



# PARISH Newsletter

March 2026



## YES TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

YES votes - 869 (96.66%)

NO votes - 30 (3.34%)

96.7% in favour of the Plan

On 19th February you Voted YES to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan for Barton-le-Clay. What does this mean? the Plan will now form part of CBCs Development Plan and will be used to shape future development and protect our green spaces

## WHAT DOES BEING A PARISH COUNCILLOR INVOLVE?

Having moved to the Village and loving life here, I wanted to give something back to the community and help keep the Village a lovely place to live, so I joined the Parish Council three years ago.

I was given training on being a Parish Councillor and how the Council and meetings operate. Usually, I attend a Full Council meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month and generally three committee meetings over the following weeks. It's a commitment, but not an onerous one and it's always interesting to find out what is happening in the village and hear from the Ward Councillors about decisions at CBC which affect us. My fellow Councillors have a wealth of experience from different backgrounds, and I value hearing from them and members of the public on the various topics under discussion. The committees I'm on, Sports Field, Leisure and Highways and Environment, are responsible for overseeing the maintenance and improvement of those various areas of the Village.

In my time on the Council, I've enjoyed the opportunity to contribute to Village events, such as VE Day celebrations, and projects to improve aspects of Village life, such as the Community Garden, Sports Field and upgrades to play equipment. I've always taken a keen interest in environmental issues and have been able to develop this locally, attending CBC forums on biodiversity and local nature recovery strategy.

I would encourage anyone in the Village who likes to get stuck into village life to consider joining us on the Parish Council. Why not come along to the next Full Council or Committee Meeting or pop into the Parish Office to find out more? *Councillor Adele Tebb*



## YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

Be extraordinary -  
become a Parish Councillor

Would you like to:

- Make a difference to local people's lives?
- Give something back to your community?
- Help shape change for the benefit of your village?

Make a change, become a Councillor

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT:

[theparishclerk@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:theparishclerk@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk)

Call us on 01582 883990 or pop into the Parish Office,  
1 Windsor Parade, Windsor Road

## Allotment Open Day

Do you like the idea of working an allotment but you're not quite sure?  
Come along to the Allotment Open Day to find out more about the benefits of working an allotment, make friends and meet like minded people

Saturday 18th April 10am - 12 noon  
Sunday 19th April 2pm - 4pm  
Barton-le-Clay Allotments, Hexton Road

# BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL – INVESTING IN THE COMMUNITY

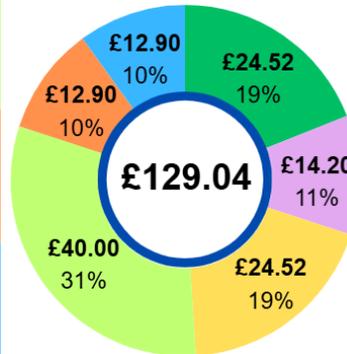
You will shortly be receiving your Council Tax bill for 2026/27 from Central Bedfordshire Council. Of this, a small proportion is passed to the Parish Council to provide the local services we provide for the Village. The cost per household this year totals **£129.04** based on a Band D property. This is an increase of £6.10 (5%) on the previous year and reflects increased supplier costs.

The Parish Council employs 7 people, mostly part-time, and serves around 5,000 residents. There are 10 elected Councillors who are unpaid volunteers and give their time for the community. The overall expected expenditure this year is £304,927, of which £261,178 comes from your Council Tax.

**ADMINISTRATION**  
 Planning, Accounts, Legal & Property Management, HR & Maintenance

**CEMETERY SERVICE**  
 Maintenance of the Burial Ground, War Memorial & Closed Churchyard at St Nicholas

**Community Events, Christmas Lights & Grants to assist local non-profit & charitable groups**



**LEISURE**  
 Recreational Ground, Parks & Allotments

**HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT**  
 Trees, Hedges, Green Spaces, Street Furniture

**SPORTS FIELD**  
 Maintaining 9 Pitches & Changing Facilities for Youth & Adult Football

Every £1 raised through the Council Tax Precept is invested locally to support our community.

With local authorities facing serious financial challenges, increasing pressure is being put on already stretched services. The Parish Council plays a vital role in supporting residents to safeguard local services and amenities.

**ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT SPEEDING IN BARTON?**

**Why not join Barton's Community Speed Watch?**

Community Speed Watch is a scheme to help reduce traffic speeding in our neighbourhood and raise awareness of the dangers of speeding. Data collected by Community Speed Watch groups is passed to Bedfordshire Police who may undertake speed checks and result in drivers being prosecuted

**Slow Down Community Speedwatch Operates Here**

Full training & equipment is provided

To find out more about the scheme email [WatchSchemes@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:WatchSchemes@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

**ADVANCE NOTICE OF MEMORIAL STABILITY TESTING IN THE BURIAL GROUND**

The Parish Council has a duty of care to ensure that the cemetery is a safe place for visitors, contractors and staff. Part of this responsibility includes checking the safety and structural integrity of memorials every 5 years, in accordance with guidance from the ICCM and the Ministry of Justice.

The test is carried out by a qualified inspector who will record and mark up the unsafe memorial or make safe if necessary. Grave owners will then be notified.

The date for the testing has not yet been finalised but will be publicised in advance. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office, 1 Windsor Parade, phone 01582 883990 or email [s.cowie@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:s.cowie@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk).

**SAVE THE DATE**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026**  
**6.30-7.30PM**  
**BARTON VILLAGE HALL**

**Join the THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN.**

**Thank you for joining the Great British Spring Clean Litter Picks on 14th, 21st & 28th March.**

Litter picks are held regularly throughout the year so if you would like to take part pop into the Parish Office for more details

**Love where you live and help keep Barton Tidy**