

# MY WOUGHTON GAZETTE



SPRING EDITION

APRIL 2019

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## ELECTIONS

Thursday  
2nd May

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Opening hours: Mon - Thurs 9am - 5pm & Fri 9am - 4pm

# Words from the Council Manager

WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL



**Due to legal reasons, for one edition only, I am doing the editorial as sadly, councillors are not allowed to, due to the upcoming election.**



Welcome to spring, where we have already experienced some beautiful weather (shorts, in February?) And a very busy start to the year. As mentioned, we have elections for every seat in Woughton coming up in May alongside a challenging new service plan which details the aims of the council over the coming year. *I am pleased to say that the council, following feedback from local residents, have agreed the budget and priorities for the coming year. These include:*



- More resources to support estate improvements, including **landscaping and environment**
- Some additional staff to help those in most need, following the success of our **mental health worker** being appointed last year.
- Development of **new community allotments** for local groups
- **Provision of our services** within the different areas, in response to comments about the offices being too far from some residents – informally known as ‘Woughton on the road’
- Some work around longer-term priorities, such as **play park provision**, ensuring the council continues to develop and be resilient, and to provide more **support to community groups** with training and additional resources.

You can see the whole service plan on the website or request a copy by contacting us.



So that is looking forward, but at the end of the council year, it is also good to look back at the Woughton year.

We are collecting all the information for a full ‘annual report’ which will be in the next edition, but some highlights so far include:

- The dog bin service removed 50,000 litres of dog waste over the year, weighing the equivalent of a tank (or enough to fill half the swimming pool at the leisure centre).
- Our events saw over 3,000 people attend, with

everything from the Four Bridges Festival to Tea Dances, Apple Day to Diwali.

- Our offices were open for 2000 hours and we had 40 council and committee meetings
- The Community Fridge saw over a ton of food redistributed in the first three months of operation
- Our grants policy saw over £7000 allocated to 16 different projects, supporting hundreds of local people.



And we continued to deliver landscaping, advice, environment and youth services and developed new initiatives, improved some of our community centres

Thank you to everyone who works so hard to make Woughton as great as it can be; residents, local companies, organisations and groups. Your support is, as always, greatly appreciated.

and did lots of work within the council to ensure long term stability and quality. There will be a full article in the next edition of the gazette, when things will be back to normal and the council chair will be back on the editorial!

*Steve McNay* Council Manager

## *Elections are coming*

As a Community Council, we are the first level of government and local people are elected every four years to become councillors. This year sees all the Woughton seats up for election and voting takes place on the same day as the MK Council elections.

The election takes place on **Thursday 2nd May**, with polling stations across the parish. You will be invited to vote for people in your ward (usually the estate you live on), with different numbers of seats depending on the size of the ward – in Woughton, this varies from one councillor on the smaller estates to four councillors on the larger ones.

If you have registered for a postal vote, you should receive the papers about two weeks before the election. ***There is still time to register for a postal vote***, with the cut off being 5pm on 15th April. Contact the elections team on **01908 254706** or check the MK Council website for more information.

The people that are elected will serve a term of four years and will decide how Woughton Community Council works, delivers services and supports the local community.

**Polling stations are open from 7am until 10pm.**

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# FOUR BRIDGES FAMILY FESTIVAL 2019

FOR RESIDENTS OF  
CAMPBELL PARK PARISH  
and WOUGHTON PARISH

SATURDAY  
13TH JULY 2019  
12-4PM

AT TWO HALLS PARK  
ROCHFORDS COFFEE HALL  
MK6 5DL

PARKING  
WOUGHTON LEISURE CENTRE  
RAINBOW DRIVE, MK6 5EJ



GET THE LAND TRAIN  
TO THE EVENT



LIVE BANDS

FOOD STALLS

CHARITY STALLS

INFORMATION STANDS

FREE

FAMILY ACTIVITIES  
BOUNCY CASTLES  
FACE PAINTING



# FOUR BRIDGES FESTIVAL

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF THE FESTIVAL IN 2018,  
WE ARE BACK FOR 2019, BIGGER AND BETTER.

Taking place on **13TH JULY IN TWO HALLS PARK**  
(behind Rochfords Coffee Hall)



**There will be music, inflatables, circus skills workshops, food, drink, stalls, face painting, Random Mike is back (hooray!) and loads of other stuff.** You can see the advert opposite.

## YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

*Are you a local organisation that would like a stall?* Local groups can have a free stall (and this year, we will provide everything so no need for gazebos) and local companies get a very competitive rate.

*Are you a local food provider?* We will be having a ‘food village’ with several different options – we have a couple already booked, but if you are offering something a bit different, let us know. We don’t want too many (so everyone can get a good amount of business), but a couple more would be great.

*Are you a charity that wants to raise some awareness or some money?* Charities can have a free stall (with cover, table top, etc. all provided) and either sell goods, do games, leaflets - whatever works for you (within reason!)

**Would you like to volunteer on the day, to help make sure the event goes smoothly?** Stewards, litter pickers, help to get set up / take down – if you would like to volunteer for a couple of hours or the whole day, get in touch – you would be very welcome.

Or, just get the date in your diary and bring your friends, families, colleagues – this is an event for **EVERYONE** (even people who don’t live in the parishes), and we hope there will be something for everyone (and that the weather is as glorious as it was last year).

To get in touch  
email:

**events@woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk**

ring: **01908 395681**

pop into the offices or visit the website  
(there is a link on the homepage).



# Working Together To Make Our Green Spaces better

The Landscape team began their grass cutting season again this March and will cut everywhere 12 times between now and November.

Winter pruning and spraying has taken place and their continued work with residents shows the commitment to maintaining the open spaces.

The Landscape Manager is asking residents who are dog owners to pick up after their dogs as aside from it being really unpleasant for the team when cutting the grass, it is not fair and more time consuming to ask our landscapers to have to maintain the mowers: changing blades or tyres that are covered in dog waste.

## DOG FOULING IS A HUGE PROBLEM.

Particularly on and around the play areas on our estates!

Our Play Ranger team have really struggled to run their play sessions around the parish because of the severity. They haven't been able to set up play equipment on the green spaces in Eaglestone, Beanhill and Tinkers Bridge due to the fouling issue for some weeks. On inspection recently, Beanhill appeared to have improved a little so we are bringing Play Rangers back to Tin Man park on Tuesdays.

If dog owners continue to fail in their duty to pick up after their pets, **there is the danger of losing the Play Ranger sessions** being provided for your children.



Monday	3.30	No95 Youth Centre. Jonathans. Coffee Hall.
Tuesday	— 5pm	Tin Man Park Beanhill.

The Environment team have been supporting the Youth team by raising awareness of the issue and enforcing dog owners clearing up after their pets. Our Environment Officers work hard to ensure dog bins are well spaced around the parish, identifiable and maintained to a high standard.

You can get dog poo bags from our offices in Coffee Hall if you need them. Councillor Hannah O'Neil has given her ward monies to help us explore and develop family picnic areas across the parish. We are all working together, please work with us to make the best of our green spaces.

**Please do the responsible thing... PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG !**

# Eaglestone Residents' Association

WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Find us on facebook  
Eaglestone, Milton Keynes



## Communication

Our Facebook Page is up and running! Have a look on Facebook under Eaglestone, Milton Keynes for all the latest news and to add your comments.

We also have an email address so that you can contact us: [eaglestonera@outlook.com](mailto:eaglestonera@outlook.com). We have circulated our Newsletter regularly, with volunteers posting the newsletter around the estate.

## Pancake Event

On 2 March we had an early celebration of Pancake Day in the lounge at Everglade Sheltered Housing. Our chef Noel did sterling work to produce a succession of delicious pancakes for all. At this event we also had a colouring-in competition and there were table games to play. It was good to meet with the Everglade residents and to get to know them.

## Beautifying the Estate

Two areas have been earmarked for a revamp of planting. Our Woughton councillors have very kindly allocated funding for this project. Volunteers will help with the planting and maintenance of these areas, and we hope to tackle other areas later on.



Eaglestone  
Pancake Day  
held at Everglade  
Sheltered Housing  
on Saturday 2  
March 2019

**Regular Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 7.00 to 8.30 pm in the Eaglestone Centre.**

All residents are welcome. Come and say what's on your mind over a nice cup of tea or coffee.

## Woughton Community Council

will soon be launching its own new

## Wellbeing Room

This new project aims to promote positive health & wellbeing, offer a new space for activities & support local residents.

If you would like to know more or be involved in this exciting new project, please contact  
**Sue Varley** on **01908 395681**.

