

# Maids Moreton Parish Council Newsletter

## Winter 2020



*Grade 1 listed St Edmund's Church, Maids Moreton*

*Website: [maids-moreton.co.uk](http://maids-moreton.co.uk)*

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## **1. Parish Council Meetings**

The Parish Council holds meetings every month (apart from August and January) on the first Wednesday of the month. The meetings commence at 7:30pm and are normally held in the Village Hall. However, due to COVID restrictions we now have virtual 'Zoom' meetings. All residents are invited to access these meeting and the access details are emailed (for those on the MMPC contact list) and posted on the Maids Moreton Facebook group. The next meeting will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021.

All village residents are very welcome to attend the meetings and bring up any village issues that they would like the council to discuss. If you cannot attend a meeting, then you can contact our Parish Clerk. Also, if you would like to be included in the MMPC contact list then please email the clerk:

### **MMPC Parish Clerk**

**Jacky Dale-Evans**

**Tel 01280 814483**

**Email [maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com)**

### **Parish Councillors**

Mark Byrne (Chairman)

Ausra Glozeckaite-Mohandas (Vice Chair)

Carolyn Cumming

Patrick Hardcastle

Graham Maw

Fiona Powell

## **2. Parish Council Actions**

In addition to the management of the Village resources, such as grass cutting, litter collection, street lighting, and the maintenance of Village assets, *e.g.* Playing Fields, Playpark, Scout Hut and Cricket Pavilion, the Council has achieved these actions since our Autumn Newsletter was issued:

1. A speed and traffic survey was organised and collected data at eight locations on the total number of vehicles, the split between heavy vehicles, light and motorbikes, and the speed of all vehicles. This confirmed the scale and extent of speeding within the village and the regular use of Mill Lane by vehicles exceeding the 2.3m width limit. The analysis report is available for download on our website <https://www.maids-moreton.co.uk/reports-and-audits> .
2. Parish Council Grants were agreed as follows:
  - (i) Maids Moreton Conservation group – Gravel for paths
  - (ii) Maids Moreton Parish Church – Christmas Lights
3. The gatepost to the gate at the playing fields car park is being replaced. This means that if there is antisocial behaviour in the car park, we can now close and lock the gate as required.
4. Resurfacing the car park at the playing fields is being completed.
5. Two picnic benches have been set up on the Playing Fields.
6. A number of planning reviews relating to the parish have been completed.
7. New Flooring in the Cricket pavilion has been planned.

### **3. Planning and Development**

#### ***Walnut Drive Planning Application for 170 Houses (Application ref. 16/00151/AOP)***

This application, which was approved by the then AVDC SDMC in February 2019, was resubmitted to the new Buckinghamshire Council Strategic Sites Committee on 19 November. After almost 4 hours in session, this committee held a vote that resulted in a tie. The chairman cast his deciding vote in favour of approving the proposal subject to a Section 106 Agreement, this specifies developer contributions to infrastructure, being concluded between the developer and the Council.

The draft S106 Agreement is now available on the Council website (type the reference in the search box). <https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/online-applications/> All the documents can be seen there, simply click on the document you want to review.

MMPC was extremely disappointed that the SSC approved this application despite strong and eloquent objections from our county councillor Warren Whyte, Buckingham Town Council and the Parish Councils of Akeley, Foscote, Leckhampstead and Whittlebury as well as from us. Maids Moreton and Foscote Action Group also presented strong and incisive objections but all was to no avail.

We are in process of commenting on the draft S106 Agreement and take this opportunity to remind everyone who wishes to do so that they can make comments on the draft S106 Agreement via the website or in writing. If anyone is unsure how to do this, please contact the Parish Clerk for advice. To be effective, comments must be objective. However justified they may be, emotional comments are simply not given any weight in the planning process.

Although the picture looks very bleak at the moment, we shall continue to explore all opportunities to try and have this very anti-democratic, highly inappropriate decision overturned. We are particularly disappointed that the planning officers when speaking to the committee, in our view, felt it appropriate to go far beyond their formal role of giving objective advice to the members of the committee. There are many clear instances where their advice appeared to us to be partisan rather than professionally objective and we shall continue to make our views on this known and explore all avenues available to us to have this reviewed by the appropriate people within the unitary authority.

## ***Neighbourhood Plan and Community Right to Bid***

The Neighbourhood Plan process is ongoing but was delayed by a considerable amount of time being diverted to formulate a Community Right to Bid application in respect of the Scott's Lane fields. Maintaining this area free of development is crucial to the survival and integrity of Maids Moreton as an historic village separate from Buckingham. A Community Right to Bid does not in itself prevent development but when it is in place there is requirement for the Community to have opportunity to bid for land that is sold and we felt it was worth trying to secure this.

