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The next edition will be



# Pitstone Parish Post

**Next Edition**

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Produced on behalf of Pitstone Parish Council and distributed quarterly, free to every household, PPP aims to keep members of the local community informed about events and news that may affect them.

We are very grateful to the following distributors, who deliver the magazine to your door every quarter:

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# WELCOME

Bob Saintey, Chairman, Pitstone Parish Council

By the time you receive this we should be heading away from winter towards longer days, higher temperatures and gently getting excited about spring and all it brings. My biggest gripe/disappointment comes from the misuse and abuse of the football pitch at the Pavilion on Marsworth Road. In the two weeks of the Christmas holiday, youths from this village and from Tring continuously broke in and played football, much against the endeavours of the Groundsman, Councillors and Parish clerk to evict them from the premises. This has resulted in the two goals of the main pitch being poached, the penalty spots being kicked out, rendering them in a condition almost unusable. It is also unfair for the Football clubs, who pay good money to be there. This will

ultimately give rise to further expenditure at the end of the season for our Groundsman to repair these worn areas. Up until the Christmas holidays they were in excellent condition.

What is even more annoying is that now gates and fences are being damaged in order to gain access. When you drop your footballer off in the holidays, are you aware that they may be causing criminal damage for which the Parish Council will involve the Police? The call for CCTV and micro cameras is now being discussed with a view to installation. I wonder if those parents of the youths in the village realise that this expenditure will be included in the rise of the precept. Will it make any difference? I doubt it.

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# COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

Avril Davies County Councillor, Ivinghoe Division

County Council grant settlement means higher taxes and fewer services.

On 17 December councils were notified by government of their grant allocation for 2016/17. It is not news that the cuts have been far greater than expected and come on top of year on year reductions since 2010. Instead of the anticipated 30% cut for this coming financial year 2016/17, Bucks County Council received a 43.3% cut in grant, being allocated only £23.7 million instead of £28 million as expected. Next year it will receive £8.1 million and grants will cease from then on.

This should be offset to an extent by the council receiving a portion of the business rate previously retained

entirely by central government, and permission to raise council tax by 2% over and above the 1.9% previous limit, specifically to meet adult social care costs. However the government applies a funding formula called a top up grant adjustment which has reduced Bucks funding this year by a further £1.6 million, and up to a total of minus £52.7 million in the next four years. This negative grant settlement is achieved by holding back the business rate and re allocating it to poorer authorities.

Although the County Council budget is still £335 million, excluding schools, there are continuing new costs to meet, for additional duties

*(Continued on page 6)*

**in health and social care, children's services, flood prevention, and more, as well as increasing numbers of people needing care, and the introduction of the national minimum wage.**

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/documents/b22893/Draft%20Budget%20Report%20and%20Appendices%2011th-Jan-2016%2010.30%20Cabinet.pdf?T=9>

I could continue, but you get the overall gloomy picture of reduced budgets and services and increased taxes. The conservative administration is vociferously blaming the very government they helped to elect. My group, while equally angry, will face up to the realities of the situation, and challenge them on every priority and 'difficult choice' they have to make, to try to prevent the baby going out with the bath water, and protect those most reliant on services.

Tring Station and the London Midland rail franchise renewal Aldbury Parish Council has written to me and others about the need to have a plan for Tring Station, to improve the parking and reduce the impact on local residents, which I fully support. Although the use of

Cheddington station has remained about the same since 1997, Tring station usage has increased by 72%. The West Midlands rail franchise document published on 15 December is now out for consultation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/west-midlands-rail-franchise>

It is vital that Bucks and Herts, Dacorum and Aylesbury Vale Councils work together to put their views into this consultation and include in their own local plans of the needs of local residents and the impact of future development. The head of Transport Strategy and Growth, Joan Hancox, is attending the next Local Area Forum in Wing on 21st January.

I have added to the case made by Aldbury Parish Council by reminding them that Hertfordshire is still sitting on money to construct a cycleway along Northfield Road, and that Tring Station is restricted by Green Belt and Chilterns AONB designations, which led to the restoration to farmland of the temporary car park created 10 years ago during the West Coast Main Line improvement programme. The bus from

Castlemead to Tring Station was withdrawn when funds run out, as only about seven commuters used the service regularly at that time. Ivinghoe conservation area Gladman Developments lost their Station Road appeal because the proposal failed to meet one of the Government's criteria for sustainable development - the environment. The deciding factor was the high quality of the revised

Ivinghoe Conservation Area policy and associated document. It was worth waiting for this to be completed and adopted by the new District Council. It might be obvious to all who live in Ivinghoe that the open aspect from the lawn to Mentmore is unique, but the documentation shows that it is recognised by the whole district, distinguishing Ivinghoe's case from many others.



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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Laurie Eagling, Parish Clerk

Gladman appeal dismissed by Planning Inspectorate and planning permission refused

As you will have been aware, Gladman went to appeal over AVDCs refusal of their planning application for the site off Station Road in Ivinghoe and across the stream to the rear of Rushendon Furlong in Pitstone.

The appeal was held during October and the Planning Inspectorate released their report in December, dismissing the appeal and refusing planning permission. Excellent news for our communities. The inspectors

report can be found on the link below:

<http://ivinghoepc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/APPEAL-DECISION.pdf>

Changes to the 162, 164 and 175 bus services from 4 January 2016

Please follow the link below to the Bucks County Council website where you can find full details of the changes being implemented on the above bus services due to low passenger uptake.

<http://www.transportforbucks.net/Buses-and-trains/Changes-to-buses->

*(Continued on page 11)*

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For over 10 years Home-Start Aylesbury has been supporting ordinary families with young children struggling to cope through difficult times. We are now looking for new volunteers to join our friendly team.

Our network of home-visiting volunteers offer emotional and practical support for 2-3 hours a week to any family in Aylesbury Vale with one or more children under 5 who need some help. Maybe they are feeling isolated or lonely, or are **having a hard time coping with their child's illness or disability, bereavement, post natal depression** or be having relationship difficulties, they could be struggling to cope with the physical and emotional demands of having a baby, young children, or multiple birth.

