The Neighbour





Official Newsletter of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council

Celebrating and supporting local shops and businesses













Bletchley Food and Craft Market in Queensway Saturday 24th September 10am-4pm

Photo Credit L-R: Fuuudge, Wax and Bomb crazy, Peach and Palm, Stanley's Treats, Wombats Woodshop, Indian Orchard

Help your high street by shopping locally this autumn

The Town Council are working to support and promote local shops and businesses through hosting our own markets and events as well as working with organisations to bring more fantastic markets to our area including The Vegan Market Co.

Join us in Queensway for the next Bletchley Food and Craft Market on Saturday 24th September, where over 40 fantastic local stalls will be there!

We also feature the work and story of a local business in each of our newsletters. Read more about this edition's local business on page 6 and how you can advertise in our newsletter going forward on page 15.



Superb Summer Events



Can you spot your family and friends in the pictures?



It has been another very busy and fun summer across Bletchley and Fenny Stratford this year. The following events took place throughout July and August: the Town Council's Bletchley Big Street Eat in Queensway, the Fenny Stratford Canal Festival arranged by the Inland Waterways Association - Milton Keynes Branch, Fenny Poppers Festival organised by the Fenny Poppers Team and finally MKPA Play Sessions took place throughout our area. The Town Council gave Community Grants to Fenny Stratford Canal Festival and Fenny Poppers Festival and funded the Play Sessions.

It has been fantastic to see these events be so well supported and we are already looking forward to future events, including our next Food and Craft Market on Saturday 24th September. More photos and videos are available to view on our website and social media channels and you can find out more about our Community Grants on our website: www.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk

Message from our Chair

Dear Resident.

I hope you have had a wonderful Summer. This year we experienced a summer like no other, with baking hot temperatures, and a return to normality after spending the last two years in a pandemic.

The highlight of my summer was the Bletchley Big Street Eat. Queensway was closed from Stanier Square to Elizabeth Square with two stages providing entertainment, and the town centre filled with street food vendors, market stalls, art, and lots of things to do. This was our new carnival style event which celebrates the cultural diversity of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford. The event culminated with a Colour Festival where children and adults covered themselves and others in coloured dry powder. It was amazing to see all the different colours mixing and everyone having so much fun. Check out the video on our YouTube channel!



Bletchley Big Street Eat also showcased our inaugural Pride of Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Awards, where we recognised people and businesses that live, work or operate in Bletchley and Fenny Stratford. It was a delight to meet with all the winners and present them with a certificate for their service to the local community. Pictures and more information about this year's award winners can be found in this newsletter on page 8.

It was also wonderful to welcome thousands of football fans to Stadium MK for the UEFA Women's Euros. I was lucky enough to attend one of the games with my football fan son, it was his first ever stadium match which he thought was amazing. The game we saw was a fantastic fun family atmosphere. Congratulations to all at Stadium MK for such a well organised set of games.

Coming into August, we had the Fenny Stratford Canal Festival held on the canal between Bridges 96 and 97 of Grand Union Canal. We saw a floating market, radio-controlled model boats, craft and charity stalls. The new community canal boat Electra also visited Fenny Stratford from its base at Campbell Park.

The following week, it was great to see Fenny Poppers and people enjoying many of the bands on the main stage, and Fenny Stratford's resident drag performer Sandy Flaps. The Town Council is the largest funder of the event, and it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves.

Our councillors and staff team have worked so hard to provide a range of events in the Town Centre that bring the community together and bring more people to come and visit.

Don't forget to come to the Bletchley Food & Craft Market on 24th September, our Halloween Hunt on 29th October and our final event of 2022 will be our Christmas Festive Family Fun Day on 3rd December. More information to follow, but one thing I can tell you is that we will be having completely new Christmas lights this year!

I look forward to seeing you soon.



Cllr Ethaniel Kelly-Wilson

Could you be a councillor?



Join Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council

Are you passionate about your community? Do you want to help make a long-lasting change? Make a difference by becoming a councillor.

There are currently two councillors vacancies for Newton Leys and we are looking to co-opt these vacancies from within the community.

Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council consists of a total of 21 councillors elected to act on behalf of residents in speaking up for this community and in providing very local services.

If you are passionate about the local area and want to represent your local community, then please get in contact and find out how you can become a councillor.

Please contact our Town Clerk, Delia Shephard, to find out more about what is involved in becoming a councillor at Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council.



Contact Us















Upcoming Town Council Meetings

- Full Council Tuesday 27th September from 7.30pm
- Employment Policy Committee Tuesday 4th October from 7.30pm
- Community Committee Tuesday 11th October from 7.30pm
- Finance and Governance Committee Tuesday 25th October from 7.30pm
- Environment & Planning Committee Tuesday 8th November from 7.30pm

At time of writing, meetings are taking place at Newton Leys Pavilion.

More information, including the full meetings calendar, can be found on the Town Council's website: www.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk

Remembrance Sunday Ceremony

Queensway War Memorial Sunday 13th November 2022 from 9am



A Quick Interview with Cllr Andrew Palmer

An Introduction About You

I was born in Hackney in East London and have lived in Bletchley for 36 years. I worked in the Magistrate's Courts Service in London and then worked for The Royal Bank of Scotland as it was then. I have been married for over 47 years and I have two sons and one granddaughter. I support Leyton Orient Football Club and I am a season ticket holder.



Your Priorities and Focuses

Improving the environment in our area, mainly by litter picking and by continuing to report fly tipping to Milton Keynes Council.

Why Did You Become A Councillor?

I wanted to become a councillor because I wanted to help the local community in any way I could.

Do You Have A Favourite Part/Feature Of Our Area?

Water hall Park and the Community Orchard.

Tell Us Something We Might Not Know About You.

I play table tennis in the Milton Keynes League and I am a volunteer ranger for the Parks Trust.



Photo of our Community Orchard



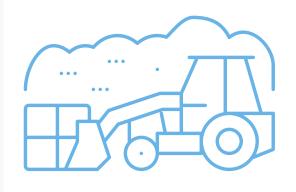
Welcome to Cllr Shay Elhasoglu

We are pleased to welcome our new councillor, Cllr Shay Elhasoglu, who will be representing Queensway and Denbigh ward.

You can find contact details for all our councillors on page 16.

There are currently two councillor vacancies for Newton Leys ward. If you are interested in becoming a councillor, please contact the Town Council on 01908 649 469 or by emailing info@bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk

Bletchley Landfill - Update from FCC Environment



Every May and November FCC Bletchley Landfill site hold a local liaison meeting in our site offices. These meetings are an opportunity for the representatives of the local community to meet with us and to discuss any concerns that they may have regarding the landfill.

It is also an opportunity for FCC to update the local community on what activities are happening or planned on site. Currently the local community of Newton Longville is well represented, however with Newton Leys being our closest neighbour we would like to invite more representation from this area.

If you would like to join us at the liaison meetings with the aim of updating your local community on activities at Bletchley Landfill, we would like to invite you to our next meeting on the **17th November**.

Please contact Fave.Wildsmith@fccenvironment.co.uk for more information.

Supporting local businesses



Bletchley-based M&M Supplies wins prestigious Queen's Award





M&M Supplies Team

Based in Bletchley on the Denbigh West Industrial Estate, M&M Supplies distributes consumer goods for world leading manufacturers. These manufacturers include: Walkers, Nestle, Cadbury, Patak's and Kraft.

M&M Supplies distributes huge volumes of products to over 16,000 customers across the UK and Europe and have been trading for over 40 years.

Earlier this year, M&M Supplies won The Queens Award for International Trade, which is the most prestigious award that can be given to any business from Her Majesty The Queen.

On this achievement, Frank Purcell, Managing at M&M Supplies, said: 'Great things in business are never achieved by one person, they are achieved by a whole team of people. I can't thank the team enough for what they do, each and every member of staff are truly amazing.'

Winning The Queens Award is a hugely impressive achievement by a business which has flourished and grown in Bletchley.





