

**West Northamptonshire Council
Moulton Ward**

To: The clerks, parish councils in the Moulton Ward
From: Councillors Dan Cribbin, John Shephard and Mike Warren

Dear Clerk,

We write to you following our recent election to the new West Northamptonshire Council.

Together, we represent the Moulton Ward of the Council, which comprises the 12 parish councils listed below. We write to you to suggest the means by which we will best communicate with parish councils in our ward.

We are all of course very familiar with the issues facing parish councils in the ward through our lengthy service with Daventry District Council. There are some discrete issues previously dealt with by the former county councillor, Judy Shephard, which we will now be required to cover. We have considered working arrangements with councils and propose the following:

1. Whilst it is open to all parish councils and indeed residents to call upon any of us on any issue of concern, we suggest that it would be helpful for parish councils to have a *"first point of contact"*. The nominated councillor would take up the issue as normal and report back, as necessary briefing the other two. This would remove potential confusion and duplication. The first point of contact for parishes we propose is as follows:

a. Boughton	John Shephard
b. Church with Chapel Brampton	John Shephard
c. Hannington	Dan Cribbin
d. Harlestone	John Shephard
e. Harlestone Manor	John Shephard
f. Holcot	Mike Warren
g. Moulton	Mike Warren
h. Old	Dan Cribbin
i. Overstone	Dan Cribbin
j. Pitsford	John Shephard
k. Spratton	John Shephard
l. Walgrave	Dan Cribbin

2. Apart from Moulton (where there is exceptional activity) we will not attend parish council meetings as a matter of course. We will undertake to attend any parish council meeting at the request of the clerk where a specific issue of concern is to be discussed. If possible the first point of contact member will attend; if that is not

possible a substitute will be sent. In this way you can be sure of the attendance of one of us whenever required.

3. We will arrange an annual meeting to which we will invite all 12 parish council chairmen (or substitute) in the ward. There will be opportunity to review all aspects of the parish/unitary council relationship.
4. Planning issues come up for discussion regularly. Where parishes seek support from us in relation to planning applications it is helpful to open discussion early. Time will usually be running for statutory consultation. Please flag any planning issue with the first point of contact as soon as it becomes apparent.
5. Please add all of us to your circulation list when you publish full council meeting agendas and draft minutes. This will help us keeping up to date with issues you are considering.
6. We will provide written reports to annual parish meetings and attend as many as we can.

No longer will residents or parish councils have to think, *"Is this a District or County matter?"* We feel confident that we will all benefit from this change and look forward to working with you all for the next four years.

With best wishes.

Dan John & Mike

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