

Street Warden Report April 2015

The following work has been carried out in April 2015 on behalf of MKCCM & CMK Town Council.

Landscaping

Requests logged: 0

Resolved: 0

Outstanding: 0

Sight lines are clear. In April I didn't find any problems to report after such intensive winter pruning works in all areas.

Rough sleepers

There are approximately 17 rough sleepers in CMK, the main areas being CMK Rail Station, The Point, Marks and Spencer and an underpass near Jury's Inn. During area patrols in April, I have noticed an increase in rough sleepers. This could be due to the slightly warmer weather. P3 have submitted proposals (pending funding support) to work closely with the rough sleepers in reducing the issues in Milton Keynes, due to a feeling of intimidation from the general public. Local business groups and members of the public are advised not to hand cash or food to rough sleepers as it encourages the situation.

Groups have started to gather again at Lloyds Court in relation to drinking and begging. Thames Valley Police are aware of this and as this is a drinking control zone, the Police do move these people on and take the drinks from them when they can. If I see anything, I report it to the local Police Community Support Officer to take action.

Highways and Maintenance

Requests logged: 11

Resolved: 3

Outstanding: 8

Types of job and locations

- Eight paving slabs at Witan Gate East to the side of the Army Centre reported on 28/04/15 – awaiting action
- Three large curb stones out of place in the middle of the road outside All Bar One reported on 28/04/15 – rectified 29/04/15

During May 2015 an audit of pot holes in Central Milton Keynes will be carried out with issues highlighted to Milton Keynes Council for resolution.

Littering (including shopping trolleys)

Requests logged: 15

Resolved: 15

Outstanding: 0

Types of job and locations

- 32 trolleys reported during March/April. All were collected.

The first litter pick of 2015 was held on Thursday 23 April in association with McDonalds, Keep Britain Tidy and Love Where You Live. This was attended by over 50 people and over 30 bags of rubbish were collected. Pictures can be found below.



A new strong style butt bin has been successful during a trial period during March. This bin holds 550 cigarettes. This will reduce butt ends on the floor when more are installed around the city. Over 50 bins have been ordered by stakeholders including centre:mk, intu Milton Keynes, Santander, MK Community Foundation, MK Council and CBRE. Bins will be in place by the end of May. See picture below.

I am arranging a fixed penalty operation with the Environmental Crime Unit at Milton Keynes Council for May 2015 near McDonalds and The Point, to tackle litter issues in this area. Education and engaging with the public has not worked as yet. Serco and McDonald's clean up daily but the public don't use the bins. Serco are installing new 90 litre bins and these will replace every third bin on a lamppost. These bins are also bird proof to prevent more litter being pulled from the bin. This is a five year project. I have arranged for some of the bins at Station Square to be relocated making it easier for businesses to use them. This has already eased littering issues. See pictures below.



Left: New bins. Centre: Litter at McDonalds. Right: Trial butt bin.

Graffiti

Requests logged: 40
 Resolved: 40
 Outstanding: 0

Most of these are small tags across the city, on bus shelters, in underpasses, on bollards and on bike shelters at the station.

Types of job and locations

- 15 tags in the underpass near Campbell Park all cleared by Serco within an hour. See before and after picture below. All other tags have been much smaller.



Business engagement

I have met with the following groups to set up projects around improving areas of Central Milton Keynes, and encouraging their workers to take part in projects near the location of their work place.

- Staff from McDonalds, Milton Keynes Council, thecentre:mk and Thames Valley Police attended the spring clean on Thursday 23 April
- Santander – butt bins order and general area walk about
- Cotswold Outdoors – issues regarding criminal damage
- Thames Valley Police (monthly JATAC joint tasking meeting)
- Safer MK and P3 (rough sleepers)
- Learn Direct/Job Centre – unpaid work projects in the community
- centre:mk – butt bins order and future dates set for spring clean events
- Serco – involved in project work and quick clearance of problem areas
- Network Rail – criminal damage and littering issues due to anti-social behaviour at cruise events on Sunday evenings. A multi-agency enforcement project is planned in this area to prevent these issues.

Planned projects from March 2015 - September 2015 include litter picks, cleaning street name plates, repainting bollards, bike stands, railings and benches. Dates set are Thursday 21 May, Friday 21 August and a Rugby World Cup themed clean up on Wednesday 12 October, all between 12:00 – 2:00pm to coincide with work place lunch breaks.

Enforcement

One fixed penalty notice was issued in April and is fully paid. This fine was given at Witan Gate East. If payment is made within 14 days, the fee is reduced to £50. There have been no re-offenders to date, and the message continues to spread to the public.

Fly tipping issues in the Campbell Park area have been passed to Milton Keynes Council Environmental Crime Unit for further investigations and enforcement action. We are currently awaiting CCTV cameras to be installed to gather evidence. See pictures below.



Above left and right: Fly tipping issues in Campbell Park areas.

Engagement with residents

In April 2015 I have been working very closely with Dalgin Place residents on a number of issues including postal theft and fly tipping. Improvements continue to be made in these areas.

Residents at North 9th and North 10th Street continue with the garden project which is progressing every day. See picture below.



I resolved a noise issue in one visit in North 10th Street working alongside MK Council housing team and TVP on 27/04/15.

Planning has been progressing with Hilarie Bowman in setting up a resident forum for Central Milton Keynes. The first meeting took place on Thursday 26 March at Acorn House and was very well attended. The next meeting is planned for Thursday 18 June. The group is already growing in numbers and we hope to have twenty people at the next meeting.

Local issues outstanding

Broken railings outside CMK Library are ongoing.

There are ongoing fly tipping issues at the recycling bank on Upper 12th Street (high footfall area linking centre:mk, Theatre District and Xscape). MKC are unable to install cameras due to issues with power supplies. I am asking centre:mk if I can view footage from their CCTV camera on the corner of that street. Serco currently clean it but this needs enforcement action, or the bins need removing if they are not being used correctly. This issue is with the Enforcement Team at MK Council.