Thank you to M&M Supplies for providing these photos. You can find out more about M&M Supplies on their website: www.mmsupplies.com



Message from Fenny Stratford Community Association

Fenny Stratford Community Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 6th October 2022**, starting at 7pm at Fenny Stratford Community Centre, George Street.

One of the items on the agenda for the meeting will be to appoint a committee for the coming twelve months. Fenny Stratford Community Association would be pleased to see anyone who is interested in joining the committee.

Counselling and Support Available

The Town Council continues to work in partnership with West Bletchley Counselling Service to allow our residents to access wellbeing and counselling support.

Article from West Bletchley Counselling Service:

Anxiety...disappointment...anger...sadness...stress...helplessness...guilt...overwhelmed...harassed...family issues... bereavement...abuse...vulnerable...shame...depression...relationship problems...hurt...loss of direction....Work....

Often we find it difficult to talk to those closest to us and, feeling we have nowhere to turn, we can end up hiding feelings deep inside, causing us sorrow, distress and pain.

Residents of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council struggling with such situations can access free counselling, subsidised by the Town Council, as a support route to moving forward.

Through counselling, you can take time away from your daily routine, to think about what parts of your life need to be changed. It offers you an opportunity of finding your own unique way of achieving a more complete and satisfying life. With an experienced counsellor, you can discover your own answers as to how you can be more comfortable with your life and relationships; both with yourself and with others.

If anyone feels that they would benefit from some support at this time, just call or email and the West Bletchley Counselling Service will carry out an initial assessment to see if this is the right support service for you.

Please call: 01908 370 860 (phone lines are open between 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm with voicemail facilities available too) or email: wbwbcounselling@btconnect.com

Find out more on the Counselling Service's website: www.wbwbcounselling.org.uk



Pride of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Community Awards Presentations and Winners

This was the first year of the Pride of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Community Awards. Over 30 nominations were received across all award categories. The judging panel were hugely impressed by the dedication and hard work of the nominees to our area and local community. This was a very competitive year and the judging panel's scores were very close.

Congratulations to all winners:

Culture Award

Winner: Lulu McCoy

Sport Award

Winner: Bletchley and District Swim Club Highly Commended: Geoff Aldridge

Lifetime Achievement Award

Joint Winners: Alan Pearce and Ken Mott

Customer Service Award

Winner: Café Mediterraneo Highly Commended: Emporium MK

Volunteer or Charity Award

Winner: Sarah Evans Highly Commended: Bletchley Green Gym

Young Volunteer Award

Winner: Megan Webb Highly Commended: Carrie's Clean Up Crew

Best Allotment Awards

Manor Fields: Mosiewicz Wojciech Larch Grove: Michelle Logan Newton Leys: Mark Fishwick Orchardside: Natalie Forrest

The photos below are from the first Awards Presentation which took place on the Main Stage at the Bletchley Big Street Eat.





Save the Date! Our annual Christmas event will be held on Saturday 3rd December 2022. The event will see Queensway transformed into a Christmas wonderland. There will be fantastic festive entertainment, brilliant local market stalls and delicious food on offer for everyone to enjoy.

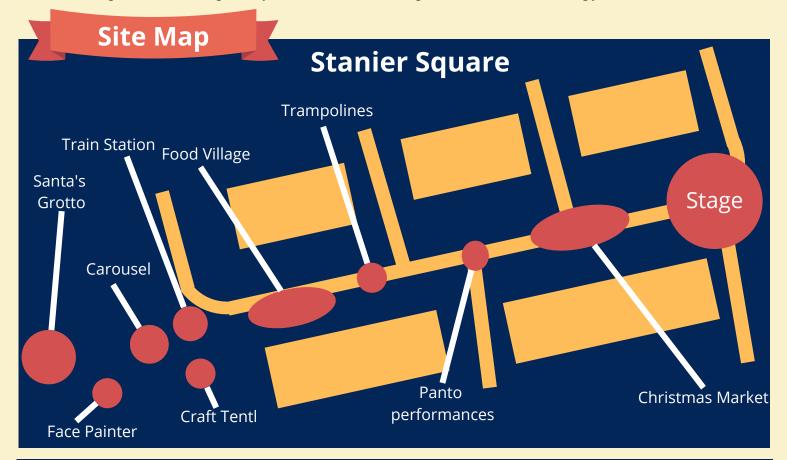
Stanier Square will become our Children's Christmas Village with traditional rides, trampolines, Santas Grotto and face painting. It will also be where you can board our special Christmas Train!

