

Monthly Street Warden Report – in association with CMK Town Council January 2015

The following work has been carried out in January 2015, on behalf of Milton Keynes City Centre Management (in association with Central Milton Keynes Town Council).

Landscaping

Requests logged: 4

Type of job and Location.

12/01/2015 – x 2 trees with over hanging low branches outside the Post Office Midsummer Boulevard, logged for pruning, this job is awaiting action by MKC Landscape Team.

19/01/2015- Brambles over grown on the public footpath near the Army Centre, Witan Gate East. This job is waiting to be actioned by the MKC Landscapes team.

21/01/2015- Hedge for pruning in Witan Gate East starting to block the footpath. This job is logged for the MKC Landscapes team to action.

All other Landscapes and improved works continue across CMK until the end of March, including huge improvements near the Train Station, and Elder Gate, and the underpasses near Marks and Spencer and the Market area. A dramatic drop in rodent activity since the cutting back has taken place. Please find pictures on the final page of this report of the latest improvements around CMK.

Rough sleepers

There are approximately 5 rough sleepers in CMK, the main areas being CMK Rail Station, The Point, Marks and Spencer and an underpass nearest Jury's Inn. During my area patrols in January I have noticed a decline in rough sleepers. This could be due to the Night Shelter in commission until the end of March 2015.

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.

The Winter Night Shelter is live and will continue until 16 March 2015. This allows 15 bed spaces a night 7 days a week. Each client will be assessed for a space near Lloyds Court. Clients are able to book a bed for the following day, and this will not have an impact on the time support workers have with the homeless in finding them a more permanent accommodation, Clients are allowed a 28 day stay but this is flexible.

Highways and Maintenance

Requests logged: 62

Progress made: Resolved 39

Outstanding: 23

Details of the reports that have been logged

Damaged street sign Midsummer Boulevard. Reported 06/01/15 – fixed 09/01/15

Curb raised on Silbury Boulevard. Reported 12/01/15. Ongoing

Six loose slabs dipping and rocking on Silbury Boulevard Virgin Money. Reported 15/01/15. Ongoing

Damaged yellow bollard Grafton Gate on redway. Reported 15/01/15. Ongoing

Damaged bollard to side Santander Silbury Boulevard. Reported 15/01/15. Ongoing

37 day burners (street lights on during the day) along Midsummer Boulevard. Reported 20/01/15. Fixed 29/01/15

Rocks on the side of the road near the Law Courts possible Health/Safety issue. Reported 26/01/15. Fixed 27/01/15

Seven loose slabs on Midsummer Boulevard near the Job Centre. Reported 26/01/15. Ongoing

Damaged central road barrier on Silbury Boulevard opposite Nationwide Building Society. Reported 27/01/15. Ongoing

Six loose slabs in the underpass nearest Network Rail on Silbury Boulevard. Reported 28/01/15. Ongoing

Granite Blocks and faded street signs are not being actioned at the moment by Milton Keynes Council due to costings, but damaged street name plates are being replaced or fixed on request.

The path outside The Buzsy which was damaged has been fixed and repaired by the land owner. This looks much better and there are no more trip hazards.

Littering (including shopping trolleys)

Requests logged: Trolleys 18

Progress made: Trolleys 13 collected

Outstanding: 5

Trolleys are located mainly in the outer bays South and North Row and some in the central boulevards when the public do not return them after shopping.

Litter picks and clean ups have been requested on Midsummer Boulevard towards the Train Station and Elder Gate. This area looks untidy since the landscapes have been cut back, more litter is visible where the bushes had hidden it previously.

Graffiti

Requests logged: 40

Progress made: 38 resolved, 2 in progress. The main problem was the underpass at Elder Gate near Argos, this was targeted inside and outside and looked very unsightly to the general public. Serco and the Graffiti Team removed this within one day of it being reported. This quick response was welcomed and is normally only carried out when Graffiti is offensive. Please find pictures of this positive outcome on the final page of this report.

Business engagement

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

- McDonalds
- Xscape
- Milton Keynes Council
- Jubilee Wood school Fishermead
- intu Milton Keynes

The following groups have been met within January 2015.