# DANCE CLASSES

**FREE CLASSES WITH A SPECIALIST TEACHER**  
**LEARN STREET, HIP HOP & CONTEMPORARY STYLES**  
**SATURDAYS EAGLESTONE ACTIVITY CENTRE @ 12:15-1:00**

**NETHERFIELD MEETING PLACE @1:30-2:15**

**FOR AGES 8 YEARS - 16YRS (LIMITED SPACES)**



Creating Connections, Supporting Communities  
Woughton Community Council



For further information contact Tash on 01908 392945 / 07983 590546



## What is a Community Fridge?

It is a way of sharing excess food from stores, saving it from landfill. There is no cost, but you are welcome to make a donation if you wish – or bring food donations yourself, subject to the exemption list.

## Where is one?

There are now fifty fridges nationwide, and we have four in Milton Keynes – Coffee Hall, Netherfield, Wolverton and Bletchley. You can access any Fridge regardless of where you live.

## Who can use it?

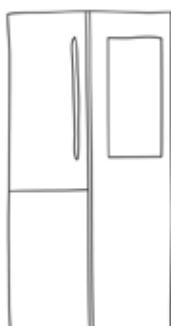
Anyone – it works on preventing waste, not need, so no evidence of who you are or your income is required.

## How do I use it?

Just turn up during opening hours (these can be found on [www.mkcommunityfridge.org](http://www.mkcommunityfridge.org) for our local fridges). Bring a bag, and weigh out what you take.

# COMMUNITY FRIDGE

WOUGHTON



HUBBUB

# Community Fridge Update

WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Community Fridge that was launched late last year has been a great success, with **over a ton of food redistributed over the first three months**, meaning less food waste, less landfill and more food being used within our communities. We have also been joined by the new fridge at Netherfield Chapel, meaning there are now two fridges within the parish.

**The idea of the fridge is simple** – food retailers, such as Lidl, Tesco, Costco and others donate food to the Community Fridge network rather than see it go to waste. We have also had donations from individuals who have items that they aren't going to use. All this food comes to the Community Fridge and then anyone (and we do mean anyone!) can come and take what they can use.

The fridge is stocked with whatever has been donated – sometimes there is a load of bread and cakes, other times lots of cooked meats, eggs, fruits, vegetables – it all depends on what has been donated.

## No Pigging Waste here!

WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

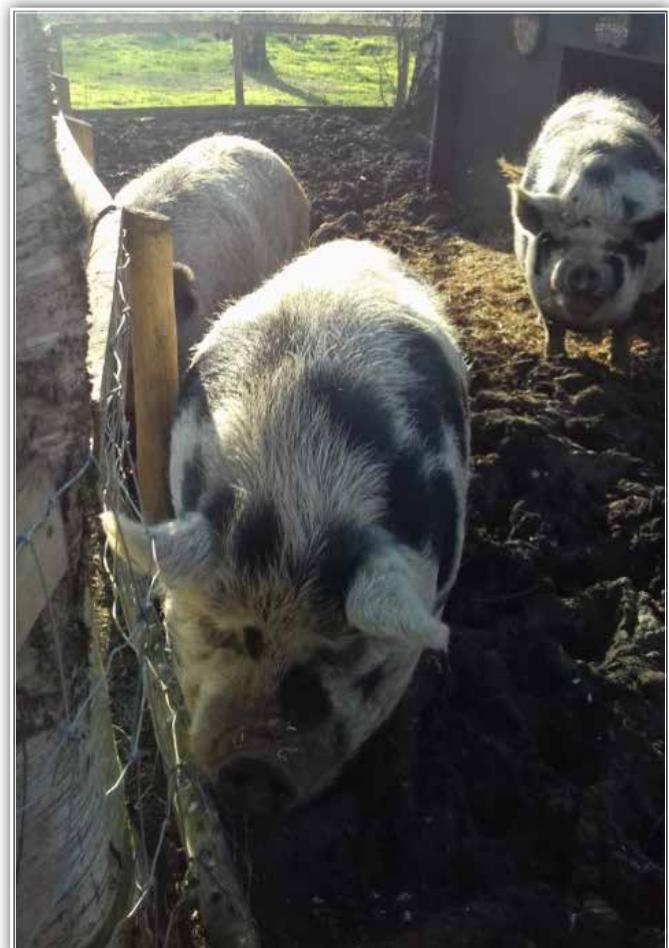
Woughton Community Council are aiming for zero waste for the Community Fridge, so now all our bread, vegetable and fruit waste which is well past its sell by date goes to The Curly Tails Pig Sanctuary in Newton Longville as treats for the rescued pigs – three of which are shown above.