Our Food Market will see Streetfood Vendors bringing cuisine from all over the world along with traditional favourites such as a German Sausage stall, popcorn and pulled turkey with cranberry.

With the success of our Food and Craft Markets, we will be bringing a Christmas Fayre to our event so their will be an opportunity to purchase gifts from our local traders and businesses.

Pop Up Panto! Join us as well for mini pantomimes running throughout the day! It's behind you!

If that wasn't enough, there will also be a full schedule of live music on our stage throughout the day, so make sure you stick around for our grand finale, ending the day with some Christmas magic! We look forward to seeing you on 3rd December.



*Locations and activities subject to change

Making Our Community Dementia Friendly Article from Alzheimer's Society



Why it matters

Two thirds of people with dementia live at home. Some still work and drive. There are an estimated 1,596 people over 65 living with dementia in Milton Keynes. 4,242 people will be living with dementia in Milton Keynes by 2030.

Often people stop doing the things they enjoy in their local community as their dementia progresses because they are worried about getting the support they need. This is due to lack of understanding, stigma of the condition, confusing processes and inaccessible environments. The impact on people's quality of life and implications on their health is huge, not being able to access parts of community life such as shops or pharmacies; but also other aspects of everyday life such as financial services or leisure pursuits.

We must consider how dementia will impact our local community. So, the Town Council are working with Alzheimer's Society in Milton Keynes to make our area more welcoming and supportive for residents and visitors.

Becoming a Dementia Friend is the first step to making our local area dementia friendly

A Dementia Friend is somebody that learns about dementia so they can help their community. They turn their understanding into action. From being more patient in a queue to visiting someone you know with dementia.

Dementia Friends can also get involved with things like volunteering, campaigning or wearing a badge to raise awareness. We need the whole community to get involved. Our businesses, shops, cafes, pubs, hairdressers, plumber, electricians, and window cleaners etc. can become dementia friends and become recognised as 'working to become dementia friendly'.

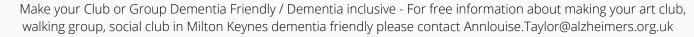
Activity groups, clubs and faith groups can get involved too. People with dementia and their carers want to carry on doing the things that are important to them. We can all make a difference.

See the details below and let's get started!









Alzheimer's Society offers lots of information to help people affected by dementia. Visit the website **alzheimers.org.uk** to learn more and access free online support.

Alternatively, you can call the Dementia Information and Support Service provided by Alzheimer's Society in Milton Keynes on **01908 669 404**.





LiveLife Article from Age UK MK



Have you heard about Social Prescribing? Did you know Social Prescribing improves people's health and wellbeing?

Pamela, a resident of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford, is keen to share how Social Prescribing has made a difference to her own health and wellbeing.

Age UK Milton Keynes provides a free Social Prescribing service for adults 18+ living in Milton Keynes, commissioned by BLMK Integrated Care Board. We describe Social Prescribing as "an approach to empower people to have the best wellbeing possible through engagement with the community."



Pamela was referred to Social Prescribing, Live Life as she was using expensive accessible taxis, feeling bored and unable to go out as often as she needed to - this was having an impact on how she felt; she described "I was very down when we first met." Pamela met Lucy,

Social Prescribing Link Worker, and through conversation explored her health and wellbeing, what is important to her and what she would like to achieve. Pamela's goals were to go out, using affordable transport, to meet other people. Since meeting Lucy, Pamela has applied and received a disabled bus pass, registered for the MK Connect Service, and now enjoys being independent, feeling safe to go out. Lucy supported Pamela for the initial trip, ensuring Pamela felt confident using the app to book transport.