Volunteers offer a listening ear, reassurance and encouragement, playing and helping with the children, practical support or an extra pair of hands! This simple parent-to-parent help can have a positive and long-lasting impact on family life.

If you can give 2-3 hours a week and have parenting experience we would love to hear from you. All volunteers are provided with training, support and expenses.

For an informal chat please contact Shushana Kendrick on 01296 485615 or [info@homestartaylesbury.org.uk](mailto:info@homestartaylesbury.org.uk)



*(Continued from page 9)*

162-164-165-and-175.aspx  
Improving access to Tring station – What service would you like to see?

As residents you have told the parish council that you find accessing Tring station difficult, that the car park is full early in the morning and the parking charges high. We continue to work with Hertfordshire County Council to provide a foot and cycle path connection along Northfield Road, although the scheme is likely to be 3 years away from installation due to

bus or car share scheme between the village and the station. Pitstone Parish Council is therefore undertaking a survey to determine if there is sufficient demand, at what times of the day and what type of service residents would favour. It is possible that the evidence gathered may be able to provide support when re-approaching commercial operators or will help to justify a community scheme of some sort. If you utilise Tring station, please take 5 minutes to complete and return the enclosed questionnaire or fill in the online survey on the village website.



various issues that the bodies are working to overcome. There have also been requests to consider a shuttle bus service, re-routed commercial bus, community

We will publish the headline results in the next edition of PPP. You may also like to consider responding to a current West Midlands Rail Franchise consultation.

This consultation includes Tring station and they would like to know your experiences of using it (or avoiding it). The consultation can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/west-midlands-rail-franchise>

Sports and Leisure

The Parish Council was delighted that the Pitstone & Ivinghoe Bonfire

(and soaking) during the day, to set the event up.

It was disappointing to see the back panel of the youth shelter (below) the sleeve of one litter bin, a dog bin and a toddler swing vandalized. The back has been removed from the **shelter and it won't be replaced in the short term**, a replacement toddler swing has been installed near



Vandals have damaged our youth shelter...

Festival moved to the sports ground on Westfield Road this year and that a record number of people attended, despite the torrential rain earlier in the day. Our thanks to the Pitstone & Ivinghoe Entertainments committee for all their hard work

the Memorial Hall, a replacement dog bin has been installed by the allotments and repair works carried out to the litter bin.

A replacement rolling log for the Hever Close playground (the old one had developed wood rot) has now

been installed, and we are sure that you will all have seen the splendid new bench at the end of Glebe Close replacing the one that had reached the end of its life. During January some necessary tree works have been taking place on the recreation ground following the annual tree risk assessment report and ahead of the planned leisure development. The aspiration remains to install a new play space, skate park and open-access multi-use ball court on the

Work has begun, to scope improvements to the football ground on Marsworth Road, with the eventual aim of extending the number of sports that can be played at the site, as well as improving the facilities for football. We will update you with more news soon. As already stated by PPC Chairman, Bob Saintey, it is disappointing to see so many young people continue to break into the grounds and use the goal areas for casual football which ruins the pitch



... and  
our  
football  
facilities

recreation ground by the Memorial Hall. For legal reasons, all are dependent upon planning permission being granted for the Pitstone Development Area site adjacent. We hope to have good news within the next few months.

and generates thousands of pounds of repair work (see below). The pitch is carefully constructed to league standards and this means it is highly sand based, to improve drainage. The downside to this is that the grass **roots are delicate and can't stand up**

to hours of continual use. If you have a teenager who you know jumps the fence to practice there, please speak to them. Apart from the obvious health & safety concerns of climbing the fence, and issues about non-visibility and lack of access for emergency services if they are hurt whilst trespassing, their actions are costing every household in Pitstone additional council tax for the council to keep repairing damaged pitch,

The Parish Council commissioned a report by Ben Hamilton Baillie Associates to assess the local highways, and predominantly focus on the Marsworth Road issues. We are working closely on this project with Ivinghoe Parish Council with the aspiration of improving pedestrian and cycle access around and between the villages, reducing traffic speeds, reducing HGV traffic and improving parking problems. Any



goals, fencing, gates and guttering. Young people should utilize the recreation ground for casual footie practice as this is public open space and easily accessible. Improving our paths, highways and sense of place

recommendations arising would form part of a long term project, spread over a number of years. We hope to be able to start the dialogue process with all our residents, with an initial presentation and consultation at some point in the spring so look out for



further details. Herts County Council continue to pursue a foot/cycle path along Northfield Road to Tring station. This is likely to cost in excess of £600k and funding is currently being sought concurrently with

investigations to overcome a number of other outstanding issues.

Transport for Bucks have carried out a feasibility study into a footpath between Pitstone and Marsworth, and the two parish councils hope to be informed of the results during January or February. We will keep you posted.

Castlemead Royal Mail continue to progress the installation of a letter box on Windsor Road despite several delays. Bucks County Council continue to work with Taylor Wimpey to bring the estate up to



adoptable standard prior to handover – Taylor Wimpey were supplied with a list of remedial works some months ago.

Other service providers We were grateful to Transport for Bucks for resolving the flooding problem under the Cheddington Road bridge, and carrying out numerous re-surfacing works along Marsworth Road, Vicarage Road and the Westfield Road roundabout. Our thanks also to Bucks County Council for finally replacing all the faulty lighting on the Marsworth Road roundabout.

We hope you took the time to respond to the Aylesbury Vale District Council consultation on their emerging Vale of Aylesbury Plan and the protection of the Areas of Attractive Landscape. Our thanks to Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust for replacing the knocked down bollards in Yardley Avenue and repairing pot holes near the Yardley Avenue garage block.



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# CREATE SOMETHING FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR VILLAGE

Steve Matthey, acting Chair of PMH Committee

## The Heart Of The Village

At the heart of our village we have a fantastic facility in The Memorial Hall.

Built in 1974 to replace the original hall, and extended since, it is not only a facility which provides room hire for meetings, parties and large functions, but is also a sports and social hub for our village.

The hall provides changing, refreshment and meeting space for our football and cricket teams from the Junior members all the way through to Seniors.

