



## GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

What a great summer weather-wise! Long may it continue?

Great Denham Summer Festival No1 done and dusted and a great success. Day included - Pony rides, free inflatables, hog & lamb roast, free ice cream, tea & cake tent, free arts & crafts, music, dance, sports, bar, children's entertainer, fire engine, design a Great Denham Mascot competition, grand prize raffle, free face painting, free fruit.

750+ children, young people and adults from Great Denham and the surrounding areas attended

200+ volunteer hours to put it all together

17 Volunteer committee members

10 extra on the day volunteer stewards

3 Performances (local 15 year old singer, street dancers, martial arts)

16 Stalls including 7 charities / local groups

15 Raffle prizes donated from businesses valued at over £600

The event was organised by a sub-committee of the Parish Council and all the hard work and effort was from members of the Residents Association and Friends of Great Denham (the school PTA). A big thank you from the whole community.

News regarding the long awaited shop in Great Denham is that it's now down to two retail organisations and the developer has indicated a decision is imminent.

The hi-speed broadband scene has changed somewhat as it now appears the Bedford Borough Council scheme cannot be used to partially fund the project as it was already in the BT plans to supply. The even worse news is that BT says "it is not economically viable to supply hi-speed broadband to Great Denham"! The parish council is taking this up with BT but I would encourage everyone to write to BT and demand improved services. There will be more on this on the PC web site and notice boards soon.

Great Denham school has completed its first year and will open for the second year with 253 children. The school continues to make good progress and has a strong and active PTA. The Head Teacher and staff have worked tremendously hard in this very first year of existence and I know that parents and children at the school want to say a big thank you to them all.

The PC has also submitted a business case for the operation of the proposed community hall and library. The plans have been passed and building should begin within the next couple of months. We all know how desperately short of facilities the Parish is so the sooner the better!

The Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society are holding a charity golf day on 13<sup>th</sup> September and looking for teams of 4 balls to join in. Geoff Swain (World Golf Trick Shot Champion) is putting on a show – which has to be seen to be believed. If interested please contact me on [jrweir@btinternet.com](mailto:jrweir@btinternet.com) and I will forward details.

Kind regards

Jim Weir

Chairman – Great Denham Parish Council