Unfortunately, the council has informed us that our bid was not successful, which we are reviewing. The reasons given for refusal are:

*(a) The land nominated is agricultural land (associated with a working farm) and that use is not a qualifying use for Section 88 purposes, i.e., it does not further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community.*

*(b) Despite significant evidence [of use] by members of the public, this is only guaranteed on the right of way and none of the evidence submitted shows actual current non-ancillary use that furthers the social wellbeing of the community, as required by Section 88 of the Act.*

*(c) As the use of the nominated land is agricultural, access to the public can be restricted based on agricultural requirements and we find that it is not realistic to think that there could be non-ancillary qualifying use under those circumstances.*

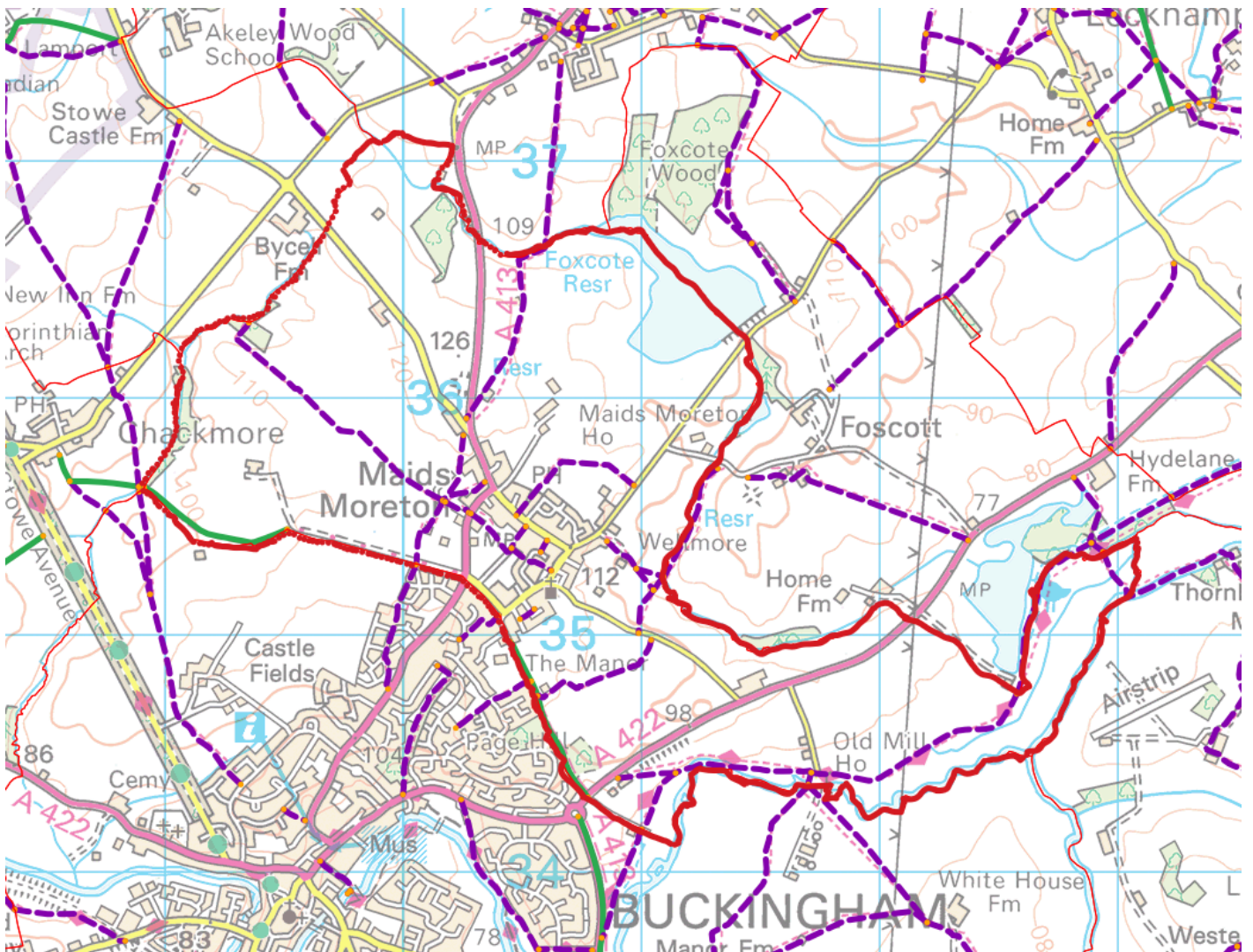
Despite this setback, we shall see whether anything further can be done and, of course, the material gathered for this bid will be useful for the Neighbourhood Plan.