The Social Club, which operates out of the bar area on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, has a growing membership and is open to all residents for a get together and a

drink.

Of course, Party In The Park has become a fixture on our Summer **calendars for the last four years'** and goes from strength to strength.

And this is without the large numbers of people who visit the fitness, dance, bowls and numerous other activities that are run from the Hall.

Meeting Future Needs

The Memorial Hall Committee is a charity founded to raise funds for and manage the financial side of the Hall.

The Committee is made up of volunteers from the village, and we have written this article as we now need your help to make our hall fit for the demands of the future of the village.

We have achieved a lot, but there is still more to do.

The hall is aging and we continue to maintain and upgrade facilities as necessary, however we are aware that we could make better use of some parts of the hall. For that reason we carried out a survey of Pitstone residents and hall users in autumn 2015 to find out what the community wanted to see at the hall.

The survey showed us that there is demand for a cafe in the village, which would also draw people of all ages to use this community facility more. You

also said you wanted more for young and older generations and that we needed to better publicise what goes on at the hall right now. So you will see some changes over the next few months aimed to meet these requests - the new website, for example, is [www.pitstonememorialhall.co.uk](http://www.pitstonememorialhall.co.uk) please check it out !

Additionally, plans for an extension of the hall have been ongoing for several years, but we have been hampered by lack of funds.

The sports clubs also have ambitious plans, which include greater facilities at The Hall as they grow.

We obviously have more properties being built in our villages over the next few years, which will increase demand for social and leisure facilities in the village.

There is much we could be doing, but we lack funds and people to help.

**It's your Memorial Hall – Help Us Make it better**

The Committee is looking for volunteers.

**We can't raise the necessary funds to** create our visions of the future on our own. We need people with relevant skills to help us fundraise, a chair, a secretary and a bookkeeper, and also people who have some time to spare

*(Continued on next page )*



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[amanda.livesey@gmail](mailto:amanda.livesey@gmail.com)

to devote to the Hall.  
If we achieve our aims, the village will have something even more special at its centre, which will last for many many years into the future.  
Please help us and get in touch.

[www.pitstonememorialhall.co.uk](http://www.pitstonememorialhall.co.uk)  
Contact – [memorialhall@pitstone.co.uk](mailto:memorialhall@pitstone.co.uk)  
01296 660791  
Social Club Hours Friday from 7pm,  
Saturday afternoons when there is a local  
football match, Sunday from 12pm.

We would like to express heartfelt thanks to all those who have been so kind to us over the past year since our cottage in Devon was destroyed by fire. We moved back home just before Christmas, exactly a year after the fire, and will be re-opening our Bed & Breakfast on 21<sup>st</sup> March.

To celebrate the re-opening, and to say thank you; we would like to offer all our friends in Ivinghoe and Pitstone 25% off any bookings in 2016. Please go to [www.stablesbnbdevon.co.uk](http://www.stablesbnbdevon.co.uk) and quote PPP25. You can also find us on facebook; [www.facebook.com/stablesbnbdevon](http://www.facebook.com/stablesbnbdevon) with love and very best wishes,  
*Tracey & Mick Doyle*

## Grant awarded to Friends of **St Mary's Church, Pitstone**

Parish Clerk

Pitstone Parish Council was delighted to award a grant of £1,500 to the **Friends of St Mary's Church to assist in the installation of a water supply.**

The provision of water on site will greatly aid the running of the Festival of Art, Craft and Flowers which is a vital fundraising tool, and will enable a greater range of activities during the spring and summer months to both raise money, and widen the appeal of the church for the benefit of local residents and increasing tourism.





The Historic 13<sup>th</sup> Century Church in Church Road, Pitstone will be Open Every Sunday Afternoon and on Bank Holidays in the Summer Months 2.30 - 5.30pm , May 1<sup>st</sup> - October 30<sup>th</sup>. The key is held at No. 9 Church Road, Pitstone. Please ring Jean on 01296 662151 if you would like to visit at another time.

# PITSTONE CHURCH NEWS

Alex Wynne

One of the most enjoyable jobs for our volunteers is to spend a pleasant afternoon in the church or sitting in the beautiful churchyard, awaiting visitors. We have a faithful band of Stewards who will open the church and welcome visitors. It is free to visit, although the Churches Conservation Trust, which looks after the church, is very pleased to receive donations for its maintenance. It is a very interesting church, so if you have not yet made its acquaintance do try to pay a visit this year.

Festival of Art, Craft, Flowers and Music 2016

... will take place on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a very popular event and delicious home-made cakes and refreshments will be available as usual. Make a note of the dates:

Sat. May 28<sup>th</sup>: 2-6pm, Sun. May 27<sup>th</sup>: 11am-5pm & 6pm sung evensong with Ivinghoe church choir, Mon. May 28<sup>th</sup>: 11am-6pm

If you would like to join the rota of Sunday Stewards or help with the Festival arrangements, we will welcome you. We are seeking someone to oversee the craft section of the Festival over the weekend. Please contact Gill Arney if you can help. The church is still consecrated and can be used for weddings, funerals or baptisms when required. It is a beautiful location and can also be used for exhibitions or concerts .

*Chairman: Gill Arney, Chairman, The Friends of Pitstone Church, 01296 668123*

## CHURCHES TOGETHER SOUPER LENT LUNCH 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

We are holding another of our popular and warming Souper Lunches at PITSTONE MEMORIAL HALL 12.00pm, Thursday February 25<sup>th</sup>

**Cost £6.00**

There will be a raffle and we welcome contributions of prizes.

The event is in aid of our needy local charities:-  
Iain Rennie Grove Hospice at Home  
Bucks Young carers.

Tickets available from:

Babs Byrom, 01296 668 352 or Margaret Cole, 01296 668 005

Be sure to book in good time to ensure a place.

If you are a Pitstone resident aged 65+ you are entitled to receive a cheque from the *Williamson Trust* however recently you moved here. Our annual grants are awarded in April and are not means tested. To join our list call Gill on 01296 668809 or email [williamsontrust@pitstone.co.uk](mailto:williamsontrust@pitstone.co.uk).



