

HANSLOPE HERALD



NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE - P2&3

SANTA IS COMING - P6

LEVELLING UP HANSLOPE - P19

HELEN'S CARS

Specialising in:

All UK Airports

Seaports

Horse & Musical Events

Long Distance Travel



No hidden charges

The price we quote is the price you pay.

Clean enhanced DBS certificates.

Female drivers available.

Executive Cars Available

Saloon, Estate, Minibus & Exec Vehicles.



BOOK ONLINE:

www.helenscars.com

Tel: 01908 315363

Mob: 07935 538747

Email: helenscars@outlook.com



Contents

News from around Hanslope.

What's on and what's been happening.

News	2
News continued	3
Parish Council News	4
Parish Council News continued	5
Santa Claus is Coming to Town!	6
Festive Events in Hanslope	7
Community Hall & Pavillion	8
Hart & Soul Community	9
The Best Kept Village?	10
In the Middle of the High Street	11
Speed in the Village	12
What's on at the Village Hall?	13
Events Coming Up	14
New Beginnings	15
Ward Council Update	16
Gardening Club	17
The Club	18
Levelling Up - S106	19
Community Meeting	20
St James the Great	21
The Community Orchard	22
Neighbourhood Watch	23

Brought to you by the Hanslope Parish Council. Thanks to our advertisers who make it possible!



Contact

Editor

alison.andrew@hansloparishcouncil.gov.uk

Contributors

Richard Wallond	Charlotte Flatley
Dorothy Courtman	Vicky Crawford
Gill Merry	Millie Mitchell
Roland Simpkins	Nici Wilcox
John Sorrell	Maria Ecclestone
Gillian Glanville	Colleen Carter
Fr Adam Burnham	

Front Cover Photography
Drone Over MK
www.droneovermk.com

The greatest care has been taken to ensure accuracy, however, there can be no liability accepted by the publisher for errors and omissions. We can under no circumstances be held responsible for any materials, matter or photographic copy submitted for publication or not within the website or magazine.

We cannot be held responsible or liable for any breaches of copyright from adverts, materials or photography or any other such material supplied by a third party.

The views and opinions expressed within our publications are not necessarily those of the publisher or indeed the Hanslope PC or any featured parties.



news

Your Village Newsletter

It's the third edition of the Herald and we hope that you are enjoying it. We want to keep everyone aware of what's going on, things to get involved in and where to go for help or if problems occur.

More importantly, we want everyone to feel part of a community. There are lots of details provided here of things to be involved in. So, if you feel like you want to get more involved with village life, read on and find something that could be your New Year's resolution!

The Best Kept Village?

We entered for the first time in years - and it was so very close! See all the details on page 10 and how you can get involved in 2025.

Coffee or a Cuppa in the Village?

Brighten up the long nights and cold days by coming to a community coffee morning. There's plenty to choose from - The Club, The Village Hall, The Methodist Church, St. James, The Cock Inn. You will find details on their websites and Facebook pages and throughout the Herald.

Oh, Yes it is!

Panto season will soon be upon us. Our dedicated team from Hanslope Entertainment Group will be entertaining us in February. They are also looking for adult volunteers to join their ranks. Feeling creative or dramatic? See page 7 for details on tickets or how to get involved.

100 years of the Women's Institute

The Hanslope Women's Institute will be 100 years old in March 2025. They hold monthly meetings throughout the year covering a range of interesting subjects. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:45 pm in the Village Hall on Newport Road. Come along or call Rosemary on 01908 510 516 and help keep this great tradition going.

Volunteers for Match Day Parking?

The Hanslope Hornets have around 150 kids registered to play - it makes for a busy match day!



It makes a huge difference when a couple of people direct visitors where to park (see map provided). The Castlethorpe Road gets really busy so it helps to have everyone park in the ample parking available.

Can you spare an hour or so to help? Hot drinks and a delicious bacon/sausage roll are given in thanks. If you can help, visit the Hornet's Facebook page or email hfhcsecretary@outlook.com - just helping for one morning makes all the difference.

Should We Party in 2025?

After the success of the Jubilee Street Party and the Coronation Party in the Park - should we party again in Summer 2025?

It seems like a good idea that we find an event that brings us all together as one village. The organisers of the last two events are prepared to go again - want to be part of it?

There is always quite a bit of organising to do - applying for permits, finding sponsors, marshalling on the day, booking music and entertainment. So, if you fancy getting involved, contact the editor of the Herald. Many hands make for a fun day!

The Hanslope Herald

If you speak to anyone who may have missed this edition of the Herald, please let them know that any spare copies will be put in The Cock Inn, High Street for collection.

The next edition will go out in June 2025. If you are interested in writing an article, sending in news or advertising just email: alison.andrew@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk. The magazine goes to everyone in the village twice a year!

See it? Report it!

Potholes, missed bin collections, pavement issues, and more. If you see a problem then report it to Milton Keynes City Council.

Give them a call on 01908 691 691 or go online at milton-keynes.gov.uk. Keep your reference number and if you create an account on the website, you can see the status or progress of your report.

If you don't feel like you are getting anywhere, contact your Ward Councillor (details on page 16).

If you aren't sure of who is responsible for the issue - check out the handy guide and regular feature of the Herald on page 24.

The Parish and City Council each have different roles and responsibilities, as do the developers of the newer estates. Hopefully the guide (on page 24) will get you to the help that you need.

Open Parish Council Meeting

On 14th April 2025, at 7 pm, is the open Parish Council meeting. It's your chance to ask the PC anything about what's going on in the village. All are welcome.

Mark the date in your diary and put your questions to the PC. Your Ward (Milton Keynes City Council) Councillors will also be on hand.

Help Shape Milton Keynes

Milton Keynes City Council hold public consultations on a range of issues. From 20 mph speed changes in Haversham, to the allocation of social housing, and more. All who are interested can have their say. Follow the Council on social media or go to www.milton-keynes.gov.uk and look for 'consultations'. It's your chance to shape the future of Milton Keynes.

