



NEW STREET WARDEN FOR CMK

Local award winner Rob Harriman has been appointed as the new Street Warden for Central Milton Keynes. This is a new role developed by Milton Keynes City Centre Management (MKCCM), working in partnership with CMK Town Council.

Rob, a winner of seven 'Pride of MK' awards and former neighbourhood warden for MK Council, will monitor CMK's public areas, making sure they are kept safe and presentable. He will work closely with local businesses and residents to improve standards across CMK.

Rob is looking for local 'street champions' to identify issues in their area. If you're interested, you can find out more on our website. You can also contact Rob at warden@centralkmk-tc.gov.uk



© Rob Harriman

CMK residents say 'NO' to multi-storey car park



© Jim McGowan

The Centre:MK have lodged a planning application to build a very large Multi-Storey Car Park (MSCP) next to John Lewis. The proposed MSCP would provide over 1400 spaces (nearly 5 times more than the nearby Theatre District MSCP) with only one entrance/exit point off little Marlborough Gate. The Town Council have submitted firm objections, saying it would:

- seriously harm the quality of life of hundreds of nearby residents;
- cause unacceptable delays to residents and bus users ; and
- waste one of the best remaining development sites in CMK.

"It is madness to put another car park there," says one resident. "The congestion would be horrendous." Nearly a hundred local residents have objected.

Recent reports by MK Council Highway officers concur with many of these concerns.

"For the reasons of inconvenience to users of the highway and the possible conditions of danger to those users that may result" they recommend that the planning application be refused.

However, other MK Council officers have recommended approval as they believe there is 'compelling evidence' that thecentre:MK needs better parking to compete with other shopping centres.

The Town Council has released alternative proposals for the site, which reflect the aspirations of the local community and development potential of the site - see article on the next page.

Note: as we go to press, revised plans for the entrance/exit to the car park have been submitted by applicant. Please visit our website to find out the latest information. Residents can still submit objections.

Town Council Launches Exciting New Website

The Town Council has launched a new website at www.cmktowncouncil.org.

The website aims to keep residents living in CMK and Campbell Park better informed about what's happening in the city centre and the work of the Town Council.

The website has some interesting new pages covering news and views, CMK events, local groups and competitions. Extra features have also been added, allowing residents to complete surveys online, give consultation feedback, and easily send comments and views to the Town Council and other local representatives.

"Good communication is so important to building stronger communities," says Dr Rebecca Kurth, Chair of CMK Town Council. "From new development proposals to driverless pods, there's a lot of change coming to CMK, and whilst it's easy to be cynical about the political process, the truth is that better decisions get made when residents are informed and engaged."

i

MK Central Bus Station listed

In July English Heritage announced that the old Milton Keynes Central Bus Station on Elder Gate had been awarded Grade II listed building status. Nowadays known as Buszy, the 1982-built bus station is an excellent example of the original vision for Central Milton Keynes. We hope that this listing will result in the building being restored back to its former glory.

CMK offices being converted to dwellings

Some of you may have noticed work taking place in nearby office blocks, such as Seckloe House, Platinum House and Charter House. The Town Council opposes these changes, but recent government legislation allows offices to be converted to residential use without planning permission, despite them often having insufficient parking.

Arts Central

One of the hidden gems of CMK is Arts Central, a community arts centre located above MK Central railway station. The centre offers resources, support and creative space to local artists, as well as meeting spaces to hire. Arts Central is home to 2025 Films, who are making a feature film set in Milton Keynes. They are currently looking for extras: see www.2025films.com

Street barbeque a hit

Adelphi Street held a Summer barbecue thanks to the Adelphi St. Neighbourhood Watch team. A visitor car parking space became an improvised area for residents to enjoy an evening out just down the road. Families came to make the most of the weekend together before the start of school. Plans are already afoot for next year's street party.

Campbell Park Residents Parking Consultation Results

Following issues raised by CMK Town Council, Milton Keynes Council ran a consultation over the summer on whether to introduce a residents' parking permit scheme in Campbell Park. Local residents had complained to the Town Council about commuters parking down both sides of Adelphi Street, as well as on streets to the south of Campbell Park, particularly Columbia Place. This has blocked roads, restricting emergency access.

