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Latest news and updates

from Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Deal Board

www.groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk



Groundbreaking Bletchley & Fenny

October 2024

Consultation report published

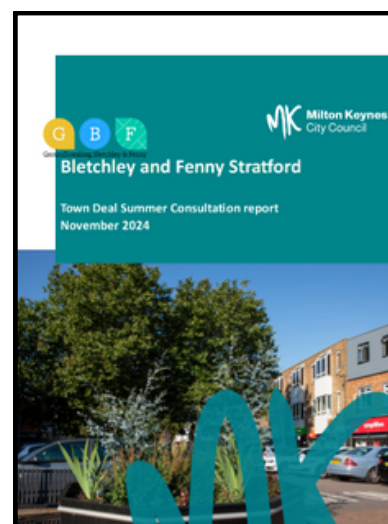
Many thanks to those who gave their time, views, and ideas on our Town Deal proposals for Saxon Street, Queensway and Aylesbury Street during the public consultation period which ran from 3 August – 22 September. We've produced a report of the findings and what they mean for the proposed plans.

The main issues respondents raised included the potential impact of the designs on traffic flow and congestion; and the lack of parking strategy and parking enforcement in Central Bletchley.

The report was the main topic at the Town Deal Board meeting on Friday 8 November at Challenge House.

Next steps include producing detailed designs which we will share with you in Spring 2025. Construction is expected to start in Summer 2025.

The full report will be available to read on Groundbreaking Bletchley & Fenny from Friday 22 November groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk



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Extraordinary Town Deal Board Meeting, Friday 8 November, Challenge House

- The Board agreed that the Aylesbury Street and Queensway projects will progress to the detailed design stage as per the city council's proposals.
- The Board agreed that, based on the public consultation responses to the Saxon Street proposals, further development is needed. The city council will now consider alternative options for this scheme and share revised proposals at a public consultation event in December. Details to come.

Updates... Updates... Updates...

The Programme Projects

There are seven projects to deliver in the £22.7 million Town Deal programme. Here is a brief reminder of what they are, including an overview of which ones have been completed and the status of the live projects.

Revolving Development Fund - ongoing

A fund to purchase key strategic sites around the area, e.g. the city council has bought the vacant site next to the Brunel Centre.

Transport Hub - public consultation report published. Review of proposals underway.

Exploring opportunities to improve the link to Bletchley train station and provide enhanced connectivity to and from the town centre, capitalising on the East-West Rail route.

Public Realm Improvements - public consultation report published. Detailed design work underway.

Improving public realm along the main commercial streets, Queensway and Aylesbury Street.

Redway Improvements - completed

Improving redway links between the Lakes Estate, Newton Leys and Blue Lagoon Nature Reserve to Bletchley town centre.

Technology Park Bletchley - on-going

Purchasing hardware and equipment to support digital skills development for the town, helping to upskill residents and students.

Transformation at Bletchley Park - completed

Renovating facilities at Bletchley Park to provide a new high spec, dedicated learning facility with accessible classrooms.

Active Marketing of Vacant Sites - On-going

Promoting Bletchley and Fenny Stratford businesses and providing support to the local economy. For more details about the programme please visit groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk

Updates... Updates... Updates...

Timelines

Our Town Deal timeline shows top-level stages of the projects for Queensway, Aylesbury Street, and Saxon Street.

Queensway and Aylesbury Street

Autumn 2024

Public Consultation Report presented to the Town Deal Board.
Detailed design work commences.

Winter 2024

Contracts finalised.

Spring 2025

Final scheme presented to the public.

Autumn 2025

Aylesbury Street construction work begins (two months).

Winter 2025/26

Queensway construction work begins (six months).

Saxon Street

November 2024

Public Consultation Report presented to the Town Deal Board.
Detailed design work commences.

Spring 2025

Final scheme presented to the public.
Costings, contracts and programming finalised.

Summer 2025

Pre construction preparation.

Autumn 2025

Construction commences.

Updates... Updates... Updates...

Site ready for redevelopment



The site includes the Brunel Centre, the former Sainsbury's supermarket, the ex Wilko store, and Stanier Square. The total site area is 2.6 hectares (6.4 acres)

The demolition of the former Sainsbury's store is now complete. The site will be prepared for redevelopment as part of plans to create a modern mixed-use development that caters for the future needs of Bletchley.