Thank You!

Thanks to our other new advertisers for this edition: **Hanslope Care**, **Helen's Cars**, and **The Plumber**. Your support means that the cost of printing the magazine is kept incredibly low. Thanks also to the team who help distribute it - lots of steps from a few folks with big hearts (and sore feet).

Please support these local businesses and let them know you heard about them in the Hanslope Herald so they book again!



Cancer & Wellbeing Support Group

Meets every 3rd Monday of the month at 8 pm at St. James the Great Church, Hanslope. The group offers emotional support and information to those in our area affected by cancer. The group is there for those who suffer (active or in remission) and their families. For more information, contact: john.e.sorrell@gmail.com.

In a League of their Drone?

Huge thanks to Drone Over MK for allowing us to use their spectacular photo for the front cover of the Herald.

They unlock unique perspectives with professional aerial photography services. They produce stunning property footage, safe roof inspections, and dynamic building project timelines.

They have extensive stock photos and custom marketing materials designed for marketing campaigns or high-quality prints that make for beautiful keepsakes. Get in touch with them to explore the endless possibilities of aerial photography. Thanks again chaps!

WWW.DRONEOVERMK.COM



HANSLOPE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



News from the PC

The nine strong team of Parish Councillors have had an incredibly busy summer and autumn.

We've kicked off the Hanslope **S106 project** (see page 19). We're looking at ways we can improve the infrastructure and facilities in the village.

We've applied for funds to kit out the new **first responder** who will be based in the village. We've also asked for funds to replace the kit for our Castlethorpe based responder. In our rural areas, having emergency help to hand will benefit us all.

We are supporting the **Hanslope Pre-School** in their bid to receive the S106 funding that they need for new premises. Fingers crossed we will have a new, larger facility that is fit for our ever expanding village.

Funds have also been spent on the **Recreation Ground** to improve the playing surface. The results are great with many commenting that it has never looked so good! With so many teams playing week after week it's a great investment in healthy activity, wellbeing and community.

The benefits of outdoor activities is why (again!) we have to keep asking everyone to keep your **dogs on leads at all times** on the Rec and to pick up after them. It's awful for the folks who use the grounds to have to clear up. There are bins everywhere. Please use them.

To add to the great facilities on offer, we've applied to install **cricket nets**. If we get the green light they could be up in time for the next season.

The PC are in regular contact with the developers of the three estates in anticipation of the handover of the open spaces to the PC and transfer of roads/pavements/lighting to the Council Highways team. There are no confirmed dates as of yet but we'll keep trying and will update when there is progress.

The latest draft of the **Neighbourhood Plan** is being reviewed at the Council and then should go to the Planning Inspectorate for approval. The plan is a blueprint of where any new buildings can and can't go. It represents a huge amount of work from a small group of people. The last version has been used successfully to stop unnecessary development many times.

The Planning Working Group of the PC reviews all **planning applications** that are received for the village. Some are straightforward and need no review but others take considerable time to work out objections - and it can't just be that it's not liked as there have to be 'material' reasons. We are lucky to have such a hardworking team.

Every resident can comment on planning matters. Just go to the Milton Keynes City Council website and go to the planning register. You can search for 'Hanslope' applications or see details on the PC agenda/minutes.

The PC has also lodged their objections to some aspects of the **MKCC New City Plan 2050**. This is the planning strategy for Milton Keynes.

The Parish Council is in session every second Monday of the month (except August - they need a break too you know!)

HANSLOPE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



News from the PC

The City Plan details where major housing developments are planned for the next 25 years. Although our area is not included, there are proposals that would allow for further expansion of The Park. Objections have been made. Our roads and infrastructure can't cope with more traffic.

The PC are also supporting the residents of **Tathall End** in addressing the flooding and speeding issues. More work needs to be done by the Council to stop the (now regular) flooding in this area.

We are also supporting them in having speed indicator devices and the potential for a 20 mph limit in place through the hamlet. Please be careful when you drive through the area - there have been many accidents. Drive slow, drive safe.

The issue of lowering the speed limit in our village came up again this summer. Last December we asked for the view of the village on this (Dec 23 Herald) and published the results in the June 24 Herald. Those who responded were split 50/50. Without better support we can't progress. However, it will always be something that we review.

The PC was also approached by a resident interested in putting play facilities on the green at **Lincoln Court**. As with all proposed projects, this was put to all of the residents in the immediate area for their views. With no overwhelming support, it won't be going ahead.

The PC has also done its bit on energy conservation and carbon offsetting. There are now 68 solar panels on the buildings on the Rec. See all the details on page 8.

We have also liaised with the local **Thames Valley Police** team on matters of community safety and when problems arise.

They have been incredibly supportive. We are lucky to have so little issues for a village of this size. The latest crime stats reported 4 crimes in a month. Issues of anti-social behaviour stopped with their support and there was an increased presence throughout the summer months.

We are also looking at a solution for the end of the **Stay & Play** sessions at the Community Hall. Please follow the PC for news of any updates if we manage to find a solution.

As we look to the festive season, we are introducing some new **Christmas lights** this year. The lights will wrap around lampposts and the idea is to add more each year to add to the charm of the village. They will also be easier to use for other events, e.g. street parties, Jubilee celebrations.

One of the fun things about being on the PC is that we get to support local initiatives through grants. We were all happy to once again vote in favour of providing financial support for the **Santa Run** on 24th December. In fact, we have upped the budget and hope to see many of you waiting to see Santa and his elves at their allotted stops. See page 6 for all the timings and listed stops.

Have a wonderful Christmas and festive season from all of the PC to all of you!

Contact details:

www.hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk
clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk



It's Almost Time for Santa!

