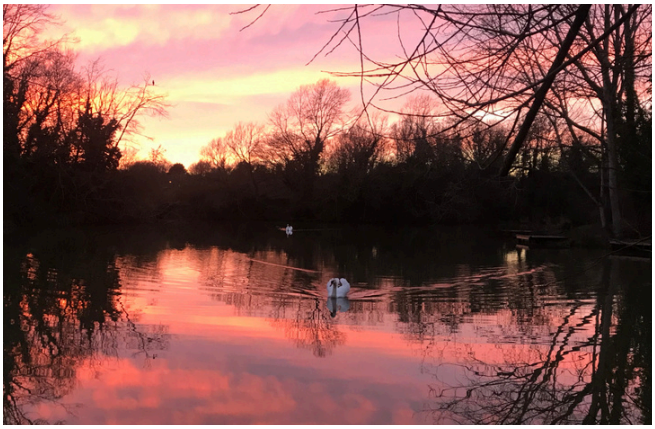
JULY 2026

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

LOUGHTON AND GREAT HOLM PARISH COUNCIL



The winning entry of our photography competition! The stunning photo of Misty Loughton was taken by Malcolm Wilson.



The runner up is Sabine More. She submitted a beautiful sunset at Lodge Lake.

Introduction and Welcome!

Welcome, once again, to our Summer Newsletter.

It feels like no time at all has passed since the last one, but so much has happened, as you'll see in these pages.

We are delighted to be back up to a full complement of 10 councillors, having recently welcomed some new faces - Will, Stephen, Shirley and Uwe. Turn to the last page to meet the team.

As a Parish Council, our focus is on the very local; the people, neighbourhoods, facilities and green spaces of Loughton and Great Holm. We are dedicated to making this Parish a great place to live. Whether it's organising family events, providing community spaces, maintaining the beauty and biodiversity of our green areas, or representing issues with Milton Keynes City Council, we aim to listen, respond and act. And it's important that everyone has a voice. You are always welcome to attend our meetings, email us, or engage with our Facebook page.

We have also been trialling surveys as a new way of receiving feedback (see the QR code on this page) and will continue to explore new ways of hearing from residents.

One particular focus over the last year has been finding a new cafe operator for The Loughton Pavilion, as we know this space has been greatly missed. We are now in the final stages of the tender process and hope to announce the successful tenant soon, so do keep an eye open for updates.



As always, I'd like to thank our tireless clerk, Paula, together with our staff, Martin, Andrew, and Charisa and all of my fellow councillors for their hard work and dedication.

Thanks for reading and I hope you enjoy the newsletter!

Tim Lee - Chair of The Parish Council

Loughton Pavilion Changing Rooms Survey

We would love to hear from you! Please scan the QR code to answer a short survey about what you would like to see offered from Loughton Pavilion in conjunction with the Café.

Thank you for your time!



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Shenley Leisure Centre

A few reasons to visit and join us.

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- Pay as you play and block booking options available.
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- Discounts on selected sports with our Annual User Card
- Unlimited classes and fitness room usage, the best rates and priority booking with our Direct Debit option.
- No contracts, no joining fees, no cancellation fees, no hassle
- Exclusive 12-15 year old 'Teen Fit' fitness room sessions.
- Personal traininers available to motivate you to your goals.
- Areas to socialise and relax in before or after your activity, including The Sportsmens Rest Bar. With 6 screens, 3 dart boards and a pool table, it's great for quiz nights, live sports, functions, bingo, bands karaoke and more.
- Online bookings available.
- A venue for Buttons Preschool, MK Physio, various clubs including Dance, Trampolining, Martial Arts, Tutor Groups, Korfball, plus so many more.

SHENLEY FAIRWAYS

Contact us or pop in to find out more.
Shenley Leisure Centre
Burchard Crescent, Shenley Church End,
Milton Keynes, MK5 6HF.
01908 502488.
enquiries@shenleyleisurecentre.co.uk
www.shenleyleisure.org.uk

the Sportsmens REST

Scan the QR codes to go to the Sportsmens Rest or Shenley Leisure Centre's websites

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Community News



Coffee Mornings

We host our popular coffee mornings WEEKLY at Loughton Pavilion (the former Grumpy Cook).

These are held every Friday between 10.30am and midday. No booking needed - just turn up!

Refreshments are provided and all are welcome. Do pop along!





Lakeview Village Green

The sign for the Lakeview Village Green on Great Holm was damaged and a new one was installed.

Did you know that once an area is registered as a Village Green that area has legal protection against being developed? This is under the Commons Act 2006.



Thank -Yous!

Thank you to Elizabeth Gardens Care Home for providing us the space to hold our weekly community coffee mornings.

