Latest News



News from the Town Deal Team, working to renew and transform Bletchley and Fenny Stratford

February 2024

Town Deal Project Updates

Public Consultations



2024 is going to be an exciting year for Bletchley & Fenny Stratford.

We are looking forward to consulting with the local community and getting valuable feedback on two of our larger schemes:

1. Public realm improvements: which will help improve the main commercial streets of Queensway and Aylesbury Street, helping to revitalise the high-street and improve the pedestrian experience



2. Transport hub: will explore opportunities for upgrading the environment near the Bletchley train station and provide enhanced connectivity to and from the town centre.

We know that these schemes will be very important to the local community, so we are working with a Community Engagement specialist to help inform our plans for public consultation. We are planning to undertake this consultation in Summer 2024 and will provide further details on the proposals shortly. We are looking forward to hearing your views and getting your feedback on these schemes.

Bletchley Business Networking Event



Thank you to everyone who attended our monthly business networking event on 20 February at the DaVinci Café, Queensway. Great to see the business community coming together from entrepreneurs, business owners, commercial landlords to educators.

We are glad you could join us to network, make new connections and learn more about the Town Deal programme and all that's happening in Bletchley and Fenny Stratford.

Look forward to seeing you at future events.



Tree Stump Removal Programme



Milton Keynes City Council completed the removal of five tree stumps along the Queensway.

The grounds were restored, and the pavements were reinstated using similar surface materials.

The works undertaken enhance the aesthetics of the surrounding area and improves accessibility for shoppers and those using the high street.

We will be continuing to carryout works to improve the high street in the coming year.



High Street Works



Cleansing works took place overnight on 1st February along the Queensway.

The works focused on areas inaccessible to road sweepers such as, under the seats, around the posts and along the building edges.

Further cleansing works will be taking place soon, to include gulley cleaning to avoid surface water issues.



Bletchley Park



We are pleased to announce that the Transformation project of Block E at <u>Bletchley Park</u> has already made an incredible impact in helping to attract new visitors and learners.

Despite only opening last year, the Trust have already welcomed 11,540 learners in educational workshops (between June to December 2023) and have an additional 27,361 learners booked between January and the end of the academic year. In total, it has delivered 8 bespoke events, held public lectures and even held an event as part of the <u>City of Codes</u> and Light festival in 2023.

This transformation has been made possible through Town Deal funding as well as private contributions secured by the Trust. We look forward to seeing more local and regional visitors benefit from this facility, learn more about the unique heritage of Bletchley and visit our Town Centre.



Brunel Centre Redevelopment Brief



Milton Keynes City Council approved a blueprint for the future of The Brunel Centre and former Sainsbury's in Bletchley.

Following a consultation last year, the city council has reviewed feedback from the community on its Development Brief for the Brunel Centre. The document will inform the future use and design for the site to ensure it meets the city council's and local people's ambitions to revitalise Bletchley Town Centre.

The Brunel Centre Development Brief sets out a vision to deliver a modern mixed-use scheme, including new homes and shops in heart of Bletchley's town centre.

Milton Keynes Development Partnership (MKDP) will now look to market the site having regard to the vision set by Bletchley residents and businesses.

Read more here.



Demolition of Former Bletchley Police Station



Demolition of the former Bletchley Police Station situated on Sherwood Drive has been completed.

Milton Keynes Development Partnership (MKDP) is inviting offers from developers and the deadline for submissions is 5pm on Thursday 21st March 2024. Whilst this is no longer a Town Deal project, MKDP will continue to engage with stakeholders and communities in Bletchley on the proposals as they emerge.

Read more here.





Lakes Estate Regeneration



Work is underway to deliver Milton Keynes' first regeneration project on the Lakes Estate in Bletchley.

Building contractors GRAHAM have started onsite to build almost 200 new council homes, a nursery, community centre and retail space. The new homes will give Serpentine Court residents high-quality, energy efficient homes along with other people waiting for a new council home.

The plans are aimed at renewing the Lakes Estate, giving local people a greater sense of belonging and pride in their area.

Other News



Full Train Service Restored to the Marston Vale Line with £1 Ticket Offer



A full service has returned on the Marston Vale Line between Bletchley – Bedford.

<u>London Northwestern Railway</u> announced that from 19 February 2024 until 19 May 2024, travellers will be able to purchase £1 single tickets (£2 return) between Bletchley – Bedford.

See the train timetable here

Book your tickets here

Name your very own train on the Marston Vale line London Northwestern Railway have also announced an opportunity to name your very own train on the Marston Vale line to celebrate the return to a full timetable between Bedford and Bletchley.

Open to all age groups, London Northwestern Railway are looking for suggestions which celebrate people and places along the Marston Vale line. Entries can be made online or by completing a submission form which can be picked up at Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre and Tea Room.

The contest winner will have the chance to attend the Official Naming Ceremony at Bletchley Station.

Closing date for entries is Monday 4 March 2024.

Read more here.





Free Business Networking Event - March 2024



Come and join us.

On 19 March 2024 our next monthly business networking event will be taking place from 5.30pm – 6.30pm at DaVinci Café on Queensway, for local Bletchley and Fenny Stratford entrepreneurs and businesses.

This is a great opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and learn more about what's happening in the area.

Click <u>here</u> to book your place, spaces are limited.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Click <u>here</u> to view the full calendar of monthly networking events taking place in 2024.

Stay Connected

For more information on the Towns Fund, visit the Groundbreaking Bletchley and Fenny website:

https://groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk/



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

