AT THE BORDER
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
THE SETTLEMENTS OF THE TISZAKÖNYÖK
FÉNYESLITKE
Population: 2556 inhabitants
Inner-city area: 243 acres
Outskirts: 2515 acres

Local government:
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Mr. Tibor Mihály Mártha
mayor

Fényeslitke is a settlement located in the Tisza-elbow, at the most northern part of Rétköz, at the edge of the Nyírség. It is situated 50 kms from Nyíregyháza and can be reached on the main road No. 4 to northern direction from Kiskárd and along the Budapest-Záhony railway line respectively. It is easily accessible from all the four cardinal points on public road.

At the beautiful settlement rich in monuments, public square works and parks close and distant visitors are welcome by annual events and the programmes of the churches. Cultural programmes feature the day of the Village in the spirit of the natives of the parish, church-ale of the Holy Trinity with flea market, Folk-dance Festival of the Children, Fényes-week which brings out a large number of cultural premières, theatre performances, intellectual contests and exhibitions.

HISTORY
The settlement that had already been inhabited in the copper-age was first mentioned in a charter originated from 1252. After a few decades its church is also known as its priest Michael appeared in a charter.

During the 14-15 centuries it made part of the estate of Kiskárd constantly. In 1453 it was listed among the biggest villages of the estate, a total of 49 families lived there. At the middle of the 16 centuries István Losonci had also got a section of land here through marriage. In 1552 the serfs of Miklós Zokoly were living in a part of it.

The possession of the Várdai family ended in 1611, the family died out on its male line by János Várday. His land was acquired by Pál Nyíri and his sons having proposed to János Várday’s daughter, Katalin.

According to the census of 1720 it had 17 inhabited lands in villain tenure. At the time of the socage-settlement of Maria Teresia its biggest landlord were Gerhard Wandermath and baronet Mrs. József Horváth; beside them the families of Ramocsaház and Szögény and the order of Paul had properties in it. In 1850 the number of its inhabitants was 1010, in 1870 2237 people were living in its 251 houses. The land called Zuth (nowadays known as Zug) has melted into its boundary. Between 1920-23 the village was an area notarity seat in the district of Kiskárd with a railway station, a post and a telegraph office.

SOCIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS, ECONOMY, INFRASTRUCTURE
The number of inhabitants of Fényeslitke shows a relative stability or as the case may be a slow increase.

The family doctor and dentist service is resolved in the settlement; a pharmacy and a post office are also functioning. There’s a 50-seated boarding home for the aged in the hands of the Calvinist Church. 276 students study in the primary school which has its own gym. The 100-seated kindergarten has 104 children to provide for. Possibilities for education are ensured in our library that has 15 thousands volumes and in our Cultural Centre which has been recently renovated from EU sources.

The full spending of spare time is helped by the increasing number of local civilian organizations and their intensive activity. The distant mass transport is realized by railway.

In the village two sports fields welcome those who would like to go in for sports. The relevant indices tell us about a pretty high infrastructural level. The sewage-network will be 100% developed in the settlement by 2008.

The organized streets lined with ornamental tree and fruit-tree rows, the flowery front-gardens, the well-kept public institutes and public areas give a pleasant view for those who come here. All this reveals that those who live here like and feel the settlement their own.

The Village-house, that provides room not only for the mayor’s office, was handed over in 2006
ABOUT THE REGION OF TISZAZUG IN GENERAL

History
During the Hungarian conquest the northeastern part of the country, its rectangular area bordered by the river Tisza was a sparsely populated, mostly marshy area. The ancient names of the settlements of the countryside: Pálcza, Varsányi, Zányon, Zsurv have a Slavonic origin, but the conquering Hungarians took this area in their possession, which is proved by the names of some Hungarian-named settlements.

At the age of Saint Stephen when the country was divided into 45 counties, the North-Tisza-country belonged to the county of Szabolcs. Szabolcs and Borsova were county-seats and the latter frontier-bailiff too. Following the rebuilding after the rage of the Tartars the county of Szabolcs was remodelled: from these times the names of the settlement of Zsurk, Szentmárton, Bezdé, Eperjeske, Tuszer, Komoró, Mándok and Mogorozs can be found on and more places.

During the Ottoman occupation of Hungary this area was not occupied by the Turkish army, the inhabitants were only paying reparations by their invasions. The reeds and marshes along the Tisza provided a good shelter against them. The boundary lines of the Hungarian counties including Szabolcs often changed. The northern boundary of the county wasn't following the line of the Tisza everywhere, its north-eastern part extended over the Tisza. On the other hand the southern boundary of the county of Ung ranged as far as the area on this side of the Tisza. As a result of this Zányon and Győröske alternately belonged to Ung and Szabolcs. The boundaries of the counties were organized after 1920 because of the area annexations; Zányon has finally got to the county of Szabolcs at this time. In the past an important factor of the life of the area was the river Tisza. Even if at a simple level but it still made transport, shipping and trade possible whilst providing food and occupation by its rich substance of fish. But it also caused huge damages for the people living along the river by its floods. At the beginning of the 19th century a contiguous embankment was built from Tuszer to Vásárosnamény but this could hardly resist the floods. The Tisza-control and embankment-building initiated by István Széchenyi and started in 1846 had a whole lot bigger effect.