Residents responding from Adelphi Street were strongly in favour, with 94% saying they would like a permit scheme. Residents from the streets around Campbell Square, consisting of Albion Place, Amelia's Lane, Dalgin Place and Columbia Place, were also in favour, but only Dalgin Place met Milton Keynes Council's 70% threshold for introducing a scheme.

Residents living in Campbell Heights, consisting of Enterprise Lane, Highbury Lane and Huntley Crescent were against a scheme in their area.

Based on these results, it is likely that a residential parking permit scheme will be introduced on Adelphi Street and Dalgin Place, but not elsewhere in Campbell Park.

The Town Council will work with Milton Keynes Council on a follow-up survey next year.



© Jim McGowan



© Jim McGowan



© Jim McGowan

CMKTC Grants Programme Supports Residents



© JCC Media

The Town Council operates a Grants Programme to help fund projects and activities for the benefit of residents in the parish. Over the past eighteen months the Town Council has approved grants ranging from neighbourhood gardening to a short film, from £100 to £1000.

One recent recipient of the Grants Programme was the Junior Filmmakers' Club Milton Keynes, who worked with a group of young people to produce a film set in CMK. The resulting film, 'The Milk Man Moovie', was screened to an audience at Arts Central in July. Some of the film's cast can be seen to the left, celebrating their success at the screening.

The CMKTC Grants Programme also contributed to this year's MK Festival Fringe event, consisting of a wide range of acts performing across CMK over eight days.

We would like many more resident and community groups to apply. More information about our selection criteria and an application form can be found on our website.

Residents' questionnaire

How do you like living in CMK? What community facilities would you like to have in your area? What would make CMK a better place to live in?

Tell us your views by completing the Resident's Questionnaire either online at www.cmktowncouncil.org, or by filling in the paper copy and returning it in the freepost envelope provided. The results of the questionnaire will help guide the work and activities

of the Town Council over the next several years, so we'd really like to hear from as many households as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact the Town Council office on 01908 766176 or by emailing Lee Mooney at project.officer@centralmk-tc.gov.uk

Help us to help you – complete the questionnaire by Monday, 24th November!

Creative alternative to multi-storey car park plans

CMK Town Council has revealed an alternative scheme to the controversial proposal for a vast multi-storey car park next to John Lewis. The Town Council's proposal, named 'New Horizons', imaginatively combines a food supermarket, cultural and leisure activities, restaurants, and high quality accommodation around a hidden core of multi-storey car parking. New Horizons would also deliver a stunning new feature to CMK in the form of a full height winter garden, creating unparalleled views across Campbell Park.

New Horizons was worked on by CMK Town Councillor Ken Baker, one of the original designers of Central Milton Keynes. He designed the proposals to continue the light-filled spaces that make the Listed shopping building so special.

The Town Council discussed the alternative proposal several times with Hermes, the owners of the building, who proceeded with their original plans instead. There have been nearly a hundred objections from local residents against this ill-conceived scheme. It is important that as many residents as possible respond to this application.



© Ken Baker



Introducing our new officers



CMK Town Council has appointed two new officers to better support local residents and the Town Council's expanding work in CMK.

As Projects Officer, Lee Mooney (above left) will help to improve the delivery of local residents' services and manage project activities.

Lee previously worked for Milton Keynes Council for 22 years, most recently as senior regeneration coordinator. He describes himself as "committed to working with local residents to make a positive impact in CMK".

As Communications Officer, Thomas Walker (above right) will improve the Town Council's communication with residents through the website and quarterly newsletter. He will also serve as assistant to the Clerk, helping to organise the Town Council's meetings and digital libraries.

Born and raised in Milton Keynes, Thomas has been actively involved in the future of the city centre for many years. While studying in other towns and cities, he says "Other students would talk about roundabouts and concrete cows, but that would change when I brought them here and showed them everything the city has to offer."

Referendums set for CMK Alliance Plan

Following several months of discussion between the Town Council and MK Council, borough-wide referendums have now been set in early 2015 for the CMK Alliance Business Neighbourhood Plan.

The Plan is the result of two years of work by the Town Council, local business leaders, and representatives of MK Council, to produce a 'blueprint' for the growth and development of CMK over the next 15 years.

