

Sharnbrook Parish Council Newsletter

March 2023

Parish Council and Ward Council Elections are coming up on 4th May 2023!

Have you ever thought “I could do better than the current Council”? If you care about the community you live in, now is your chance to step up and put it to the test! There are exciting projects coming in the next few years!

To find out what is involved, drop in to the Village Hall on Saturday 11th March from 11 am to 2 pm to see if you are eligible, and what is involved.

Refreshments will be available!

Councillors and the Clerk will be there to answer your questions, and provide paperwork for you if you wish to put yourselves forward for nomination.

Help make Positive Changes and Shape the future of our local community!



Residents will need photo ID to vote in person at elections in May

For the first time, electors voting in person at polling stations will need to show **photographic ID** to vote at this year's local elections, including electors in Bedford Borough. Residents are being urged to make sure they are ready to vote in May by not only checking they are registered to vote but also checking they have an accepted form of ID. Accepted forms of ID include a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport, a UK, EEA or Commonwealth drivers' licence, and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass or an Oyster 60+ card. Voters will be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo.

Anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID will be able to apply for free ID online at www.voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk/ or by completing a paper form well in advance of the election. It may seem early, but checking now means you will be ready to vote in May.

Residents who do not have one of the accepted forms of ID can apply for free ID either online via Gov.uk or by completing a paper application form and sending this to Bedford Borough Council's electoral services team. If you need any help with applying for the free ID or want to request an application form, contact the electoral services team by phoning 01234 718078 or by emailing elections@bedford.gov.uk.

Anyone who wants to have their say in the elections this May **must also be registered to vote**. It only takes five minutes to register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. Voters wishing to apply to their council for free ID should first make sure they are registered to vote.

The requirement to show photo ID at the polling station, is a new requirement, introduced by the UK Government's Elections Act which was passed last year and comes into effect for the first time this May.

Do not be disenfranchised, ACT NOW!

Sharnbrook Hotel - Asylum Seekers

As you may well now be aware, the Home Office has seen fit to allocate the Sharnbrook Hotel as a base for those seeking asylum in this country.

In a spirit of welcome and openness, arrangements are being made with local organisations to liaise with the new residents to establish any needs which we will advertise when known.

Contact the Clerk if you wish to be involved.

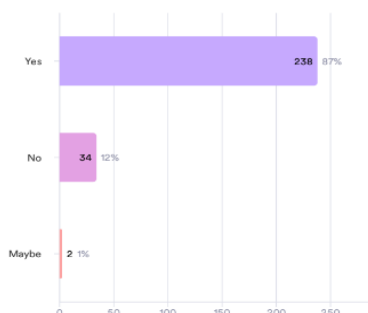
Newsletter Deliverers wanted!

If you are a new resident of The Oaks, Yelnow Lane (Far Wallis and Antonie Close), and could spare an hour or so several times a year to deliver these newsletters, please let the Clerk know! Thanks in anticipation!

RESULTS OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY SURVEY - Full details can be found on our website.

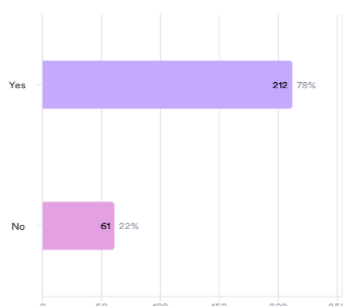
1. Do you support the use of speed reduction measures to improve driver compliance with speed limits in the village?

274 Responses- 2 Empty



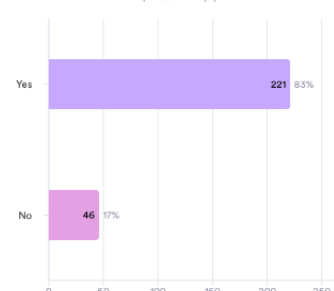
2. To achieve this aim, do you support the use of average speed cameras?

273 Responses- 3 Empty



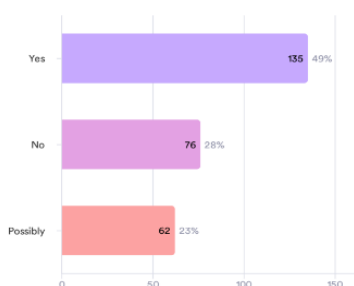
3. In terms of the Average Speed cameras, there are several cameras in local villages (Pavenham, Oakley, Bromham and Milton Ernest). Do you feel they are an effective tool for controlling driver behaviour?

267 Responses- 9 Empty



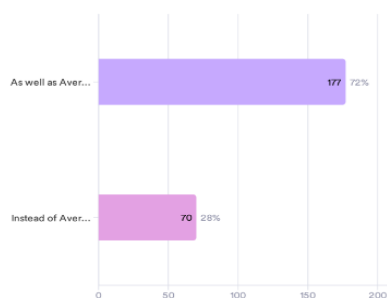
4. Would you continue to support the use of average speed cameras if you had to contribute through the Parish Precept (council tax) making a contribution towards the cost of these cameras?

273 Responses- 3 Empty



5. Should other types of speed reduction measures be considered? Please choose one of the following:

247 Responses- 29 Empty



Although we accept these are tricky to read, it is clear that the overwhelming results are in favour of traffic calming measures.

The Council are consulting with the Borough Council on the best ways to achieve this and will update. The full report is available to read on our website. If you need a copy please contact the Clerk.

Do you have a suggestion as to how best to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III?

We are looking for your suggestions, and ideas as to how best to commemorate the occasion!

We will also be looking for volunteers to help put up the bunting made for the Platinum Jubilee nearer the time as well. So if you have a good suggestion, or can help with putting up bunting, then please contact the Clerk (details below).



Get in touch!

Full Council Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month except August, from 7.45pm in the Methodist Church. Amenities Committee Meetings are usually every two months, with Planning Committee usually monthly on the first Tuesday. All meetings are open to the public. You can contact the Clerk either phone 07988 638054, or WhatsApp or Text.

Sign up to daily emails and keep in touch with what is happening locally. The website is www.sharnbrook-pc.gov.uk, just follow the instructions to subscribe. You can also find us on Facebook (Sharnbrook Parish Council) and Instagram (@sharnbrookpc).