

Soulbury Parish News

August 2024



Soulbury News



www.soulburyparish.co.uk

Parish Information

Churchwardens

Jane Luxton	01525 270493
Nigel Kemal	07398 825430

Parish Councillors

Vic Wright	07704 801682
Maurice Cross	270503
Alan Stevens	270213
Margaret Rowe	270355
John Bennett	270940
Nigel Kemal	07398 825430
Salina Darbyshire-Mackay	07734 252060
Parish Clerk: Wendy Taylor	279530

Millennium Green Committee

Alan Stevens	01525 270213
Richard Caplan	07749 404000
Wendy Taylor	279530
Michele Nicholas (Soulfest)	07929 875240
Nigel Kemal	07398 825430

W.I. President

Margaret Rowe	01525 270355
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Book Club Leader

Rita Marks	01525 270687
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Social Group Leader

Alan Stevens	01525 270213
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Parish News Editor

Julian Ridley	07909 543378
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Speedwatch Team Leader

Vic Wright	07704 801682
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Cricket Club Captain

James Carter	07816 449699
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Soulbury Allotments Co-ordinator

Michele Nicholas	07929 875240
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Thames Valley Police

Emergency	999
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Non Emergency	101
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Dates for your diary – July 2024 onwards

Events including Soulbury Millennium Green and Parish Events

Social Group (Thursdays) Parish Hall at 14.30 1st, 15th and 29th August,

Soulbury Open Gardens

Soulbury Open Gardens - 6th and 7th July 2024

An excellent turnout this year with 10 Soulbury Gardens opening their gates. As the weekend approached, there was the usual weather-watching, following some really good June weather and hoping the skies remained clear. It was a mixed bag heading into the Saturday with showers on the horizon. However the hardy visitors were not deterred and there were a steady flow of visitors. Sunday brought better weather with just one heavy shower to dodge mid afternoon and the gardens were busy all day.

Feedback was fabulous and made all the Gardeners efforts so worthwhile. Tea was served in the Garden of the Old Vicarage where the Soulbury bakers outdid themselves with a resplendent array of delicious cakes. The book stall and Tombola added some further interest along with the sales of plants. All in all another great success with £3000 being raised for Soulbury All Saints funds.

A big 'thank you' to all involved both in the gardens and behind the scenes. As ever, without the local support, we could never get these events off the ground. What a great community effort.

See you in 2026!!

Soulbury Parish Hall

A great venue for parties, business meetings, fitness classes or rehearsal space.

Fibre broadband connected.

To book, email: soulburyparishhall@gmail.com Table and chair hire also available.

General Information

Please note that if anyone wants to add electric car chargers to their property which is either a listed building or in a conservation area they MUST obtain planning permission.

All Saints' Church Services and News

Sunday August 4th	11:30am	Parish Communion	
Sunday August 11th		No Service at Soulbury	
Sunday August 18th	11.30	Parish Communion	Rev Val Plumb (Rural Dean)
Sunday August 25th		No Service at Soulbury	
Sunday September 1st	9.30 – 12.00	Autumn Breakfast	Parish Hall

Whilst we do not have a Vicar for Soulbury the number below is for anyone who needs a vicar.

Revd Canon Valerie Plumb 01844 – 239347
(My usual day off is Tuesday)

We are pleased to announce that Revd. Dominic Wright has agreed to become our new Team Rector for the Cottesloe Benefice in the Diocese of Oxford.

Dominic served his curacy at St Martin the Bull Ring, Birmingham, before moving to become Vicar of St Margaret's, Olton. He is passionate about Social Justice, the World Church and seeks to include all in his ministry. During his recent Sabbatical, he cycled the route taken by St Thomas from the Holy Land to India.

He will begin his ministry in the Benefice around the end of September 2024. Please pray for Dominic, his wife and children as they prepare to join our community here in Soulbury and the wider Cottesloe Benefice.

Jane Luxton & Nigel Kemal – Churchwardens

RIP Lorna Stephen

Lorna was born near Edinburgh in 1938, and spent her childhood in the area. She learned to play the violin. She spent several memorable years as part of the ensemble at Dalhousie Castle (famous at the time for Medieval Banquets) singing and playing the fiddle.

