

CMK TOWN COUNCIL

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Welcome

from your
Town Council



You are now living in the parish of Central Milton Keynes (CMK). Thousands of people come here every day as visitors, or to work here, but you live here and there are lots of things about CMK that you might find especially useful. This leaflet is designed to enrich your experience of living in CMK by listing local venues and organisations that offer a variety of facilities for residents.

In CMK you are part of a community of over 5,000 residents and over 1,000 businesses, with both numbers rising every month. Your local 'parish council' is CMK Town Council, comprising eight volunteer councillors (who are elected every four years) and a clerk. This is your Town Council, working to make life better for the CMK community and working to influence the decisions and policies of the larger Milton Keynes City Council that impact on us all. The different responsibilities of a local town council and the council responsible for the whole of Milton Keynes are not always understood, so we thought it would be helpful to outline them (see charts to the right).

If you have any issues with services provided by Milton Keynes City Council, e.g., refuse collection, street lights, broken pavements etc., the easiest way to report them is through the council's website www.milton-keynes.gov.uk

You can contact CMK Town Council through our website www.cmktowncouncil.gov.uk or by emailing the Clerk directly (clerk@cmktowncouncil.gov.uk).

You can also engage with the Town Council through Facebook www.facebook.com/cmktowncouncil/ or follow us on X @CMKTownCouncil

The Town Council meets once a month and members of the public are welcome to attend. Look for information about the dates for these meetings, and minutes of past meetings, on the CMKTC website or our noticeboard outside the Central Library.

www.cmktowncouncil.gov.uk

Your CMK Local Area: *useful and interesting stuff*

CMK TOWN COUNCIL

Area of responsibility: the parish of CMK, which consists of the city centre and Campbell Park.

These two grid squares form a block of land 3.5km X 1.00 km extending from MK Central Railway Station to the Grand Union Canal, and from Portway (H5) to Childs Way (H6).

Income: small, from a small amount of the council tax (called the parish precept).

Staff: 8 elected councillors, clerk, part-time temporary 'contractors' employed on limited projects.

CMK TOWN COUNCIL SERVICES

Representation: supporting the well-being of CMK residents. We represent your voices and opinions to MK City Council and other organisations.

Evaluation of local needs: exploring opportunities for improving community, cultural and leisure activities in the parish.

Dog waste collection: ensuring regular collection of waste from the 3 bins located within Campbell Park.

Consultation: with Milton Keynes City Council on planning applications and other matters affecting our residents.

Offers: small grants to local organisations for activities of benefit to CMK residents.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL

Area of responsibility: the whole of the borough of Milton Keynes.

Income: large, from Government grants, council tax, business rates, sales of land and property.

Staff: 57 elected councillors, over 2500 directly employed staff and others in subcontracted organisations.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL SERVICES

Delivery: of services to the whole borough of MK as specified by the Government of England.

Provision of 'social' services: e.g., libraries, social care, housing, local transport, street lights.

General waste collection: i.e., collection of household and commercial refuse, plus waste disposal.

Planning and development: all aspects across the Milton Keynes area.

Major funder: for many MK activities and services.

Getting the most out

Getting involved with your CMK community networks

People enjoy living in communities where neighbours look out for each other. There are many ways of doing this.

Thames Valley Police

If you are a victim of or a witness to any event that you think could be a crime, including domestic abuse and traffic accidents, you can report these through the Thames Valley Police website at www.thamesvalley.police.uk/, or by dialling 101. But if you feel that anyone is in immediate danger, phone 999.

Thames Valley Police Community messaging

You can register to receive Thames Valley community messages with information, crime alerts and witness appeals for your area.

See www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk



Neighbourhood Watch

You could join a local Neighbourhood Watch Group, or even start one yourself if you can't find one that covers the street where you live. Being a member of a Neighbourhood Watch Group gives you access to advice on how to keep yourself and your property safe; it will also put you in touch with your neighbours so you can share information specific to your street and work together to keep it safe.