We got to enjoy the comfortable area and delicious cakes for 6 months over the winter whilst the Pavillion was closed.

Thank you to those who donated trees in Loughton, looked after and watered the newly planted trees and helped with any landscaping volunteering over the last 12 months.

Thank you to the contractors for their help in getting the Community Centre back up and running so quickly after it was vandalised back in October 2025.

- Zurich Municipal Insurance
- Blue Flame MK Ltd
- City Glass (Stony Stratford)

Thank you to Cllr Shanika Mahendran for kindly allocating £250 from her ward budget towards the installaton of CCTV.

Thank you Great Holm SOS for their help clearing out The Pavilion building.

Clerk's Column

It's been another busy year for me as Clerk.

We have completed so many projects over the past 12 months, and lots more exciting things are on the horizon this year.

One of our most significant achievements over the past 12 months has been the installation of a brand new, larger Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Great Holm Park. The previous facility had become damaged and outdated. We are delighted to see the new MUGA already being used by people of all ages. This project was made possible thanks to the generous support of FCC Communities Foundation and The National Lottery Community Fund, whose funding covered the full cost of this new facility. The Parish Council is extremely grateful for their investment helping us provide a high-quality recreational space that will benefit residents for many years to come.

The Parish Council has also continued to strengthen its team and I am delighted to welcome Charisa Yip who has joined us as our brand new Community Engagement Officer. Charisa's role focuses on building stronger connections with residents, community groups and local organisations helping to ensure that your views and ideas continue to shape the work of the Parish Council. We look forward to the positive contribution she will make as we continue to enhance community life across Loughton and Great Holm.

If you ever need any advice or support from me please do email:

parish.clerk@loughtonandgreatholm-pc.gov.uk



Picture of Andrew, Paula, Charisa and Martin

I hope you all enjoy reading this newsletter and I hope to see you soon!

Paula Milford
Clerk to the Council

In other news...

Biodiversity Areas



Our Loughton Biodiversity area project has been approved for a further 5 years.

Thanks to Milton Keynes City Council for continuing to work with us on this project. Signs have been installed around these areas so you can help us record any plants or animals you see.
You will just need to scan the QR code on the sign and log your findings!

This year our biodiversity project has extended into Whitworth Lane so we now have 5 areas in our Parish dedicated to the recovery of nature. In September for the first time, MKCC will cut and remove the cuttings (Cut and Collect) from these areas so we can look forward to more wildflowers, bees and butterflies next year.

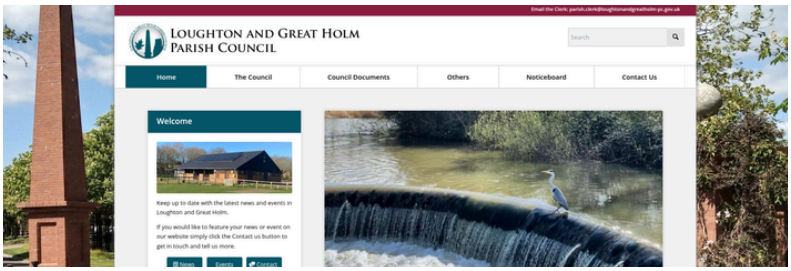


Community Events

We hosted 2 community events last year. One in August and one in December. Both events included Ark Farm, arts and crafts, free refreshments, face-painting and candyfloss!

We will be running these community events yearly so please do come along. Everyone (no matter your age) is welcome!

Look out for details in this newsletter, on our noticeboards and our FB page!



New Parish Council Website

Take a look at our brand new website! Here you can find out who your councillors are, access all meeting minutes and agendas, latest news and details of future meetings etc. Please take a look:

https://loughtonandgreatholm-pc.gov.uk/



Loughton Community Larder

The Parish Council took over the managment of the community larder based at Loughton Pavilion while the cafe was closed.

A huge thank you to Michelle from The Grumpy Cook for running it so fantastically alongside Christine, Gill, Pam and Peter who will now continue to run it for us moving forward.

The larder is available every Thursday. Doors will open at 10.30am for coffee and the larder will run at the usual time, 11.00 to 12.30.

Loughton community larder is part of **SOFEA**. To find out more, please visit their website: ***https://www.sofea.uk.com/***

What is the community larder? A community larder is a 'pop-up' hub, a place to access food that is surplus, make friends, access additional services and save money on your bills. Each Community Larder is unique in their own way.

What's the difference between a food bank and a community larder? Community larders are designed to support people to live more independently, a long-term sustainable approach to food insecurity.
In a SOFEA community larder, a weekly subscription allows you to choose your food, and access other support. Everyone is welcome to join.

