

Wavendon Snippets for January 2021 – Cllr David Hopkins /

Cllr Victoria Hopkins/Cllr Alice Jenkins

I wanted to write to you that we have taken the difficult decisions to suspend food and garden waste collections from Thursday 14 January 2021

There has been a significant increase in the amount of waste the Serco crews are collecting - about a 40% increase from this time last year and a 70% increase in glass. COVID-19 has also had a significant impact on us all, and in MK the cases are seriously high. As a result of reduced staffing, we're suspending food and garden waste collections throughout MK from Thursday 14 January until further notice in order to protect our weekly residual and recycling collection.

The Food and Garden Waste suspension will be reviewed weekly and we will look to give as much notice as possible when the service restarts. In the meantime, we are asking residents to dispose of food waste into black bags and keep any green waste in the garden.

MK's HWRCs 'tips' remain open, although we do ask residents to consider whether any journey is essential, in light of the national lockdown. Black bag waste and clear recycling sacks will continue to be collected on the regular collection days. The waste collection pilot remains unaffected.

We appreciate this is an inconvenience to residents, and we are sorry for this. We will continue to do our best, with the support of our partners, to maintain services under difficult circumstances.

We're doing everything that we can to continue to provide essential services in these extreme circumstances and we thank you for continuing to support our crews as front line key workers.

Press release <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/pressreleases/2021/jan/suspension-of-food-and-garden-waste-collections-from-thursday-14-january-2021>

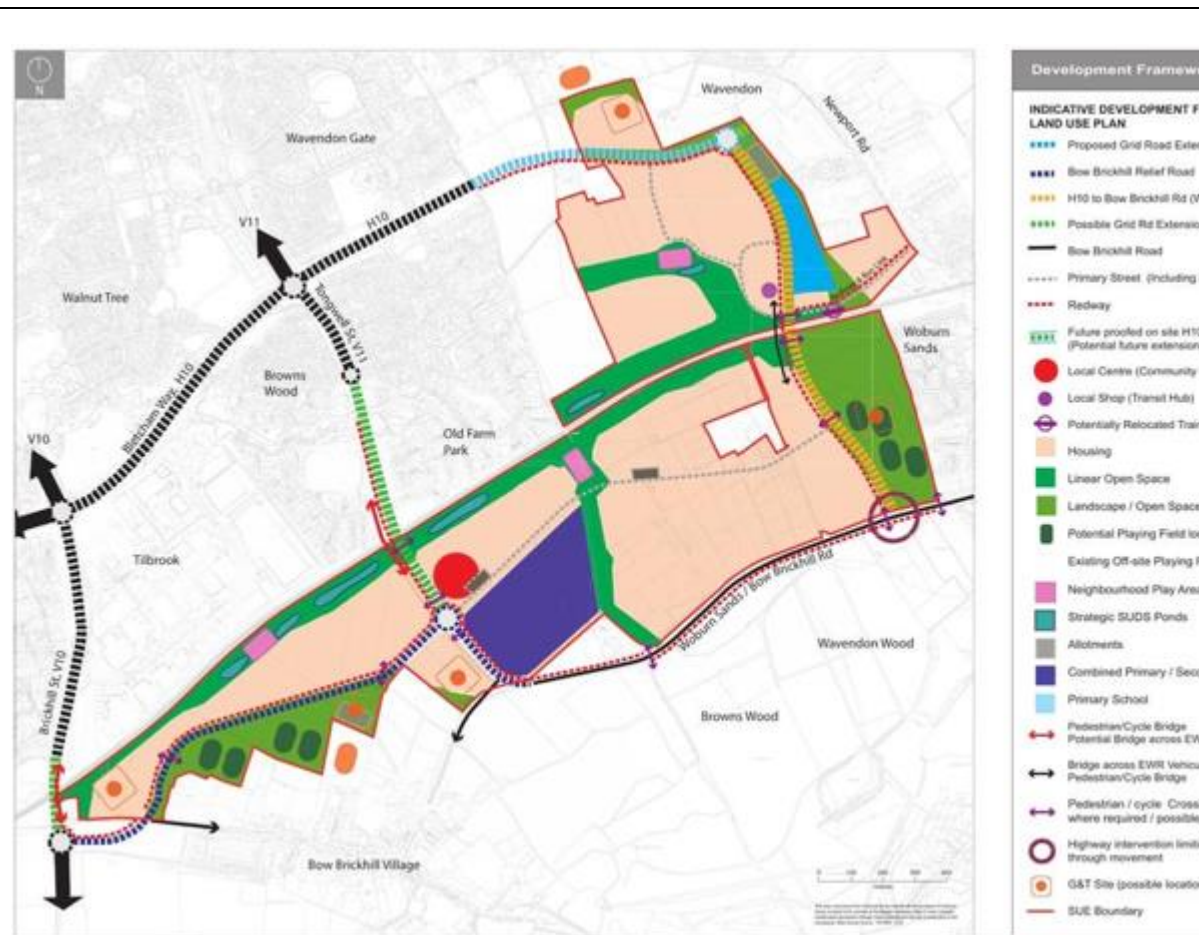
The website will be updated and we are looking to run a radio advert campaign to reach as many people as possible, with social media posts and e-alerts.

