



DEANSHANGER PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

March 2025



Update from the Chair

The first two months of the year seem to have gone past in a blur but Spring beckons. In May we have local elections and if you are interested in becoming a parish councillor please contact the clerk. We have a full calendar for this year with many events for everyone so please look on the Parish Council website and Facebook pages for the most up to date information.

Just before Christmas we had an alleged issue with residents at the Home office run MK Hotel. The Parish Council held meetings with the police and our Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner. The meeting was very open and our neighbourhood Inspector explained the investigation they had undertaken. It was clear to DPC that no crime had been committed and that there was no evidence of any of the allegations having been proven. The Police have increased presence in the area to reassure parents at the school.

I appreciate that people may have strong feelings on this subject and that it can polarise opinion, however, the police have uncovered that a group of people in MK were manipulating information on one of the FB pages to stir up discontent. I appreciate that this is a polarising subject, however, I have always believed in innocent until proven guilty (a fundamental of British Justice) and so far the police assure us no crimes have been uncovered.

I hope everyone has a good spring time and enjoys the things we have planned across the community.

Ray Collins, Chair

Finance Update

In November 2024 DPC set the annual budget for the next financial year April 2025-Mar 2026, at £208,294. This is an increase of £49,755, a yr on yr increase of 31%. In December 2024 DPC set the precept at £119,000, an increase of 3.38%. As per last year, this amount includes £15k set aside to replace the wooden bridge between Home Farm Close and Bridge Walk.

We have had large increases in the cost of street lighting, both electricity and maintenance. Our three year grass and hedging maintenance agreement was up for tender, and has incurred an anticipated increase in costs, but we are happy to announce our continued association with Luke at LC Hedging. We have had to absorb unexpected costs of managing the playgroup building since Sept 2024, and after painting and groundworks are complete, hope to find a new occupant.

We have kept a budget of £6k for grants to village groups, so please do apply. The 'how to apply' and application documents are on our website. During the last year we have supported Deanshanger Primary School with parking signage, Conservative Club with OAP Christmas dinner, and Deanshanger Sports & Social Club with fireworks.

Craft Sessions for Children - Friday Afternoons at the Library

Craft activity sessions are run at the village library Friday afternoons by Friends of Deanshanger Library. All are designed for family involvement, with free with tea, coffee, squash and biscuits. Under 8's must be accompanied.
Drop in any time Fridays between 3.30pm and 4.30pm

7th March - Tea Party to celebrate World Book Day (6th March)

14th March - Celebrate St Patrick's Day (17th March)

21st March - Spring is in the air. Create a "Spring Tree"

28th March - Mothering Sunday crafts ready for Mothering Sunday (30th March)

4th April - Start planning for VE Day (8th May)

11th April - Fun activities for Easter.

18th April - Good Friday library is CLOSED

25th April - St George's Day (23rd April) will be the focus of activities

2nd May - Our plans come together for VE Day (8 May)

Wednesday 7th May VE Day (8 May) - finalising VE Day "display"

Recycling Food Waste

Food waste is collected every week in our area. West Northants recycle 10,000 tonnes of food waste each year. Don't have food caddy or bin? Order from westnorthants.gov.uk/newbin. Line your caddy with newspaper; compostable bag; used plastic bag eg bread bag (no black bags); our library stocks liner bags £1 for roll of 30. All waste is removed from bags before going into the anaerobic digester, creating fertiliser, and methane gas which is burned to generate electricity. All plastic bags are separately recycled at a facility producing electricity.

Heritage Society AGM

Deanshanger Village Heritage Society Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 28th March starting at 7.15 p.m at the Community Centre. followed by refreshments and a talk by the Buckingham Canal Society to include references and pictures of the Canal as it passed through Deanshanger. No charge. All welcome.

Easter at St Guthlacs

St. Guthlac's Church, Passenham will be open from 2-5 p.m. on Easter Sunday 20/4 and Easter Monday 21/4. Hot Cross buns, tea and coffee, various activities and displays. Free admission.

Good Neighbours events 2025

Big Quiz - Deanshanger Sports Club
Friday 7th March 7.30pm

Easter Play - Deanshanger Sports Club
Friday 11th April 1.30-3.30pm

Easter Trail - Jubilee Park
Saturday 19th April 12 - 3pm

Pride in Deanshanger - Deanshanger Sports Club
Saturday 28th June 2 - 11pm

Summer Play - Deanshanger Sports Club
Friday 1st August 1.30 - 3.30pm

Teen Summer Play - Deanshanger Sports Club
Friday 8th August 1.30 - 4.30pm

Summer Play - Deanshanger Sports Club
Friday 15th August 1.30 - 3.30pm

Teen Summer Play - Deanshanger Sports Club
Friday 22nd August 1.30 - 4.30pm

Deanshanger Scarecrow Trail
Saturday 4th October 10am - 2pm

Christmas Light Up - Parish Council Offices
Sunday 30th November 5 - 6pm