In other news...



Remembrance Sunday

Councillors Mark Eaton, Hilary Dyer and Tim Lee joined community representatives at Loughton Memorial Hall to mark remembrance Sunday, after attending a family friendly Remembrance Day service at All Saints Church in Loughton.

We will remember those who gave their lives.



Horseshoe walk

Work started on the Horseshoe Walk in Great Holm to remove the undergrowth and some trees with a view to assessing this area and replanting in the future.

Thanks to Milton Keynes City Council for working with us to improve this area. This is an ongoing project over 12-24 months.



New MUGA!

A new Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) was successfully installed in Great Holm. It's great to see the space being enjoyed by the whole community for games, exercise, or just getting outdoors.

The upgrade increases the size of this area from 8x10m to 10x20m, (c. 25' x 30' to 30' x 60') and the added goal post and hoop at each end, makes this area far more functional.

We would like to say a huge thank you to both our funders, the National Lottery Community Fund and the FCC Communities Foundation for supporting this project!



May Creative Workshops

In partnership with Milton Keynes Arts Centre, we hosted creative workshops at Great Holm Community Centre. These were relaxed sessions perfect for beginners and a great way to try something new, meet others and get creative. The sessions were lino-printing, bookbinding and string art. Thank you to those who took part and we hope you enjoyed it!

Future Parish Counicil Dates

All residents welcome from 7:10pm for an informal chat with Councillors before the formal meeting starts promptly at 7:30pm.

Monday 20th July 2026 - Great Holm Community Centre
No Meeting in August
Monday 21st September 2026 - Loughton Memorial Hall
Monday 18th October 2026 - Great Holm Community Centre
Monday 16th November 2026 - Loughton Memorial Hall
Monday 14th December 2026 - Great Holm Community Centre

In other news...



Competition Winner

Malcolm won £25 worth of Talbot Inn vouchers for winning our recent photography competition. Malcolm came along to our Parish Council meeting in June where Tim Lee (The Chair of the Council) awarded him his prize! His picture is of Misty Loughton on the front of this newsletter.

We really did have some fantastic entries and would like to thank everyone that sent a photo in.

Thank you The Talbot Inn for donating the prize for this competition.

New Community Group

Our Parish Council is supporting the newly formed Friends of Redland Drive Park - a group of 15 enthusiastic and active residents who are determined to make the park a more welcoming, well cared for and nature rich space for our children, local residents and visitors.

They have met with our ward councillors, they are organising regular litter picks and have already started tending to the overgrown shrub beds. Thank you to all the volunteers in our Parish who are working hard to improve our natural environment!

Like to volunteer to improve an unloved green space in our Parish? Please contact Judith: **judith.heinemann@loughtonandgreatholm-pc.gov.uk**



Residents Coach Trip



Due to popular demand, we will be organising a residents coach trip to Kew Gardens again this year!

This trip is aimed at residents who are 60+ years old.

Details will be availble soon!





Coming up ... Summer 2026

Please note you will need to stay with your child for these sessions if they need supervision. These are not childcare sessions. Thank you.







Kick Off Football Academy will be in Loughton and Great Holm running both **football training sessions and games** over the summer holidays.

There will be 2 sessions per day. Please check which session is suitable for your child.

No booking required. Just turn up!



Following the success of last years Yoga sessions Kelly will be teaching at Great Holm Community Centre during the summer holidays.

£2 per session.

These are adults only classes and advance booking is essential - please contact Paula our Clerk on 07951 236263 to book yourself in. Spaces are limited.

Meet your Parish Councillors



Tim Lee

Tim is the Chair of the Parish Council and lives in Loughton.

He has been on the Parish Council since the May 2023 elections.



Mark Eaton

Mark is the Vice-Chair of the Parish Council and lives in Loughton.

Mark joined the Council by Co-Option in January 2024.



Hilary Dyer

Hilary lives in Great Holm has been on the Parish Council since 1991.

Hilary is the Chair of the Planning Working Party.



Don Hoyle

Don lives in Great Holm and has been on the Parish Council since 2019.



Judith Heinemann

Judith lives in Loughton and has been on the Parish Council since the May 2023 elections.



Becky Tripp

Becky lives in Great Holm and was co-opted on to the Parish Council in May 2024.



Will Briggs

Will lives in Great Holm and was co-opted onto the Parish Council in November 2025.



Stephen Fortune

Stephen lives in Loughton and was co-opted onto the Parish Council in February 2026.



Shirley Pointer

Shirley lives in Great Holm and was co-opted onto the Parish Council in March 2026.



Uwe Hanneck

Uwe lives in Loughton and was co-opted onto the Parish Council in May 2026.