



Pitstone 2020 Community Plan

Your views for the future of Pitstone are being incorporated into this ten year plan. It will contain the plans arising from the Sports & Leisure survey, the development of the village centre, ideas generated from your Love It, Loath It surveys and much, much more. The parish council is working with the Pitstone 2020 community team and we are receiving support from Community Impact Bucks with this initiative.

Youth Cafe

94% of the young people we spoke to at a series of youth events wanted a safe and supervised place to meet their friends on a regular basis. The parish council is working with AVYFC, who have set up a number of successful projects across the Vale, to create our own cafe. We are being supported by the Local Area Forum who have donated £2,500.



How we communicate with you

We recognise that everyone prefers to communicate in different ways, so we have expanded the ways you can keep updated:

- ◆ If you are on Facebook, do join our groups “Pitstone Parish Council” and “Pitstone Youth”
- ◆ You can follow us on Twitter @pitstone_pc
- ◆ We hope to launch an improved web site during the year, but for now you can find our information on www.pitstone.co.uk
- ◆ Look out for a new look to your quarterly Pitstone Parish Post
- ◆ We have started to send you more dedicated leaflets like the council activities leaflet and the leisure survey, which hopefully stand-out amongst your mail
- ◆ We have six notice-boards around the village which are updated weekly, plus a special youth notice-board outside Masons
- ◆ You can reach us by email parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk or telephone on 01296 660791
- ◆ If you prefer to speak directly to a certain councillor, you can find all their contact details in PPP or on our web site.

The council would like to thank all the volunteers and employees that contribute to the projects and work detailed within this report. Pitstone wouldn't be the same without you! If you'd like to volunteer as well, the clerk would be delighted to hear from you.



2010-11 Annual Report and Accounts for Pitstone Parish Council

You will be pleased to hear that the parish council froze their element of the council tax for next year, at the same rate as this year—£76,500. That is the equivalent of just 18p per day for each household. This report shows what your 18p bought during the year and what the plans are for next year.

New Allotments

The first full year at the new site has just come to a close. A few additional plots were created during the year and there are now 69 quarter sized plots, all of which are currently let and a waiting list is in operation by Pitstone Allotment Association. Ongoing the site will be self financed from rent collected from the allotment garden tenants. There were still a few start up costs to meet this year (£2.4k), which cost half a pence per day. The council also incurred £4k clearing the old allotment site.



Sports Pavilion



Substantial remedial work had to be undertaken on both football pitches last summer, which also led to a need for a sprinkler system and much watering! Nearly 1.5p per day came from your council tax and a further 3.5p per day was funded from the maintenance fund we received from Taylor Wimpey or hire fees. This site is costing £20k per year to run at present, which concerns the council and is something we are reviewing with the sports clubs.

Village Services

The parish council is responsible for many services within the village including the recreation ground, three children's playgrounds, litter and dog bins, bus shelters, notice-boards and maintenance of our trees, grass and hedgerows. These are all services which have to be fulfilled from the precept and cost you just 4p per day (£19k).



Street Lighting

£10k (3p per day per household) was spent on street lighting (maintenance, electricity and new columns). In the last 12 months 34.5% (41) of our lights failed due to 48 faults. Only 3 failed more than once. This was a good performance. 3 lights were replaced due to age and condition, 1 due to age and 2 following damage by third parties. The parish council has set a budget to replace a number of lights each year so our inventory remains safe, sound and up-to-date. Please report any problems to the parish clerk.



Grants



The parish council provides grants to local community groups to enhance the services they can offer to residents. This year, over £10,000 was provided: £5,000 to Brookmead school to provide an outdoor recreation and learning area for the Foundation Stage children; £3,000 to Pitstone Memorial Hall towards maintenance and repairs; £1,000 to Windmill pre-school for vital equipment needed to equip their

purpose built building; £1,000 to the Ivinghoe & Pitstone Cricket Club towards the work they carry out at the Recreation Ground and £350 to Pitstone and Ivinghoe Toddler Group for new toddler sized chairs. This support amounts to 3p per day. If your community group needs assistance, please refer to our Grants Policy which can be found on the village web site.

Free benefits !

Pitstone Hill is managed by National Trust but the parish council is responsible for some of the car park upkeep. However this is funded from a compensation agreement, so the hill is yours to enjoy for free.



We also maintain several stretches of public footpath, the expenditure for which is currently reimbursed by Bucks County Council. There were several new permissive access paths introduced last year, so do check out the renovated map boards and take in some of the breathtaking views around our village.

Finally, you will all be familiar with Pitstone Parish Post, our quarterly newsletter. This magazine contains regular updates on what is happening within the village along with details of all the surveys and feedback we would like from you. This is fully funded from the advertising revenue it generates, so the magazine costs you nothing!

Charities

The council acts as trustees for the Recreation Ground charity and the Pitstone Parish Charity. Neither of these charities hold any finances or generate any income at present.

Financial Position

A quarter of the years expenditure (£23,300, or 3p per day) was funded during the year from other sources, such as maintenance payments, rental income or grants.

	2010-11	Budget	Last Year
Income	£ 101,800	£ 104,925	£ 123,291
Expenditure	£ 98,896	£ 168,223	£ 121,635

At the close of the year the council holds £125,634. £91,047 is reserved for specific purposes or with restricted spending ability (like maintenance payments from Taylor Wimpey) leaving £34,586 of retained reserve. The council is financially independent with no loans, lease payments or debts. A total of £1,177 was owed to the parish council on 31/3/11 most of which has already been recovered.

The Coming Year

During 2010-11 there has been lots of planning behind the scenes for projects that are likely to come to fruition during the coming year, or perhaps the year after. This has resulted in a lower than anticipated expenditure for 2010-11 but there are some very exciting and significant projects on the horizon:



Sports and Leisure Project

During May, every household will have received this survey and your answers will formulate the provision of facilities in our village. Aylesbury Vale District Council is holding £587,406 and the parish council has reserved another £35,150. There will be further consultation events in the summer, where you will be able to see what the village has asked for and how it might be accommodated.

New Village Centre

Work continues to develop a new village centre, as agreed in the Pitstone Development Area Comprehensive Plan of 2005, on the land surrounding the recreation ground. Much of this will be dependant on the community facilities identified through the leisure survey. Again we hope to have some plans to show you in the summer.

