

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS from the July 2017 Meeting

Thames Valley Police - TVP introduced a new operating model on the 1st June and the team are now split into three areas; 1) Emergency response (deal with 999 calls), 2) Investigate hub and 3) Neighbourhood team (North and South). There has been some reduction in neighbourhood police officers but they are now ring fenced and can also draw on resources from the investigative hub in a bidding format. TVP has been tasked with delivering four areas of policing a) visibility, b) engagement, c) problem solving and d) community resilience.

Milton Keynes Council's reduction in services – There has been a loss of two rapid response crews and graffiti crews with an overall reduction to the street cleansing budget for 2017/2018. Emergency response team (glass, graffiti) will respond in 1 – 4 hours and the response to fly tipping will be within 5 working days. The A509 is now cleaned monthly in line with the grid roads. The £50,000 weed spraying budget has been retained this year but will be removed next year. The parish council has however, allocated £500 in its 2017/2018 for weed spraying and contractors are being looked at. Landscape – 5% budget reduction over the past 2 years. The Serco contract expires in March 2020 and there will be consultation with all the parishes to see who is interested in undertaking devolved services. Trees will be maintained centrally by MKC because of insurance.

Waste Strategy – Milton Keynes Council's Waste Strategy has been agreed and the green bins proposal has been removed but the restriction on pink sacks remains although they may be clear sacks. There are no proposals at the current time to close the tip at Newport Pagnell.

Minerals Local Plan – The Minerals Local Plan was agreed by the Council at the June meeting. There are two sites in Lathbury and one at Lavendon Mill. Planning applications will still have to go through the consultation process and the parish council and residents will have the chance to comment with the important issue being traffic on the A509 for the site at Lavendon. There is a planning application for the one of the sites at Lathbury.

Pink sack recycling initiative – Milton Keynes Council will shortly be launching a pink sack recycling initiative to encourage more residents to recycle household waste. There will be a reward scheme for residents and the parish council; further details will appear in the September Well & Towers.