



Hope you enjoyed the summer and managed to get to some of the great events that were held in Milton Keynes.

Did you know....

Milton Keynes was chosen as a new town on the 23rd January 1967 and the population has almost quadrupled since then. Watch this space for news of celebrations throughout 2007 to mark 40 years of success.

Robbie Williams Plays The Bowl

Five Concerts are being held in September – Thursday 14th, Friday 15th, Saturday 16th, Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th (Robbie gets a day off on Sunday). 65,000 concert goers are expected at each show, with half arriving by car. As 4 of the concerts are being held on weekdays there could be disruption to traffic. Milton Keynes residents and those planning to travel on any of the grid roads near the National Bowl (located on V4 Watling St, South of the City) or in and out of the City on these dates are advised to allow extra time for their journey. You can log on to www.mkweb.co.uk/bowl for the full list of restrictions.

Out and About in Central Milton Keynes

Put on your walking shoes and explore your city centre. **A Map for Walking** will help you find your way around Central Milton Keynes, including Campbell Park, and our rich collection of public sculpture. The map is now available from libraries, shopping centres and other outlets or contact mapdistribution@miltonkeynes.gov.uk for copies to distribute.

Station Square Makeover

Exciting things are happening in the Square! A temporary Arts Installation by Milton Keynes Gallery (MK-G) is due to arrive by early October, watch out for this temporary installation by Wolfgang Weileder. You can give your input on the Public Arts Strategy and the type of public art you'd like to see in the Square in the future. Find out more at www.culturemk.org

The maintenance upgrade work mentioned in the last newsletter, including painting, paving replacement, removal of old street furniture, and new road markings has been carried out and a new cleansing regime has been introduced. A second round of improvements will follow in the next few weeks.

Two New Hotels, perfectly situated for leisure, business and travel - Ramada encore and Jury's Inn hotels at CBX III in the West End of the City are now open;

Ramada encore is a vibrant and upbeat hotel offering 159 comfortable and contemporary guestrooms, all with en-suites. For more information visit www.encoremiltonkeynes.co.uk

Jurys Inn offers superior 3-star accommodation as well as dedicated meeting rooms, bars and restaurants. With 279 spacious bedrooms it's the largest hotel in the city and the newest. <http://miltonkeyneshotels.jurysdoyle.com/>

To help **keep our City Clean and Green** around 60 recycling bins are being located around the city centre by MK Council; one side for cans, plastic and paper, the other for general litter. Please make good use of these and support this important initiative.

What's Planned For Your Milton Keynes? The Chamber of Commerce is holding an Event on 19th October to inform on Transport and Parking in the city. For more details click on the link <http://www.mk-chamber.co.uk/events/events.asp?cat=4>

Highway improvements to ensure that Milton Keynes' highway infrastructure can safely and efficiently handle the projected increase in traffic as the city continues to grow have been given the green light.

Construction will start on 4 September 2006 and is expected to go on until April 2007 as part of a £4 million programme of works comprising:

- Widening of carriageways on Portway Roundabout (junction of the A5 and H5) and approaches

- Widening of carriageways on North Grafton Roundabout (junction of the V6 and H5) and approaches
- Realignment of the Elder Gate Junction with Portway (H5)
- Adding traffic signals to Portway Roundabout and the Elder Gate Junction

Traffic management will be in place outside of the weekday morning and early evening rush hours and will be suspended for the Robbie Williams concerts and during the Christmas and New Year shopping periods.

Other Temporary Road Closures during Developments

Witan Gate and Avebury Boulevard junction is closed for four weeks from 14th August until 13th September. During the road closures new underground services have been installed at the Witan Gate & Avebury Blvd junction in preparation for the construction of a new pedestrian crossing. Access to car parks is still available via Avebury Blvd and diversion signs are in place. Planned completion for the crossing is the end of this year.

M1, Junction 14 Gateway

Key elements of the scheme are:

- Improvement of Northfield and J14 Capacity
- Widening of A509 between Northfield and J14 to 3 lanes in each direction
- New Coachway and 'Park and Ride'
- New Access to Coachway and 'Park and Ride'

Work is due to begin in January 2007 and should be complete by March 2008.

