



PARISH NEWSLETTER

BARTON-LE-CLAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (BLCNP) SHAPING DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH FOR THE VILLAGE

Legislation empowers local communities in England to take the lead in planning how their own neighbourhoods will develop in the form of a Neighbourhood Plan, this means that when decisions are made on planning applications, the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan must be considered by the Local Planning Authority, Central Bedfordshire Council.

The process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan is lengthy, particularly when gathering information through consultations with villagers and external experts, e.g., Housing Design and Green Infrastructure experts.

Work on the Plan was started in 2012, but for various reasons its completion was delayed and wasn't restarted until January 2022 when the Barton-le-Clay Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee was formed. In fact, you may have already met some of the Committee at one of the many consultation/information gathering events that we have held in the Village.

We are now at the stage to present our Plan to the Village for what is known as The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 14 consultation which is where you, a villager, have the opportunity, over a six-week period, to review the Plan and have your say on the contents. Once the plan passes this stage it is then sent to Central Bedfordshire Council for review. Once that has been completed, the Plan comes back, with any amendments, for final ratification and adoption by a referendum.

After the BLCNP comes into force, the BLCNP will be a statutory planning policy document that will enable Barton-le-Clay Parish Council to have a greater, and more positive, influence on how the Village develops up to 2035.

A copy of the Plan can be downloaded from the Parish Council website [Barton le Clay - Neighbourhood Plan](#).



CORONATION COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE



Following the launch of this project at the Coronation 'Big Help Out' Event last May, the partners have been busy agreeing the design and applying for funding.

We are now excited to say that the groundwork is about to start at the site next to the Village Hall. Once this is completed, we hope to start planting in the Spring.

The creation of the garden will provide a space for residents to socialise and enjoy. Wellbeing walks will be starting from the site soon, so please look out for more information.

You can follow progress on our Facebook page [Coronation Community Garden](#) and If anyone is interested in getting involved with the project, please contact the Parish Clerk.



BLOOMING BARTON



INVESTING IN THE COMMUNITY 2024/25 Parish Council Precept



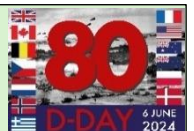
The 2024/25 Expenditure Budget has been agreed by the Parish Council. The cost per household refers to a Band D Council Tax house and totals **£118.15 per year**, an increase from last year of £5.03, (4.4% increase, mainly reflecting increased supplier costs). The Parish Council employs 7 people, mostly part-time, and serves around 5,000 residents. There are 13 elected Councillors who are unpaid volunteers. The overall expected expenditure is £274,610, of which £233,340 comes from Council Tax.

As with most Councils and businesses, administration is the biggest cost – this covers a wide range of matters such as staffing, IT, and infrastructure, legal, audit and insurance costs, elections, training and so on. The Parish Council focuses on environmental maintenance, recreational facilities, allotments, burials, and sports pitches. The Council does not deal with housing, highways, waste management, social care, and benefits – these all fall to Central Bedfordshire Council.

You can find out more about your Parish Council at www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk and on social media.

**Save
-THE-
Date**

Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 13th May 2024
D-Day 80th Anniversary Beacon Lighting – Thursday 6th June 2024



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