## 4. Maids Moreton Public Footpaths

This is a map of the public footpaths in the parish. The parish boundary is the red line. The footpaths are the purple lines and the bridleways are the green lines.

If you would like to see a more extensive footpath map then go onto the Buckinghamshire Council website and search for "Public rights of way map;" this is the link.

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/public-rights-of-way-map/> .



**5. Christmas Food Quiz**

**Anagrams – name the food!**

**1**



**Key Turk**

**2**



**Reposa Tattoos**

**3**



**Kissing Panel, Bt**

**4**



**Dis Hunky Porridge**

**5**



**Be Accra Nursery**



**6**



**Dads Chirping Tums**

**7**



**Mice Spine**

**8**



**Spurs Losers tubs**

**9**



**Cloche Lego layout**

**10**



**Carsick Thames**

## **6. News from Maids Moreton CE School**

We are delighted to announce that Buckinghamshire Council has approved our becoming a full Primary School. We are thrilled that this final part of the process has now been completed and we look forward to officially offering full primary education to all our current and prospective children. We would like to thank all members of the school and wider community for your support on this journey. Exciting times lie ahead.

The timeline for expansion is outlined below:

September 2020 – Years R to 2

September 2021 – Years R to 3

September 2022 – Years R to 4

September 2023 – Years R to 5

September 2024 – Years R to 6

During the second national lockdown, we have adopted new and inventive ways to ensure children receive a full and vibrant curriculum and enjoy all the usual experiences that make our school so special.

November marked the national and local commemoration of Remembrance Day. This year, restrictions prevented the usual Remembrance Day parades and gathering at war memorials. We therefore felt that this year in particular, it was more important than ever to find a way to commemorate this significant day and remember those soldiers who sacrificed their lives in War, particularly those from our village. As such, we decided to create a poppy garden in the Rose Garden at the bottom of Main Street. The children took great pride in their poppy designs and we were overwhelmed with the response on Facebook and the lovely comments of appreciation we received. We were so pleased it provided an uplifting and poignant focal point to local people during these difficult times.

In other good news, I am delighted to inform you that we have secured an Ofsted registered wrap around care and club provider for September 2021 to support our working parents. The service will operate from school from 7.30am each morning, until 6pm each evening during term time. The service will be provided by S4A. S4A, managed by Matt Ogle, and based at the Vitalograph site, has run a number of before and after school clubs at our school for many years. They provide wrap around care and clubs in a number of local schools and come highly recommended.

In the last few weeks, we have been delighted to welcome three new children to our Reception class, as well as a new class teacher, Mrs Clare Bristow, who is working alongside Mrs Laura Black in our Reception class. We are thrilled to welcome Mrs Bristow to the team.

Christmas is just around the corner and we will be performing our usual nativity performances in class bubbles and recording them for parents and relatives to watch from the comfort and safety of their own homes. We also plan to visit St Edmund's Church for our Carol Service, at separate intervals within our class bubbles, if rules at the time allow.

Our School PTA will be running an outdoor Christmas Window Wonderland event on Sunday 13th December from 1pm-5pm. Villagers are invited to decorate or illuminate their front garden or window in a festive way. There will be a prize for the best entry. Please email the school PTA for an entry form [[maidsmoretonpta@gmail.com](mailto:maidsmoretonpta@gmail.com)]. It is free to enter. Route maps and judging sheets will be available from outside the Church on the day for a small donation.

We hope you enjoy reading our news and hearing the new and inventive ways we have found to ensure the children of Maids Moreton continue to enjoy such wonderful experiences during these difficult times.

**Keira Ainsworth    Head Teacher**

## **7. News from Buckingham RUFC**

As you will no doubt be aware this year has been a very strange one for the Rugby Club, with the 2019 – 2020 season being cancelled, and the 2020 – 2021 season not getting started for obvious reasons.

This has also meant that we had to cancel our beer festival that is a very important fundraiser for the club, and also our Christmas Rugby day which primarily raises funds for local charities.

Financially we have been able to mothball a lot of the Club premises to ensure we are in a stable position when we are able to get going but at the moment we still do not know when this will be or what the game of Rugby will look like when we do restart.

Many of you will know that we have agreed to let the government Mobile Testing Units use the Club car park free of charge a few times a month. We are obviously delighted to do our little bit and for the most part this has proceeded without a hitch, although we have been made aware of some of the visitors to the centre parking inconsiderately. We have been in contact with the team that run the MTU and they have committed to provide extra signs to alleviate this.