# Look out for Bee Orchids

Parish Clerk

Lovely Bee Orchids, also seen in and around the chalk quarry. Sadly we do not have the luxury of colour here. The outer petals are a pale mauve and the middle part is dark red and pale yellow to attract the bees.

There are a number of fledgling bee orchid plants growing on the grass banks by Short Hale and Dover Close.

At the moment, you can make out the leaves close down by the grass, so please watch where you are treading. The flowers appear in June, or sometimes May. Bee Orchids do not flower each year, but we may be lucky and get a good display. According to the Wildlife Trust **'The Bee Orchid has evolved bee-**



like flowers; drawing [its pollinators] in with the promise of love. The bees are naturally attracted to the flowers and fly in to attempt a mating. As they land on the velvet-textured lip of the flower, the pollen is transferred and the poor bee is left frustrated. Sadly, the right **species of bee doesn't occur** in the UK, so Bee Orchids are self-pollinated here. Look out for their diminutive flower spikes on dry, chalk and limestone grasslands from June to **July**'.



Thanks to everyone who supported us with Waitrose tokens. We received £276 to boost our funds. A date for your diary: Library Lunch, Cheddington Village Hall, 23rd March.

**Gail Stuart will speak on 'My father,**

**Eric Morecambe'.**

Tickets £15 each, to include two course lunch, available from the library or Janet 01296 668341/Linda 01296 668582.

Planned for 10th February: Talk and book signing by local author Dr. Kat

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Arney to launch her popular science book on genetics ‘Herding Hemingway’s cats’. Watch our website or Facebook/Twitter for up to date information.  
 Coming soon: Chatterbooks, - reading groups for young people.

Information will be on our website and social media soon.  
 New year, new hobby? Whatever your plans, call into the library on **Ivinghoe High Street to see what’s available.**



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# IVINGHOE COMMUNITY HUB

Carol Tarrant, Chair, IOSCH

Happy New Year to all our Ivinghoe and Pitstone Communities and our **own building's 151<sup>st</sup>** year of existence!

Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub is chewing on a newish idea and we need to know what you think about it. It works from the two angles of giving time and receiving **'Credit'**. **We would like to introduce** you to the concept of TIME CREDITS.

This is how it works: If you give an hour of your time to your community, your community can **'thank you'** by giving you an hour back to spend on something you wish to do at any of the venues shown below. There is no limit to how many credits you can earn, and

you can save them yourself, or share them with friends.

Our group of voluntary trustees will be discussing whether the Hub joins this scheme, and if so what we can offer back into the pot like the other venues below, to be enjoyed free from your earned Time Credits. So far, free computer use has been suggested.

Some venues already part of the scheme are: Places for People Leisure centres - swimming, the Wycombe Swan - theatre tickets for particular performances, Chiltern Music Therapy - workshops on **'creating change and improvements** in communication, physical, social, cognitive and emotional wellbeing

*(Continued on page 39)*



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# Life without volunteers

Editor

Most of us, here in Pitstone, live relatively comfortable lives - we are lucky. But have you ever wondered how much less comfortable we would be without the huge number of people who volunteer on our behalf?

Pitstone Parish Council is made up entirely of volunteers, and without them many of our street lights in side roads would not work, there would be no litter collectors, grass cutting, PPP, Youth Café, dog bins, youth shelter, play equipment, litter bins, bus shelters and much more.

In other areas of the community we rely on the village hall committee, the Scouts and Guides associations, the library team, sports clubs and facilities, school governors and PTA, and so much more.

Being a volunteer makes all these people important parts of our community. We appreciate them, but they also get something out of the process. They gain friends, have fun and feel a sense of achievement.

Why not join them? Look for opportunities in this magazine or check out [volunteeringbucks.org.uk](http://volunteeringbucks.org.uk).

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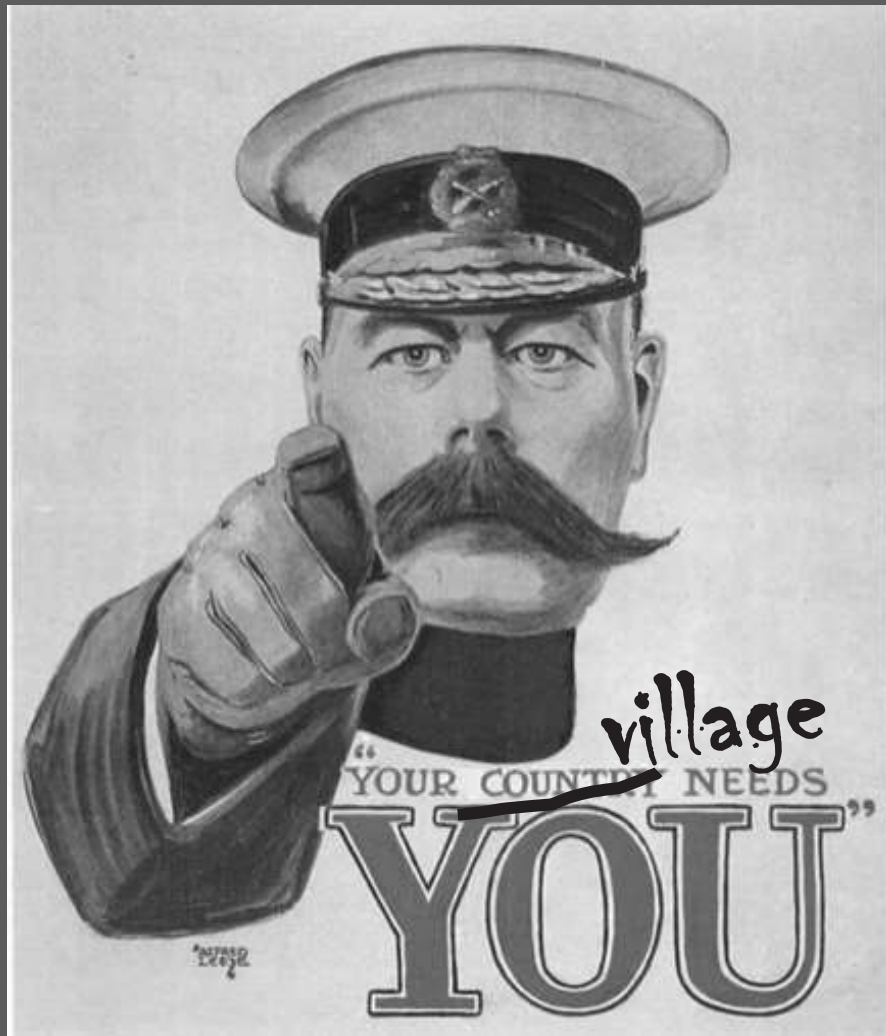
Do you share a birthday with HRH?

Her majesty will be 90 on 21st April, 2016, and PPP is seeking members of our community, who will also reach that amazing age on the same date. We want to know something about their memories, lives and their birthday celebrations.



*Call or email the Editor(details on page 1)*

# Neighbourhood Plan Referendum - 17 March 2016





Dear Residents,

The date for the Referendum on Our Neighbourhood Development Plan has now been set by AVDC as:

Thursday 17 March 2016

As such, you should expect to receive your Voting Card from AVDC in due course.

*Voting will take place in Pitstone Memorial Hall and the polls will be open from 7am until 10pm.*

This is the opportunity for all of us to have OUR say in the future and direction of OUR Village.

Your Vote does matter and we encourage all of you to come forward on the day and vote. This is undoubtedly a once in a generation opportunity to have your say on an issue that will impact both your lives and those of future generations.

For those of you who have yet to read Our NDP we would like to point you in the direction of the websites of either AVDC at [www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/pitstone-neighbourhood-plan](http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/pitstone-neighbourhood-plan) or Pitstone Parish Council at [www.pitstone.co.uk](http://www.pitstone.co.uk). In addition hard copies will be made available at various locations within the village.

As much as I would like to say more, in this instance I am bound by rules and **regulations from doing so. I shall, therefore, simply say “Thank You” to all of those who have been involved in creating Our Plan, and in addition a “Thank You” to all of you who come out to vote in the Referendum. Whatever your Vote!**

Kind Regards,

*Tony*

*Tony Clare  
Chair of the Steering Group  
Pitstone Neighbourhood  
Development Plan*



Over 60s  
Christmas







# Complimentary Lunch at the Haldi



Pitstone  
&  
Ivinghoe



Baby  
&  
Toddler  
Group

New to the area with young children at home? Recently had a baby and want to meet other parents in the village? Why not come along to Pitstone Memorial Hall on Wednesdays (during term time) from 1.15 pm to 3pm.

You can be sure of a warm welcome and a cup of coffee, and for the little ones we offer a variety of activities Music Sessions, arts and crafts, toys and games, story time

No need to book, just turn up on the day  
For more information please visit

[www.pitstoneandivinghoetoddlers.btck.co.uk](http://www.pitstoneandivinghoetoddlers.btck.co.uk)

Facebook: Pitstone and Ivinghoe baby and toddler group



Girlguiding

Buckinghamshire

Rainbows: Monday 4.30 - 5.30 p.m.  
Pitstone Memorial Hall  
Guider Elaine Thorogood  
01296 661540

Brownies: Monday 5.45 - 7.15 p.m.  
Pitstone Memorial Hall  
Guider Elaine Thorogood  
01296 661540

Guides: Tuesday 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.  
Millennium Room,  
Pitstone Memorial Hall  
Guider Yvonne Ashton

To join us, please visit our website at  
[Girlguiding.org.uk](http://Girlguiding.org.uk)



Ivinghoe & Pitstone Chapel Fellowship

We are a small and friendly group of local Christians who meet to worship God in a fairly informal way, in song, in prayer and with messages brought by a variety of local preachers.

We meet on Sunday mornings at 10.30 in the Millennium Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall for services that last about an hour, followed by social chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

All are welcome  
why not come and join us?  
Want more information?  
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**1<sup>ST</sup> Ivinghoe & Pitstone Scouts Group**  
 (Group Scout Leader: Keith Steers)

Contact: Email - [Ksteers@aol.com](mailto:Ksteers@aol.com) Tel—07899 696 722



Scouting Sections

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Watermill Beavers	Windmill Beavers	Windmill Cubs	Watermill Cubs	Scouts
6pm—7pm	6pm—7pm	6.30pm—8pm	6.30pm—8pm	7.30pm— 9pm
Leader: Andrew Broad	Leader: Keith Steers	Leader: Rob Haddock	Leader: Rob Mercel	Leader: Andrew Woods



## Cheddington Pre-School

Cheddington Pre-School is in the grounds of Cheddington Combined School. We have a purpose built building and our own well-equipped outdoor learning environment with vegetable patch and mud kitchen, plus access to some of the primary school's facilities. We offer a great variety of activities each week including PE, library time, Forest School visits, as well as visits to reception in the summer term for those who will be joining school in the September.

Cheddington Pre-School prides itself in delivering a high quality of pre-school education.

We have very healthy registers at Pre-School so please remember to register your child from 18 months old. We take children from 2 years up until they start school.

For further information or to register your child with us please contact Michelle Andrews, Manager. Tel. 01296 662292 or [info@cheddingtonps.demon.co.uk](mailto:info@cheddingtonps.demon.co.uk) or visit [www.cheddingtonpreschool.co.uk](http://www.cheddingtonpreschool.co.uk)

## Marsworth Pre School




Marsworth Pre-School, at Marsworth Millennium Hall, is very popular & successful. It attracts children from the village & surrounding area. It's a fun, educational and stimulating place to play & learn in a warm & caring environment with a 'Good' Ofsted rating at our last inspection (December 2014).

We accept children from the age of 2 through to 5 year olds.

**Opening hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Sessions: AM: 9 - 11.30am, Lunch: 11.30 - 12.30, PM: 12.30 - 3pm

For more information please see our website: [www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk](http://www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk) or call 07506 179658 during pre-school hours, or [facebook.com/marsworthpreschool](https://www.facebook.com/marsworthpreschool).



