

New Councillor – The Parish Council welcomed Clare Goduti who was voted Parish Councillor at an election held in February.

Post-16 School Transport Increase in fares - The Parish Council has received an email requesting support against a decision taken by the Borough Executive Committee to reduce the subsidy for over 16s bus travel. This has resulted in an increase in fares from £380 to £890. Any child eligible for free school meals would only be required to pay £190. **It was resolved** to write to support Mr Wady and to object to this proposal. In addition, members were urged to encourage other residents to write and object to this proposal. If you would like to comment and support Mr Wady please write. The petition "Dave Hodgson - Mayor of Bedford: STOP 6th Form School Bus Fare Increase! Rising to £890 Sept 2017" You can read more and sign the petition here: https://www.change.org/p/dave-hodgson-mayor-of-bedford-stop-6th-form-school-bus-fare-increase-rising-to-890-sept-2017?recruiter=421520514&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=share_email_responsive. Or write directly to the Mayor.

Local Plan - Residents have been informed by various notices through doors of the prospective developments which may occur in North Bedfordshire. Members of the PC considered and agreed its response to the Local Plan consultation questionnaire. This included reference to the CPRE document dated May 17. A link to this document can be found on the parish website under the Parish Council page /Parish Council Information. You can also see a letter from Marcol and Bedfordia publicising the new website for the potential Twinwoods Development.

Dog fouling – Dog fouling is still occurring in the children's play area and in some parts of the village. Dogs are **NOT** allowed in the play area which will become a dog control zone meaning that anyone found with their dog in the area will be liable for prosecution.

Dogs in Playing Field – Just a reminder that **ALL** dogs must be kept on leads in the playing field. The field is well maintained by volunteers and the Parish Council. You can help them by adhering to this request. Notices indicating that dogs must be kept on leads are posted at both ends of the field.

Bletsoe Fete – The Parish Council would like to wish the Bletsoe Fete Committee good luck with the forthcoming event on Saturday 17 June.

NDP - The draft plan is currently with the Borough. You can find a copy on the Bletsoe website – www.bletsoe.net Details of the referendum will be circulated in due course.

Play Area – Are you a parent of young children who use the play area? Would you like to form a working group, which will help to maintain the area? Please let our clerk know and it can be included on the next Parish Council agenda – parishclerk@bletsoe.org.uk

The Smockers - though smaller in number, still continue to work on the Playing Field making a difference for all villagers to enjoy.

O'Connors – Mick and Paula, as many of you know, have lived in the village for a long number of years. They are now planning to resettle locally and will be leaving the village later this year. Mick has not been so well recently and we him send our best wishes for a speedy recovery. The Parish Council would like to thank Mick for his significant contribution to the grass cutting around the village over many years.

Permissive Paths: A written proposal from Mrs Knights was received by the Parish Council earlier in the year. The proposal would allow members of the public continued use of permissive paths on Mrs Knight's land. The Parish Council was asked to support the proposal and publicise the new arrangements. In addition, the parish council were asked for a small yearly donation towards the cost of tree planting (approximate cost £50 per annum) and to pay for any new signage (approximate cost £50). Members voted in favour of this proposal and **it was resolved** to include £50 in the yearly budget for tree planting and to pay for the purchase of new signs.

Parish Councillors 2017-18

Ann Gibbons
Mary Laws
Edward Bean
Paul Caves
Alison Foster
Clare Goduti
Paul Vine

Clerk: Alison Southern

Bletsoe Parish Council

Newsletter

June 2017