The Rugby club is not only for local Children and Adults to get exercise and take part in our game, and we have run as many COVID compliant sessions across the teams as possible, but for a number of our membership it is very much a social hub and this has been greatly missed.

We are hopeful that as we come out of lockdown, we will be given an opportunity to bring our players back to playing the game in whatever limited capacity is allowed, and enable our social members to see some Rugby in a COVID compliant manner, renew acquaintances and get some much needed personal interaction.

In the meantime, the Club Committee are working hard to ensure whatever we provide is in line with Government advice, Tier rules and COVID regulations.

On behalf of the club, I would like to wish you all a merry Christmas, a happy New Year, and above all hope you all stay safe and well.

**Simon Smith**

**BRUFC Club Chairman**

## **8. Soon to come: Parish Council - 5 year plan**

### The Plan

The Parish Council has decided to produce a business plan for the five-year period from 2021 to 2026. It is a statement of our vision for the parish and sets out the council's purpose, objectives and key priorities for maintaining and developing the village.

The council wishes to communicate the plans for the next five years to residents of Maids Moreton to give a clear understanding of how the council works and the aims and goals the council wish to achieve during the five-year period.

The plan provides an opportunity for residents to comment and raise questions with regard to the Council's plans and intentions.

The plan will be subject to annual review in January of each year and will be extended annually for a further year.

### Aims and goals

The council's aim is to maintain and improve the quality of life and the environment for the people that live in Maids Moreton village. Wherever possible, the council will involve the local community in significant decision making. The Council will always be open to input from the community and will strive to meet the needs and wishes of local people.

### Village residents

We will ask residents for comments and questions. The plan will be posted on the Maids Moreton website. It will be sent by email to the Parish Council contact group. It can also be printed and posted if required. If you are not part of the contact group and would like to review the plan, then, please contact our Parish Clerk and we can post or email it to you.

## 9. Christmas Food Quiz Answers

1. Turkey
2. Roast Potatoes
3. Pigs in Blankets
4. Yorkshire Pudding
5. Cranberry Sauce
6. Christmas Pudding
7. Mince Pies
8. Brussel Sprouts
9. Chocolate Yule Log
10. Christmas Cake



**Merry Christmas!**

**Who got 10?!**

## **10. Upcoming Events**

### **Church**

1. MM School and St. Edmund's Church are planning a Christmas Window Wonderland event 1pm-5pm on 13<sup>th</sup> December (see item 6. News from the School). Free map to be collected from the church or car-park.
2. The Christmas Gift service outside, for Buckingham Food Bank and MK Families in Need, on 6th December at 10.30am.
3. Professional Singers (Welsh opera friends from Ali) at the Christingle service outside at 4pm.
4. Carol singing round the village with band with refreshments afterwards provided in/by the church.
5. The usual Christmas Eve HC at 11.30pm.

### **Maids Moreton Allotments Association.**

Annual general meeting will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

### **Maids Moreton Cricket Club.**

Winter nets will be starting in February and anyone looking to play social or league cricket are welcome to join. All details will be published on the Facebook page nearer the time at [www.facebook.com/maidsmoretoncc](http://www.facebook.com/maidsmoretoncc).

### **Maids Moreton Conservation Group**

#### *Maids Moreton Village Carol Singing*

We welcome all singers or non-singers 😊 to the annual village carol singing which is scheduled for Monday 21st December. Despite the current abnormal times we all live in we hope to have as much fun as possible as well in addition to raising much needed funds for the Children's Society. We will have the Butcher Brass Band joining us as per usual to create a lovely atmosphere.

The plan is to meet promptly at St Edmunds Church at 6pm, walk through the village ending at Dancers Place for socially distanced Mulled Wine and Mince Pies. We will be continually be keeping an eye on Government guidelines however at the moment it is noted that:

Door-to-door carol singing can take place in a group(s) of no more than six participants. If there are more than six people in total, each 'group' must not interact, 'mingle' or otherwise socialise. Participants should adhere to public health advice, including to ensure that you maintain at least 2m distance from anyone you do not live with and the threshold of any dwellings. Could all intended participants please contact Andy Hodgson on [andywhodgson@outlook.com](mailto:andywhodgson@outlook.com) or 0748 389 6603 to register their interest to enable suitable planning to assure a safe event.

We very much look forward to meeting you for this wonderful festive occasion.



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MAIDS MORETON PARISH COUNCIL WISHES EVERYONE  
SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS

&

PROSPEROUS AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR

