## FAIRFIELDS FORUM



ISSUE 15 - SUMMER 24



Contact:

clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk Phone: 01908 736899

WWW.FAIRFIELDS-PC.GOV.UK



## 

## RESIDENTS QUESTIONNAIRE



A BIG THANK YOU to those residents who responded. We are listening, read on!

## **SUMMER PLAY SESSIONS**

#### CHILDERN SUMMER PLAY SESSIONS





We are currently looking at more up to date technology, so that you can dial in virtually and join our meetings in the comfort of your own home!



### **SURVEY RESULTS - WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?**

## **SUMMARY**

#### Listed below are the top 10 items that you are unhappy with.

- 1. <u>Bus shelter and community transport</u>. We continue to push Cllr Jennifer Wilson-Marklew, as the portfolio holder at Milton Keynes City Council for both Transport and Highways. Please refer to our website, under **Clerk Meeting Actions** where we post the monthly update on what we have done. <a href="https://fairfields-pc.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/">https://fairfields-pc.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/</a>
- 2. <u>Litter Bins</u>. We currently supply a litter bin on Apollo Green and the bins in the play parks are supplied and managed by The Parks Trust. We arrange litter picks and ask residents to keep an eye out for the dates, which will be advertised in the summer newsletter.
- 3. <u>Activities for elderly and lonely people</u>. We are working with the facilities manager at The Sports Hub to see when we can hire the hall as an interim, until our own Community Centre is built. We are also looking at what activities we can provide, any suggestions are welcome. **Email: clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk**
- **4.** <u>Community events</u>. As above. Please note that we do not have the capacity to put on any big events, without the help of some volunteers. This year we will concentrate on some smaller things. If you want to put your name down as a volunteer, please send your details to <u>clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk</u>
- **5**. <u>Community safety & CCTV</u>. We have budgeted for the purchase of a CCTV service through Crimewave. See page 3 regarding Police-crime.
- **6**. <u>Speed indicator devices</u>. We are looking into the option of various locations on both Apollo and Cicero and have met with Milton Keynes City Council Safety Officer. Next step for us is to consult with residents and collate data, so that we can put in a match funding grant application.
- 7. Community meeting spaces. See 3 & 4 above.
- **8.** Activities for young people. See 3 & 4 above.
- **9**. <u>Funding for community groups</u>. We have a grant funding budget where local community group can apply. If you would like more information, <u>email clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk</u>
- **10**. <u>Grass cutting & grounds maintenance</u>. This currently falls under Hegarty (management company), the developer and The Parks Trust.

We are working with the developer to get a detailed map which will show who is responsible for what. In the meantime, if you have anything to report, **email clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk** and I will direct you to the appropriate company/person.



### **SURVEY RESULTS - WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?**

## **SUMMARY**

#### **COMMUNICATION CHANNELS**

Based on survey feedback, the best ways to stay in touch, are as follows:



https://www.facebook.com/Fairfieldsmiltonkeynes



We have set up a RESIDENTS distribution list for those of you who wish to sign up to receiving the latest information from Fairfields Community Council. If you want to sign up email Vicky: clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk



#### www.fairfields-pc.gov.uk

We update our website with things like minutes, latest events, meeting action updates-including developer and Milton Keynes City Council.

We have responded to all 71 comments made by residents, head over to our website for the full details.

https://fairfields-pc.gov.uk

PLEASE CONTINUE TO LET US KNOW WHAT SORT OF EVENTS AND IDEAS YOU HAVE.



#### **Community Safety**

This was one of the top 10 issues you raised in the recent survey.

We had representation at the residents meeting held on 23/05/24. The PCSO asked that residents do log any concerns that they have, so that the police can build a picture of the 'hot spot' areas.

If something is in progress, then dial 999.
If something has happened and you have details, dial 101.

The more calls that the police get on certain incidents, the more they can build a picture, which helps them in the long run. Don't wait, hoping that someone else has reported an incident!

Head over to our website for the full details and notes from the residents meeting:

https://fairfields-pc.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/

# OUTREACH SERVICE STARTING JULY 2024

## Funded jointly by Fairfields and Whitehouse Community Councils



Citizens Advice Milton Keynes is a local charity that has been providing advice, support, and assistance to communities across the city since 1972.

The bureau advises people on important matters affecting their daily lives; such as debt, welfare benefits, and housing. They can also help you if you're having problems at work or you're going through a relationship breakdown and can refer you to a range of other organisations even if your problem is something they can't deal with.

For many people they have always been the first 'port of call' in resolving a range of problems that may be worrying them.

The charity has a large network of community-based outreaches across the city where people can access advice face to face, without having to attend the main office in Midsummer Boulevard.

From **July 2024** the bureau will be running an outreach service **every fortnigh**t for local residents living in Fairfields and Whitehouse.

All the advice services are free, confidential, and impartial.

Ben Thomas, the bureau's Director says the service couldn't come at a better time 'The cost-of-living crisis, rising energy bills and a pandemic have left lots of households
feeling overwhelmed by the last 4 years. Both Whitehouse and Fairfields are new and
growing areas of MK, but we've seen a steady increase in the number of contacts from local
residents since 2020. I would like to thank the Councillors and Clerks at both parishes for
agreeing to fund this new local advice service and I hope we can help as many current
residents as we can, as well as those who are moving to the area in the coming months.

Appointments can be arranged by scanning the QR code, once announced and completing a short form with your contact details on. Appointments will be held as follows and, from September onwards the locations will be alternated between locations on a fortnightly basis:

Fairfields Sports Hub (July and August)

Whitehouse Community Centre (From September onwards)

To help the adviser resolve your enquiry more quickly, it's always a good idea to bring any paperwork with you to the appointment that relates to your enquiry, for example – if you are having problems with your landlord or the property you rent, bring your tenancy agreement, and rent statement with you.

A local contact leaflet for residents will be distributed by Citizens Advice to every household at the beginning of July. This will contain a QR code for you to scan with your phone, which will take you to a short request form to book an appointment.

In the meantime, if you need to contact MK CAB for advice, their local phone number is 0808 278 7991, this does get very busy. People can also text the word ADVICE to 88008 and they will call you back.

## **EVENTS COMING SOON!**

Starting with the small things - Trial and error!



#### **COFFEE & CHAT**

Come and join us for light refreshments and chat with fellow residents.

Date: 24 July 24 (Wed) Time: 10h30-12h30 Venue: The Sports Hub



#### **QUIZ NIGHT**

We are looking at a quiz night in the last quarter of this year!





## SUMMER BASKETBALL COACHING

We are currently working with MK Breakers, who are offering some basketball sessions in summer over a 4-week period.

These will be held at the MUGA in our new play area, due to open. Interested;
Contact: clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk



#### GREEN/OUTDOOR SPACE

We have been liaising with The Sport Hub and have the chance to secure the use of one of their fields.

When? Thur evening(s)
17h00-19h00.

If there are any residents or local groups that are interested, contact:

clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk



#### LITTER PICKS

Join fellow residents on a litter pick!

Dates: Sunday 14 Jul, 15 Sep Time: 10h30-12h00 Meet: All Hallows Play

Park



STREET FOOD &
OUTDOOR GAMES

COMING SOON Stay Tuned



66

We will be opening our allotment sites for residents to come and have a look and see what it is all about!

#### MARIUS ALLOTMENT

Date: Saturday 17 Aug 24

Time: 10h30-12h00

#### MAXIMUS ALLOTMENT

Date: Saturday 17 Aug 24

Time: 14h00-15h30

have a question - just want to be nosey - fancy some fresh air meet other residents and your council team

Existing tenants might like to share experiences or even their abundance of produce!

Come and join us!

If you are interested in taking on an allotment and would like to find out more:

- 1. Come along to one of the open days.
- 2. Contact Vicky: clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk
- 3. Head over to our website: https://fairfields-pc.gov.uk/allotments/



## **NEW NOTICEBOARD**

COMING SOON - At All Hallows Play Park
RED marks the spot!







#### **BIODIVERSITY**

Under the 2021
Environment Act, public authorities (including town community and parish councils) operating in England, must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

By law we have to come up with a Biodiversity policy.

We welcome any volunteers who want to get involved locally in a working group.

Contact Vicky clerk@fairfields-pc.gov.uk

### What is a Hedgehog Highway?

A Hedgehog Highway is a 5-inch gap in a fence or wall allowing access for Hedgehogs.

These gaps are essential in the battle to prevent the extinction of our endangered spiky friends.

The Hedgehog Highway allows hedgehogs to:

- \* Forage for food
- \* Meet mates to breed
- \* Access nesting sites

Why should I get a Hedgehog Highway Surround?

- \* Hedgehog Highway Surrounds look super cute!
- \* They raise awareness to hedgehogs' struggle for survival
  - \* They create a talking point, encouraging others to create a highway of their own and take part in the project
- \* Money from the sale of every Hedgehog Sign is donated to help the rescue of sick and injured hedgehogs

Read more:

https://hedgehogsrus.co.uk/hedgehoghighway-project

We have purchased 150 Hedgehog Highway Surrounds, which will be available on a first come first serve basis at our local events!



### **Practitioners**

Conversations between young people and adults can be challenging, especially when it comes to talking about safety.

Stay True to You / https://staytruetoyou.co.uk



We provide support to groups, communities and the sector by educating, empowering and enabling people to champion the change they wish to see in their communities.

### Support for the Community in Fairfields

To get in touch with our team about pop up events, issues to raise, ideas for activities, getting involved in volunteering and generally shaping your community...

> Community Development Manager: Josan Race Tel: 01908 661623 / 07738 405371





# Wellbeing MK

## **Our Wellbeing Service** is here for you!!

Here's what they can help with (via Face to face, Zoom or Telephone)







This service can provide advice on many health and social care concerns.

Our friendly team are here to listen and support you, enabling you to gain control of your overall health and wellbeing.

For more information please contact: Whitehouse Surgery: 01908 872 500 Brooklands Health Centre: 01908 874 444 Neath Hill Health Centre: 01908 200 529

Men in Sheds MK is a registered charity, primarily, though not exclusively, for men. Many are retired or not working. The charity works in an informal way and is open up to four days a week. Members have the use of workshop space for wood and metal work, crafts, model making, art and electronic projects. We undertake all sorts of construction activities: making things for individual members and to fulfil commissions from the community.

https://meninshedsmk. org.uk/contact/

https://www.facebook. com/MenInShedsMK

A local independent charity providing support in Milton Keynes



Call Age UK Milton Keynes

01908 550700