**Brookmead School**  
Headteacher: Katherine Douglas


**Bringing Learning to Life and Life to Learning**

Our school is located in the beautiful Chiltern hills, which is something to be celebrated and shared. Established in 1967, Brookmead School provides a happy and stimulating environment that promotes an enjoyment and love of learning. We aim to enable all our children to reach their full potential, both as learners and as valuable members of our school and wider community.

Brookmead School is a Foundation Primary School for children aged 4 - 11 and serves the communities of Ivinghoe, Pitstone (including Castlemead) and Marsworth.

For further information or to arrange a visit please contact Mrs Kerr on 01296 668543 or email [office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk).

**Brookmead School, High Street, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EX**  
[www.brookmead.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.brookmead.bucks.sch.uk)



**Friends At Brookmead (PTA)**  
Charity number 104137

Friends At Brookmead raise funds by running a recycling textiles project. Items that are no longer required such as adults' and children's clothing, shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft toys can all be turned into money, which assists us in purchasing additional resources to enhance the children's learning at Brookmead School.

Rob Clarke of Colbree Engineering has kindly agreed to use their village based engineering site at Pitstone Green Business Park to store additional textile collections on our behalf. Donations should be placed into plastic sacks and dropped off at the signed collection point at the rear gates at Colbree Engineering on Quarry Road. Friends At Brookmead would like to thank Colbree Engineering for their support in enabling us to extend this project out to the wider community.

So next time you are sorting out your wardrobes, don't take it to the tip... take it to Colbree

*[FriendsAtBrookmead@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:FriendsAtBrookmead@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk)*





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## **Pitstone Memorial Hall**

## **Hire Availability Notice**

### **Weekday and regular bookings now available**

Pitstone Memorial Hall, in Vicarage Road, by the Recreation Ground, offers excellent facilities for events, parties, business functions, wedding receptions, classes, etc.

- **The Main Hall**, with large stage, seats 120, and has kitchen and bookable bar facilities.
- **The Millennium Room** is a smaller hall seating 60, and has its own kitchen and toilets.
- **The Meeting Room** can accommodate 50 for a lecture, or 25 at tables, and has whiteboard and flipchart.
- There is well-lit parking on site, with space for 60 cars.

Hire fees vary depending on venue and time. Please contact the booking clerk for more information.

Booking Clerk; **Mrs. S Gregory 01296 661609**

New hall website: [pitstone.co.uk/localinfo/pitstone-memorial-hall](http://pitstone.co.uk/localinfo/pitstone-memorial-hall)

(Continued from page 26)

**and mental health needs'. Other** venues, local and in London include Aqua Vale Swimming Pool Aylesbury, Swan Pool Buckingham, Better Leisure Centres Countrywide including Chiltern, Chesham and Chalfont Leisure Centres; the Wycombe Wanderers Football Club; Lords Cricket Ground; Amersham Museum; Adult Learning Centres across Bucks; Marlow Museum; British Museum; Museum of London; Tower of London; Tower Bridge **Exhibition; St Paul's Cathedral; Keats House, London; and the Thames Clippers London...Room Hire at Bucks Mind, High Wycombe, for a start.**

There are many more exciting plans ahead, including a Movers and Shakers Club – lunch/exercise/social event and lunch/film shows. Do get in touch if you would like to come to such a club or to volunteer to help members with mobility problems, or indeed if you have the skills to run it yourself!

### Cleaner wanted

Anyone interested please get in touch to thrash out a working plan and fee. Contacts as below.

Our community-run Hub of four Victorian classrooms is open seven days a week, providing space to **commune, either in our tenant's café CuriosiTea Rooms, or by hiring or joining clubs in our characterful two adjoining rooms/hall size space.** We also offer IT space and office. **Here's to a great year 2016, for our community!** Our Spring Market will be back on Easter Saturday. Do drop in, (to be kept in the loop join our database) and become part of this cosy village Hub experience!

Our Facebook page is a good source of related info at Ivinghoe Old School Hub

Website: [www.ivinghoeoldschool.com](http://www.ivinghoeoldschool.com) ;

E: [ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com](mailto:ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com)

Direct phone: 01296 661666

CuriosiTEA Rooms: 01296 663853





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**We'd love to hear from you.**

For more information on the  
event, volunteering or to  
book tickets for the  
fundraising events contact  
us on..

pitp2016@gmail.com or  
07725 023298



#### Advance Notice

Beacon Community Choir will be singing two superb works, Misa Criolla and Songs of Sanctuary, on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016, at 6 pm in St. Mary's Church, Ivinghoe.

Tickets are £10 (children free), and can be obtained nearer the date from Lindsay Hewlett –

lhewlett@btinternet.com, 01296 660670.

The **Misa Criolla** by Argentinian composer Ariel Ramirez (1921-2010) is an exuberant setting of the mass based on Latin-American folk genres, combining Spanish text with indigenous instruments and rhythms. Written in 1964, this colourful and joyful work became an international hit.

Welsh composer Karl Jenkins (b1944) is a true crossover artist. His early professional musical experience was with progressive rock bands and in jazz, but his compositions "**Songs of Sanctuary**", "The Armed Man" and "Requiem" have entered the classical repertoire. His music is characterised by rhythmic energy, haunting melodies and a universal musical language. Internationally known "Adiemus", the opening movement of "Songs of Sanctuary," has become a favourite with classical and non-classical music lovers alike.



# Nursery – making the right choice

Catherine Pyefinch, Parent Governor, Grove Road School

If you have a child approaching Nursery age, (*born between 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2012 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013*) you may be thinking about applying for a Nursery place for your child around now. (*E.g. Hertfordshire applications are open between 9<sup>th</sup> February and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016*)

If you are still undecided as to which Nursery setting to choose, here are a few things to consider:

- Visit as many nursery settings as possible so that you can talk to staff and observe **the children. There is a big choice and a range of options, so it's worth taking time** to look around.
- It may be important to you that there is a school attached to the nursery, to ease transition to the next stage of education.
- Does the nursery offer a personalised provision for your child, with adult to child ratios that allow the team to respond to your child as an individual?
- Is it a vibrant environment? Do the children look busy, purposeful, happy and relaxed in the setting? Do they seem safe to explore and investigate?
- Does the Nursery work in partnership with you as a parent? Are you included in the learning journey and how often are you involved?
- Does the setting offer flexibility for you to buy nursery sessions in addition to the 15 hours that are funded? This can vary between nursery settings. Grove Road in Tring for example, offers additional sessions and lunch club provision across the week, with the option of providing the children with a hot lunch cooked on site.
- If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 31<sup>st</sup> August you can now choose to delay the start of school. How the nursery /school setting responds to this may be a question you would like to ask.