For many holly jolly years, Santa and his merry band of elves have made a stop in Hanslope to sprinkle Christmas magic on all of us. We're so grateful for their visit! Santa gives his trusty reindeer a rest and switches to a four-wheel sleigh for the night.

So, mark your calendars for the 24th of December and come join the festive fandango! It's a Hanslope tradition you don't want to miss!

Timings/Route:

4-4.30 pm	Hanslope Club (Kids disco)
4.45 pm	The Globe – Hartwell Road
5.00 pm	Wheatfields, Long Street
5.25 pm	Williams Close
5.35 pm	Long Street (top of Williams Close)
5.45 pm	Kitelee Close
5.55 pm	Western Drive (Main run)
6.10 pm	Hayfields
6.25 pm	Pierrepoint Way (Castlethorpe Road)
6.45 pm	St. James Close
7.00 pm	Watts Arms
7.10 pm	Eastfield Drive
7.30 pm	Weavers End
7.35 pm	Duck Pond (Saxon Close)
7.50 pm	Gold Street & High Street

Times are (very) approximate. Head to the areas listed - Santa can't get to every road in the village!



What Happens on the Night?

Kids who go to meet Santa at one of the locations get an extra treat: CHOCOLATE! The louder you cheer, the sweeter it gets!

And guess what? There's chocolate for EVERYONE, even if you have a special dietary requirement. Just whisper your wishes to an elf and a treat appears.

Santa's coming to Hanslope on the 24th!



Listen for the Bells!

Set your watch to 'approximate' and wrap up warm!

Keep your ears perked for jolly Christmas tunes and the sound of bells because that's your cue that he's coming!

There's normally updates on the village Facebook page too.



Huge thanks to Diane Kent, her wonderful elves and our magnificent Santa. The PC happily supports the Santa run that brings so much joy to the village. Thank you to all!

Dorothy Courtman, Chair of Hanslope Parish Council

CHRISTMAS GIFT

FAYRE

NOVEMBER | **23** | 11AM - 3PM

GIFTS | REFRESHMENTS | RAFFLE

St. James The Great Church
Hanslope

Teatime Treats Christmas Party

MONDAY 2ND DECEMBER
THE CLUB, HIGHSTREET
2:00PM - 4:00PM



A Christmas Concert

in aid of St James the Great Church and Milton Keynes Brass



Milton Keynes Brass

Saturday 14th December 2024

7pm

St James the Great, Hanslope
MK19 7LR



Rumplestiltskin's got talent



Pantomime 2025
20th to 22nd February

Tickets: Adult £10, Child £2.50

Available from:
<https://st-james-the-great-hanslope.sumupstore.com>
miltonkeynesbrass.com



The Pavillion



In the summer magazine we detailed the solar panels project on the Community Hall & Pavilion buildings. For those of you interested the summary specification comprises:

- a maximum solar generation potential of nearly 27 kw
- two 10 kw inverters
- 9.7 kw and 13.8 kw batteries.

The good news is that through grants and S106 money (from the new developments) the project was fully funded. It has taken a little longer than planned but was finally completed in November.

The delay was caused by work that needed to be undertaken by British Gas; our incumbent utility provider. For some reason, our very clear request to upgrade the single-phase electrics to three phase caused no end of visits and confusion.

With the panels now in place, we predict we will be self-sufficient for our electricity supply for most of the year. With so many panels, (even in winter with shorter days), a few hours of sun should charge up the batteries that can then power the building out of hours.

During summer we expect to export quite a sizeable surplus energy back to the grid to reduce bills further. As our utility contracts expire we'll move to a new supplier to take advantage of more suitable smart tariffs with higher export rates.

As part of the handover, we tested the system to see what would happen if there was a power outage - would the batteries kick in and keep the lights on? The good news is they did! The supply to the Pavilion also feeds out to the MUGA in the corner of the Recreation Ground. So, it's good to know that if anyone is using it in the dark the lights will stay on, even if there's a power cut.

The Community Hall

Looking for a venue for a class or event? Come and see the Community Hall at the Recreation Ground. A great venue for kids parties and all sorts of classes, clubs and associations.

What's the space like? We can fit up to 100 people and we've plenty of chairs and tables. There's also plenty of parking around the side and back and facilities, e.g. a small kitchen, accessible loo, great heating.

And as for the cost? For non-profits and village organisations, it's just £12 an hour. For one-off private events, it's £30 an hour (or £20 if you're a Hanslope resident).

And if you're looking to make it a regular thing, we'll sort out a deal. Starting at just £15 per session.

Current classes held here are:

- Yoga - Tuesday evenings, 7-8 pm
- Cubs/Beavers - Thursday evenings, 5.30 - 7.30 pm
- Line Dancing - Saturday morning, 9.30 - 10.30 am

Interested? Come and have a look!

Contact: clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk



Hart & Soul Community Choir

hartandsoulchoir@gmail.com

www.hartandsoulchoir.co.uk

Hanslope Soul Music

Hart and Soul are a friendly, community-centred choir founded in 2011. We meet every Wednesday evening at Hanslope Village Hall.

Open to everyone, regardless of skill level or musical background, the choir invites anyone who loves to sing—no auditions or music-reading skills required! Under the guidance of Musical Director Ian Riley, who has a wealth of experience in music and choir direction, Hart and Soul perform a diverse mix of pop, folk, world music, and musical theatre, making each session engaging and enjoyable.

Hart and Soul are actively looking for new members and your first two sessions are free. Whether you're an experienced vocalist or a beginner, we provide a fun, welcoming space to develop vocal skills and enjoy the joy of singing.

In addition to regular rehearsals, Hart and Soul holds two major concerts each year: a summer concert and a Christmas concert. This year, the Christmas Concert is scheduled for Friday, 13th December at Hartwell Community Centre. These performances are a highlight for both choir members and the local community, showcasing the talent and hard work of the choir.