Since that first trip Pamela has made several journeys "its brilliant everyone talks to you.....it has lifted my mood, unbelievable." Lucy referred Pamela to Arts on Prescription, Age UK Milton Keynes Friendship Group and found other social groups for Pamela to join. Pamela says all of this will help her not only meet people but find out what is happening.

Pamela explains the difference Social Prescribing has made "I am going to bed at night and actually sleeping...instead of sitting up all night thinking what am I going to do tomorrow...everything is totally different, how I am dressing, going out all over the place...I'm on Life." Social Prescribing really does improve people's health and wellbeing, Pamela describes it as "like Pandora's box...you open the box and see how many things you can do....there's all sorts of things that can help."

Thank You to Pamela for sharing her experience of Social Prescribing.

Karen Duggan, Social Prescribing Manager, Age UK Milton Keynes If you would like to know more or refer yourself, please contact us: Tel: 01908 550700 Text: 07849 083222

Email: Live.Life@nhs.net









Water Eaton Community Larder & the Soup for the Soul Café open on Tuesdays at Water Eaton Church Centre, Drayton Road MK2 3RR

The Café is open to everyone on Tuesdays between 1-2pm and it has a real community spirit. It is a lovely to meet people and to chat. The Café serves hot and cold drinks and a light lunch. There are also informative talks from services such as Age Concern, Diabetes UK, the Healthy Start Scheme, who provide information about the services they offer. Money Lifeline are there every week providing help for people in debt or financial crisis.

The Community Larder, open Tuesdays 2-4pm, is a membership scheme that provides surplus food from the supermarkets that would otherwise go to waste and provides affordable access to food every week. More information about reducing food waste and its impact on the environment can be found on the Water Eaton Community Larder Facebook Group and as a news article on the Town Council's website.

How much does membership to the larder cost and what's included?

There is a joining fee of a one-off payment of £10. Individual membership is £3.50 per week for up to 10 items of food including chilled food, plus fruit and veg. (Equates to about £12-£15 at supermarket pricing.) Family membership is £7.00 a week for up to 20 items plus fruit & veg.

How do I sign up?

Pop into Water Eaton Church Centre on a Tuesday & our team can sign you up.

Do you have any free time on a Tuesday?

Both the larder and the café are run by volunteers. We are always looking for people who have some spare time to help us run this worthwhile project. Please email Debbie at watereatonlarder@gmail.com for further information.



Skydive or Abseil

DONATE Monthly donations Raffle & tombola prizes Amazon wish list





OAK ROOM

Formal Dining | 20 Informal Dining | 35

Civil Ceremony Licence | 50

Located on the first floor

PRICING

Price per person for 2022/2 minimum numbers may apply

Hot Rolls £7.49 | Buffet's from £13.95

Hogg Roast £15.99 | Barbeque £15.99

Afternoon Tea £23.49 | Three Course meals from £24.49

Private Room Hire from £150 | Resident D| from £350

MARQUEE SUITE

Formal Dining | 90

Informal Dining | 150

Civil Ceremony Licence | 100

Ground Floor Access, Private Bar, Dancefloor



Market town location near the New City of Milton Keynes

Tel: 01908 578393 | Email: events.cockhotel@oldenglishinns.co.uk



Local Contacts and Updates



Milton Keynes Council - Ward Councillors

Bletchley East Ward



Councillor Mohammed Khan email: mohammed.khan@ milton-keynes.gov.uk



Councillor Emily Darlington email: emily.darlington@ milton-keynes.gov.uk



Councillor Ed Hume email: ed.hume@ milton-keynes.gov.uk

Bletchley Park Ward



Councillor Nigel Long email: nigel.long@ milton-keynes.gov.uk



Councillor Nabeel Nazir email: nabeel.nazir@ milton-keynes.gov.uk



Councillor Mohammad Imran email: mo.imran@ milton-keynes.gov.uk

Local MP - Iain Stewart

Phone: 01908 686 830

Email:

iain.stewart.mp@parliament.uk

Letter: Suite 102,
Milton Keynes Business Centre,
Foxhunter Drive, Linford Wood
MK14 6GD



The next Active Communities Forum will take place on 15th September 2022 from 7pm at Fenny Stratford Community Centre.