She married Alan Stephen who worked for the Post Office. He was soon promoted to the London office. This meant a move "down south" to Leighton Buzzard for the family, which by then had grown to include sons Andy & Ken. Sadly Alan died when the boys were still young. Her family tried to persuade her to move back to Scotland, but she thought this would be too much disruption for the boys who were settled in local schools and had many friends.

She then met Brian Mead, also on his own with three sons, Simon, David & Nick. Brian had long association with Soulbury Village Cricket Club, Brian, Lorna and four of the boys moved to a house on the Green in Soulbury. Lorna supported Brian at the Cricket Club by scoring matches, keeping the pavilion spick & span and producing teas. As the boys grew up, Lorna picked up her violin again, had it restored and started practicing. She gave lessons at home to local children and also for a while at Milton Keynes Prep School.

About this time she learnt she had inherited retinitis pigmentosa – a degenerative condition which meant she was slowly losing her sight. She had to give up teaching as she could no longer read the music, but continued playing by ear and put together a talk entitled "50 years on the fiddle". At a practice session in the Clubroom for friends we were reduced to tears as she described losing her sight and having to give up teaching, ending with the tune "Memories" from the stage show Cats. The talks were a great success, given to local WI's and other groups, raising money for the Bucks Association for the Blind.

Brian & Lorna downsized and moved to Linslade but Brian continued his involvement with the Cricket Club as Chairman. During the Covid lockdown Lorna had a very serious fall, fracturing her neck, returning home after a spell in the John Radcliff Hospital in Oxford. Brian continued to look after her until his health deteriorated and he sadly passed away in June 2022.

Lorna then moved to a care home in Dunstable, where recently had several falls from which she did not recover.

As Alan Stevens wrote in his obituary in the Leighton Buzzard Observer: "She never once lost her sense of humour. Burns Night was never the same without the swirl of her violin and the sweet lilt of her Scottish accent. We will miss you Lorna."

By the time this Newsletter is published her funeral will have taken place, on Thursday 25th July at Bierton Crematorium.

Soulbury Millennium Green News – July Report

July's meeting of the Soulbury Millennium Green Committee being our AGM was held in the Parish Hall and open to public attendance. In the event, sadly there was no public attendance. The main business of the meeting was to receive the Chairman's Annual Report, the Treasurer's Annual Financial Report and the Election of Officers for the coming year.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT: Nigel presented his report for the year to attending members of the committee. The report detailed the fact that the SMG Committee now comprises of only six serving members, as sadly we have lost two members who feel they are unable to serve due to work & other commitments. Both however, will still play an active part with "Soulfest" Sub-Committee Planning & Organisation meetings. We thank Michele Nicholas & Vic Wright for their past valued service and now seek to recruit two or more members from our community to serve on the SMG Committee.

AGM Date: Monday 8th July@ 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

Bank Account: The Bank balance as at 03/07/23 AGM was £8413.57.

Current Bank balance as at 11/06/24 meeting is £8110.98.

Events: Held throughout the year comprised of the following fundraising and community activities:

10/09/23 – Picnic in the Park which despite changeable weather raised £98.00. **04/11/23** – Fireworks Night Display saw the trialling of a Bungee Trampoline additional children's activity, which added a further £70.00 from the local funfair towards our overall much needed profit of £2385.01.

09/12/23 – Christmas Singalong held at the Parish Hall organised by Cllr Alan Stevens was enjoyed by all and raised £80.00 towards SMG funds. Many Thanks Alan.

30/03/24 – Easter Egg Hunt was very well supported by local families with 16 children participating. An incredible £92.49 was raised through voluntary donations and tea, coffee, hot chocolate & cake sales for this community event.

