

# FOCUS

## on Ouzel Valley Ward

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Including Oakgrove, Middleton, MK Village, Monkston and Monkston Park, the Woughtons, Peartree Bridge, Simpson & Ashland

Delivered by local volunteers

Issue 401

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## Free School Meals Extended

After years of pressure from the Lib Dems, free school meals will now be available for all children in England whose parents get Universal Credit. It means fewer children are going to school hungry and families under pressure will have one less thing to worry about. "No-one should have to go hungry so that their child can eat - and no child should be distracted from learning by hunger. I'm proud that we've made that happen" said **Uroy Clarke**.

## Is your Underpass Lit?

The underpass to Hanmer Road is not well lit. We've reported the lights. We'd like to audit all the underpasses - and the footpaths that lead to them, to ensure that they are lit and fit to use - but there are miles of paths and dozens of underpasses!

**Could you help?** Please check the underpass and footpaths near you, and let us know if anything is damaged, or lights are not working, or it's unlit. Please identify the underpass with either a street light code along it (eg F3 22 WG), or the street names nearest each end.

## Clearing the mess

**Uroy** got JLES to remove their debris after they left it on the road at **Gambit Ave, Oakgrove** for weeks after they finished! **Jenni** has asked them to remove orange fencing from near **The Newmanry** and **Cyber Avenue, Oakgrove**.



## Lighting Up H7



**Jenni** got the Council to fix many of the faulty lights on the **H7 Chaffron Way** - but a few are still out near **Flaxley Gate, Monkston** so she has reported them again.

## Lorries Only!

**Jenni** has got the fallen post removed from beside the loading bay for the shops off Ada Walk, Oakgrove. She's asked for it to be replaced to stop shoppers parking there.

Please don't park there as it forces lorries to block the street, and block your car in.



## Fixing Lucas Place

**Macsene** has reported the pothole at the entrance to **Lucas Place, Woughton on the Green**. **Jenni** has asked **Orbit Housing** to prune the hedges blocking the entrances.





## Winter Fuel Payment Restored

Following a successful Lib Dem campaign, the Government has made a u-turn and the Winter Fuel Payment will be paid to most pensioners in England aged over 66 with taxable income less than £35,000pa. Some care home residents will be excluded. For those earning more than £35,000pa, the Government will reclaim it through their tax code or self-assessment.

The Lib Dems are now campaigning to get it backdated and paid to last year's pensioners who are eligible now.

## In Brief

This van appears to have been abandoned on Council land in **Tyhurst, Middleton**. If it belongs to you, please remove it by the end of September or the Council will be asked to remove it.

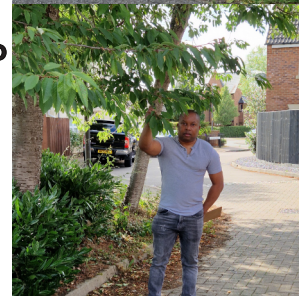
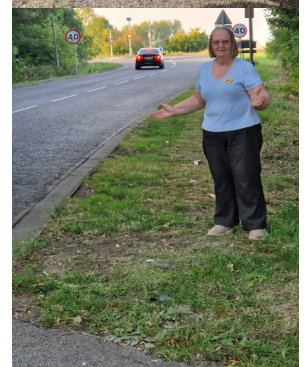
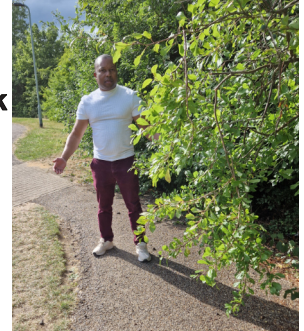
**Uroy** has asked for these trees overhanging the bridleway near **Stanbrook Place, Monkston** to be pruned back after residents complained.

The Focus team has asked **Woughton Community Council** to clear the debris from the paths behind **Ambridge Grove** and **Waterside** in **Peartree Bridge**.

**Jenni** has got a wider area of the grass cut at the entrance to the **Parks Trust car park** on **Simpson Drive**, to clear the view of oncoming traffic.

The Oakgrove School grounds crew litter picked the **underpass leading to Monkston**, and will pick it regularly, after **Macsene** requested it.

**Uroy** has asked the Council to safety-check this tree, leaning over **Harlesden Close** in **Monkston Park**.



## Blocked Drains? Or Covers?

Leaf debris blocked some drain covers leading to flooding after wet weather recently in the **underpass from Monkston to Oakgrove School**. **Jenni** has asked for it to be cleared, but if debris starts to build up, please report it to the waste service, before it floods, since the waste service clean them. Thank you.



## Did you know?

When traffic lights are put in, the speed limit has to drop to 40 mph. It's because the time taken to change from green to red is set by law, and it's not long enough to stop safely at higher speeds.

## Yellow Lines

Thank you to all those who responded to the consultation about double yellow lines outside **MK Village pub**. The response was in favour and the Parish Council will ask **MK Council** to install them.

## Your Voice Matters

Please contact us if you have any issues you want to raise or need help with. You can also complete our survey using the QR code.



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Website: [www.mklibdems.co.uk](http://www.mklibdems.co.uk) and select the Ouzel Valley focus team

Or write to: Ouzel Valley Focus Team, 4 Chetwode Ave, Monkston MK10 9EJ

Or search for Ouzel Valley on facebook

## Ask... Who?

With City and Parish Councils, housing associations, the Parks Trust, the Community Foundation and developers all providing services, it's not surprising that people don't always know who to ask! But the Focus team will find out for you, so get in touch.

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## Action and Service All year Round