

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council Newsletter August & September 2023



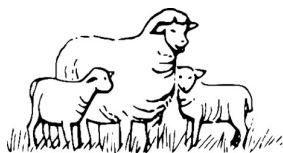
Peal attempt by a visiting band
Saturday 19th August - 10am to 1pm approx
at All Saints Church, Campton

100 Club 2023-2024
Draw starts September
See page 2 for details



Coffee and Chat!
Friday 1st September 10:30am to 12:00pm
at All Saints Church, Campton

Parish Council Meeting - all welcome
Thursday 7th September 7:00pm
at Campton Village Hall



Welcome to the Campton & Chicksands Newsletter
published by the Parish Council
www.camptonandchicksands-pc.gov.uk
If you have any news or views you wish to share
please contact the Editor, Liz Bishop - details on back page



The Village Hall Management Committee would like to thank all those who have taken part in the 2022-2023 100 Club which is important to raise funds towards keeping your Village Hall open for the benefit of the whole community.

100 CLUB 2023-2024 PRIZE DRAW **BUY YOUR LUCKY NUMBERS NOW**

THE COST OF THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION IS £15 PER NUMBER

There will be three monetary prizes awarded each month, plus an additional bonus monetary prize in December, April & August.

To enter for the 2023-2024 Draw, payment can be done any time between now and the end of August. We are continuing to offer the opportunity to pay for your subscription on-line using a BACS payment.

To obtain details on how to pay this way please email Liz:
villagehall100club@gmail.com

If you would still prefer to pay for your subscription using cash or a cheque, Committee members will be calling house to house during July & August.

The 100 Club Draw plays an important part in raising funds towards keeping your Village Hall open for the benefit of the whole community; we would like to thank you all for your continued support. Good Luck!

A copy of the 100 Club Rules can be found on our website page:-
<https://camptonandchicksands-pc.gov.uk/village-hall/100-club/>

100 CLUB CONTACT:- Email: villagehall100club@gmail.com

News from the Pews

The next Coffee and Chat, held on Friday 1 September, will be a Macmillan Coffee morning.

Coffee and Chat may not continue due to a shortage of volunteers. Should anyone be able to help for one month please can you let us know!

We are able to continue up to November. The dates for your diaries are

1/9/23

6/10/23

3/11/23

1/12/23 tbc

If you are walking past the church take a look at the wildlife area at the front. At the back of the church keep an eye out for swift sightings following the installation of our swift boxes and caller system.

We belong to a benefice of three churches and thought it might be useful to know what our other churches in our benefice are doing and that everyone is welcome.

St Michael's Shefford:

Menopause Mondays. 7.30pm - 9pm. We want the Shefford area to be talking about the Menopause. For further information email Sara Searle at

saragsearle@gmail.com

Karaoke Keith every second and fourth Monday starting at 7pm

Tuesday Community Cafe Every Tuesday 10.30am -12.00 noon

Craft Club Thursdays 2pm

Meppershall:

Meppershall Strollers organise walks on the 2nd Sunday each month.

Find James and Miriam on 01462 857836 or on the Meppershall Church Facebook page.

Beth Sullivan-Ash, Church Warden

Rector: The Revd Roni Goodman 01462 339962 / 07533 376880

The Rectory, Church Road, Meppershall, SG17 5NA ronigoodman@gmail.com

Website: <https://churchofallsaintscampton.com/>

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

The Parish Council (PC) held their most recent meeting on 6th July 2023.

It doesn't seem possible that it is time to write the article for the summer edition of the newsletter already, we hope that you have all been enjoying the warmer weather, particularly during June. It has been lovely to see the Recreation Ground in full use over the last month. The school have held their annual Sports Day and their Summer Fayre, and we have also had a Pilates session one evening plus all the usual visitors. Cllr Booton has been working hard to re-paint the swings ready for the school holidays, the other Cllrs are very grateful for the time he has committed to this.

At the meeting Ward Cllr Brown was able to report the results of the latest Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) survey, some figures of interest for 2022/23 are:

1. Housing provided for Domestic abuse victims 125.
2. Library visits (including online) 68,215.
3. New homes built (target 1,968) 2,294.
4. New affordable homes (target 408) 671
5. Empty homes returned to occupation (target 60) 113.
6. Economically active residents (16-65) 79%
7. Jobs in CB area (working age) 82%
8. Town centre vacancy rates (nationwide 13.8%) 8%
9. Shefford has 43 commercial units with 2 currently empty.
10. Council tax collection (target 98%) 97.17%
11. Council rent collection (target 100%) 99.6%
12. Telephone calls to council waiting times (target 180 seconds) assessment of 122,014 calls 135 seconds.

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council cont.

Cllr Brown was also able to confirm that due to the local election changes at Central Bedfordshire Council the Schools for the Future programme has been suspended, and this does include the Shefford/Stotfold cluster. It now seems unlikely that any further transition to the two-tier system locally will take place prior to 2025. We will keep you all updated as soon as we receive information.

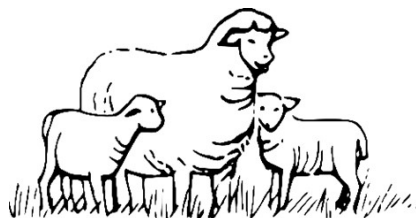
The meeting had a very full agenda with Cllrs reviewing some ongoing projects, correspondence and regular items. The remit of the P3 Group was highlighted in discussion, and the PC would like to thank members of the group for their help in keeping Parish public footpaths maintained. The PC would also like to thank the volunteers that tend the village flower bed. Watering was a huge task during the very dry June, and the PC have supported the purchase of plastic water carriers to hopefully reduce the number of trips back and forth to fill up with water.

The PC have recently been asked to review the use of posts or rocks etc. to protect grass verges, as occasionally used by residents out of a desire to help maintain the appearance of our Parish. In discussion at the meeting, it was considered that such items seldom give rise to any issues, a view it seems that is shared by many councils. However, it would be remiss of the Parish Council not to remind our residents that there may be potential liability implications of placing any item on the public highway. Should any resident wish to better understand this potential concern then please contact me for further information.

The Councillors and I wish you all a very enjoyable summer and we will reconvene in September. If you have any concerns or suggestions, please do get in touch or join us at one of our meetings. Our next Newsletter will be the October edition.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 7th September 2023 7.00pm in Campton Village Hall.

Clerk to the Parish Council, Tammy Medley:
Tel 01908 505558 / 07955 521174
tammy.medley@btinternet.com
<https://camptonandchicksands-pc.gov.uk/>



News from the Tower

A successful peal on All Saints bells on July 16 marked some important anniversaries for several members of the church community – Brian and Joy Hare's recent Diamond wedding anniversary, Pat Griffin's 80th birthday and Christopher Strong's 80th birthday. Congratulations to all of them!

VISITING RINGERS IN JULY 2023

There will be a peal attempt at All Saints Campton by a visiting band on Saturday, August 19, 10am to 1pm approx. Several of the band are from the Hertfordshire Young Ringers group who achieved a great result at York Minster recently in the 2023 National Young Ringers Contest.

STILL YOUR TURN TO LEARN?

We still need to teach more ringers. To learn more please join us on a Tuesday evening 7.30pm to 9.00pm at All Saints Church Campton or contact any of our ringers or me, John Loveless, on 07803 206161 or email jloveless5040@outlook.com

Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club

Hello all you happy gardeners. I hope you are enjoying all your hard work and investment throughout these summer months.

It's hard to believe we are in the 7th month of the year and have had our longest day. Thankfully we have had some rain to assist us in all the watering duties, along with many other jobs we are on with. There's lots to do in the garden and on the veg plot in July and August - deadheading to tackling pest, feeding to seed sowing and planting.

- Now is the time to be putting in your winter bulbs of adding extra seeds for extended colour in the garden
- Prune plum, cherry and apricot trees - summer pruning is vital to promote and boost flowering and fruit, preventing the spread of disease and stopping plants outgrowing their space
- Watch out for blight and remove any black spot leaves on roses, do not compost these, and keep deadheading
- Prune early flowering clematis
- Keep picking your sweet peas to promote more blooms

Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club cont.

- Splitting large daffodil clumps
 - Taking semi ripe cuttings of lavender
 - Feed roses and spray brassicas
 - Keep your greenhouse ventilated and remove any tomato side shoots
 - Make sure strawberries and other berries are protected
- Lastly, it's important to stop frequently for teas and rehydrate.

I hope to see you on the 30th July 1pm at Meppershal Manor £3 non garden club attendees but please let me know you are coming on 01462 851729 in order to assess refreshments.

Maryika - 01462 851729

Date	Event	Location
30th July	Meppershall Manor visit - historic castle mound	Meppershall Manor
14th August	Competition Judging	Campton Village Hall
4th September	Becky Almond - How to care for your garden	Campton Village Hall
2nd October	Richard Knock - Bedfordshire wild orchids	Campton Village Hall
6th November	TBA	Campton Village Hall
4th December	Christmas Social	Campton Village Hall

Campton Village Hall

The hall is providing water for the village borders which are looking particularly lovely this year. This is one of the ways which our community benefits from the hiring out of the village hall so please do make use of the asset we have.

We are considering installing a bike stand, any feedback from the community would be welcomed on this. Please email camptonvh@outlook.com

If you are looking to book the hall for winter 2023 please consider doing so by September as bookings tend to increase for the last quarter of the year.



A regular bus service open to everyone.
Cash fares and concessionary travel passes accepted.

Travel to:

Biggleswade every Monday @09:16 Greenway - all stops
Hitchin every Tuesday @09:18 Greenway - all stops
Cambridge on the 4th Wednesday of the Month
 @08:46 Greenway - all stops
Welwyn Garden City on the 1st Thursday of the Month
 @08:48 Greenway - all stops

Monthly excursions take place on the 4th Thursday of the month, please see below for those planned for the rest of 2023:

24 th August	Barnsdale Gardens, Exton, Rutland Geoff Hamilton's 'BBC' gardens.	£12.50 entry + Bus £17.50 Pickup 10.00/10.30 D. 15.45
28 th Sept	Audley End House & Gardens, nr Saffron Walden, Essex Free to English Heritage	£16.50 House & Gardens. Bus £13.50. Pickup 10.00/10.30 D. 15.00
26 th Oct	Bletchley Park, Bletchley, MK	£19.50 Entry + Bus £8.50 Pickup 11.00/11.30 D.16.00
23 rd Nov	Bury St Edmunds Christmas Market	TBA

Tel: 0300 123 3023

www.wanderbus.org.uk

e-mail: thewanderbus@gmail.com

Items for the next Newsletter must be submitted to the Editor, Liz Bishop no later than 15th September 2023
 Email: candnewsletter@gmail.com