06/06/24 – D Day 80th Anniversary held on the village green by the beacon, was organised by Cllr Alan Stevens and the Social Club. The evening featured fare prepared to wartime recipes by local residents and live wartime music provided by keyboard pianist David Philips, with Cheryl, a new incoming resident leading us in wartime songs. The Boot Inn provided us with a mobile onsite bar facility. The village beacon was lit by Roger Rolls at 9:15 pm in conjunction with other beacons. A lovely time was enjoyed by all, with many tasting wartime food recipes for the first time in their lives! The event raised £452.00 which was donated to the Royal British Legion, and it is fitting to remember all those that gave so much more for their country. Many thanks to all who helped organise and contribute to a successful community event.

22/06/24 – **Soulfest 2024** really set Soulbury on the map this year with great music, lovely food, quality tea & coffee beverages provided by House of Coffee, a local coffee roasting

bean business, a mobile licensed refreshment bar supplied by Brickhill Cricket Club, and Bungee Trampoline, inflatable Bouncy Slide providing children's entertainment. The focus of the event was to provide a safe and pleasant location where we could showcase local bands providing good music for all to enjoy, whilst accommodating children/family entertainment, and providing suitable fare & refreshments to cater for most tastes. Many people I have since met spoke very favourably, providing positive feedback on all aspects of the event, with several stating how well they enjoyed it and stating it was the best one ever! The revised layout with the bands playing towards the upper end of the meadow was well received by all. This enabled us to accommodate the children's entertainments, face painting, tea & coffee's, bar refreshments, barbeque/salad bar food in the lower field and didn't interfere or detract from the musical performances. The added bonus was having BBC 3 Counties Radio roving reporter Luke in attendance plugging Soulfest, the SMG, Soulbury and really putting Soulbury on the map. Well done Scotty for arranging this! I believe the event was attended by around 300 to 400 people, with current updated indications leading us to expect to realise a profit of around £4000 which will be confirmed next when financials are finalised. A special thank you to all volunteers who stepped forward in assisting on Friday afternoon/Saturday morning with the site set-up & providing help with manning the activities, baking cakes, providing raffle prizes and those generous souls that helped sponsor our running costs by way of charitable donations. Lastly, a big thank you to all on the SMG Committee & Soulfest Planning Sub-Committee for their valued time and effort in making this a very successful event greatly appreciated by all.

FUTURE EVENTS:

02/11/24 – Fireworks Planned date.

FUND RAISING: We generate funds for SMG through planned events, marquee hire, voluntary donations and 100 Club Lottery.

SITE INFRASTRUCTURE:

Earlier this year we have utilised spare S106 money to replace and upgrade the children's play area wooden fencing with bespoke metal fencing & self-closing gate. We have also recently spent funds on upgrading our onsite electrics further, by extending the power line to a new post on the other side of the Spinney, to be nearer the Fireworks site area for future ease of use. The enlarged hard floor parking by the entrance gate has now been completed. Tarmacking was completely unaffordable and was subsequently completed using Type 1 Road Stone aggregate, dry laid and compact rolled level for £3528.00 incl. VAT with BG Construction Services. This work was completed just prior to Soulfest.

We are planning to extend the existing pathway to create a circuitous route round the SMG to make the area more accessible, particularly for those mobility impaired and also for all during wet boggy ground conditions. We are also looking to plan for having a semi-permanent sheltered area for future bands & concerts shelter. A feasibility study will get underway to combine the two proposals which we may be able to attract funding for with S106 monies from Council reserves and possibly our Community Board (a potential funding source). Work on the pond liner has been halted due to excess water from the recent wet weather and is awaiting dryer weather conditions before resuming.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT: Wendy presented her report to the committee detailing our current finances as follows:

Current Account Balance as at 08/07/24 = £12,645.02.

Balance for financial year end 30/04/24 = £8,740.00.

Petty Cash = £49.01.

Bucks Lottery: £8.00 July 2024.

For year ending 30th April 2024 total income from Bucks Lottery is £92.00, down from last year's figure of £104.00.

The end of year accounts for the period ending 30/04/24 were audited by Andrew Wood, CGMA, who commented that the finances are in a good place and financial reporting still remains good. A gift was given to Andrew, as he does not charge us for his auditing services. A small nett profit was recorded for year ending 30/04/24 of £103.00. Last year's figures resulted in a small loss of £355.00.