**Sometimes the choice you make can come down to a 'gut feel' or personal choice, so** visiting all the local nurseries can really help inform your choice. Visits to local establishments are generally welcomed. Local nurseries include:

- Windmill pre-school, Pitstone
- Marsworth pre-school
- Cheddington pre-school
- Grove Road nursery, Tring
- ABC nursery, Tring
- Stepping Stones pre-school, Tring
- Dundale nursery, Tring



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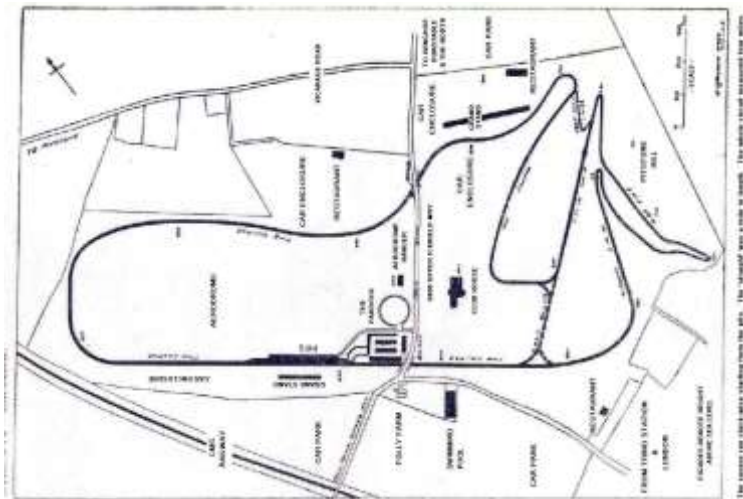
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# Pitstone. The Racing Circuit that could have been

Story provided by Klaus Ginda

In 1933, against a backdrop of world depression and war, record levels of unemployment and war, a consortium of entrepreneurs made an offer to Pitstone farmers, to purchase an enormous parcel of land, including Pitstone Hill and what we now know as Castlemead, to provide a home for a race track to replace Brooklands and rival the two leading European circuits: the Targa Floria in Italy and Germany's Nurburg Ring.

For Pitstone farmers facing an uncertain future, the offer from speculators drawn from the world of motor racing, to purchase low yield land from them on which, to build the 435 acre racing circuit had come at the right time. At the time, Pitstone had a population of around 450 and the consortium behind the scheme felt that as no one lived on the proposed site, there would be no one to complain. They were mistaken.

PPP will report on the rest of this fascinating tale over the next couple of issues.



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# Roll up, Roll up for the Spring Plant Fair Extravaganza!

Jane Poole, Publicity Officer, Friends of Ashridge Estate

Come along and support the Ashridge Estate! How?... By buying top quality plants at the Ashridge Spring Plant Fair on 15th May 2016. The volunteers at the Friends of Ashridge run a Plant Fair on behalf of the National Trust at Ashridge taking place on the Green at the foot of the Bridgewater monument. This will be our 20th consecutive Spring Plant Fair - the idea for the first plant fair was formed in 1997 by the then Chairman, Trevor Marwood. The Fair has since grown from strength to strength, in reach and revenue, and we now regularly raise circa £7000 each year to help the National Trust maintain the Ashridge Estate. This is a very important event for the Friends of Ashridge and forms the basis of our financial support to the National Trust at the Estate, so please be generous! There is free parking and no entry fee. There is also a tea room available and the National Trust shop to visit. Please come and browse amongst the thousands of plants that will be on display and the plant stock from small visiting nurseries on a commercial basis. These nurseries kindly donate a percentage of their earnings to the National Trust Plant Fair. The majority of our plants are from volunteer growers and private gardens. If you have any plants to donate to the Fair then we would still love to hear from you. We are especially interested in vegetable plants, border plants and perennials, roses, climbers and herbs. The estate perimeter straddles three counties so plant enthusiasts come from far and wide to purchase the high quality plants on offer. To donate any plants, please contact the Chairman, John Cartwright on 01442 864 984. The Plant Fair is on Sunday 15 May 2016, 11am till 4pm at the National Trust Ashridge Visitor Centre, Monument Drive, Ringshall HP4 1LX. We look forward to seeing you.

# Tales from the Compost Heap

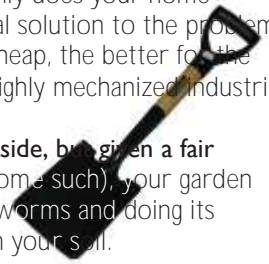
Barbara Cummings [www.recycleforbuckinghamshire.co.uk](http://www.recycleforbuckinghamshire.co.uk)

The answer lies in the soil

It has, rather belatedly, come to my attention that 2015 was declared the 'International Year of Soils' by no less a body than the United Nations General Assembly. I had no idea that the UN concerned itself with such things; however, it apparently does, and seemingly throughout the year has been spreading the message about the importance of soil health, and how we can safeguard our soils by organic gardening practices.

This of course is where composting comes into the picture. Not only does your home-produced garden compost increase fertility, it also provides a partial solution to the problem of waste – the more household waste can be used in the compost heap, the better for the environment in terms of less use of landfill and other sometimes highly mechanized industrial processes, used to deal with what we throw out.

So don't ignore your compost heap this winter. It may be chilly outside, but given a fair chance (and perhaps a cosy covering of old carpet, newspaper or some such), your garden heap will be slowly chugging away, living in harmony with the local worms and doing its work of producing lovely crumbly compost to put the heart back in your soil.



