



## Responsibilities and parish facilities

The Parish Council is served by an appointed salaried Parish Manager, who is also the Responsible Financial Officer, with the help of a part-time Clerical Assistant. There are 17 unpaid Councillors, elected every 4 years for the seven parish wards, who make up Great Linford Parish Council [GLPC]. The next election is due in May 2011.

### Sub-Committees:

**The Recreation & Environment Committee [REC]** oversees the recreation facilities and makes recommendations to the Parish Council meeting. REC also deals with environmental issues and any problems at local centres.

**Finance & Planning Committee [F&P]:** F&P makes recommendations on the annual budget, parish precept, quotations for equipment, contracts and grant applications to the Parish Council meeting. Observations on planning applications submitted to Milton Keynes Council [MKC] are also made via F&P

**Communications:** Reporting to the F&P, Communications is responsible for publishing the parish newsletter [*News&Views*], the website and other information. Sub-Committees can authorise spending up to £250, financial recommendations above £250 are made for determination by the Parish Council meeting.

**Watchdog role:** An important role of the Parish Council is to act as a watchdog over any matter concerning the parish and its residents, such as public transport, condition of the redways and paths, graffiti, landscape maintenance etc.

**Parish Precept:** The precept agreed by GLPC in January of each year is set to cover the financial obligations represented in the parish budget. The precept sum is included in the Milton Keynes Council Tax Charge, as a charge per household in the parish.

### Parish Facilities:

- 1. Allotments** The Parish Council owns 125 plots in Great Linford (two sites), Neath Hill, Conniburrow and Willen Park and is responsible for setting and collecting rents. The maintenance of the sites is paid by GLPC and is contracted by tender.
- 2. Great Linford Cricket Ground and Pavilion:** Located off the High Street at Great Linford. The Parish Council owns the Freehold for this facility and has complete responsibility for its management and maintenance – contracted by tender.
- 3. The Thatched Barn:** This is within the area of the Cricket Ground. GLPC has a separate account to finance re-thatching and maintenance.
- 4. Downs Barn Sports Facility:** Located off Pannier Place. This is owned by MKC but managed by GLPC. Major building maintenance is undertaken by MKC, who also carry out mowing, marking out the

pitches and tennis court maintenance. Additional items requested by GLPC (i.e. extra lights, kitchen equipment), would be the financial responsibility of GLPC.

5. **Peartree Pond:** Maintenance is carried out by the Peartree Pond Association. GLPC has an account to finance the upkeep of the pond and repairs to equipment.

6. **Marsh Drive Sports Facility:** Located off Marsh Drive in Great Linford Park. GLPC has a long lease from MKC. Ground maintenance and general maintenance of the pavilion is the responsibility of GLPC –contracted by tender. MKC are responsible for structural repairs, car park and tennis court repairs. Great Linford Tennis Club has a sub lease on the Tennis Courts from GLPC.

**Bye Laws:** There are limited powers for Parish Councils to create bylaws.