

EMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL – NEWS FROM THE JULY 2026 MEETING

SDC – COMMUNITY ORCHARD AT PROSPECT PLACE – The July parish council meeting was attended by Mr Adam Knaggs, Managing Director of SDC builders who you may recall are the developers of the convent in Olney, to discuss the activities that are taking place on land to the east of Prospect Place. Mr Knaggs explained that the land was purchased to act as a carbon offset to provide a community orchard which would initially be used by the staff of SDC for family event days 2 or 3 times per year and later opened up for residents to enjoy walking. There was emphasis that there were no plans to develop the land building wise. Marston Vale had donated the trees for planting but it was noted that unfortunately one of the sycamore trees had been vandalised and would need to be re-planted. Some work had taken place on the gate to allow easier access but it would be painted to blend it into the surrounding area. A hardstanding area had been created to prevent mud being dragged onto the road and the verge would be re-seeded and the highway made good following damage by heavy machinery.

RIVER OUSE – WATER QUALITY – The parish council has been made aware of an incident whereby a local young person was taken seriously unwell after bathing in the River Ouse. If you are aware of other incidents similar to this, please do contact a member of the parish council or clerk as this will assist with efforts to pursuing Anglian Water and the Environmental Agency in improving the water quality of the River Ouse.

20MPH SPEED LIMIT FOR EMBERTON - MK City Council (MKCC) is committed to making the city's roads as safe as possible by introducing a 20mph speed limit within residential areas. You are seven times more likely to survive being hit by a vehicle travelling at 20mph than 30mph. The local community must support the reduced speed limit to help with compliance and raise awareness. In an area where a 20mph limit is introduced, the speed limit will be self-enforcing and MKCC will install signs to notify drivers. MKCC will not introduce traffic calming measures such as speed humps or cameras. MKCC recommend that parish councils apply for a 20mph limit for an area rather than individual streets. After consideration, the parish council feels this would be more appropriate for roads west of the A509 in Emberton. This is a more efficient and effective method of implementing the speed limits and reduces costs to cover wider areas. It also means that speed reduction is within a wider area which will have a greater impact and prevent accidents.

To be eligible for a 20pmh speed limit introduction, Emberton must meet certain conditions, one of which is support from at least two ward councillors and secondly, evidence of community support for a reduced speed limit in an area. This is important to show that locally a change is supported by the majority of residents before MKCC begin the formal consultation process. This evidence would be initially by a poll (indicated below) followed by a petition undertaken on a household basis.

Data from both Sentinel and Speed Watch sessions run by volunteers has shown that Emberton does have a speeding issue, particularly with vehicles cutting through the village during busy times on the A509. At this stage, the parish council would like to gauge an interest from residents in instigating a 20mph speed limit. This information has been circulated on the Emberton Echo What'sApp group but for those residents not on this, an

indication of whether or not you would support this, would be helpful by contacting your parish councillors or the clerk.

HORNS AT JUNCTIONS – The parish council would like to request that rather than beeping their horns at junctions, that drivers approach junctions with caution and slow down.

CRIME FIGURES 8/6/26 TO 1/7/26 – Crime figures for Emberton provided by PCSO Jo Clarke for the period 8/6/26 to 1/7/26 were as follows: 1 X assault with injury (historic disclosure). Other incidents not crime related were broken down vehicle abandoned in live lane and male acting suspiciously in Emberton Park.

DATES FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2026 – 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November, 7th December – all Monday evenings in The Pavilion, Hulton Drive at 7pm. Residents are welcome to attend.