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<i>Stoke Mandeville</i>	<i>7.00</i>	<i>Nuffield Oxford</i>	<i>17.50</i>
<i>Chesham</i>	<i>6.50</i>	<i>John Radcliffe Oxford</i>	<i>17.50</i>
<i>L&amp;D Hospital</i>	<i>7.00</i>		
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<i>High Wycombe</i>	<i>14.00</i>		

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## Little Cravings



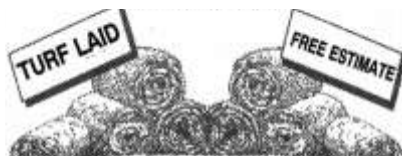
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### OPENING TIMES 2016

**Afternoons 2.00–5.00pm.** 28<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Early May BH Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> May – National Mills W/end, 30<sup>th</sup> May – Spring BH Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> June – Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> July – Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> August – Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> August – BH Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> September – Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday As part of Tring Apple Fayre.

**MILLING DEMONSTRATIONS (water level permitting) between 2.30pm–4.30pm approx**

**Last admission 4.30pm. Admission: Adults: £3 children (5–15) £1**

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Contact: Mill Manager - Chris Tugby, [millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk](mailto:millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk) or Telephone: 01442 825421. [www.fordendwatermill.co.uk](http://www.fordendwatermill.co.uk)



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## WINTER FUN

Our bowlers and their partners have just returned from a 4 day treat at Potters **Leisure Resort, Hopton on Sea, tired, but full of the joys of 'winter'**. Potters is the home of the World Bowls Championships, shown each January on BBC.

Potters is perhaps better known for its leisure facilities, its theatre school and West End quality shows, good food and dance and big band weekends. It is a favourite with many Club members, so Potters all-inclusive holidays come highly recommend. *We have already booked again for next year!!*

Join us for WINTER FUN at Cheddington Bowls Club, High Street, Cheddington, LU7 9AA – you and any friends you bring will receive a warm welcome. Arrive for 7pm for a 7.30 start

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<p>Chairman, Cllr Robert Saintey  2 Albion Road, LU7 9AY  T: 668633  E: <a href="mailto:sainteypitstone@btinternet.com">sainteypitstone@btinternet.com</a>  <b>Chair of Sports &amp; Leisure  Committee &amp; Local Area Forum  representative.</b></p> 	<p>Vice Chairman, Cllr Dave Nicholls  64 Marsworth Road, LU7 9AS  T: 661910  E: <a href="mailto:Dave@djnsolutions.co.uk">Dave@djnsolutions.co.uk</a>  Chair of Pitstone Parish Charity, member  of Planning Committee &amp; village web site.</p> 
<p>Cllr Margaret Crutchfield  12 Yardley Avenue, LU7 9AL  T: 291389  E: <a href="mailto:lunchlineuk@yahoo.co.uk">lunchlineuk@yahoo.co.uk</a>  Chair of Planning Committee,  member of Staffing Committee,  member of NDP Steering  Group, Allotment Officer &amp;  Local Area Forum Rep.</p> 	<p>Cllr Ben Blunt  The Laurels, Old Farm, LU7 9RD  T: 660702  E: <a href="mailto:ben@strategyhr.co.uk">ben@strategyhr.co.uk</a>  Chair of Staffing Committee, member of  Sports &amp; Leisure Committee, member of  Planning Committee, Minerals &amp; Waste  representative &amp; Local Area Forum  representative.</p> 
<p>Cllr Steve Matthey  Fern Cottage, 13 Queen Street,  LU7 9AU T: 662691  E: <a href="mailto:Steve.matthey@treelondon.com">Steve.matthey@treelondon.com</a>  Chair of Recreation Ground  Charity, member of Pitstone Parish  Charity, Memorial Hall Charity  representative.</p> 	<p>Cllr Gillian Arney  63 Cheddington Road, LU7 9AQ  T: 668123  E: <a href="mailto:gill.arney@tiscali.co.uk">gill.arney@tiscali.co.uk</a>  Member Pitstone Parish Charity, Pitstone Hill  &amp; Trees representative, Ecology/Chiltern  Conservation Board rep. Footpaths  Public Transport, Notice-board manager.</p> 
<p>Cllr Joanne Groom  6 Queen Street, LU7 9AU  T: 662062  E: <a href="mailto:groomy63@aol.com">groomy63@aol.com</a>  Member of Planning Committee,  Member of Sports &amp; Leisure  Committee &amp; member of NDP  Steering Group.</p> 	<p>Cllr Annie Stack  73 Old Farm, LU7 9RD  T: 668020  E: <a href="mailto:annie.stack12@gmail.com">annie.stack12@gmail.com</a>  Member Recreation Ground Charity,  Pitstone Hill &amp; Trees rep. Local Area  Forum Rep, Allotment Officer, Pitstone  Church Committee &amp; Community Self Help Plan.</p> 
<p>Cllr Colin Starling  The Ship, 74 Vicarage Road,  LU7 9EY  T: 663856  E: <a href="mailto:colin.starling@btinternet.com">colin.starling@btinternet.com</a>  Member of Planning Committee,  member of NDP Steering Group,  member of Staffing Committee,  member Rec. Ground Charity.</p> 	<p>Cllr Kris Weber  The Willows,  61 Cheddington Road  LU7 9AQ  T: 07710088624  E: <a href="mailto:krisweber2@hotmail.com">krisweber2@hotmail.com</a>  Member of Sports &amp; Leisure  Committee, member of NDP  Steering Group &amp; Ecology/Chiltern  Conservation Board.</p> 
<p>County Councillor: Avril Davies  The Old Bakehouse, Chequers Lane,  T: 668152  E: <a href="mailto:acdavies@buckscc.gov.uk">acdavies@buckscc.gov.uk</a></p> 	<p>Correspondence/Enquiries, Clerk: Laurie Eagling  9 Warwick Road, T: 660791  E: <a href="mailto:parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk">parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.pitstone.co.uk">www.pitstone.co.uk</a>  Facebook: Pitstone Parish Council  and Pitstone Youth:  Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/pitstone_pc">@pitstone_pc</a></p> 
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