



Milton Malsor News

Issue 81

Spring 2025





*PARISH COUNCIL
REPORT
Spring 2025*



I feel I owe you a very brief introduction as I stand currently in the role of Chair of the Parish Council after Simon decided to step down. My wife and I have lived in the village for almost ten years now, along with our children and our now not so young puppy Paddy. Prior to moving to the village we didn't know much about the community here, but we certainly feel that we have landed on our feet and made some very good friends, and met some lovely people. We have found the village to be incredibly welcoming and friendly and have enjoyed so many of the events that people have put on over the last few years. When friends come to visit us they always comment upon the friendly feel of the village. When I joined the Parish Council I certainly did not expect to be Chairing. I've got some big shoes to fill, and I'm very lucky to have some very experienced Parish Councillors to draw upon. Until you sit in this role you don't fully understand the number of differing things that are undertaken by the Parish Council to keep things just ticking over, and the quiet work in the background, by many people, who don't always like to put themselves in the public eye.

This is the last report from the Parish Council under our current term, which ends ahead of the forthcoming election. As we look back through the term I would like to thank all those people in the village that volunteer in many different ways either as part of the formal committees within the village, running the clubs, or the more informal committees that have put on so many events to bring the village together and make it a superb place to live.

In particular I would like to mention Neil who has decided not to stand for re-election in the forthcoming May elections and thank him for all the hard work and commitment he has put into the village. As mentioned in further articles alongside his various colleagues he has made some very positive changes to the village, in particular the village park was something he helped to drive through and make it a place that is now enjoyed by so many children both from within and outside of the village. We will miss his valuable insights and his dedication to just getting issues resolved and has

continued to work hard on projects right up to the end of his tenure, and I would like to record our gratitude to all his efforts for this community.

As I look back over the four year term of the council it's tempting to look for significant things that have changed, however we are a village which has already undertaken some significant projects and the last few years have been about seeking to maintain what we have whilst dealing with some significant cost price inflation, with leaning too heavily on significant precept increases. We should soon see the first of the S106 monies (Rail Freight Compensation funds) being spent, after some issues with the administration of drawing down the funds, we hope to have the two VAS signs installed and up and running soon, the new post for the one of Rectory lane has been installed, and the other will attach to street furniture outside the Park on Collingtree road. We have gone for these firstly to remind drivers to watch their speed on these particular cut throughs and secondly to give us some data on traffic flows and speeds which will give us further empirical data for planning applications and raising safety concerns with both local policing and West Northants Council. By the end of February we should have the first instalment of the new street lights on the High street, the first batch will replace those attached to the telegraph poles and then when we have the second round of funding then we can replace the last few lamp posts. We are also spending some monies on refurbishing elements of the park in particular the tunnel, as the timbers were rotting out, and hope all the works on that will be completed soon. We also plan to have wetpour solution surrounding the slide as a better solution to rubberised pellets that disperse far too quickly into the grass. These projects will take up the bulk of the first tranche of monies, and then the second tranche should be available after the first occupation of the warehousing at Northampton Gateway.

We continue to liaise with Northampton Gateway about the development, Paul attends the community liaison meetings when these occur and raises queries with the main contractor as villagers raise concerns. With planning as a whole we continue to monitor the planning applications coming through and will raise points where we feel applications breach planning policies and regulations. The current government seems keen to change some of the planning processes to speed up applications and there is a drive for more development across the country, I note that Northampton is potentially a town highlighted for further enlargement. We'll continue to challenge as we feel is appropriate, and support villagers who may have concerns about schemes.

We have also managed to finally commission the full refurbishment of the War Memorial, and hopefully those works will commence in the coming months so it can be complete ahead of the summer and some of the significant anniversaries of the end of the Second World War.

As we near the election we are always looking for people to stand as Parish Councillors, and we have set out the details on how to do so. As I mentioned above, being a member is not just our regular meetings, but it does give you a chance to influence how the village is kept, you can involve yourself in projects that could further enhance the village and bring fresh ideas to things we could be doing.

Ed

Medicine Collection contacts:



Nicola James	-	07989 307670
Jacqui Jones	-	07728 027507
Katie Marshall	-	07792 842358

As a reminder this volunteer service is offered to assist those who are physically unable to travel to collect their prescriptions.