You can find information about local schemes at: www.mknhwa.org.uk

CentreCom Community Centre

602 North Row, MK9 3BG

Centrecom is a busy community centre where many local voluntary groups and clubs hold their meetings, and which also acts as the venue for faith groups and yoga classes etc. The schedule of activities can be found here: www.centrecom.org.uk

Community Action MK

Acorn House, 351 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3HP. 01908 661 623 communityactionmk.org

Volunteering in an area of life you care about, be it encouraging local wildlife or helping vulnerable people, will bring you both personal reward and new friends while improving your local community for everyone. Search the Community Action website for the kind of volunteer activity that interests you.



Enjoy your local green spaces

We have a number of parks in our parish.

Campbell Park is a large, award-winning green space containing a variety of landscapes, wildlife and art works. Visit www.theparkstrust.com/parks/campbell-park. It is also the venue for various festivals and events that take place each year. The Park is managed by The Parks Trust, an organisation that also looks after most of the open green space in Milton Keynes.

Fred Roche Gardens is a small park behind the church of Christ the Cornerstone. It is managed by the Fred Roche Foundation: www.fredroche.org/#about.



It is a quiet place to sit in the middle of a busy day within 5 minutes' walk of the main shopping area.

Grafton Park is the smallest and least well-known park in CMK; close to the railway station, off Lower Second Street.

It's a little oasis close to the busy transport interchange of Station Square.

Secklow Hundred Mound (Ancient Monument)

Behind the main Library and between North 8th and North 9th Street is a small green space with a low mound covered with grass and trees. It is the site of an Anglo-Saxon court or meeting place called a 'moot'. Stop there to sit for a while and imagine yourself to be an Anglo-Saxon resident of Milton Keynes.

of living in CMK

Local walks, cycle ways and the canal



Milton Keynes was planned as a city with excellent pedestrian and cycle ways. Some of these run just outside your home. You can find an interactive map of all the **cycle routes** across Milton Keynes at <https://getaroundmk.org.uk/cycling/where-to-ride>

There are also a number of **art and heritage trails** (see the MK Council website at www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/leisure-tourism-and-culture), some of which take in the public arts works in both the city centre and Campbell Park.



One walk will take you to all the artwork in Campbell Park. For information go to www.theparkstrust.com

'Look Again! Within CMK are a number of buildings and pieces of public art reflecting CMK's unique modern heritage in art, architecture and design. To find out what is around you, visit www.lookagainmk.city

The Grand Union canal runs through Milton Keynes; in CMK you join it from the bottom of Campbell Park near Overgate. There are excellent walking routes on either side of the canal and numerous bridges.

The Community Boat www.bmkwaterway.org/mkcommunityboatelectra/
The Bedford and Milton Keynes Waterways Trust owns a new, electric community boat. Crewed by volunteers, it will run short pleasure trips along the canal, starting at Campbell Wharf, but can also be booked for private events. Residents of the CMK parish qualify for a discount on ticket prices, and may also be interested in training to help crew the boat on a volunteer basis.



Canal and River Trust
07464 493922

London & South East - Canal & River Trust

The Canal and River Trust is responsible for running and revitalising over 2,000 miles of waterways in the UK. It works with communities, volunteers and local organisations to transform canals and rivers into spaces for public recreation and relaxation. The trust has a very active programme for volunteers wishing to help with work on the canal as well as guided canal-sidewalks. Look on its website for information www.canalrivertrust.org.uk



Getting around MK by other forms of transport

You can explore all your transport options at the Get Around MK website: <https://getaroundmk.org.uk>

Culture and Arts



Public artworks and arts trails

There are over 200 public artworks across the whole of Milton Keynes and many of these are here in CMK parish. To help you locate them there is an interactive map at www.publicartstrust.org/where.

Central Milton Keynes Library

555 Silbury Boulevard, Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes MK9 3HL. 01908 254050

CMK Parish is also the home of the Milton Keynes central library.