The pigs love a treat – bananas are a favourite. Curly Tails are a charity that depends on fundraising and donations



The hours for the fridge will be changing in April and we are also hoping to be open on a Saturday morning (watch this space or check our website or Facebook). **The new hours will be:**

<b>Monday</b>	6:00pm-6:30pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	12:00pm-12:30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	3:30pm-4:00pm
<b>Friday</b>	10:30am-11:00am
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00am-11:00am



and have Open Days planned for the summer. They also take bookings for group visits for a reasonable charge. Their website is [www.curlytails.org](http://www.curlytails.org) – have a look at their good work!

# No95 is Back!

**Our designated Youth Centre has undergone vast refurbishment following the floods of last spring.**

The youth team managed to continue to deliver all of their projects during the works and although there is still a little work to complete before an official grand opening. The team are delighted to be back home and feel better able to really serve the community from No95.

**Watch this space for exciting news about the planned development of the facilities which will improve our offer even further in 2019/20**

Our Youth Manager, Tash and Youth Development Officer, Gemma are based at No95 Monday to Thursday and are contactable to discuss any concerns or enquiries you have about parish youth or our services.

**No95 Youth Centre Office t: 01908 392945**

**Tash 07853 590546 Gemma 07983 599279**

e: [tash.darling@woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk](mailto:tash.darling@woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk)

e: [gemma.simmons@woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk](mailto:gemma.simmons@woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk)

We are delighted with our targeted services. All are staffed by trained, friendly youth workers and remember: all these services are FREE!

**Q Alliance Youth** @ No95 Youth Centre, Wednesday 6-8pm

**SEN Youth Club** @ No95 Youth Centre. Professional Referrals only

**Food Project** @ No95 Youth Centre. Tuesday 4-5.30pm Referral only

**Young Parents Group** @ Moorlands Centre Thursday 12-2pm Under 25yrs

**Gardening Club.** Generational & Community.

Buddy up with a neighbour, family or just as one of the team.

All ages welcome but under 10s must be accompanied by an adult.

**MONDAYS @ 3.30-4.30pm at No95. The Youth Centre. Coffee Hall.**

## General weekly provision

Monday: **Netherfield Multi Sports**– 5.45-6.30pm

**Youth Drop in** 9yrs+. 6.30-7.15pm at Netherfield Meeting Place

Tuesday: **Open Access Seniors** 12yrs+ 6.00-8.00pm @ No95 Youth Centre

Thursday **Music Café** 13-19yrs 6-8.30pm : MK College. Chaffron Way Campus

Saturday: **Street Dance** 12.15-1pm @ Eaglestone Activity Centre. Age 8+

Saturday: **Street Dance** 1.30-2.15pm @ Netherfield Meeting Place. Age 8+

For full details about the many activities for young people in this area see our website & community boards



All our youth clubs offer healthy snacks so please ensure allergy info is known by the child and staff



Find us on  
**Facebook**

For girls aged five to seven  
(four to seven in Northern Ireland)

**'We play loads of fun games and do activities and challenges and a few times we get badges.'**



**(Matilda, 6)**



**Being a Rainbow** is all about having the space to try new things and have fun. Rainbows learn by doing - they get their hands dirty, do sports, arts and crafts, and play games. Through taking part in a range of different activities with girls their own age, Rainbows develop self-confidence and make lots of new friends.



Find out more about Rainbows at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/rainbows](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/rainbows).  
Register your daughter at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus),  
or call 0800 169 5901.



Registered charity number 306016



FREE

**Wednesday 7th August 2019**

**The National Day for Play**

**Milton Keynes Playday**

**Campbell Park**

**11am - 4pm**

The largest free play event in Milton Keynes brought to you by MK Play Partnership. Join in with activities and games and enjoy the main stage entertainment.

Use the pay and display centre:mk car parks or public transport from CMK and follow the Redway footbridge which leads into the park. Cycle parking will be available.



@MKPlayDay



@mkplayday

[www.mkplayday.wordpress.com](http://www.mkplayday.wordpress.com)

