

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS from the June 2017 Meeting

ALISON FRASER WALK – The parish council are aware that the gate in Alison Fraser Walk has come away from its post and are putting matters in hand to repair this as soon as possible.

EMBERTON COUNTRY PARK – With the recent staff changes that have taken place at Milton Keynes Council which affect the management of Emberton Country Park, the parish council requested a stakeholders meeting with officers to discuss the following issues;

1. Noise (loud music)
2. Litter (including ash from bbqs, breeze blocks/bricks) and dog fouling
3. Overcrowding
4. Awareness of annual events
5. Short term parking
6. Environmental damage to the wildlife and fields
7. Traffic and traffic flow through Emberton and along the A509
8. Three disused caravans

and requested that Natural England undertake an assessment of the wildlife of the park which was, in the opinion of the parish council and residents, set up for the pursuit of quiet countryside activities.

LITTER PICKING PACKS – The parish council have been provided with a number of litter picking packs; grabbers, bags, gloves and risk assessment forms should any community group or individual wish to undertake a litter pick in Emberton. Any group or individual undertaking voluntary work on behalf of the parish council, will be covered under the parish council's public liability insurance. The MPA Group based in Sherington recently undertook a litter pick of Sherington, Emberton and Olney as part of their community day; the parish council would like to thank all the staff for their hard work in making the villages a cleaner place to live and work.

SPEEDING AND PARKING IN EMBERTON – The recent deployment of the Speed Indicator Devices in Olney Road at the end of May/beginning of June has provided data which is of extreme concern to the parish council. The figures show that nearly 25% of all vehicles coming into and going out of Emberton were exceeding the 30mph speed limit (740 vehicles) with the maximum speed heading south on Olney Road of 55mph and 72mph heading north on Olney Road. Data from both SID deployments is available on the parish council website under the "Information" heading.

The parish council must now look at measures to slow down the traffic, such as the removal of the single yellow lines in some parts of Olney Road, enabling vehicles to park in this area to restrict speeding. The location of one of the Speed Indicator Devices has been sighted so that it logs traffic coming into Emberton from Olney; the data proving that speeding is not attributed to the "rat run" only.

Parking in Emberton has been an issue for many years, with visitors to the park being the main culprit of the traffic problems in Hulton Drive and the service road in Olney Road, leaving residents of both Hulton Drive and Olney Road struggling to find parking for their own and visitors' vehicles. The parish council has for many years addressed these concerns with the management of Emberton Country Park in order to come up with a short term parking solution within the park.