



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) UPDATE

Since the Covid-19 pandemic, the way the Parish Council operates has changed significantly. Although we have had to close the office to visitors during the two lockdowns, our staff have been working to deal with queries and keeping the day-to-day business of the Council and its services going. The office is currently open for residents to drop in between 10am – 12 noon Monday to Friday, please note that only one resident is permitted in the office at a time and face masks must be worn. Outside of these hours you can contact us via email: [theparishclerk@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:theparishclerk@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk) or telephone 01582 883990.

Now that the three tier system is in place we would urge residents to keep up to date and to follow the latest guidance from HM Government. Central Bedfordshire Council website offers a wide range of services including help for those self-isolating or who may be experiencing other difficulties and for businesses. Visit their website: <https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/135/coronavirus> for more details on the help available.

Within the village, Barton Helping Hands continue to offer vital assistance to our residents. We were delighted to hear that the group has been nominated in the *Volunteer Group of the Year* category of Central Bedfordshire Council's *Cheering Volunteering Awards 2020*. Congratulations to all those involved and Good Luck with the Awards!

As the pandemic continues into the winter months, it is even more important to be aware of neighbours, friends and family members who may be vulnerable and at risk, as well as lonely. Please continue to consider the following to help:

- **Follow the advice. HANDS, FACE, SPACE** to help keep our community safe. Guidance and restrictions are changing rapidly so it is important to keep up to date and follow the national advice. If you feel ill and have any of the following symptoms: *high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of sense of smell*, you should book a test and self-isolate for 10 days from the date your symptoms started.

You can book a test online via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or ring 111.

- **Download the NHS Covid-19 Track and Trace App to your mobile phone.** The app is the quickest way to alert people if they have been in contact with an infected person.

- **Pick up the phone.** A daily check on people can not only help with ensuring safety and if necessary medical intervention, it can be a real boost for mental health. It's **important to talk**. If you feel you need help with your mental health, visit Central Bedfordshire Councils website for more details on the help available.

- **Make a note of your own requirements.** In the event that you may be isolated or in need of medical assistance, it is important that anyone intervening can understand your health situation. Write down any allergies, medication requirements, underlying health conditions etc. and place them somewhere visible, or share with a neighbour or family member.

In the event that you, or anyone you know within the village, needs some help and does not have anyone who they can call on, please contact **Barton Helping Hands on 07855 070074**



## PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS AWARDS FOR 2020/2021

Barton Helping Hands	£200.00	Barton-le-Clay Street Watch Group	£270.00
Unity Hall	£300.00	Ramsey Manor Lower School PTA	£200.00
Keech Hospice Care	£374.00	Harlington Upper School Awards	£125.00
Noah's Ark at St Nicholas Church	£100.00	Arnold Academy Awards	£50.00
Barton Village Hall	£259.00	Gale Court Entertainment	£300.00
Barton Kids Club	£275.00	Royal British Legion	£100.00
Barton-le-Clay Pre-school	£400.00	<b>TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED</b>	<b>£2,953.00</b>



Visit our Facebook page: [Barton-le-Clay Parish Council](https://www.facebook.com/Barton-le-Clay-Parish-Council) or our website [our website www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk)

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Remembrance Sunday was a little different this year. Due to the difficulties of safe gatherings and social distancing Barton, like many other parishes made the difficult decision to cancel the War Memorial Service this year. Despite the cancellation the Parish Council and a small number of local organisations laid their wreaths at 11am on 8<sup>th</sup> November, with further wreaths laid on Armistice Day itself. 2020 marks the 100 year anniversary of the War Memorial.

The War Memorial was funded by the village parishioners, together with the Peace Clock at St Nicholas Church. The sacrifice given by so many will never be forgotten.

## BARTON STREET WATCH

On Wednesday 2 September the *Bedfordshire Police Citizens in Policing Unit* launched the latest Street Watch scheme in Barton-Le-Clay, the 17th Street Watch group to operate across Bedfordshire.

The event was attended by Street Watch volunteers from Barton-Le-Clay, volunteers from Street Watch groups across the county and supported by members of the Local Policing Team, the Special Constabulary and Barton-Le-Clay Parish Council. More than 30 volunteers and community policing officers carried out patrols in the village, whilst maintaining social distancing, which offered a great opportunity to engage with local residents and provide an important police and community presence, despite the poor weather.

Juliet Wright, Watch Scheme Coordinator, said: "It is great to see communities coming together during this challenging time and volunteers wanting to make their area feel safe for all. The group will support our community policing teams by having a high visibility presence to deter criminal activity and highlight any key issues to us."

Street Watch is made up of volunteers who want to help make areas safer for their residents. They receive information about reported crime and anti-social behaviour to enable them to target patrols in certain areas to deter crime and provide visible reassurance to residents. Street Watch volunteers provide a vital link between residents and The Force's Community Policing Teams.



If you are interested in joining the Barton-Le-Clay Street Watch group please email [watcheschemes@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:watcheschemes@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk) or visit [www.bedfordshire.police.uk/watcheschemes](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/watcheschemes)



## Volunteer Group of the Year Nominee

### HELPING HANDS

**07855 070074**

**9am to 9pm**

*Voluntary organisation  
Transport, Shopping, Small Jobs*



## MACMILLAN CANCER CARE FUNDRAISER

On 3<sup>rd</sup> October the Parish Council and Barton Rovers Football Club held a fundraising event for Macmillan Cancer Care at Barton Rovers Football Club.

As many of you will know, our Chairman, Councillor Lyndon Davison-Williams is suffering with terminal cancer and raising money for the important work Macmillan do is very close to his heart. Social distancing and the weather were not on our side but the event went ahead and through the sale of cake and drinks, the raffle and 'buy-a-square' to win a signed football shirt we raised £2,017.88 on the day. A further £1,510.00 has been gifted through Lyndon's Just Giving page.

The event would not have been possible without the support of Barton Rovers Football Club, local businesses and residents who attended, gave up their time to help on the day, gifted prizes and their wonderful baked creations.



## OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE & MESSAGE

Please note that the Parish Office will **close for the Christmas break on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December and will reopen on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

*On behalf of the Councillors and Staff we would like to wish all our residents and your families a Peaceful and Happy Christmas.*