The procurement of a development partner for this area and the Brunel centre site has begun and will be formally launched in the New Year.

A few short-term leases have been completed with businesses in the Brunel Centre for the interim period. These include a lease with a hairdresser and a mobile phone retailer. Discussions for other short-term occupations are ongoing.

Business News... Business News...

Healthy interest in grant scheme

We're delighted that we've started receiving applications from local businesses and entrepreneurs for the recently launched business grants scheme.

The initiative, co-funded by the city council and Town Deal programme, supports the city council's vision to drive business growth and create jobs for local people. Local start-ups can receive up to £2,500, or established businesses up to £5,000. If your business could do with an extra bit of cash, apply now while the funds are still available.

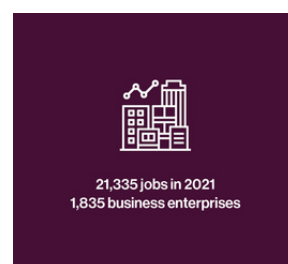
Further information including how to apply visit [Groundbreaking Bletchley and Fenny Stratford website](https://www.groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk/home/grant-scheme)



New narrative boasts to boost Bletchley and Fenny Stratford businesses

As part of the Town Deal programme, we've produced a business narrative, an oven-ready set of tools to help you promote Bletchley and Fenny Stratford as an attractive area for businesses to locate to and invest in. The toolkit comprises a Business Narrative brochure, a text version of the narrative, key facts and an image bank - all downloadable and free to use.

For more info and access to the tools visit [New Business Narrative for Bletchley and Fenny Stratford | Groundbreaking Bletchley and Fenny Town Deal](#)

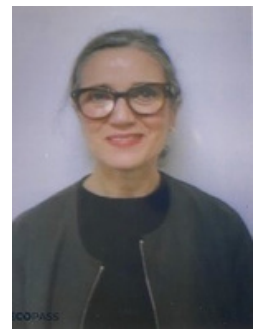


Other News

Community engagement officer joins the team

Samantha Lennon has joined the Town Deal team as Community Engagement Officer for the programme.

Her remit is to keep you informed of all things Town Deal. She will do this in various ways including producing this newsletter and proactively engaging with local people, groups and stakeholders.



Samantha is planning to host monthly Town Deal drop-in sessions so you can discuss with her what's currently happening on the programme and ask questions. You can also contact her by email:

info@groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk

Have you got 2050 vision?

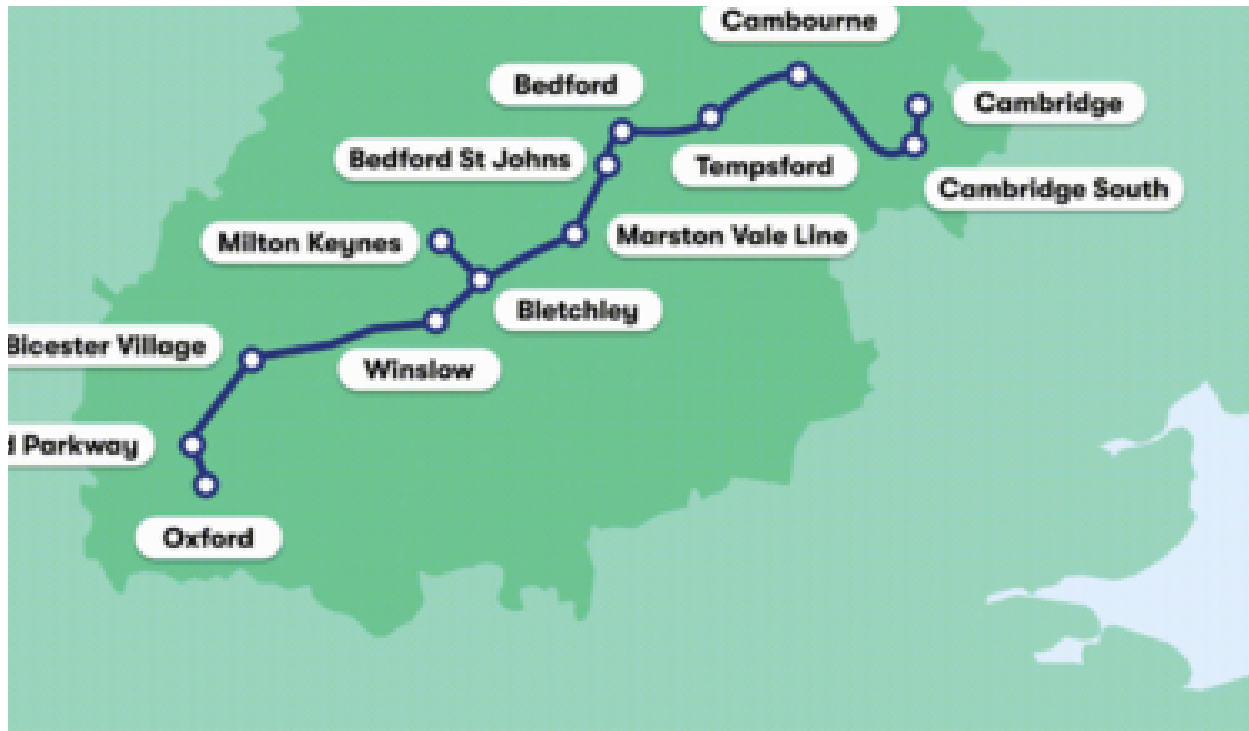
longside the Town Deal work, the team is producing the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford 2050 Vision.