The choir also organises various social events, such as group walks in Salcey Forest, meals together, and quiz nights at Roade House that help strengthen friendships among choir members and create a sense of community.

Hart and Soul actively participate in local events, including craft fairs, the Milton Keynes Music Festival, and Music for Willen.

Last year, they chose Willen Hospice as their charity partner, raising an impressive £650 to support its vital services.

Through these performances and fundraising activities, Hart and Soul make a meaningful impact in the community.

For more information and to learn how to join, visit hartandsoulchoir.co.uk or check out their Facebook page for updates.

Joining Hart and Soul is a wonderful opportunity to explore music, make friends, and be part of a welcoming community that celebrates music, friendship and positive community impact.



The Best Kept Village Scores 2024

For the first time in years, we entered the village into this Buckinghamshire-wide competition. We scored 195 points out of a possible 200. The winners, Cheddington, achieved 197 - so it was close!

Shown in the table below are the judges comments. As you can see, in general, they are highly favourable. We just need to stop the litterbins from being covered with stickers!

The Parish Council have been adding to the village with hanging baskets, new planting at the village signs, and a new planter in front of Hanslope News.

In the New Year, we will reconvene our group of helpers and arrange (among other things) another litter pick morning.

Everyone is welcome to join in and all help is gratefully received. Judging usually takes place in June/July so we all have plenty of time to prepare.

If you would like to become part of the working party and have an hour or two to spare, just email your contact details to:

roland.simpkins@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

1	Cemetery/graveyard (separate or attached to a place of worship)	The volunteer who mowed the churchyard had recently retired and maintenance was not quite up to the previous standard. Providing a mown path from the side entrance could improve access.	17	20
2	Green, playing field, children's play area, outdoor recreation facilities, designated nature conservation area	Excellent children's play equipment and safety surfacing, and good adult exercise equipment. Some interesting games available to engage older children. Benches appear new, plenty of litter bins and dog bins. Car park recently re-surfaced with new fencing.	34	35
3	Floral displays, hanging baskets, planters, flower beds	Good wall troughs and planters at the Village Hall and around the shops.	15	15
4	Community facilities (Village Hall, Community Centre, Church Hall)	The car park at the Village Hall has been greatly improved. Outdoor teaching area and natural garden is a lovely facility. The area near the bin is a little untidy. One pillar at the entrance to the old car park has recently been repaired, the other is awaiting similar repairs.	19	20
5	General environmental features (hedges, verges, ditches, pond, stream etc.)	Lovely area around the pond with a Remembrance Tree on the Green. Pond well managed.	20	20
6	Shops and pubs	All clean and well cared for. The coffee shop offered a good social space with tables and chairs outside. Useful information board. The planter appears to have been replaced and replanted. Stickers on the litter bin outside Premier store are a bit untidy. The Cock has good planters & hanging baskets, an attractive outside seating area. The Watts Arms was a little untidy outside.	20	20
7	Bus stops, bus shelters, public seating, dog bins, notice boards, information signs	Bus shelter in The Square is very much in keeping with the area, and clean and tidy with good information.	20	20
8	War memorial (please include a photograph if the memorial is inside a locked building)	On a plaque inside the Church of St. James the Great.	20	20
9	Quality of competition entry – up-to-date and detailed map	Good map with all areas identified. Most informative notes included with entry.	10	10
10	Evidence of community engagement	Helpful information on a circular walking tour of the village. It would be more helpful if the Herald could be more widely available.	20	20
	Additional notes		195	200



Hanslope Methodist Church

You can find Hanslope Methodist Church in the middle of the High Street (next to the Crispy Duck).

The Chapel has been a central part of the village for nearly 200 years and will celebrate its 197th anniversary in 2025. Our Minister is Revd. Dave Haseldine and he can be contacted on 01908 614411.

Sunday Services/Online Services

Sunday services are held at 10.30 am and are followed by tea and coffee. We are a family friendly Church. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.

For anyone unable to come to a Sunday service, there is an online service each Sunday morning via Zoom, Ring Central or on Facebook. An invitation is required to log in and you would be very welcome to join us. Please contact the Circuit Administrator at office.mkmc@yahoo.com.

Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol Service will be held on Sunday 15th December at 3.00 pm. We are delighted that once again The Orphean Singers will be joining us. Following the service there will be festive refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

There will not be a service at Hanslope on Christmas Day this year, but everyone is welcome to join the 10.00 am service at Newport Pagnell, which will be led by our Minister, Revd. Dave Haseldine.



Our Secret Garden

At the rear of the Chapel, our garden is an oasis of peace and quiet. It is available for anyone who would like to seek out a quiet spot for reflection.



Coffee Shop

Every Tuesday morning, between 10.00 am and 12.00 pm, our Coffee Shop is open serving tea, coffee, hot chocolate, and biscuits.

Call in and meet new friends, or catch up with old friends. Everyone is welcome.

We have a mini library of fiction and non-fiction books, which are available to borrow or buy during Coffee Shop opening hours for a small donation.

Eco Church

Eco Church is a free, online reward scheme designed to equip churches to work towards environmentally friendly practices.

The Methodist Conference set a target of becoming a net zero emissions Church by 2030, and Hanslope has recently registered as an Eco Church.





Creating a Slower, Safer Village

Hanslope Community Speedwatch started in August 2022 as a response to the increasing concern of the speed of vehicles passing through the village.

Community Speedwatch is a Thames Valley Police (TVP) initiative, with schemes already operating in MK and neighbouring villages to us such as Haversham, Newport Pagnell, and Stoke Goldington. It works - the data proves it!

TVP supply the equipment and training to members of the community, who then run Speedwatch sessions in different locations and at different times of the day.

Three operators are present at each session and will be visible with their 'Community Speedwatch' hi-viz jackets. Each session lasts one hour, during which time all vehicle speeds are checked with a radar gun.

Any vehicle exceeding the speed limit are recorded and then later entered onto the TVP Community Speedwatch system.

The key aim of this scheme is to increase the awareness of speeding on local roads. Speeding drivers are never prosecuted or fined as a direct result of community Speedwatch activity. Instead, the vehicle's registered keeper will receive written advice from TVP.

There will always be folks who drive excessively fast but the more there is a visible presence, the more the average speed comes down.

We have recently been approached by a group of concerned residents from Tathall End who hopefully can join the team and run sessions in that part of the village.

In the last year, some of our regular volunteers have had to leave due to work and family commitments. We have therefore struggled to run sessions as much as we would like.

So, if any of you can spare an hour every now and then we would love to see you!

Can you help?

- There's a simple online course to take (approximately 30 minutes).
- Sessions take place during the day.
- You'll be with two other people to support.
- Each session takes around an hour.

If you'd like to help make our village slower and safer, contact:

richard.wallond@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk



Hanslope Village Hall

Welcome to Hanslope Village Hall! It's a great venue for your next event!

Whether it's a family celebration, a business meeting, a community gathering, or a class for all ages, Hanslope Village Hall offers a versatile and welcoming space for every occasion.

Why choose Hanslope Village Hall?

- Great location – our hall is easily accessible for residents and visitors alike with ample parking.
- Flexible layout – our spacious hall is adaptable to your needs, offering both large and intimate setups.
- Modern amenities – equipped with modern facilities, including a fully stocked kitchen, sound system, LED colour lights and Wi-Fi.
- Affordable rates – we offer competitive pricing with rates starting from £11.50 per hour.
- A community hub – with a rich history of hosting local activities, the hall is more than just a venue – it's a gathering place for our village.

Perfect for any event:

- Weddings & Parties
- Meetings & Conferences
- Fitness & Dance Classes
- Exhibitions & Fairs
- Fundraising Events
- Family Gatherings & More!

At our village hall, hospitality is our passion, and community is our cornerstone. Come join us as we celebrate life's special moments together. Book your event with us today and discover the magic of our beloved village hall.

Booking your next event at Hanslope Village Hall is simple! We have moved to an online booking system through our website.

www.Hanslopevillagehall.co.uk

Call 07517 535898 or email

Manager@hanslopevillagehall.co.uk for more information.

Upcoming events:

Christmas songs in the Village - 15th December, 6 pm

Tabletop sale - 18th January, timing TBC

Village pantomime - 20/21/22th February



JOIN US

HANSLOPE ENTERTAINMENTS GROUP



MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- PLAYS
- MUSICAL SHOWS
- ANNUAL PANTOMIME
- REVIEWS
- BACKSTAGE ROLES

HEGs, with a rich history since 1977, has successfully staged 85 productions, including the recent 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. To increase the number of annual productions, HEGs is excited to welcome new adult members (18+) for various roles, both on stage and behind the scenes. This is a fantastic opportunity for those passionate about theatre to join a vibrant community and contribute to the thriving world of performing arts. **Come be a part of HEGs' journey to create more spectacular shows!**



Please contact:

07939 473938 sandypayne68@gmail.com



St James the Great Hanslope

open every Friday
from 8th November
until the Spring

10am to 12 noon

**Drop in for
refreshments
or quiet reflection**

This is a warm hub initiative

Hanslope and District CARER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Do you look after your partner, child, relative or a friend who is ill or disabled, even if only occasionally?

THEN YOU ARE A CARER!

Please come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, some cake and have a chat with other local carers.

Meet every 4th Wednesday of the month from 10:30a.m to noon

71 WESTERN DRIVE,
HANSLOPE,
MK19 7LB

For more information please contact John Sorrell: 07889 181158

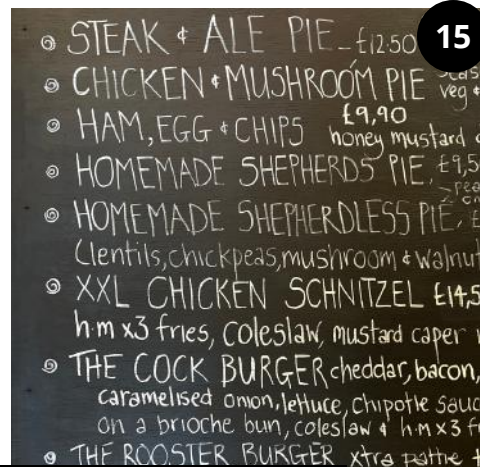
HANSLOPE AND DISTRICT CANCER WELLBEING & SUPPORT GROUP

Meets monthly to offer emotional support and information to those in our area affected by cancer. For sufferers (active or in remission) and their families.

JOIN US

Every 3rd Monday of the month at 8p.m
At 12 Weavers End, Hanslope,
MK19 7PA

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT JOHN SORRELL: 07889 181158



New Beginnings in the Middle of the High Street

From its original stone building and thatched roof to its renovation during the pandemic, The Cock Inn has stood in the centre of the village and been through many changes.

Rebuilt in the 1930's, it has been a stalwart of the village. Half way up the High Street, it's been a resting place for many a weary villager or visitor over the years.

It's recently been taken back into new management. The commercial kitchen is fired up, new decor to soften the look, feel and acoustics, has been installed.

There are new TV screens to watch big sporting events and a sound system for easy listening background music - or for live events.

The Cock has always been a 'traditional boozier' but as the village grows, so do the needs of its residents - especially when it comes to having a place to go to eat and relax.

There's a new coffee machine with cakes to have with your favourite hot drink. There's also a new menu of traditional, delicious food to have at lunchtime or early in the evening.

Soups of the day, toasted panini sandwiches, baked camembert, burgers and pies all feature on the menu. As do classics such as bangers and mash, meatballs and much more!

The kitchen will be open from 12 pm to 8 pm Tuesday to Saturday for the main menu.

On Sundays there will be traditional Sunday roasts available. Two sittings every Sunday with booking required - call ahead to avoid disappointment!

As with all our local businesses and events, keep an eye on their Facebook pages and websites for more details.

With Santa coming to town on 24th December, there will be mulled wine and mince pies to enjoy while you enjoy a front row seat for the festivities.

Santa leaves from The Club (other side of the road) and returns at the end of his shift to the High Street. That gives you two chances to see and hear the Christmas fun!

Whatever you need, stay in touch and drop in to find out what specials are available.

All the team at The Cock Inn are excited for this next chapter to begin and look forward to welcoming you to eat, drink and be merry over the coming months!

For more details/bookings contact:
01908 893 741
www.cock-inn.co.uk
 or find us on
Facebook & Instagram





Challenging MKCC on the changes to the 33A bus service for our rural communities.

The 33A Bus Route

Many residents contacted me after the short notice and the changes to the vital bus service from our village to Milton Keynes/Northampton. The changes have caused significant disruption to school, college and work transport. I have met with MKCC and Arriva and a change in timetabling is being proposed.

At the time of going to press we don't have the exact times, but please look out for details on social media or at the bus stops. Changes are likely to come into effect in January. Hopefully, ensuring more reasonable times for all.

The New City Plan

MKCC's New City Plan included a change that would allow Hanslope Park to undergo significant development without the usual planning process (Local Development Order). This has been objected to by myself, other Cllrs, and many residents. The next stage of the New City Plan will be further public consultation in January 2025. If you are interested, keep an eye on details issued by your Cllrs, the Parish Council and MKCC. Our area has not been designated for further housing/development at this stage, but this could change. Look out for details and have your say when the consultation reopens.



Laying a wreath in St. James, Hanslope (above) and at Castlethorpe War Memorial (main photo).

Around the Village

There has been a lot of work ongoing for fixing issues around the village. As well as having the worst of the potholes fixed, the Forest Road flooding issue has been successfully tackled by MKCC. The Hartwell Road speed change to a consistent 30 mph as you enter the village will shortly go for public consultation - look out for details. The Long Street road sign will finally be replaced, grit bins for Hayfields, Christmas Lights approved, and many more smaller issues around the village! Have an issue? Get in touch.

City Fibre Roll Out

This began in September - unfortunately residents weren't made aware. Even though the company doesn't have to notify households, we've contacted them to agree to door drop homes affected. This roll out will continue for some time. You can check details of all closures at one.network.uk (just pop that address into Google).

Reporting Problems

If there are problems with council services, your first port of call is to report it to the Council - by phone or online (see page x) or scan the QR code on this page with your smart phone camera. If problems happen again, then forward the reference number to any one of your Cllrs (details below) to help resolve. As well as road and bins, for example, we also deal with housing issues and much more.



'Report it' QR code link or go to milton-keynes.gov.uk 01908 691691



Allotment availability

All sizes, including 'Hobby Plots'

The Parish Council have a few plots available, please let us know if you are interested.



Costing as little as £17 a year

Includes 'free food' and exercise

Call Roland on 07973 772024

or email: roland@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Hanslope Garden Club

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month (except in January and August) at The Club, High Street, Hanslope. Doors open at 7 pm and the meeting starts at 7.30 pm.

It's the perfect venue to grab a drink, listen to interesting speakers and meet friends - or make some new ones.

You don't have to be a gardener to join and new members are always welcome, whether from Hanslope itself or simply local to this area.

We run a very full programme of talks, demonstrations and outdoor visits. We usually have several expert speakers each year speaking on a wide variety of topics, from differing horticultural methods, designing, creating, and maintaining a garden, and growing specialist plants.

We look back at the history of varying topics related to growing, creating, and arranging flowers, containers, and tubs.

There is something for everyone to learn and the club has a lovely friendly and inclusive environment.

Recent meetings have covered:

- flower arranging talk and demonstration
- 'no dig' growing
- orchids for everyone
- plant propagation
- hedgehog rescue.

We also arrange garden and independent nursery visits, as well as RHS Wisley.

Your first meeting is free and annual membership is £15.00.

If you would like to know more, please contact Roland Simpkins on 07973 772024 or just come along.





The Club, Hanslope

A host of events for all the family

From coffee mornings and beer festivals, to comedy evenings – there is so much going on at The Club.

Situated in the High Street, The Club bar is open every day for members and their guests, and features varied guest ales, great wines and more.

There is also a continual diary of fun events to appeal to as many people as possible. You can find out more on our website, noticeboard or on our Facebook page.

We've seen the ever-popular kids discos provide great entertainment to tire out the little ones while the adults enjoy a drink or two at the bar.

Some members showed off their incredible artistic skills at paint night (and some were just willing rather than able).

There's been top class comedians and fun filled bingo nights – including drag bingo!

It is also a great venue for celebrations. Members can hire the function room for parties, weddings and wakes – in fact, whatever the reason.

The function room has microphones, a great sound system, big screens for playing tributes or watching matches, and plenty of indoor and outdoor space to enjoy.

There's a pool room with darts and skittles, and the ever popular meat raffle on Sunday's at 1.30 pm.

Run by a small committee, The Club has been a central part of Hanslope life for more than 100 years. Members can sign in up to 3 guests – so if you've friends staying, you can still enjoy a visit.

Follow us on Facebook, visit the website, or check out details on the noticeboard outside of the Club when you're passing.

www.theclubhanslope.co.uk



Levelling Up Hanslope – the S106 Project

S106 funds are provided by developers and can be used towards the costs of providing new or improved community and social infrastructure in a local area.

As you will be aware, we have had three large building developments in Hanslope in the last couple of years - Bloor, Davidsons and Hayfields.

With these three developments, monies will be lodged with Milton Keynes Council to be used for capital projects that Hanslope can bid for.

The Parish Council have set up a small working group to start to review the funds available and begin to understand what kind of facilities and amenities this could be used for.

We must work up a set of robust initiatives and projects that we can put forward to Milton Council to request the money.

We are keen to get the views of everyone in the village. It's important we include everyone in this review so we can get the maximum benefit from the money with some great community initiatives.

We need to get a complete cross range of opinions so please ask your children too for their ideas. What would they like to see in the village? We will be setting up a 'teens' working group too so we are catering for all ages. Send us an email if you've a teen who is interested.

We are having a public meeting on 22nd January, 7 pm at the Community Hall to explain this in more detail. In the meantime, get your thinking caps on try and come up with some exciting projects for us to consider for the village!

If anything does come to mind in the next few weeks, please feel free to complete the very simple suggestion survey - just type the address below into Google or use your smart phone camera to go to the survey. Please complete by 10th January 2025.

<https://forms.office.com/e/7KWdKzLsGS>



Alternatively, you can contact the team directly on: section106@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

We would love some additional volunteers to help the working group. If you like doing a bit of research – it's just the thing for you.

Also, if you have a project you could help support and implement we'd would love to hear from you!

Public Meeting – 22nd January, 7 pm



C MMUNITY

Meeting - 22nd January 2025

We are holding a Community Forum on 22nd January, 7 pm at the Community Hall on the Recreation Ground, Castlethorpe Road.

We will be covering three areas of interest (hopefully)! Firstly, we will look at potential projects the village can bid for, using S106 developers funds.

We want ideas - and even better - volunteers to help move this project along. See the previous page for more details and how to send in ideas if you can't make the meeting. You will have seen how some S106 money has already been spent on the outdoor gym, new ceiling in the Hall and the solar panels, but there is more to do!

Secondly, we will have representatives from our local policing team. They will take us through information on crime statistics, what to do if you experience problems and answer any questions that you may have on local crime and policing in our area.

Thirdly, we have asked for a representative from Milton Keynes City Council Highways team to attend.

Questions on roads and landscaping are always coming through to the Parish and City Councillors so here's your chance to ask the folks in charge directly!

We will set out chairs and have microphones available for speakers and those who want to ask questions.

Parish and City Councillors will be on hand too if there are any other issues to discuss.



If there are lots more questions on other topics we'll try to cover them. However, we can revisit anything at the Annual All Parish Meeting on 14th April 2025 as well. It will be held at the Community Hall on the Recreation Ground at 7 pm.

Follow the Parish Council on Facebook or look for more details on the Parish Council website and on the notice board by Hanslope News.

THE  PLUMBER

Apprenticeship Served 1972 - 78
City and Guild Qualified
ON CALL EVERYDAY

Domestic and Commercial Installations,
Maintenance and Repair Service.

-  Burst/Leaking Pipes
-  Blocked Sinks/Toilets
-  Hot Water Tanks
-  Overflows
-  Showers
-  Radiators and Pumps
-  Garden Taps/Water Butts
-  Fault Finding
-  FREE WRITTEN QUOTE

Call The Plumber Anytime
07970 317843
theplumber@email.com

1st aid for your plumbing



St. James the Great

Dear Friends,

St James the Great parish church has stood at the heart of our village since the 12th century.

For all that time it has pointed with its worship and activity (as well as with its impressive tower c.1400) toward heaven.

And since the beginning, our church has always existed to be here for the villagers of Hanslope.

It is not an exclusive and archaic social club, but a place to share the joys, as well as the sorrows, of life. A place here for you and your loved ones. A place of transformation in Christ. A place of welcome and peace.

As November ends, so too does the Church calendar, and with the first Sunday of Advent a New Christian Year begins.

This builds toward the celebration of Christmas Day and lasting until the Feast of Candlemas in February (long after the tree and tinsel have come down!)

Whether you are new to the village, or have lived here all your life, you are invited to come to our various seasonal services and events listed.

In fact, you are always welcome at St James or our sister church, Ss Simon & Jude in Castlethorpe.

With prayers of blessing upon you and yours this Christmas.

With Love,

Fr Adam



Sunday 1st December

Advent Sunday
11.15 am Sung Parish Mass

Sunday 22nd December

Christmas Carol Service
6 pm at Castlethorpe

Tuesday 24th December

Christmas Eve
3 pm Crib Service at Hanslope
5 pm Crib Service at Castlethorpe
8 pm Early Midnight Mass at Castlethorpe
11.30 pm Midnight Mass at Hanslope

Wednesday 25th December

Christmas Day
10 am Mass of Christmas Morning at Hanslope

Monday 6th January

The Feast of The Epiphany
(The Arrival of the Three Wise Men)
7 pm Solemn Sung Mass & Procession at Hanslope

Sunday 12th January

The Baptism of the Lord
9.30 am Sung Mass at Castlethorpe
11.15 am Sung Mass at Hanslope

Sunday 2nd February

Candlemass
9.30 am Sung Mass at Castlethorpe
11.15 am Sung Mass at Hanslope



The Community Orchard

Hanslope Community Orchard has existed as a registered charity for just over two years. In that time, we are proud to have regenerated a disused corner of a local farmer's field into a heritage orchard and inclusive community space.

The varieties planted are intended to encourage biodiversity and cross-pollination. They reintroduce old English varieties that would have existed in Hanslope years ago; apples such as Beauty of Bath, Blenheim Orange, Chivers Delight and Egremont Russet. Plus medlars, mulberries, cherries, hazelnuts, pears and plums.

We expected the first year to be challenging with flooding, brutal Hanslope easterly winds, and a late frost. However, we only lost a handful of saplings and these have all been replaced and replanted by Orchard volunteers.

In 2025, we hope to build an environmentally sensitive all weather shelter and organise our first Harvest festival. We encourage you all to use the space - for play, recreation and respite.

How to find the orchard: just follow the public footpath sign to the left of the Village Hall car park and the Orchard is immediately on the right-hand side.

If you are interested in being involved with the orchard, we are always looking for volunteers.

Contact us at: hanslopeorchard@gmail.com

Milestones



Beesley & Sons allowed planting of heritage fruit trees on their farmland in 2022.



42 trees planted & sponsored Feb 2023.



Meandering mown paths & picnic spots created.



Hanslope Pre-school regularly explore the space.



Reclaimed benches installed.



Hanslope Parish Council fund the solicitors fees to secure the lease on the land.



Giant's Chair donated and installed for storytelling.



Willow Tunnel fundraised Feb 2024 in memory of Dr Andrea Kingston.



12 new trees being planted & sponsored this winter.



1000 spring bulbs and perennials planted at regular volunteer work days.

Hanslope

Parish Council

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are open to residents of the village. You can come and hear the debates, decisions, and votes taken.

If you have an issue to raise, the first 15 minutes of the meeting is available to the public. Items raised can then be taken to the next meeting as an agenda item. Meetings take anywhere between 1.5/2 hours. You can stay for just the bit where you speak, for some of it, or for all of the meeting - the choice is yours.

When and Where?

Meetings are held at the Community Hall on the Recreation ground. They happen on the second Monday of the month and start at 7.00 pm. Agendas and minutes are available on the Hanslope Parish Council website - it's the law!

What's Up?

All agendas and minutes are posted in two ways. On the Parish Council website and on the noticeboard next to Hanslope News on Gold Street.

Stay in Touch

Keep up-to-date with what is going on by joining the Parish Council Facebook page. It's where all news on projects and changes in the village are posted. You'll also find details on the PC website. If you have a specific issue to raise, you can email the Clerk (email listed below).

Who's on the Council?

A full list is on the website. All Councillors are volunteers. They give up their own time to meet and work on projects for the entire village. There's 9 at present. If you want to find out more - get in touch.

What We Manage

The PC manages the Pavilion and the Community Hall. Also, the Recreation Ground. Bylaws apply - such as dogs on leads and the space is there for the village to enjoy. We also manage the MUGA (multi-use games area) at the back of the Rec.



Meeting Dates

12th December

13th July

10th February

10th March

14th April

12th May

9th June

See what we have been working on in the last six months. Full details on pages 4 & 5!

Agenda/Minutes

Contact



www.hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk



clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

If there's something strange, in the neighbourhood, 'Who you gonna call'?

The Parish & Milton Keynes Councils have very different responsibilities - hopefully, this guide helps show who does what and how to contact them.

Hanslope Parish Council	Milton Keynes City Council
Majority of village grass cutting, inc. verges	Highways/roads/potholes repair & maintenance
Some roadside hedges - in 30 mph zones	Speed mitigation measures (signs, tables)
Newport Road natural verge	Pavements maintenance & repair
Maintenance of the 2 village ponds	Street lighting maintenance & repair
Rec ground grass, fences, car park & some trees	Public Rights of Way (footpaths)
Rec ground pitches & MUGA (not kids play equip)	Fly tipping & abandoned cars
Pavilion & Community Hall	Planning - applications, decisions, enforcement
Village weed spraying - roads & pavements	Transport matters/parking enforcement
Village bins & dog bins	Rural hedge trimming - outside 30mph zones
Milton Keynes Play Association kids sessions	Street furniture - benches
Hanslope allotments	Waste & recycling
Bus shelters	Playground equipment maintenance
Contact details clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk 07383 091 319 www.hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk	Contact details customerservices@milton-keynes.gov.uk 01908 691 691 www.milton-keynes.gov.uk

This guide will hopefully give you a steer on who to contact when issues arise. For the moment, it doesn't include those on the three new estates. The developer is responsible in each case. The process to 'adopt' has begun and residents will be notified by post when this is complete with a guide of who to contact.

Winter crime prevention tips



Neighbourhood Watch is a national crime prevention charity with upward of 2.3 million members across England and Wales. It is free to join and to set-up a local scheme.



The charity encourages local schemes to build safer communities by each member receiving crime prevention information (via email) from providers such as Neighbourhood Watch, Thames Valley Police and Action Fraud through the Alert system. This system is how each scheme Coordinator communicates with their local scheme members to keep them abreast of local events. Events may be incidents and they can also be invites to picnics or litter picking. It is whatever generates a local cohesive community ready to look out for one another.

For more information go to the national website at ourwatch.org.uk

Winter crime prevention tips from Neighbourhood Watch and Thames Valley Police.

1/ Don't advertise your plans. Social media channels can be used to scout for potential targets. Don't post that you'll be away or upload photos of what you received as presents. It just acts as a catalogue. Double check your privacy settings and if possible keep your profile private.

2/ If you are away over the festive period make sure you cancel any deliveries. Arrange for a trusted neighbour to park on your drive to create the impression someone is home.

3/ Presents under the tree and unwrapped presents; make sure they not visible from outside. At night draw curtains and if unoccupied use smart lights or lights on timers to give the impression someone is at home.

4/ Check doors and windows for weak spots. The ONS 2020 reported windows were used to gain access in 30% of burglaries. Look at window locks, deadbolts and new hinges. 1 in 7 burglars also walked through an unlocked door. It's worth thinking about keeping your doors locked even when you are home.

5/ Secure garages, sheds and ladders. Make sure tools and equipment are locked away. Consider even wheelie bins where they can be used to gain access to windows or accessible roofs.



JOIN

ourwatch.org.uk

Your Local Provider of Complex Healthcare



Providing you and your loved ones with professional, person centred and compassionate care services at highly competitive prices.

Funded packages welcome.

CALL US TODAY ON 01908 511034

e: janine.moore2@nhs.net or web: www.hanslope-care.co.uk