

## Highways and Transport

The parish council is actively pursuing a number of highways and transport initiatives:

### The Pitstone & Ivinghoe Safety Scheme

Following an investigation commissioned from Ben Hamilton-Baillie and public consultation, both Pitstone & Ivinghoe Parish Councils are progressing options with Bucks County Council. A Road Safety Audit has been completed and a Feasibility Report commissioned. BCC hope to have this completed by summer 2019.

### Cycle/footpath to Tring station

Hertfordshire County Council continues to investigate engineering options to improve pedestrian and cycle safety along Northfield Road. The Parish Council is actively involved with this work and continues to push for a successful resolution.

### Pitstone Community Car Scheme

Provides invaluable assistance to local residents trying to access their healthcare appointments. This scheme is operated by volunteer drivers and will shortly be coming under the responsibility of the parish council following difficulties recruiting a volunteer co-ordinator. Please get in touch if you can spare some time to help a resident get to the doctors/dentist/hospital.

### Community Bus

We are currently investigating whether there is a demand for a community bus to service Pitstone & the neighbouring parishes. Please take the time to respond to our surveys etc so that we can get accurate data.

### Bus to Tring Station

Investigations continue to see if a viable bus service is possible to the station. We are currently working with West Midlands Trains to collect data and explore options.

## What are local councils?

Pitstone Parish Council (PPC) is one of over 8,700 parish, town, community and neighbourhood councils representing around 16 million people across England. It forms the most local level of government and covers the parish of Pitstone, which reaches along Stocks Road towards Aldbury and right up into Ashridge – a population of nearly 3,500 people.

## How are your local councillors elected?

Local councillors are elected to represent a geographical area known as the parish and serve a 4 year term of office. They are elected by people who live in the area. The most recent election took place in May 2015. Following the Secretary of State's decision to form a unitary council for Buckinghamshire, all parish council and elections for the new unitary council, have been postponed until May 2020.

## How do I contact my local councillor?

You will receive a copy of the Pitstone Parish Post (PPP) free to your home on a quarterly basis. Details of all the council members and the Clerk to the Council can be found inside the cover. Our contact details can also be found on the village web site and the village notice-boards. Please make time to read this publication and spare a moment to respond to our consultations.

We welcome and encourage your participation at our meetings, with our project groups, on one of our committees, by responding to our questionnaires or just letting us know your opinion.



## Major Projects

Write to us at : **9 Warwick Road, Pitstone, Beds, LU7 9FE**

Telephone us on: **01296 767261**

Email us at: **parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk**

Join our Facebook pages: **Pitstone Parish Council** and **Pitstone Youth**

Follow us on Twitter: **@pitstone\_pc**

View our web site: **www.pitstone.co.uk**

## Pitstone Village Centre Development

In 2005 the land to the top and side of the recreation ground was identified as a development area for community facilities and further housing within the Pitstone Comprehensive Development Plan. A set of policy statements for these parcels of land were included within the Pitstone Neighbourhood Plan (which was supported by 97% of residents that voted).

The vision is for the recreation ground, the hall and the surrounding area to become the new heart of Pitstone – joining the old part of the village to Castlemead. We hope it will be a pleasant area that people want to enjoy.

In December 2018 Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC) granted Nicholas King Homes (NKH) planning permission to build 74 homes. They will also provide a multi-use ball games court, additional car parking and footpath access through to Castlemead. The parish council will work with NKH to deliver the leisure facilities and will keep residents updated.

Outline planning permission has also been granted for a day nursery and a public house/restaurant as required by the neighbourhood plan. It is our understanding that NKH intend to place these two parcels onto the open market and the operators will submit full planning applications/for discharge of conditions in due course.

The Memorial Hall Charity are also looking into the possibility of extending/enhancing the Memorial Hall building and the existing facilities to better meet the needs of the

## Leisure Development on the Recreation Ground

The Parish Council has ambitious plans to update and extend the sports and leisure provision within the parish.

### Purchase of land

The rear part of what appears to be the Recreation Ground (housing the play area, cricket nets and part of the football pitch) is actually owned by a separate charity. The parish council is trying to purchase this parcel of land, to protect it for leisure use in perpetuity.

The charity commission regulations prohibited the disposal of this parcel of land until after planning had been granted for the Pitstone Development Area, so the council is hoping that the charity will now be open to negotiating and progressing.

### New play space

As soon as the land can be secured, the first phase of the village leisure enhancement program will see the removal of the old playground equipment from the recreation ground (some of which is now 30 years old) and the installation of a new and challenging play space for children of all ages. Details of the scheme we hope to install can be found on our web site.

### Skate park

We also hope to install a concrete skate park to be located between the new play space and the multi-use games area being installed as part of the village centre development. Work will start on the procurement of this once the land has been secured.

The council holds some grant funding towards these projects.

## Enhancement of the Pavilion Site

We know that the community feels strongly that the pavilion site is developed and expanded to become a facility that can be utilised by a far larger sector of our local community. At the moment, the site is home to senior and junior football pitches along with a changing pavilion. The facilities were passed to the community many years ago as part of the leisure contributions paid by the developers of the Castlemead estate, but don't meet the current needs of the football leagues or all the required legislation for public buildings.

The parish council has been working with a number of partners to develop potential proposals that will provide adequate changing facilities; a multi-function room that will be available for local meetings, events and indoor exercise etc; a parish store & office to enable a wider range of services to be delivered to the community; required ground-keeping and storage facilities and improved parking & access. The proposed facilities will enable a greater range of indoor and outdoor services to be delivered to the community, now and in the future. Details of the proposals are available on our web site. We are waiting for AVDC to grant planning permission.

It must be stressed, that for these proposals to progress to implementation, the council will need to be successful with a number of applications for grant funding to raise the necessary funds for the construction costs. The council will keep residents updated with progress on both the planning application and our fundraising endeavours.