We need your help to ensure that this important information is shared as widely as possible, particularly for those without access to the internet.

Thank you for your help and support in sharing this important information.

Emily Darlington - Cabinet Member for the Public Realm

Mobile: 07748808468



South East Milton Keynes

Cllr Peter Marland (Leader of MK Council) will launch the draft SPD (on 26 January) that will go out for 12 weeks consultation.

Where do I find out more about Milton Keynes Council's plans for South East Milton Keynes?

The documents are published at <https://milton-keynes.cmis.uk.com/milton-keynes/Calendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/6696/Committee/1354/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

Contact point at MK Council is Sabina Kupczyk (Principal Planning Officer - Development Plans)

E: sabina.kupczyk@milton-keynes.gov.uk

T: 01908 253132

W: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/>

Milton Keynes Council | Planning Service | Planning, Strategic Transport and Placemaking | Civic |
1 Saxon Gate East | Milton Keynes | MK9 3EJ

MK 2050 - Council, 20th January 2021

Strategy for 2050 amendments agreed cross party

Changes agreed to the text in the strategy for MK 2050 to make it broadly more acceptable. Changes agreed under the following headings

- **Seven Big Ambitions**
- **Greater Milton Keynes**
- **Sustainable Neighbourhoods and Buildings**
- **A Green and Blue City**
- **Managing water and preventing flooding**
- **A Mass Rapid Transit Network**
- **Getting the right mix**
- **Increasing the supply of affordable options**
- **Skills for the future**
- **The scale of jobs growth**
- **Mobility for All**
- **How innovative mobility services can help**
- **The road network**
- **Achieving our Big Ambitions**



East West Rail Project

November 2020 saw a number of significant announcements and publications by the Government that are relevant to the work of the East West Rail Consortium.

The publication of the Government's 10-Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution – launched by the Prime Minister on the 18th November – sets out the actions that the Government will promote in keeping with the commitment to deliver on the legal requirement to achieve net zero carbon no later than 2050.

The Plan includes as one of the 10-Points the need to deliver on investment in walking, cycling and public transport. A week later on the 25th November the Chancellor of the Exchequer presented the outcome of a one-year Spending Review. At the same time the Government published its long-awaited National Infrastructure Strategy.

The National Infrastructure Summary included within its list of projects a commitment to deliver East West Rail.

The Spending Review confirmed funding to enable delivery of the Bicester to Bletchley section of the Western Section but was silent on the other elements of the Western Section – the link between Milton Keynes and Aylesbury (which in the longer term enables the services to link

Northampton – Milton Keynes – Aylesbury – High Wycombe – Old Oak Common) and the Bletchley to Bedford section (the Marston Vale Line).