- CMK Town Council Met 26/01/15
- Learn Direct Met 22/01/15
- Network Rail , Met 26/01/15
- Santander Met 24/01/15
- Serco street cleansing Met 22/01/15
- Centre:mk Met 23/01/15

Planned projects from March 2015 - September 2015 include:-

- Litter picks
- Cutting landscapes
- Cleaning street name plates
- Painting portes-cocheres
- Painting railings and benches

Enforcement

Three fixed penalty notices have been issued in January 2015 on Midsummer Arcade, Silbury Boulevard, and outside Marks and Spencer. All paid within the 14 day time which reduces the fee to £50.00. There have been no re-offenders to date, and the message seems to be spreading to the public.

Engagement with residents

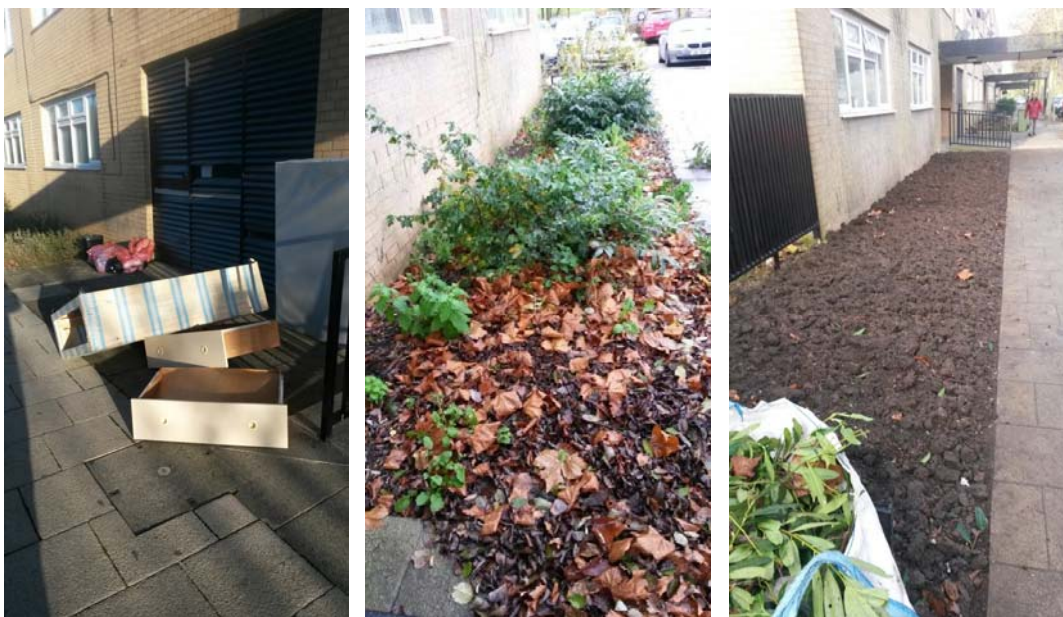
I attended the CMK Residents Association AGM on 27 January. This was well attended by the residents. Bob Stones was voted back in as chair. Moving forward the garden project to improve the area started this week with the support of Learn Direct who place people on projects from the Job Centre. Three workers will attend this project daily until the project is complete.

I have had a meeting with Hilarie Bowman in relation to setting up a resident forum with the Town Council work and getting more groups to engage in community led events. So I have had eight responses from various areas including, The Hub, Vision, Campbell Park and South Row. A follow up meeting will go ahead in February to progress further.

Local issues outstanding

- Broken railings outside the Library.
- Butt Bin Project new bins target date March 2015 fully installed.
- Recycling Bank on Upper 12th Street. MKC to install CCTV camera up because of the fly tipping issues in this high footfall area. Serco clean it but this needs Enforcement Action, or the bins need replacing or removing if they are not being used correctly.

Accompanying photos



Above left: Fly tipping on North 9th Street. Above centre: Landscaping in residential area pre gardening project. Above right: Landscaping in residential area post gardening project.



Above left: Graffiti on underpass near Elder Gate. Above right: Underpass near Elder Gate following graffiti removal.



Above left: Recycling bank at Upper 12th Street which needs attention. Above centre: Pathway outside The Buszy pre repair. Above right: Pathway outside The Buszy following repair.