The bank balance as at 30th April 2024 financial year end was £8,740.00 and is an improvement on the 30th April 2023 financial year end balance of £7,705.00. This is due to some successful events, donations from residents via standing order, increase take-up of the 100 Club and expenditure for years ending 2023 & 2024 being very similar at £7,107 and £7,199 respectively.

Utility costs increased from £354 for 2023 to £577 for 2024 year end due to the increased inflationary cost of electricity throughout the country. This year's depreciation charge is £1,157 compared to £1,112 for 2023, which has increased slightly as a result of strimmer's and DJ Mixing Desk being added to SMG assets. Wendy circulated a set of the audited accounts together with depreciation spreadsheet to present committee members.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Nigel Kemal agreed to stand for re-election as Chairman of the Committee. Geoff Kiddle proposed that he be elected, Alan Stevens seconded this and the motion was unanimously carried. Wendy Taylor agreed to stand for re-election in the role of Treasurer and Secretary. Carla Bennett proposed that she be elected, Alan Stevens seconded this and the motion was unanimously carried.

THE 100 CLUB: Draw for July was drawn with Oliver Storey being this month's winner.

OTHER BUSINESS: An altercation has recently ensued between two dog owners and their dogs on the SMG site. After discussion, it was felt that the matter was largely a storm in a teacup between personalities and no harm had come to the dogs or people concerned. It has been reported that some houses with back gardens bordering onto the SMG have created gateway access onto the wooded area of the upper meadow. This is to be investigated and if householders have undertaken breaches to boundary fence perimeters without our approval, the Parish Council will be asked to write to those concerned for restoration of existing boundary fencing as there is no defined right of way onto the site apart from the main entrance gate.

Next SMG meeting date is Monday 9th September 2024.

Next SMG AGM date is Monday 14th July 2025.

Soulbury Millennium Green Trust - 100 Club & Winners in 2024

January:	Oliver Storey	February:	Tony Crack
March:	Jax Crack	April:	Jean Mason
May:	Vic Wright	June:	Charlotte Harris
July:	Oliver Storey		



LEIGHTON LINSLADE
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Soulbury Cricket 2024

Our last event in June was the Soulbury Smash - an all day T20 style event contested by teams from Walton, Mursley and Soulbury. Thanks to all the players and the many spectators who came. Soulbury won the cup and a great day was had by all.

Our first game in July against Leighton Town was cancelled due to the very wet weather. Since then we have played three home games against Milton Keynes, New Bradwell and Cublington. We won against Milton Keynes with Nathan Thrower, a junior, taking 5 wickets on his second match with Soulbury. We also won against New Bradwell with Austin Jones scoring a 50. We lost against Cublington despite Alex Jones, another junior, scoring a fine 61.

On Sunday August 25th we're holding the third Brian Mead Memorial match - a 1pm start. There will be an afternoon tea and our great value bar will be open all afternoon and early evening. Please come along and enjoy the village cricket and our hospitality. We look forward to seeing you.

We look forward to seeing you - here are all our 2024 fixtures

When	Where	Playing
2 June 2024	Away	Stoke Hammond
9 June 2024	Home	Simmons
16 June 2024	Away	Cublington
23 June 2024	Home	Buckland and Aston Clinton
30 June 2024	Home	Soulbury Smash
7 July 2024	Away	Leighton Town
14 July 2024	Home	Milton Keynes
21 July 2024	Home	New Bradwell
28 July 2024	Home	Cublington
4 August 2024	Home	Walton
11 August 2024	Home	Stoke Hammond
18 August 2024	Away	Mursley
25 August 2024	Home	Brian Mead Memorial
1 September 2024	Home	Leighton Town
8 September 2024	Home	Stewkley
15 September 2024	Home	Milton Keynes

If you have any questions or need more info please contact Adrian Hunt on 07702 019 553.