Parish Council Website

We are indebted to Colin Neil who has been our Webmaster since 2016 he has diligently kept the Parish Council website up to date and we are very appreciative of his services.



In recognition of Colin's services the Council has made an annual donation to the Northampton Crusader Community Boats.

Colin is a Boatmaster in this Charitable enterprise which specialises in boat trips that enables everyone regardless of

age, physical or mental ability to experience the fun and beauty of the waterways in Northamptonshire on the Grand Union Canal.

Being a Parish Councillor – 2025 Elections

Two new Parish Councillors will be needed in May this year. If there are more than nine people wishing to stand as Councillors, then an election will be called. It is in all residents' interests to have a strong and active Parish Council. Please put your name forward or vote for your choice of members.

The Parish is fortunate that Brenda Jenks and Janet Winchester, our longest serving Councillors, have both decided to seek re-election. Names of those standing for the Council will be published nearer the election date.

The Council meets monthly, at Raynsford House on the second Tuesday at 7.30pm, with the exception of August. All are welcome to attend.

After 20 years' service on the Parish Council Neil Jagger is stepping down. During his 20 years on the Parish Council, Neil has been involved with many enhancements to the village including, with support from the late John Brice and Gordon Treharne, the installation of the 6 flower planters. Trees were also planted on the Village Green and on verges around the village. These were paid for by donations from Villagers.

Neil managed the bequest from the late Mrs Jean Wormald this funded the sign on the Green along with the surrounding antique lamp posts and uprighters around the War Memorial, the bequest also funded several quality seats.



In 2011 Neil formed a Committee to design and organise the regeneration of the village Park. A lottery grant was applied for under the Government's 'Play Builder Scheme'. The bid was successful and the Council was awarded £100,000.

The late Steve Hunt, our then computer expert, prepared a powerpoint presentation showing the plans which Brian Sumpton, supported by Neil, gave to a committee of County Council

officials and Northants Police. The bid was successful and the Parish Council was awarded a grant that covered the majority of the cost of the proposed plans. The Park continues to be very popular and over the years Neil, along with Brian, has continued to oversee the Park.

Neil was also the lead Parish Councillor seeking ideas for enhancements to the village which would be funded from the SEGRO Rail Freight Interchange compensation fund. Funds have been allocated for antique lights for the High Street and VAS signs for Collingtree Road and Rectory Lane.

There will continue to be ongoing projects for the Parish Council to manage. Furthermore Government policy is likely to change and it is anticipated that they will delegate more tasks to local Parish Councils. So, if you are interested in being part of the very active and caring team please contact our Parish Clerk: Ann Addison: ann.addison97@gmail.com

ELECTION INFORMATION

There is to be both a Parish Council and West Northants Council election on the 1st May 2025.

The Parish Council has 9 seats, and should you be interested in joining the team of members please

- Applications to stand for election must be returned to WNC personally between the 17th March & the 2nd April.
- You will need a proposer & seconder for your application form who live in the Parish / village.
- You will need a witness who also must live in the Parish / village.
- You will need electoral register numbers for the application form which can be obtained from the Clerk.

The Clerk's details:

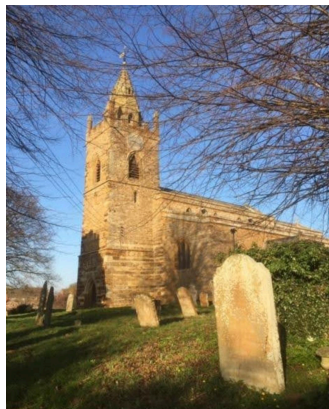
Email address: ann.addison97@gmail.com Telephone: 01604 858226

Please remember that polling stations are open on Thursday, 1st May 2025 from 7.00 am to 10.00 pm
Please remember to take photo identification when going to vote.

Church of The Holy Cross Milton Malsor

The once monthly coffee mornings continues to go from strength to strength, thanks to Sue and Val who helps. We hold a raffle at the same time and the prizes are donated by members of the congregation and from our villagers. These donations are very welcomed.

This event is so important as it generates a small amount of funds to maintain our Church of the Holy Cross. There is a misconception that we are funded by the Church of England or other funding bodies, but it is from your generosity and help that supports the church being open. Your attendance at the coffee mornings is so valued and needed. This year alone we must try and find over £18,000 just for our parish share. We then need to pay for our insurance, utility usage, maintenance, and other sundries.



At the April coffee morning we are holding a Mini Mart plant sale, together with a seed sale. Do come and select your plants ready for a beautiful display in your summer gardens. If you have any plants surplus to requirements, we will welcome donations for this event.

On the 21st of June at 7 pm, we are holding a summer event with the wonderful Musica Charity Choir. Do put this in your diary or on your calendar. Tickets will be £12.00 each, and refreshments will be included in the price. For more information contact Loredana on 07974842163 or Gill on 01604 706545. We look forward to welcoming you to enjoy this magical event.

But before summer, we are planning Lent and Easter. Easter Sunday falls on 20th April and we will look forward to welcoming you to church to celebrate this special occasion in the church calendar. Please see the church notice board for more information on the Lent course and church services during this period.

Every first Monday of the Month, Sue Bell hosts an afternoon club at Raynsford House. These occasions are for those of you that live alone.

Here we catch up with what is going on in the village over a cup of tea or coffee and delicious homemade cake. An interesting speaker often follows this. Our last one was on the Canadian railway school. For more information on this well supported event, phone Sue 07968891172.

Rev Graham Brack is organising a small altar to be placed in our local school. We are all looking forward to the children learning and understanding Christian worship. I am sure we will know more very soon how worship is being conducted in school.



Music for a summer evening with the wonderful ***Musica Charity Choir***. Their repertoire is lively, varied and there is music for everyone.

On Saturday 21st June at 7.00pm -Holy Cross Church,
Milton Malsor

TICKETS £ 12 please ring or email either Gill or Loredana :

01604 706545(Gill) 07974842163(Loredana)

gillandcolin@btinternet.com or loredanaharley@googlemail.com



Refreshments available

Recent Events

We'd like to say a **huge thank you** to everyone that supported our winter fundraising events through providing community donations and/or participation. These events included our Online Auction, Gift and Advent sales for the pupils, Wreath Making and our Christmas Fete, which together raised a fabulous total of more than £5,000. This was a fantastic end to 2024 and now enables FOMS to fund lots of new and exciting things for the pupils of Milton Parochial Primary School, but this wouldn't have been possible without all your generous support.

What have we been fundraising for?

FOMS are pleased to have recently funded a Christmas Pantomime as well as a return visit from Preacher the Storyteller in the New Year. The whole school were able to enjoy both of these visits and it was lovely hearing the buzz of the children after these events.

The whole school trip for Summer 2025 is booked and we are currently finalising orders for some new items for the library and outdoor areas.



Photos: Preacher the Storyteller (left) and Lada Productions Panto (right)

How can you help FOMS and Milton Parochial Primary School?

Give our **NEW Facebook Page** (Friends of Milton School) a like or follow. This will keep you up to date with our news and events that you may wish to participate in. All members of the local community members are welcome to join.

Please note that our old Facebook Group still exists at the moment to allow people time to transfer over, but eventually this will become redundant, so please follow the page that has a cover photo as well as a profile photo.

By using **easyfundraising**, you can help raise money for us by simply shopping online as normal, with no cost to you.

Over 8,000 brands make a small donation for shopping with them, including eBay, M&S, Argos, Dunelm, Tesco Groceries, John Lewis & Partners, Sainsbury's, Morrisons, ASOS, Booking.com and the list goes on...

All donations go directly to your chosen cause – no catches or hidden charges.

How to register:

Step 1 – Download the Easyfundraising App or visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Step 2 – Click 'Find a cause' and type 'The Friends of Milton School - Milton Malsor' (**please be careful to select this exact cause name as there are other similar named ones**)

Step 3 – 'Search this cause' and then 'Select this cause'

Step 4 – Finally, press 'sign up to support this cause', fill in your details to register and follow the simple instructions for making all your future online purchases!

We will be really grateful for the brand donations that you generate.





MILTON & COLLINGTREE WI

WI is 100, founded in March 1925

We will be celebrating this milestone birthday at our next meeting on Thursday March 13th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.



The WI is now the largest women's organisation in the UK and our WI is proud to have remained a part of it. There are many stories to tell of our activities and support that the members have given to the community over the years. We have a collection of archives and these will be on display at our meeting. We changed our name to Milton Malsor & Collingtree WI some years ago when Collingtree WI closed down and their ex members joined us. Their archives will also be on display.

An update on our February meeting: a representative from 'The Lowdown' charity spoke to us on the work they undertake supporting young people aged from 8 to 25 on their mental health journey. They are an inspiring organisation offering counselling, drop in facilities and so much more.

At the meeting on 3rd April we look forward to a talk by 'Not another Jungle' a rare plant business in Northampton that specialises in indoor plants and terrariums. Not to be missed!

In May the talk will be on 'Cold War Spies, with Nigel Parks. The National Resolution for 2025 will also be discussed and voted on. The WI has a long history of campaigning on wide ranging issues.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings which are held monthly with the exception of August. There is a small charge of £5 which includes refreshments and raffle. For more information call Jacqui on: 07728 027507 we are also on Facebook, Milton Malsor & Collingtree WI.

the lowdown
1989 supporting young people

OUR SERVICES
If you are aged 8-25, we've got you covered!

Free!

Designed by our Youth Social Media Champions

Mindspace
Wellbeing group for:
- Creativity
- Self-care
- Mindfulness
Age 11-18

LGBTQ+ Groups
A safe space to:
- Explore who you are
- Meet new friends
- Find support
- Have fun!
Age 11-25

Counselling
Talking therapy.
Help you find ways to manage and improve your mental health.
Age 8-25

Youth Groups
Come and hang out, join in fun activities and be yourself.
Age 11-18

Adult Social
Meet new people, connect, have fun and socialise!
Age 18-25

RE-Start
Helping 16-25 year olds move forward with their mental health journey.

YAB
- Give your voice
- Make a difference
- Improve services for local young people
Age 11-25

Wellbeing
• Safe space to talk and be listened to
• Wellbeing activities
• Peer and parent support
Age 8-25

INFO/GUIDANCE
• Support
• Information
• Signposting
• Advocacy
Age 8-25

Sexual Health
• Condoms
• Chlamydia & Gonorrhoea screening
• Pregnancy testing
• Information
Age 14-25

Drop In For

For more information scan the QR code, visit our website [www.lowdown.info] or call us on 01604 634385.

The Lowdown
3 Kingswell Street, Northampton NN1 1PP

SCAN

QR Code

Charity No: 1197273

GET UP & GO

PREVENT FALLS - MAINTAIN HEALTH - REMAIN
INDEPENDENT

RESULTS PROVEN OTAGO EXERCISE CLASSES

Visit: www.northamptonshiresport.org/our-programmes/get-up-go

northamptonshire
sport



Scan to find
your nearest
group



Improve your
Balance,
Coordination and
Confidence

MILTON MALSOR VILLAGE HALL CLASS

Thursday 2pm

PRICE: £5 PER PERSON PER CLASS

CONTACT MICHELLE FOR MORE
INFORMATION & TO BOOK

STEPFORWARDWITHLEWIS@GMAIL.COM
07423 074891

SCAN THE CODE ABOVE TO FIND MORE GROUPS OR CONTACT KATY

KATY.DOWNING@NORTHAMPTONSHIRESPORT.ORG
07955 441 975



**Public Health
Northamptonshire**

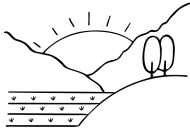


**North
Northamptonshire
Council**



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**





LIFE ON THE FARM IN AUTUMN

As you can probably see, we have had the first batch of lambs, if you have not seen they are currently in the Orchard (or were at the time of writing this) We luckily have not had the issues we had last year with the Schmallenberg virus (SBV).



Calving is in full swing, we have had 5 calves in 48 hours. One we had to give a slight helping hand too as it was quite a large calf, it was a family affair bringing the calf into the world. David and I

helped the cow and Freddie helped us by calming the cow with some beautiful singing.



We are getting ready for the big flock of sheep to start lambing. And they are ploughing some of the fields ready for spring drilling. As well as cleaning some of last year's crop for this year's seed.

David has done a trial field of winter oats and winter beans, this is called companion cropping, it will receive no sprays or fertilisers.

The beans will provide the natural nitrogen in the soil which will feed the oats. The trial is to see if it is more profitable that growing it conventionally with chemicals and fertilisers. As the prices of these keep going up and the price we get paid for the crops is going down.

We have been lifting the fodder beet as explained last year for the animals to eat over the winter.

We attended the Rally in London in November to protest about the family farm tax. It was really heartwarming to see the support from non farming families in London. There have been some further protests and I would imagine there will be more to come.

I understand everyone will have a view on this, but if you enjoy seeing the countryside and enjoy seeing it looked after and cared for by people who genuinely care. Then please support the family farms by buying local and buying food produced in the uk.

Ally

BEAVERS

TIME FOR FUN

Beavers are one of our youngest sections, you can join from 6 yrs old staying in the section until they are around 8 yrs old.

Our Beaver Programme is fun, messy, loud and FULL of adventure! Interested in joining us? - 1st Collingtree and Milton Malsor.

Wednesdays 17.30 to 18.30. For more info get in touch with us.

e - collingtreemiltonmalsorscouts@gmail.com

 [facebook.com/CMMScouts](https://www.facebook.com/CMMScouts)

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OUR VILLAGE HALL

A belated 'Happy New Year' from all members of the village hall committee. Our first meeting of 2025 took place on 10 February and we have the following updates to share:

- Ad Hoc bookings and the hiring of the hall for regular groups remains strong, helping the hall's on-going sustainability.
- Our first Christmas Day booking for a large family gathering was a huge success; providing a central location for a get together was much appreciated by the group and they hope to book our venue again in the future.
- Pat's creativity produced a fantastic tree for the church's tree festival, based on The Twelve Days of Christmas...many of our clubs featured, from bowlers bowling to dancers dancing and tots-a-tumbling. The creativity didn't stop there, as new Christmas bunting was sewn and hung around the hall too. The new decorations mean we now have our previous decorations (large-sized bells and wreaths) looking for a new home – if anyone would like these, please contact Keith on the number below.
- Repairs to the damaged doors and worn-out taps are now done - thank you to Ray M and Dave A for completing these.
- Other general maintenance tasks have been completed by our committee volunteers, including external pipe insulation, lighting repairs and re-setting external light timers.
- On 22 January, WNC brought their vaccine van to our carpark, supporting local residents who can't easily access appointments outside the village.
- An updated Diversity and Equality Policy was ratified at our last meeting on 25.11.2024.
- The local forum for village halls, including Greens Norton, Hardingstone, Nether Heyford, Overstone and Paulerspury have remained in contact with each other to discuss roles, responsibilities, running costs and ideas for generating income.

Each hall has its own unique set of circumstances but it does help to hear how other committees are navigating opportunities and ever-changing challenges of funding, charges and recruiting volunteers.

Future Plans:

- It would be a fantastic opportunity for all groups in the village to join together and host a collective, community-wide VE Day Celebration on May 5, as part of the recently launched nationwide commemorations to mark the 80 th anniversary of this momentous day. If others are interested, please get in touch. Likewise, if other groups have already started planning, our committee would love to help in any way we can.
- Upgrading all the hall's lighting to LED. This will help reduce energy costs and improve the quality of lighting for our users – quotes are being gained and compared now.
- Completing a fire-risk assessment to ensure we are compliant with current safety expectations.
- Ratifying the reviewed Safeguarding policy and its associated expectations at our next meeting on 14.4.2025.
- Adding more gravel to the carpark on 21 February.
- Continuing to monitor costs and usage for all utilities over the coming months to ensure the current hiring rates are covering the on-going price increases.
- Continue building on new links with other village community groups within the forum to ensure the needs and opportunities of all are met.

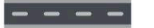
Our next meeting date is 14 th April, at 7.30pm, in the James Room, MMVH. More dates will be set at this meeting. The date for our AGM remains as Friday 25 April 2025 at 7.30pm, in the main hall.

Please contact Penny Howell (Chair) – howell.penny67@gmail.com (07702004860) or Keith Parker (Secretary) – patricia.parker15@btinternet.com (07745385346) if you would like to add your support, hire the hall or if you wish to advertise local events/ groups on our external notice board or within our new forum group.

Thank you for your on-going support, from all the committee members.

Reporting Issues

The reporting of issues with street lighting, roads, pathways, mowing etc now needs to be reported to the correct member of the Parish Council. A list of each portfolio holder can be found at the back of this newsletter.



Community Speed watch Campaign

28th June to 26th July 2025

If you would like to volunteer to help with this, please contact Katie Spruels (contact details on the back page)

Are you an inconsiderate dog owner?

The Parish Council have had more complaints from villagers about inconsiderate dog owners not picking up their dogs poo!

Residents are having to clear up dog poo from outside their properties. Please make sure you have enough poo bags to meet your dogs needs so that you are able to be responsible and clean up after your dog, if your children are exercising your dog then please make sure that you explain to them why this is necessary.

It is law that you clean up after your dog in public places. We have 6 bins around the village, please use them.

West Northants Council's Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) requires dog owners to pick up after their dogs and dispose of the waste properly.

Dog owners who fail to pick up after their dog may be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) of up to £100



Be responsible, please bag it and bin it!

VILLAGE GROUPS

Art Group:

Wednesday, Village Hall, 1.30-3.30pm in term time. The group is self help, with regular visiting artist demos and workshops. Contact Marion 01604 859109 or Anne Manson 01604 858326 (email: stuart.manson@btopenworld.com)

Beavers:

Wednesday, Village Hall, 5.30- 6.30pm in term time (age 6-8). Contact Group Scout Leader Carol Fraser 01604 862717 (email: GSL.1CMM@gmail.com)

Brownies:

Monday, Village Hall 6.00-7.15 pm in term time (age 7-10) Contact Christine Ladd (Brown Owl) 01604 705910 (email: christine.ladd@btinternet.com)

Crafty Yarns:

We meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 2.00 at Raynsford House. Contact Tom McManus on 07845 962708

Cubs:

Wednesday, Village Hall, 6.30-7.45pm in term time (age 8-10½) Contact Group Scout Leader Carol Fraser 01604 862717 (email: GSL.1CMM@gmail.com)

Milton FC:

Has two adult teams. For membership and club hire details contact Len Mackintosh 01604 858145

Milton Parochial Primary School:

Mrs Rachel Scott - Head of School 01604 858816
email: office@milton.pdet.org.uk Facebook: Milton Parochial Primary School

Scouts:

Wednesday, Village Hall, 7.45-9.15pm in term time. Contact Carol Fraser Group Scout Leader 01604 862717 (email: GSL.1CMM@gmail.com)

Short Mat Bowls:

Village Hall Bowls Organiser 07718 172332 or gillandcolin@btinternet.com

WI:

Contact Jacqui Jones 07728 027507

MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk (and lead West Northants Unitary Councillor for Milton Malsor)
Ann Addison The Paddocks, Baker Street Gayton Northampton NN7 3EZ
☎ 01604 858226 Email: ann.addison97@gmail.com

Chairman

Edmund James	Finance	07899 996279
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Vice Chairman

Janet Winchester	Maintenance & Environment lead (All Council members) Newsletter & Grass Mowing	01604 858999
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Council Members

Neil Jagger	Village Park	01604 859135
Paul Heath	Planning & Highways	01604 859453
Jerry Forskitt	Street Lighting & Flower Planters	07484 143671
Katie Spruels	Website & Newsletter	07971 839621
Brenda Jenks	Finance & Newsletter	07775 816158
Barry Cook	Footpaths and Dog Warden	07388 805545

Parish Responsibilities

Neil Jagger	Trees & Environment	01604 859135
Barry Cook	Footpaths Warden	07388 805545
Barry Cook	Dog Warden	07388 805545
Colin Neal	Website Manager	
Katie Spruels	Facebook	07971 839621

Other Useful Contacts

Penny Howell	Milton Malsor Village Hall	07702 004860
Karen Cooper	West Northants Unitary Councillor	07753 638180
Adam Brown	West Northants Unitary Councillor	07714 255077
Nicola James	Medicine Collection	07989 307670
Parish Council Website	www.miltonmalsorparishcouncil.org.uk	
Facebook Group	www.facebook.com/groups/MiltonMalsorVillage (if you're not already a member, ask to join)	