The reaffirmation of East West Rail as a project of national significance is to be welcomed, all the more so given the statement by Government that it will prioritise investment away from London and the South East. The cessation of work on the development of Crossrail 2 is arguably an example of this emphasis having implications for the wider region.

The Consortium has a well-established position in that the East West Rail project (including improvements taken forward as the Eastern Section) needs to be delivered in full if it is to realise its potential to transform east-west connectivity

The silence on the two outstanding components of the Western Section may simply be a question of timing. The East West Railway Company continues to work with local partners **through the East West Rail Consortium** to develop detailed proposals for both the Western Section and Central Section. However, delays in the delivery of the project – both in terms of individual elements and the overall project – will have consequences for the ability of partners to deliver planned levels of growth in a way that is sustainable.

Whilst it may be viewed that the announcement of funding to deliver Bicester to Bletchley demonstrates continued commitment by the Government to the project, the commitment to give greater priority to investment elsewhere is likely to mean that partners from across the region will need to re-make the case for East West Rail during 2021.

The East West Railway Company – which has been set up to deliver East West Rail – is best placed to initially respond to queries regarding East West Rail's route, design, construction, future operation, procurement, job opportunities and media enquiries.

The Company's website is <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/> and their contact form is
<https://eastwestrail.co.uk/get-in-touch#general-enquiries>

Also in the new year, the East West Rail Company (Consortium) will be undertaking further consultations relating to the Bletchley to Bedford part of the Cambridge to Oxford rail link. It is still anticipated that trains will be running from Bedford to Oxford by 2023. It is understood that this will be a major consultation looking at the future of some of the road, foot and bridleway crossing points, the future of some stations along the route and indeed the possible moving of some stations or creating new station stops. Again, (working with your Community Council) we shall ensure you are kept informed of this consultation and the response mechanism etc.

The East West Rail Company's website is <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/>

And your local MP is Iain Stewart MP - Member of Parliament for Milton Keynes South
iain.stewart.mp@parliament.uk

School Crossing, Woburn Sands – note from Davina Millership (Head of Highways) *Cllr Hopkins, a few more exchanges both in writing and meetings with Stuart Proffitt and his equivalent at NR. NR provided an outline drawing on 16 December which was almost identical to what was provided as part of the consultation during the PI and we provided a technical audit response on 18 December. The latest advice from our legal is that we meet again before any formal action. The earliest date they have agreed to is this Friday 15th Jan, at 3pm.*

The purpose of the meeting:

Purpose of the meeting is to discuss NR's response to the technical audit and NR's delivery of the works to provide an alternative route under the requirements of the Act.

Davina Millership - Head of Highways

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<http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/>



Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan - have your say

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan LCWIP@milton-keynes.gov.uk

The walking and cycling section of this consultation includes reference to key changes in the new Redway Design Guide, which will be adopted alongside this position paper. As well as the design guide the position paper is supported by technical reports on each of the topics covered which forms the evidence base. The paper has also been subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment screening and an Equalities Impact Assessment



The law and government guidance relating to what you can and cannot do as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19) is constantly changing as we continue to respond to the pandemic.

Make sure you are up to date with the latest guidance at gov.uk/coronavirus. The guidance will be different depending on which part of the UK you are visiting.

There remains a personal responsibility for everyone to reduce the spread of Coronavirus by adhering to the government legislation, following the public health guidance around social

distancing and hygiene, as well as getting tested if you have symptoms and self-isolating when alerted.

What you can and cannot do

From 5 January, the whole of England was placed into a national lockdown to slow the spread of coronavirus.

Find out what you can and cannot do during the national lockdown.

Face coverings

To help control the spread of the virus it is now the law to wear a face covering on public transport and in most public indoor settings. A full list of when and where to wear a face covering can be found on Gov.uk. There are some exemptions to wearing a face covering, for example, for children under 11 or for people with certain disabilities. A list of exemptions can be found on the Government website.