The Tisza-control made large fields useable for the agriculture and plenty of villages were sheltered from the destroying power of the water but serious floods remained to exist afterwards too: during the floods in the spring of 1867 and the autumn of 1868 nearly all the buildings of Tuszer,

Bezdé, Zsurk, Eperjeske, Mogorozs, Kisés Nagyvasánya, Gyüre, Kopcsapáti and Hácsaranyos came under water. In Benk only four houses remained. The flood disrupted the building of the North-eastern Railway too.

On the area of the Tisza-rectangle the majority of the population lived of agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing. Mándok the former market-town was a big-village at his time with district deputy sheriff office, savings bank, credit co-operative, steam mill, distillation plant, railway station, post office, telephone and telegraph office. The estate of Forgách had a famous stud, dairy farm and shepherd farm.

The majority of the villages pertaining to the area of Zányon had more inhabitants than Zányon for a long time. 1860 onwards the moving of inhabitants of the villages into towns was experienced in this area too: the number of inhabitants of nearly all the settlements decreased, except for Zányon where the number of the population grew constantly.

**Natural conditions**

The small area is part of the North-East Nyírség small region. It's an alluvial-cone plain whose middle is wavy whilst its southern lands are structured with sand-drift dunes, wind-furrows and heaps; the difference in height in certain cases may reach 12-16 metres. In addition to the warm and cool climate the lack of rainfall is typical. The agricultural conditions are suitable for the cultivation of rye, sugar-beet and tobacco, but potato and silviculture are also widespread.

Characteristic forest associations are: oak, chestnut, elm, grove forests, willow swamps, plain, hornbeam and pedunculate oaks. The stock of forest under crop: mixed aged, hard and soft-leaved. The gold crown value of lands is not high, typically 10-15, only at Tiszabezéld can be found value between 15 and 17 that is still not a very good quality soil yet.

It's perceptible from the inquiries and analysis that although there are some negative motivations (such as the role of MAV in the development of settlement) different states of development took place: the life of the settlements evolved in different ways. Among the basic scopes can be articulated that the quality of a settlement must be independent from its size. This is important from the point of view of the future equality of chances and the territorial equalization. By the quality of a settlement the following should be meant: the circumstances of life of those living there shouldn't alter significantly from those who live in bigger settlements. It is important that rational relationship evolve between the existing and the later increasing higher-level and inter-village infrastructures, which improves the conditions of accessibility too. It counts to be a potential factor that rational division of labour take place among the settlements which should never be motivated by positions of power but the profitability and the better use of local characteristics.

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**Other natural-geographical data:**

- **Height above sea-level:** 99-171 metres
- **Relative relief:** 10 metres/km
- **Yield of stratum water:** 1,1-1.5 litre/p.km
- **Aridity:** 1,07-1.08
- **Prevailing wind direction:** North (West, South-East)
- **Yearly sunlight:** 1930 hours
- **Mean yearly rainfall:** 610-630 mms
- **Average depth of subsoil water:** 2-4 metres
ARCHITECTURAL, CULTURAL MEMORIES

There are only few data concerning the history of its Calvinist church. Its written in 1380 that its church was put up in the honour of the Virgin of Happiness. From 1696 data can be found regarding the fact that the church belonged to the Calvinists. It was renovated in 1784 and in 1831 also when it was enlarged too. The church is a simple hall-church shutting down in a Roman-esque arch and built behind the middle-towered late Roman facade that protrudes into the western loft. The middle tower juts out half from the façade and rises on two inner and two outer pillars.

The two corners of the original Roman-age facade are strengthened by diagonal, two-divided buttresses.

The Roman Catholic church is a late Baroque building with towered facade and vaulted internal. It was consecrated in 1178 in the honour of the Holy Trinity.

In front of the fence of the church stands a Baroque statue of stone portraying Saint John of Nepomuk; it was put up by György Erős. The two churches have benne renovated from EU and domestic sources.

The cultural centre with the world war memorial in its garden

The presentation of the Liget Folk-dance group at the inauguration of the Village-house

State of development indices of the settlement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of homes:</th>
<th>820 pcs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of homes supplied with piped water:</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of homes supplied with piped gas:</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of homes supplied with phone:</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of paved (dust-controlled) roads:</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Development plans:

The village has prepared the “Fényes Liget (Shiny Grove) village-renovating concept and programme” which determines the principal directions of development in the local economic and society policy till 2020. Establishing an industrial park. Renovation of the cemetery and its garden. Our vision: Fényeslitke, the town-like village.