



PARISH NEWSLETTER

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Local elections are taking place on 4 May 2023 and you should have received your household notification letter now.

It will tell you who is currently registered to vote at your address and how to get registered if you're not already.

You should also have received a leaflet all about Voter ID, which you'll need to vote at a polling station at the upcoming local elections on 4 May 2023.

For more information please see our website or visit:

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/32/electoral_registration_and_elections



SAFER CENTRAL & BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE POP-UP EVENT

On Saturday 4th February Officers from Bedfordshire Police and Central Beds Council Community Safety Team were on hand at the Co-op to hear residents concerns and offer advice and information on the best ways to tackle crime.

Barton has been fortunate to have been given priority with Community Policing, addressing anti-social behaviour, but they still need your help.

If you see or are a victim of crime **REPORT IT** by calling 999 in an emergency, or 101 / online chat option. Too often we hear of crime in our community but it is not always being reported. However small, please help the Police and REPORT IT.

If you missed the Pop-Up event, you can find lots of useful information on the Safer Central website

<https://safercentral.org/>



COMMUNITY HEDGE PLANTING & VACANT ALLOTMENT PLOTS

On 14th January, a small group of volunteers attended the Community Hedge Planting event at the Hexton Road Allotment site. Despite heavy rainfall, over 100 native tree and hedge species were successfully planted. Funding was provided by The Co-op Local Community Fund and the whips were donated by The Woodland Trust and are a welcome addition to the existing hedgerow.

A big *thank you* goes to the volunteers who braved the weather, and to Barton Countryside Conservation for the donation of materials and their time to organise this event. A second planting is planned for Saturday 18th February.

We currently have a number of vacant allotment plots ready to let so if you would like to 'Grow Your Own' please contact the Parish Office.



VILLAGE HALL CONSULTATION

The Village Hall Committee are running a public consultation and would like to hear from you!

You can help shape the future of this vital facility by filling in the questionnaire delivered with this newsletter or by completing the online survey [here](https://www.bartonleclayvillagehall.co.uk) or on their website www.bartonleclayvillagehall.co.uk

Additional paper surveys are available from the Parish Office or Barton Library.
Closing date **17th March 2023**





APPLY NOW FOR STREET PARTIES TO CELEBRATE THE KING'S CORONATION



Central Bedfordshire Council is encouraging residents to apply now for street parties to celebrate the King's coronation. Anyone wanting to close a road for a street party will need to apply at streetworks@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk by **20th March 2023**.

Recognising the social and community benefits of celebrating this historic event, CBC has decided to waive the usual road closure fees in the hope of encouraging as many people as possible to take up the opportunity to celebrate this momentous occasion.

“Street parties are a fantastic way of bringing communities together and we want to make it as easy as possible for residents to organise their own local events, which is why we’ve decided to waive the fees for street parties to celebrate the coronation.

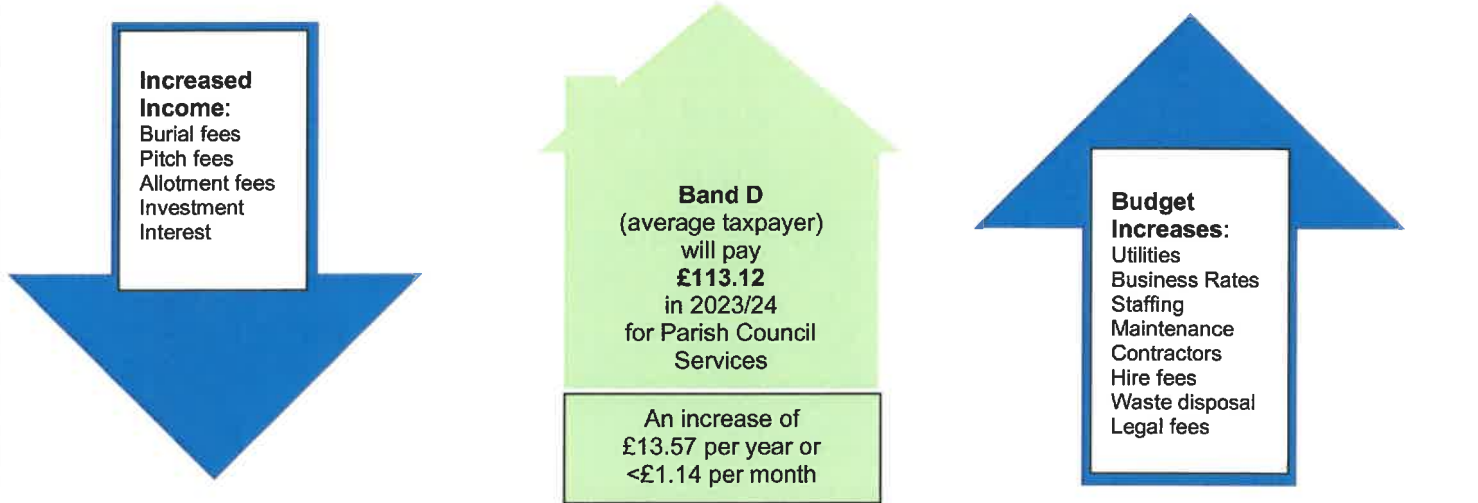
“We want to make sure that our residents can have a fun and memorable weekend, and I’d encourage everyone to speak to their neighbours about organising street parties and apply for a street party road closure as soon as possible.”

More details are available on the Parish Council’s website www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk.



2023/24 PRECEPT

The Parish Council are very aware of the current cost of living crisis impacting households. However, the rate of inflation now being seen, and the subsequent price increases being applied by many contractors and suppliers, means that it is also feeling the impact. Unfortunately, this means that the Parish Council will be incurring higher costs in 2023/24. The budgets have been reviewed and cost savings made, where possible. As a result, the Parish Council Precept Budget for 2023/24 was agreed at **£221,381**, representing an increase of £13.57 per year on a Band D property.



Central Beds Council are providing support and initiatives to help residents this winter as the cost of living rises. They have set up a dedicated information hub on their website for anyone concerned about the cost of living. This includes information about funding, food banks, energy saving tips and other wider essentials and a network of warm spaces across Central Bedfordshire for people to use when the temperatures drop. For more information, visit the Cost of Living pages on their website www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Cost of living support

from Central Bedfordshire Council

Central Bedfordshire

Save
--THE--
Date

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Monday 15th May 2023
BARTON VILLAGE SHOW – Sunday 23rd July 2023

Save
--THE--
Date