The police can take measures if members of the public do not comply with this law without a valid exemption and transport operators can deny access to their public transport services if a passenger is not wearing a face covering, or direct them to wear one or leave a service.

If necessary, we can use enforcement powers including issuing a fine of at least £200. More information on fines and the enforcement of face coverings can be found on the Government website.

Business closures

To reduce social contact during the national lockdown, regulations require some businesses to close and impose restrictions on how some businesses provide goods and services.

Find out which businesses are closed and which businesses and services remain open.

What we are doing

We are patrolling and talking to people if we think they are doing something which is against the guidelines.

If there is a problem, we want to resolve it by communicating clearly and encouraging everyone to behave responsibly.

As a last resort we can enforce the coronavirus law. We have the power to:

If there is a problem we want to resolve it by communicating clearly and encouraging everyone to behave responsibly.

As a last resort we can enforce the coronavirus law. We have the power to:

- disperse gatherings of seven or more people who aren't from the same household
- remove a person from a gathering to their home
- close any premises which are required to be closed under the legislation

The tool will enable the development of meaningful and locally appropriate carbon reduction strategies by parish councils that allow them to support their senior (Unitary) councils with well-targeted activity that focuses on big-emissions sectors rather than spending time on well-meaning but low-impact activities. It will allow users to test out a number of scenarios designed to demonstrate the potential impact of different projects on their overall carbon footprint.

Parish council responsibilities can include planning, traffic calming, community transport, street lighting, allotments, bridleways & footpaths, car parks, commons and open spaces, leisure, litter bins and street cleaning, tourism and youth projects.

CSE's Annette Lamley said, "To tackle the climate emergency, we need the involvement of all levels of government, from the commanding heights of Westminster down to parish councils. The latter have a critical role to play being uniquely placed to inspire grassroots movements, set a leadership example and deliver practical local action.

And we know from the many requests for assistance that CSE receives from parish councillors that many are determined to play their part. So we're hugely encouraged by that BEIS (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy) has recognised the role of parish councils and is funding a project to develop a community-level footprinting tool."

Schools update

sufficiencyandaccess@milton-keynes.gov.uk



Free School Meals (FSM) – national voucher scheme

On Wednesday 13 January, the DfE updated information on providing school meals during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This now includes:

- how to order FSM vouchers from the national scheme
- sending e-codes to families
- the supermarkets involved in the national scheme
- redeeming vouchers

According to the updated guidance, you'll receive an email from Edenred by 14 January, advising you how to either reset your password or activate your account for the first time.

Once you've done this, we understand you'll receive an email confirming when you can begin to order vouchers during the week commencing 18 January.

Although the vouchers will not be available until the week beginning 18 January, support provided since 4 January can be claimed back from the DfE.



Explore the Greensand Country from your home

Explore the Greensand Country from your home

As a resident of Danesborough & Walton you are in the fortunate position of also being a resident of Greensand Country.

Some of you will be aware of this beautiful and much-loved landscape of the Greensand Country

Or if you prefer to connect with nature you could try otter spotting on the River Flit. If you're lucky you might see an otter hunting in the river, or signs that an otter is nearby. Look out for bubbles under the water or slipways made by the belly of a sliding otter.

Greensand Country is a place where people feel able to slow down, unwind and connect with nature. Somewhere to escape urban life, breathe easy and feel uplifted. Come and discover it for yourself!

To find out more go to www.greensandcountry.com. As a resident of Wavendon you are in the fortunate position of also being a resident of Greensand Country.

Some of you will be aware of this beautiful and much loved landscape of the Greensand Country which is defined by the Greensand Ridge, a band of higher ground stretching from Leighton Buzzard to Gamlingay, which rises out of the surrounding vales to create a unique local environment.