The Town Council and Alliance Steering Group argued for CMK-only referendums, giving only CMK residents and businesses the right to vote on the Plan, in keeping with the spirit of Localism and intent of Neighbourhood Planning legislation. However, the independent examiner supported borough-wide referendums, giving everyone in Milton Keynes the right to vote.

The Plan celebrates CMK's distinct design heritage: its renowned grid of roads, wide pedestrian underpasses, remarkable landscaping and stunning Campbell Park, whilst promoting greater and more diverse development that contributes to the economic, social and environmental well-being of CMK. If passed, the Alliance Plan will

replace existing planning policies for the area, which are out-dated and not sympathetic to the original design of the city centre.



i

Thursday 6 November MK's Design Legacy

A talk and discussion on the city's architectural legacy and future protection of our new town heritage will take place at MK Gallery at 7pm.

Tuesday 11 November Remembrance Day

A Ceremony marking the WWI Centenary will be held at the MK Rose in Campbell Park at 10.45am.

Friday 14 November Cupcake World Record

MK mums and kids will attempt to break the world record for the longest line of cupcakes – with 14,000 home-baked cupcakes! In Middleton Hall from 4pm.

Saturday 15 November Garden of Light

A free festival with lantern parade, fire performances, music and interactive workshops. In Fred Roche Gardens, behind the City Church, 4 – 8pm.

Saturday 22 November Christmas Lights

CMK's first ever Christmas lights will be turned on in a ceremony at Midsummer Boulevard and Saxon Gate outside Intu shopping centre at 4.30pm.

Thursday 11 December Friday 12 December Lantern Workshops

Free lantern-making workshops to take part in the Midwinter Fire Festival. In Centrecom Meeting Place, behind the Central Library. See website to sign up.

Saturday 20 December Midwinter Fire Festival

Free Lantern Parade and Fire Festival at Campbell Park Open Theatre at 7pm.

For more details of these events and others, please see our website at www.cmktowncouncil.org



© Festive Road

walkabout characters". Celebrations will be taking place across the park involving lantern parades and illuminated structures.

Join in the festivities with your own lanterns. Two free lantern-making workshops will take place in CMK on the 11th and 12th of December for local children and families. The workshops will be held at Centrecom Meeting Place, behind the central library. To sign up, please go to our website.

Boyd & Evans Exhibition



© Thomas Walker

A small but striking exhibition of photography by international artists Boyd & Evans is currently on display in the light-filled atrium at the CMK Campus of Milton Keynes College. The exhibition is dominated by a finely detailed, 28 foot high photograph of a beech tree, invisibly 'stitched together' from around fifty separate images.

Fionnuala Boyd and Les Evans came to Milton Keynes as artists in residence as the new town was taking shape. Although they went on to explore deserts and rainforests, they liked Milton Keynes so much they made it their home.

The free exhibition runs until December 19th and is located at 200, Silbury Boulevard.

For more information, see the College's website at www.mkcollege.ac.uk

Midwinter Fire Festival & Lantern Workshops

The longest night of the year provides the perfect time for the Midwinter Fire Festival, a celebration of fire with processional lanterns, pyrotechnic effects and live performances lighting up the night.

Be at Campbell Park's Open Air Theatre at 7pm to see some of the festival's "extraordinary

WWI Centenary – MK Rose



© Mark Coster

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I, making this year's Remembrance Day a particularly significant one. A special event will take place at the MK Rose in Campbell Park on November 11th at 10:45. This will include a two minute remembrance silence at 11:00.

Remembrance Day marks the anniversary of the end of World War I on November 11, 1918. Nowadays it serves as a day to pay respects to all those who have lost their lives in the service of their country.

The MK Rose, opened in 2013, was designed by international artist Gordon Young. It includes a series of pillars, each commemorating important dates in MK history, set around a central granite rose bud. The Rose was designed to act as a communal point for remembrance, not just of conflicts, but also for personal remembrance.

www.cmktowncouncil.org



CMK LIFE is published by CMK Town Council (CMKTC), which is the parish council elected by residents living in the City Centre and Campbell Park. CMKTC is independent of MK Council and is not affiliated with any political party. Any opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of CMKTC. Contact us on 01908 766176 or visit our website www.cmktowncouncil.org