

## Street Warden Report May 2015

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

### Landscaping

Requests logged: 4

Resolved: 1

Outstanding: 3

Sight lines are clear.

#### **Types of job and locations**

- Sight lines at Grafton Gate near Network Rail. Resolved.
- Areas awaiting pruning: Market, Jury's Inn underpass; overhanging trees on Midsummer Boulevard near The Point.

Please note some types of landscaping jobs cannot be cleared due to bird nesting season. Trees can be cut back if they are hanging over pathways, but if they are not, they must be left as they are to ensure the safety of birds that are nesting in the trees. These jobs will be revisited as part of the winter pruning programme.

### 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 May, 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: 3

Resolved: 1

Outstanding: 2

#### **Types of job and locations**

- 20 blocked drains in the location of Marks & Spencer, causing paths to flood during heavy rain fall. Awaiting inspection.
- 3 uneven slabs on Midsummer Boulevard near DHL building. Now rectified.
- 16 loose slabs on Witan Gate West (outside Bon Viveur).

A driven audit was undertaken of all boulevards in Central Milton Keynes to check for pot holes. No major defects were found, but a number of rough uneven road surfaces were identified at the front of Elder Gate whole section, along with a few smaller pitted holes on Silbury Boulevard and Midsummer Boulevard. Ringway, highways contractor, are aware of these and will rectify.

### Littering (including shopping trolleys)

Requests logged: 12

Resolved: 12

Outstanding: 0

### Types of job and locations

- 11 trolleys reported and collected
- 1 littering request near The Point after someone tipped all the bins out.

The second litter pick of 2015 was held on Thursday 21 May in association with McDonalds, Keep Britain Tidy and Love Where You Live. This was attended by over 60 people. Over 15 bags of rubbish were collected and 11 benches on Midsummer Boulevard and Avebury Boulevard were painted by our volunteers. See pictures below.



Above: Photos from Thursday 21 May's Love Where You Live spring clean event.

### Butt bins

On joining MKCCM a key priority of the Street Warden has been to deliver a more durable cigarette bin which would replace the current, less hardwearing 'butt' bins installed in the past five years by MKCCM. This need was identified due to a large amount of cigarette waste around Central Milton Keynes, particularly outside offices and retail areas. A new strong style butt bin has been successful during a trial period earlier this year. 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 middle of June and waste will be dealt with by the team at Serco. Further orders will be made as required by members and stakeholders.



### Graffiti

Requests logged: 61  
Resolved: 61  
Outstanding: 0

These jobs were logged at various dates across May 2015. Most of these are small tags\* across the city, on bus shelters, in underpasses, on bollards and on bike shelters at the station.

\* Please note a graffiti writer's tag is his or her personalised signature.

## Types of job and locations

- 9 tags in the underpass near Campbell Park all cleared by Serco within 30 mins, Serco crews in action removing it. See before and after picture below. All other tags have been much smaller.



Above: Before and after; graffiti at Campbell Park underpass.

## 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 Ringway Highways, with Residents from North 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets and Campbell Park residents attended the spring clean on Thursday 21 May
- Thames Valley Police (monthly JATAC joint tasking meeting)
- centre:mk – butt bins order and future dates set for spring clean events
- Serco – involved in project work and quick clearance of problem areas

Planned projects from June – September 2015 include litter picks, cleaning street name plates, repainting bollards, bike stands, railings and benches. Dates set are Tuesday 14 July, Friday 7 August (McDonalds led 24 hour litter pick), Tuesday 15 September and a Rugby World Cup themed clean up on Wednesday 12 October. All will be held from 12:00 – 2:00pm to coincide with work place lunch breaks.

## Enforcement

Five fixed penalty notice were issued in May. Four are fully paid and one remains outstanding. 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 cleared by Serco and no further action was taken.

## Engagement with residents

Residents at North 9<sup>th</sup> and North 10<sup>th</sup> Street arranged clearance of some fly tipping in Silbury Boulevard over the May Bank Holiday. Residents also attended the Love Where You Live spring clean event on Thursday 21 May.

Residents at Campbell Park have reported an improvement in fly-tipping and the pest control officer has reduced the issues of rodents at the bin areas.

Planning continues with Hilarie Bowman in progressing the residents forum for Central Milton Keynes. The next meeting is planned for Thursday 18 June. The group is already growing in numbers following the first meeting in March 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 12<sup>th</sup> Street (high footfall area linking centre:mk, Theatre District and Xscape). MKC are unable to install cameras due to issues with power supplies. Serco currently clean it but this needs enforcement action, or the bins need removing if they are not being used correctly. This area has improved over the past month