Others of you may be completely unaware of just what is on their doorstep. The Greensand Country area contains all of Bedfordshire's remaining heathland, more than half of its woodland and 29 historic parklands. It is a landscape rich in wildlife and cultural heritage, with its own special qualities and sense of place. A 'green oasis' of peace and quiet, rolling countryside, breath-taking views and lots more.

In January 2017, a National Lottery Heritage Funded Programme was established to deliver up to 90 projects, helping to raise awareness of the heritage value of the landscape and to reverse the gradual decline in the distinct landscape character.

Led by a partnership of 24 organisations working together and co-hosted by The Greensand Trust and Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity, the vision was for Greensand Country to be a living and working landscape that is cherished by present and future generations.

The programme has achieved a number of major milestones, from creating new walking, cycling and horse riding routes, to rebuilding sandstone structures, training apprentices in heritage and landscape skills and the creation of the ever-popular Greensand Country Festival, which will return in May 2021.

The festival, like many others this year, was curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however the Greensand Country Festival 2021 is determined to come back with a bang. The month long event will be a celebration of the area, which encourages those living within the landscape to get out and explore the outstanding countryside on their doorstep.

Watch out for a comprehensive festival guide being delivered to your door. This guide not only covers the festival but the entire Greensand Country experience, giving you lots of ideas of where and what to explore for the whole of 2021.

Due to the Covid-19 lockdown people have been spending more time outside and this has been a great opportunity to explore the local landscape. Greensand Country has numerous trails available to cycle, run or walk which will take you into the heart of the countryside. But there is so much more.

There are numerous hidden gems to find and explore. Use the Greensand Country interactive map (Interactive Map | Greensand Country) to plan your day out. There are places to shop, eat and drink. Why not support local businesses, by enjoying great experiences and discovering unique products in Greensand Country. Stop off at a pub or tearoom after a day of walking to enjoy locally sourced, and home cooked food. Or shop for antiques and unique handmade crafts in one of Greensand Country's picturesque villages.

For a fun day out with the kids you could visit Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway. This is one of the last survivors of 2 foot (610mm) gauge light railways built in Britain for industrial use. There is also beautiful Moggerhanger House and gardens. This grade 1 listed Georgian House is located in 33 acres of stunning park and woodlands.

Or if you prefer to connect with nature you could try otter spotting on the River Flit. If you're lucky you might see an otter hunting in the river, or signs that an otter is nearby. Look out for bubbles under the water or slipways made by the belly of a sliding otter.

Greensand Country is a place where people feel able to slow down, unwind and connect with nature. Somewhere to escape urban life, breathe easy and feel uplifted. Come and discover it for yourself!

To find out more go to www.greensandcountry.com.

And finally ...

Danesborough & Walton

Current alert level in Milton Keynes – VERY HIGH ALERT – STAY AT HOME

<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/search?postcode=mk17+8lw>



MK COVID-19 Community Champion Scheme

We are calling on people throughout Milton Keynes to help us to reach their friends, family, neighbours, colleagues and thousands of other local people, with trusted information and advice related to COVID-19.

Throughout the pandemic, we have been keeping residents informed and up-to-date with local information and the latest government and health advice. In light of increasing infection rates and changing restrictions, keeping up-to-date with the latest advice is more important than ever.

Many people have wanted to help others throughout the pandemic but were unsure as to how to go about it. Being an MK COVID-19 Community Champion is an easy way to make a massive difference, by sharing the latest information and advice with friends and families. This could be via local Facebook groups, WhatsApp groups, social organisations and clubs that people are part of.

MK COVID-19 Community Champions will be provided with the latest information to share at the click of a button – it's that simple. It won't take up a huge amount of time, but it could really help make a massive difference in helping to keep our families, friends and communities safe.

Anyone interested in becoming an MK COVID-19 Community Champion should visit

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/covid-champions

to find out more information and sign up to receive updates from us. You can also email MKC here.

Covidchampions@Milton-Keynes.gov.uk

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/your-council-and-elections/covid-19-in-milton-keynes/mk-covid-19-community-champion-scheme>