Parish Council News

The meeting of Soulbury Parish Council was held on Monday 15th July 2024 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. There were 3 members of the public present. Apologies were received from Cllrs Maurice Cross, Salina Darbyshire Mackay, John Bennett and Jilly Jordan. Minutes of meeting on 17th June 2024 were agreed as correct. Matters arising: none. All monies paid and received noted by all and Cllr Wright signed the June bank statement.

Planning: There were no applications to consider.

Environment

Fountain: Documents are now with Land Registry, solicitor warned it could be a long wait. Allotments: New fence is now erected with no gate so letter not now required and matter is closed.

30 mph on Stewkley Road: two members of the public have both written separately to Cllr Gomm for his support with this and neither have had a response. The Clerk will forward a copy of the email to the Local Area Technician, Matt Whincup, and Cllr Jordan.

County Councillor Cllr Jordan was not present but had sent her report to the Clerk who read out the headlines.

Millennium Green: Soulfest a resounding success. Returned to being a family event. Many compliments.

AGM this month - Nigel Kemal and Wendy Taylor reelected as Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer respectively. Circuitous pathway around the green to be decided so the less abled and those using the area in wet conditions can see more of the area. Semi permanent concrete plinth with posts over which tenting can be added for use as a bandstand is being planned.

A gate has appeared in the fence row giving access to the SMG from a private garden. Cllr Kemal will have a walk in that area to ensure no-one else has access. A letter is then to be written to ask for the gate to be removed. Garden rubbish appeared and placed in a heap to burn without the permission of the SMG.

DDay 80 celebration: Big success, beacon lit at 21:15 in line with national timings, all food and beverages made to recipes of the time. Many compliments. Cllr Stevens was given the details for the next celebration - VE Day 80 on 8 May 2025.

Childrens play area, Mount Pleasant - Thursday 18 July it will be rolled, hired in plant insurance acquired.

Hollingdon footpath: Email received from Hollingdon regarding overgrown footpath. By coincidence email received from Bucks Rights of Way giving details of those responsible so this is to be given to Hollingdon.

Poppy Wreath: Ordered for November from Royal British Legion.

Councillors Open Forum Childrens play area in Mount Pleasant is a 'No Dogs' zone with plenty of signage. However, dog poo is still be found in the dustbin on site. Larger signage to be designed.

Huge safety concerns expressed regarding the non cutting of the grass verges to roads and junctions. There is a particular issue with the bends after the fountain going towards the bypass where it covers the chevrons. A member of the public thought she put this on FixMyStreet when raised at the last meeting. Post meeting note: MOP checked she did this, she had and did it again and received a note following morning that it will be done in the next 10 days.

Cllr Stevens commented on the latest RoSPA report and items be looked at.

Public Participation MOP raised the issue of payment of the parish hall cleaner. He commented that she does a good job and asked on what basis she is paid. The Clerk took over payment to her and was told what to pay. Cllr Rowe who is/was on the village hall committee wasn't clear so the Clerk offered to discuss this with the cleaner so we can be sure she is paid appropriately.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 16th September 2024 at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Buckinghamshire Councillors for our Ward

Cllr Phill Gomm



Cllr Jilly Jordan

Cllr Iain Macpherson



Local Policing

This is the Policing Team for Soulbury now based at Wing, not Winslow anymore.

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM
Wing and Ivinghoe



Inspector
James Davies



Sergeant
David Kuttner



Police Constable
Dionne Edwards



Police Constable
Jake Bye



PCSO
Tina Hobson



PCSO
Connor Smith



Special Constable
Sam Richards

The neighbourhood policing team work with our local communities to make Aylesbury Vale safer

To contact your local Team call **101** or email them on WingNHPT@thamesvalley.police.uk

You can also report an incident on our website: www.thamesvalley.police.uk

In an emergency always call 999

Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TVPAylesburyVale



THAMES VALLEY
POLICE

Soulbury WI

Meetings will now start at 2:00pm

2nd Tuesday of each month in Soulbury Parsh Hall

Unless otherwise advertised

Refreshments will be served at the end of the meeting

Visitors welcome £3 entry

See **WI** section of **Soulbury Newsletter** for more information

10/09/2024 My camera - taking over my life

08/10/2024 Blessed are the Cheesemakers [tales from M&S food consultant]

22/10/2024 [7:30pm] Group meeting - Buying and selling at auction with stories from the auction room . Bring along your antique items for valuation.