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team Central Bletchley and Fenny Stratford



Your neighbourhood policing team are working on issues identified by the local community and the police.

To contact them call: 101

This is a non-emergency number
Alternatively, email them on;

MKBletchleyCluster@themesvalley.post.police.uk

www.themesvalley.police.uk

THAMESVALLEY

POLICE

Neighbourhood Policing

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Community Noticeboard

Citizens Advice MK - Free confidential advice on subjects including debt and housing Freephone 0808 278 7991

Age UK MK – Support for Older People -01908 550 700

MK Money Lifeline - Call 0300 1235 198

MK Act – Domestic Abuse Charity - 0344 375 4307

Samaritans - Mental Health Support -Call for Free 116 123

Carers MK - Supports the health and wellbeing of carers - 01908 231 703



Newsletter dates for 2023

Alongside our quarterly newsletter, The Neighbour, we send out our monthly e-newsletter (which you can subscribe to via our website). If you would to have an article or share an update about local events in either The Neighbour newsletter or our e-newsletter, please contact Ruth Kent, our Projects and Media Officer. You can get in contact by emailing: ruth.kent@bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk, calling 01908 735 114 or via Facebook Messenger.

Delivery Date	Deadline Date to send in content to be included in the newsletter
January 2023	Friday 9th December 2022
April 2023	Friday 10th March 2023
July 2023	Friday 9th June 2023
October 2023	Friday 13th September 2023



Advertising in our newsletter

We will now be including two advertisement pages in our quarterly newsletter. We deliver our newsletter to over 8000 households.



The cost charges for advertisements are the following:

Full page advertisement - £172.80

Half page advertisement - £90

Quarter page advertisement - £49.20

Please note all prices include VAT.

There will be space for two pages of advertising in each newsletter, with up to one page available for commercial advertising and up to one page for community and/or charity advertising.

Non-profit organisations, supported by a copy of their constitution/rules plus a set of accounts, and registered charities may qualify for free advertising but this is not guaranteed.

Advertisers from within Bletchley and Fenny Stratford will receive priority and the editor's decision on advertising inclusion will be final.

If you would like to advertise in the next edition of The Neighbour, which will be delivered to our residents in January 2023, then please do contact Ruth, our Projects and Media Officer. You can get in contact by emailing: ruth.kent@bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk, calling 01908 735 114 or via Facebook Messenger.

There is more information, including our Advertising Policy, on our website: www.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Councillors

Newton Leys

Chair **Cllr Ethaniel Kelly-Wilson**

ethaniel.kellywilson@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Councillor vacancy



Councillor vacancy



Central Bletchley

Vice Chair Cllr Richard Graham

richard.graham@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Queensway & Denbigh North

Cllr Ron Haine

ron.haine@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Shay Elhasoglu

shay.elhasoglu@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Manor South

Cllr Keith Ely

keith.ely@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Ayesha Khanom

ayesha.khanom@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Terry Stephens

terry.stephens@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Granby

Cllr Mohammad Imran

mohammad.imran@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Manor North

Cllr Liz Campbell

liz.campbell@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Manor North & Eaton Leys

Cllr Stuart Clark

stuart.clark@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Eaton North

Cllr Samantha Browne

samantha.browne@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Andrew Palmer

andrew.palmer@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Ed Hume

ed.hume@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Fenny Stratford

Cllr E'Amonn O'Rourke

eamonn.orourke@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Sean Porter

sean.porter@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Clir Axel Segebrecht

axel.segebrecht@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Eaton South

Cllr Mariee Wymer

mariee.wymer@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Michael McDonald

michael.mcdonald@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Gavin Bedford

gavin.bedford@ cllr.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



Contact Us Phone 01908 649 469

Website: www.bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk Email: info@bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk



The Town Council's main office is based at Sycamore House, Drayton Road, Water Eaton, Bletchley, MK2 3RR These offices are currently open to the public between 9am-1pm on Mondays and 9am-4pm on other weekdays. The best way to keep up to date is by following us on our social media channels.