Consultations

It's Your City and you still have time to respond on how the city will grow to **2026**. Consultations on the Growth Strategy have been taking place at various venues throughout the summer and responses are required by 30th September 2006 (extended from 15th September). To find out more visit www.mkweb.co.uk/mk2031consultation

Waste Development Plan Document is available for public inspection from 17th August to 28th September 2006. For further information log on to www.mkweb.co.uk/local_plan_review or telephone 01908 252611.

Consultation on the **Public Art Strategy** ends on 19 September 2006. For more information visit www.culturemk.org

Central-CMK Framework SPD

Consultation period ended on 7th July 2006 and all representations have been processed. The Document and recommended amendments from the consultation process will be presented to MK Council Cabinet on 26th September 2006.

Developments

CBX III/The Hub – Witan Gate, between Midsummer and Avebury Boulevards

Both hotels are now complete (as mentioned above) and construction on all other buildings continues. The first block of one and 2 bedroom apartments should be completed by mid to end 2007. The underpass is due to open in 2 weeks time. It is estimated the whole site, including quality bars, cafes and restaurants around a landscaped central square, will be completed by 2008.

Sainsbury's - Avebury Boulevard, Witan Gate (Eastside) and Child's Way (H6)

Work on this 10k sq m state-of-the-art Sainsbury's store, along with 440 apartments and townhouses, retail, commercial, leisure units and basement level parking spaces started on site in February and completion is expected end of 2007.

CMK West End – Between Avebury Blvd & Childs Way and Witan Gate & Grafton Gate

This development benefits from an element of European funding and includes plans for a new 420 place combined school which is due to open for September 2009. There will be approximately 650 apartments and townhouses and commercial and retail space. A Combined Heat and Power system (CHP) currently being installed at the rear of the CBX buildings will supply electricity and heat to the area, giving substantial savings in costs as well as helping the environment. A developer will be selected early 2007 to start Phase 1 by September 2007.

Travel Lodge Car Park - Portway/Grafton Gate

Approval has been given for development of the private car park to the rear of the Travel Lodge for 24 apartments and 25 hotel bedrooms (as an annex to the existing hotel) on 5 floors and retail and restaurant buildings facing onto North 2nd Street by developers, Abbeygate.

Campbell Park

Phase 1 – Columbia Place/Dalgin Place to the South West

Work on the 280 environmentally friendly homes with underground parking to be built by developers, George Wimpey UK Ltd is due to start on site in Spring 2007 with completion expected during 2009.

Phase 2 (Marina) – South East of the Park

Plans for this exciting development include diverse retail, residential and leisure opportunities. The assessment of tenders for the project will take place by the end of January 2007 with the announcement of the winning bidder to take place by April 2007, following the appropriate English Partnerships and Milton Keynes Partnership approvals. Work is due to start on site late 2007 with completion expected during 2010.

Theatre District

Phase 2a – Midsummer Boulevard/Garrick Walk (near Hog's Head)

50 residential units, 3 restaurants and an underground car park – due for completion June 2007.

Phase 2b – Avebury Boulevard/Garrick Walk (near the Rat & Parrot)

Plans are being drawn up and include hotel, retail and leisure.

Contact www.mkweb.co.uk/futurecmk/home.asp for more information on all CMK Developments

You can also visit our Development Information Sites in Middleton Hall, thecentre:mk and opposite the clock (between Ponti's and Debenhams) in Midsummer Place.

If you would like a copy of this year's **Local Events Calendar** which lists most community events in Milton Keynes as well as many other key events, please e-mail kate.wakefield@cmkpartnership.org and we will forward it to you.

If you are holding an event in 2007 which you would like entered into the calendar, please contact us.

Proms in the author's. Please forward any corrections, suggestions and additional names and e-mail addresses to either Kate or Kay for anyone whom you think may be interested in receiving a copy.

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