For information on how to register, borrow books and use the services provided here and at all other MK libraries, please go to www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/libraries



As well as its collection of books for children and adults to borrow there are also impressive artworks on display about Milton Keynes.

Visit the library website above.

MK Gallery

Exhibitions, Cinema, Music, Café/ Bar, Shop, Learning.

900 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3QA

Open Tue-Sun, 10-5pm. Open late for cinema screenings and events

MK Gallery is located next door to MK Theatre and provides a changing programme of art exhibitions, live music events and cinema screenings in conjunction with Curzon Cinemas. There is also a programme of activities designed with families in mind. An in-house café serves a range of lunch options, plus coffee, tea and cake.

Exhibition entry is free to Milton Keynes residents every Tuesday. For most up to date information please visit www.mkgallery.org

Childcare/ playgroup



While we do not have day nursery facilities in CMK, there are many situated around MK, including in the surrounding parishes of Fishermead, Oldbrook, Bradwell Common and Netherfield. To find out more go to https://www.daynurseries.co.uk/day_nursery_search_results.cfm/searchtown/Milton-Keynes

Cornerstone Toddlers Group 300 Saxon Gate West MK9 2ES

A drop-in toddler group that meets every Monday morning during school term time, between 10.00 – 11.30am. Run by volunteers, it is open to parents and children of any faith or none. There is a small cost for attending. www.cornerstonemk.co.uk/other-activities/cornerstonetoddlers/



Sports Facilities



Sports Central Elder Gate MK9 1EM sportcentralmk.co.uk/

Sports Central is a facility developed by MK Council and managed by MK College. It runs a programme of activities during the day, some for MK College students and some open to the public. Sports clubs book the multi-use pitches in the evening for a variety of games.

Places to meet for coffee



Baker's Room

Ground Floor, outside Unity Place (Santander)

Serving coffee, tea, freshly baked breads and sweet treats

Open 7am to 3pm
Monday-Friday,
8am to 2pm Saturday

www.unityplace.co.uk/food-drink/bakers-room

MK Gallery and Café/Bar

Just go to enjoy the food and drinks – from coffee and cake to wine and lunch. Seating outside and inside.

Open Tue-Sun, 10-5pm
www.mkgallery.org/about/

Homeground Café

1 North Sixth Street,
Milton Keynes MK9 2NR

A social enterprise café on the ground floor of the YMCA campus. Provides delicious food and beverages, and gives YMCA residents an opportunity to work and gain full independence.

See @HomegroundMK (Twitter) for the latest updates. www.homegroundmk.com/homeground-story/

The Cornerstone Café

300 Saxon Gate West,
Milton Keynes MK9 2ES

Inside the Christ the Cornerstone building. Offers teas, coffees, sandwiches, hot and cold snacks, and is open 9.00 am to 3.00 pm Monday to Friday. Seating inside and outside. Adjoining the café is Cornerstone Shop selling a range of cards, books and gifts as well as a range of Fairtrade produce.



Faith organisations



You will find a wide variety of faith organisations and places of worship across Milton Keynes, but in CMK parish there is just the one place of worship.

The Church of Christ the Cornerstone

300 Saxon Gate West,
Milton Keynes
MK9 2ES

Christ the Cornerstone is a Christian ecumenical partnership of five denominations; the first of its kind in the UK. A chapel is available for private prayer whenever the building is open and pastoral workers are available Monday to Friday to help with personal problems.

The Church is part of a community building, managed by Cornerstone Trading (MK) Limited, and used by a wide variety of groups, including Tai-chi, Slimming World, choirs and orchestras, Centre for Integrated Living, English Language House. A variety of rooms are also available to hire for private events, parties and teaching.

There is a Roman Catholic Mass in the Church on Saturday afternoons and ecumenical services on Sunday mornings.

The website www.cornerstonemk.co.uk/ provides updated information about all religious services and activities.



www.cmktowncouncil.gov.uk



CMK West Ward:

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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 City 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.