The report will be informed through engagement with local stakeholders, potential developers, investors and residents. It will focus on the positive future for Bletchley and Fenny Stratford, and ensure that future planning decisions are made in line with the vision for the town.

We are planning to hold two public engagement events before the end of the year. So watch this space for details as we want you to have your say on shaping your town's future.



East West Rail: Have your say



You're invited to share your views on the proposals for the much talked about East West Rail (EWR).

The railway would connect communities between Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge, supporting sustainable economic growth and making it easier to reach jobs, education, public services and days out with family and friends.

As a significant train stop on the route, Bletchley and Fenny Stratford would benefit directly from EWR as businesses, entrepreneurs and investors would be increasingly attracted to the town by the opportunities for development, growth and innovation. The consultation will be open from 14 November 2024 to 24 January 2025.

There are 16 in-person consultation events during the consultation period which are outlined below:

Oxford, [Oxford Town Hall](#), 19 November 2024, 2pm - 7pm

Bicester, [John Paul II Centre](#), 21 November 2024, 2pm - 7pm

Great Shelford, [Shelford Rugby Club](#), 22 November 2024, 2pm - 7pm

Steeple Claydon, [Steeple Claydon Village Hall](#), 26 November 2024, 2pm - 7pm

continued

Continued/EWR in-person consultation events:

Bedford, The Grand Hall, 30 November 2024, 12pm - 5pm

Cambourne, Cambridge Belfry, 3 December 2024, 2pm - 7pm

Lidlington, Lidlington Village Hall, 6 December 2024, 2pm - 7pm

Bedford, Bedford Swan Hotel and Thermal Spa, 9 December 2024, 2pm - 7pm

Wilden, Wilden Village Hall, 11 December 2024, 2pm - 7pm

Tempsford, Stuart Memorial Hall, 13 December 2024, 2pm - 7pm

St Neots, St Neots Town Football Club, 7 January 2025, 2pm - 7pm

Comberton, Comberton Village Hall, 10 January 2025, 2pm - 7pm

Bletchley, Bletchley Masonic Centre, 15 January 2025, 2pm - 7pm

Woburn Sands, The Summerlin Centre, 17 January 2025, 2pm - 7pm

Cambridge, The Clayton Hotel, 18 January 2025, 12pm - 5pm

Cherry Hinton, St Andrews, 21 January 2025, 2pm - 7pm

For more information please visit [East West Rail | Consultation 2024](#)

Upcoming Events

Free business networking evening

Our next monthly business networking event for local Bletchley and Fenny Stratford entrepreneurs and business owners will take place on Tuesday 19 November 2024 from 5.30pm-6.30pm at DaVinci Café on Queensway.

This is a great opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and learn more about what's happening in the area. Light refreshments will be provided. Places are limited, please click [here](#) to book.



Let's Stay Connected

For more information on the Town Deal visit
<https://groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk/>

If you have any questions or queries, please contact
info@groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk

