tel: 01604 891830

## Parish Boundary

The Parish Council has been in recent discussion with the Northampton Borough Council, to seek to confirm the parish boundaries. It has been confirmed by the Borough Council that much of the Swan Valley industrial estate falls within our parish, Anyone who would like to see the map of our parish can do so on the Parish Council's Website.



## Street Trees - Banbury Lane

The maintenance of trees in Banbury Lane has become a significant issue for the Parish Council. The basic problem is "ownership" of the land on which the trees sit, with the County Council (Highways) and the Borough Council being involved to a large extent, whilst some areas apparently being in "no-man's land".

The Parish Council however recognises that both the County and Borough are short of funds and has therefore agreed to provide some funding to assist with the maintenance work along Banbury Lane, to help improve the situation. Parishioners will have observed the work already done by County Council contractors and we are currently in negotiation with the contractors to decide which areas of Banbury Lane and elsewhere within the Parish we should next give attention.

Whilst the initial results of the maintenance, may seem a little "drastic", we have every confidence that the trees and shrubs will soon grow back in a much tidier form. We wish to avoid having to pay for this job every couple of years and it is therefore essential that a thorough job is done.

It is also apparent however that some of the trees causing the most problems are in private ownership, particularly towards the northern end of Banbury Lane, where street lighting and the bus stop have been obliterated and walking along the footpath is unpleasant.

The Parish Council is legally unable to fund work on private land and we would therefore make a request please to all residents, where private trees are overhanging public footpaths, that they have their trees cut back and, where appropriate, reduced in height.

Generally, we seek the help of all residents in maintaining trees and hedges that overhang public footpaths, wherever in the parish.

## Benches

Residents will have noticed the damaged bench (near the post box), which has been vandalised repeatedly. Thanks to County Council funds being made available by our County Councillor, Jill Hope, the Parish Council is going to replace the bench shortly.

## Vandalism

Please, if you see anyone acting suspiciously or causing damage around the parish, dial 101 and let the police know.



## Children's Playground Banbury Lane

This children's playground is the responsibility of the Borough Council. The Parish Council is however aware that the playground generally has become overgrown and is in a state of disrepair, largely caused by vandalism

Once again, the Parish Council is in discussion with the Borough Council as to how this situation can be improved, particularly given the known shortage of funds of the Borough Council and their likely priorities elsewhere. The Parish has agreed to fund the cutting back of the playground trees and to improve the entrance from Banbury Lane, both in terms of ground works and to improve the visibility from Banbury Lane. These discussions are ongoing. The Parish Council is also particularly keen to secure the future maintenance of this area and to establish how this might be achieved and funded.

## Children's Playground Pineham Lock

The Parish Council had a Site meeting with David Wilson Home (DWH), prior to Christmas, concerning, in particular, the progress on the children's playground at the back of the Pineham Lock Estate.

The Council is concerned at the delay in completing this facility; the delay has been caused by perpetual flooding and inclement weather. DWH are aware of a severe drainage problem on the Site and are tackling the issue. Hopefully the problems will be resolved quickly and the playground soon made available to residents.

Once finished, future responsibility for the maintenance of this playground will initially be that of DWH, but will soon transfer to the residents of the Pineham Lock Estate as part of residents Service Charges agreements.

## Vehicle Parking

Could residents please be thoughtful when parking vehicles on the parish streets, particularly in the Riverstone Way area. You are reminded that it is essential to leave enough room for emergency vehicles to get through and footpaths clear and that is not happening in some parts of our parish. It can help by parking private cars on driveways and in garages please wherever possible. Parking of commercial vehicles on our roads overnight only increases the problem and this is also discouraged. If you feel a vehicle is causing an obstruction of the road or pathway please dial 101 as the police are aware of the issue and will respond accordingly.

## Security

We have been made aware by the police of one or two opportunist burglaries in neighbouring parishes, where people have left doors unlocked, keys in the door, etc. The Council would wish to emphasise to all residents to take all sensible measures to protect their homes and possessions. We all like to believe that we live in a friendly community, but, unfortunately, there are a few rogues out there who will enter your homes and take what they can, if you make life easy for them. Please make sure your doors and windows are locked at night and that keys are safe for your own security. If you see anything suspicious late at night or in the early hours, please dial 101 immediately and let the police know. If you feel personally threatened, in any way, of course, please dial 999

## Canal Bridge

Residents will have noticed the continuing increase in heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) using Banbury Lane and the canal bridge. The Parish Council believes that this is because drivers wrongly believe that the turn at Upton Valley Way into Banbury Lane provides access to the Swan Valley Estate.

The Council is particularly concerned that the bridge, when built, was never intended for the weight of vehicles now consistently using it. The Council has therefore approached the Highway Authority (NCC) to see whether a weight restriction should be applied to the bridge and whether a "no access to Swan Valley" sign should be erected at the junction with Upton Valley Way

The Council is also worried about the safety of pedestrians using the bridge, with only a narrow path available as HGVs pass.

## Electoral Registration

2016 promises to be a busy year when it comes to Elections. We will have elections for a Police and Crime Commissioner and a European Referendum. Residents will only be able to participate in these elections if they are on the current register of electors.

If you are new to the parish, or have any reason to believe that you may not be on the current list, you are urged to contact the electoral registrar at the Guildhall to get your name(s) added. Don't leave it too late!

<http://www.northampton.gov.uk/election>

# Local Identified Solutions and Practices (LISP) and Street-Watch



A message from Northamptonshire Police :

Dear Resident, Are you aware that Streetwatch is operating in Northampton ?

The purpose of Streetwatch is:

- To prevent crime by increasing visibility and maintaining a caring cohesive community.
- To assist the police by promoting effective communication and the prompt reporting of activity.
- To increase feelings of safety by promoting a sense of security and community spirit.

Streetwatch is run by local residents promoting good citizenship and supporting a stronger community. The scheme is fully supported by Northamptonshire Police.

Streetwatch will:

- provide visible reassurance
- promote good citizenship and community cohesion
- reduce low level anti-social behaviour
- reduce crime and disorder issues that impact most on our areas
- engage with the local youth to provide better relations and understanding
- reduce the fear of crime
- forge links within our communities
- provide community information on the website
- provide a stronger community liaison with local police

Benefits of joining Streetwatch:

- help your community by patrolling in pairs for only two hours a month, at any time or date that suits you
- meet new friends within your neighbourhood and help build a stronger sense of community cohesion
- get to know your community and the local area
- take part in social events
- keep fit and healthy through patrols
- wear high visibility Streetwatch jackets to be visible and provide reassurance to the local community
- book patrols and exchange information online via our website
- all members are covered by Public Liability Insurance and Personal Accident Cover (under 75 years)

Streetwatch is about local residents promoting good citizenship and supporting a better neighbourhood. They provide visible reassurance and appropriately engage in local issues that matter most to a community.

The presence and activities of Streetwatch members will have a significant and positive impact on quality of life issues within a community. Streetwatch members also liaise with local police to encourage positive information sharing and liaison.

Streetwatch is a way of giving something back to the community.

Your Parish Council supports our local police in setting up a Streetwatch scheme in Hunsbury Meadows and we are looking for a few more residents to put their names forward, for this very worthwhile task. (a few residents have already come forward.)

**If you are interested in joining the scheme, or require further information, please contact PCSO Andrew Emberton at Mereway Police, Northampton, NN4 8BE email: [andrew.emberton@northants.pnn.police.uk](mailto:andrew.emberton@northants.pnn.police.uk) or [lee.shelton@northants.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lee.shelton@northants.pnn.police.uk)**