12/11/2024 AGM

03/12/2024 Christmas social

10/12/2024 Christmas Meal

Parish Council Email Addresses

Due to GDPR regulations the Clerk and Parish Councillors should not be using their own personal email addresses for parish council business. Therefore, the following email addresses have been set up for everyone to use when communicating with the parish council.

clerk@soulburyparish.co.uk

chairman@soulburyparish.co.uk

mc@soulburyparish.co.uk

ahs@soulburyparish.co.uk

mr@soulburyparish.co.uk

jb@soulburyparish.co.uk

nk@soulburyparish.co.uk

sdm@soulburyparish.co.uk

Wendy Taylor

Victor Wright

Maurice Cross

Alan Stevens

Margaret Rowe

John Bennet

Nigel Kemal

Salina Darbyshire-Mackay

This information will also appear on the parish website.



Need a local babysitter? Call Ele 01525-270940

Advertising Rates

To advertise in this magazine the rates are as follows:

	Annual	Monthly
Full page (portrait)	£200	£30
Half Page (landscape)	£100	£20
Quarter Page (Portrait)	£50	£10
Small Ads (landscape)	£33	£5

Ads will appear in the newsletter and on the parish website.

sdm@soulburyparish.co.uk

Press Release from Buckinghamshire Council

16 July 2024

For Bucks Sake! Don't litter in Buckinghamshire

Buckinghamshire Council is sending a hard-hitting message to anyone tempted to litter in the county – **For Bucks Sake** – don't do it!

Anyone caught deliberately littering in Buckinghamshire will face a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) for £500 under a hard-hitting new policy adopted today following a decision by Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet, which is due to take effect from next week.

Sweet wrappers, fast food containers, cigarette butts and vape canisters are all familiar sights on our verges, open spaces and roadsides because people have chosen to dump them rather than dispose of them responsibly.

In a bid to clamp down on these litter louts, Buckinghamshire Council has today agreed a raft of strong new measures to tackle the issue head on. The council is an early adopter of new powers allowing an increase in the penalty amount for littering – from £150 to £500. The council has chosen to adopt this maximum rate without the option of an early payment discount to act as a strong deterrent to stop people littering in the first place.

Under its hard-hitting campaign, the council will also be appealing to motorists and road users to send in dash-cam and phone footage of littering they may have captured on camera – where of course, it is safe to do so.

Thomas Broom, Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment explained the reasoning behind the new campaign. He said: "For too long, littering has been seen as a low impact misdemeanour, when in fact, it is a huge blight on our community. Buckinghamshire is not unique in having problems with litter, but we are one of the first councils choosing to tackle the issue head on with this hard hitting, zero tolerance approach."

Dealing with discarded litter is an ongoing problem for councils up and down the country. Annually it costs Buckinghamshire tax-payers an estimated £3.5m to clean and dispose of littered waste. It's a huge £25,000 every time the council clears litter from the A404 Marlow by-pass; this is because we have to cover the costs of traffic management to make sure it's safe for our workers to clean up this busy and dangerous stretch of road.

Thomas continued: "We want to send a message out loud and clear, we will not tolerate littering in Buckinghamshire. If you are caught, you will face a hefty penalty so take your rubbish home or dispose of it properly in a bin."

Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council said: "Alongside our zero-tolerance stance on fly-tipping, preventing littering is a priority for us as a council. It is something that we know really upsets our residents and we want to work with them to catch the culprits and send a strong message out which we hope will deter others."

Under the new approach, the council will use civil enforcement powers to penalise the registered keeper of a vehicle linked to a littering offence rather than needing to identify the exact individual who dropped the litter. This makes it easier to secure a positive result as you don't need to be the one who dropped the litter to have to pay the consequences."

Notes to Editor

- Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet approved this policy at a meeting on Tuesday 16 July – [full details can be viewed here](#)
- People can report littering offences via the council's website: [Report littering from vehicles | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

