

The Liberal Democrat Focus Team

Working & keeping in touch all year round



We've been working with the Council on recycling issues at Lovat Fields including:

- How high the pink euro bins are
- How heavy the lids are to lift
- The way they are often over-flowing
- The size of the reusable bags

We've asked the responsible Council officials to come out to meet the Residents' Association as soon as the COVID-19 regulations permit.

We hope we'll also be able to re-start our regular surgeries in the spring when lockdown ends.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHES

Since our meetings last year to encourage the formation of Neighbourhood Watches we now have 8 that are active.

We're also talking to the Police to see if it would be helpful for them to hold a voluntary list of domestic CCTV & ring bell systems.

For more information about how to establish a Neighbourhood Watch mail or text Uroy on

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656

MILTON KEYNES EAST

The Council agrees a Local Plan with the Government at regular intervals. Our most recent takes us up to 2031 and was endorsed by the Government in 2019.

We originally proposed a development of 5,000 houses in MK East as a reserve site but the Government required us to bring forward its start date to circa 2023 and negotiated a grant of £94.5 million towards agreed infrastructure costs thus saving MK Council tax payers that amount of money.

Bloor & Berkeley (St James) are shortly to submit a planning application for decision by the late autumn on which there will be full consultation.

Stronger Economy, Fairer Society

Opportunity for Everyone

Focus

Annual Report



Focus # 382

9 issues a year since 1979, not just at election time

Each March - the end of the Council year - we report on what we've done the previous year on all of the estates we cover - Brooklands, Broughton, Broughton Gate, Middleton, Milton Keynes Village, Oakgrove, Willen and Willen Park South

For more information mail or text Uroy on focusteam@live.co.uk or 07803 036 656.

ONE MILLION POUNDS

Thank you to everyone for the suggestions that have been flooding in since the Council's approval of Kerrie and Sam's motion that £ 1 million pounds be set aside over 3 years for schemes to improve traffic management and road safety in Willen, Broughton & Brooklands. We've listed these suggestions opposite.

We're also talking to Thames Valley Police (again) about a speed camera on Fen Street.

If you would like to be involved contact us for more information:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656



The Fen Street link over Broughton Brook is to be completed this summer. There will be a signalised junction where the Broughton Road and Fen Street meet. Uroy's also pressing for a speed limit.

To Contact Us

focusteam@live.co.uk

07803 036 656

www.focusteamlive.co.uk



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Suggested Schemes

Willen

Speed reduction measures on Landsborough Gate & Beaufort Drive, and similarly Aldrich Drive. Access from Millington Gate onto Danstead Way.

Broughton Gate

Introduction of a 20 mph zone like Broughton. Speed reduction measures on Watercress Way.

Brooklands

Also to be a 20 mph zone. Speed reduction on Broughton Grounds Lane. Measures to stop Montague Crescent becoming a rat run.

What do **YOU** think. Let us know on:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656

MORE LITTER PICKERS



Over the last year Uroy has built our network up to 32 volunteers covering 59 streets & redways. Contact him if you'd like to join on:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656

Working for you - Listening to your views - Getting things done

It's YOU - our residents - who help Uroy & the Lib Dem *Focus* team make all this happen - Thank you !



THANK YOU.....

...to all our residents who have done so much over the past year to collect for the Food Bank, keep in touch with people shielding, deliver hot meals to neighbours and many other essential activities. And particularly to those who work in the NHS or with care homes, or who have been ill.

WARD BUDGETS

Each year the Council gives Kerrie & Sam £1,000 each to spend within the area. In 2019-20 they helped:

Litter pickers for Uroy's network	£370
MK Scouts - new boundary fence	£330
New Community Boat <i>Electra</i>	£300
Church Without Walls (towards a gazebo for community activities)	£300
Replacement of a cherry tree (in Hopkins Close, Milton Keynes Village)	£250
Friends of Willen Church (towards work in the Churchyard)	£150
Broughton & MK Parish Council (towards purchase of a litter bin)	£150
Campbell Park Parish Council (for a sign on Aldrich Green)	£150

This coming year the Council is allocating an extra £1,000 to each councillor for grants specifically related to organisations & activities that will help our community recover from COVID-19.

If you would like to suggest groups that might receive grants please let us know on:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656



Uroy, Kerrie & Sam
The *Focus* team



WHEELIE BINS - AT LAST !

Following Kerrie's motion at the Council in June 2019 a decision on what kind of refuse collection we'll have from April 2023 will be taken later this month.

It will almost certainly be for wheelie bins with boxes where bins won't work. No more sacks less debris from those that have split and a likely increase in recycling!

The pilot project that Kerrie proposed and the recent city - wide consultation both showed clear support for wheelie bins, up to 76% from 35% in 2005 when the last major consultation took place.

Mail or text Kerrie for more information:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656



BROOKLANDS FOOTBALL

The new pitches at the top of Westergate were handed over to the Council some months ago, but for some reason bookings still aren't being taken

Uroy is trying to find out what's going on. Keep up-to-date on:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656



WILLEN VILLAGE

Tom Birch Anglian Water Area Manager has confirmed to Sam that MK Council, AWA & the Parks Trust have met and agreed to carry out work on the drain and the ditch/pond areas alongside the Milton Road. However the timing isn't clear yet & the Council has to find the funds.

Meanwhile AWA are coming back to investigate the non-return valve into the river.

For more information mail or text Sam on:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656



OAKGROVE BMX TRACK

We've been told It wasn't built in accordance with the original specification and significant remedial work is required.

There's no scheduled date for it to be opened as four organisations are involved – Crest Nicholson. their contractor, the Parks Trust and the Council. That sounds like a lot of lawyers!

Uroy has contacted Crest urging a resolution by the summer holidays so that the kids can enjoy it. Keep updated on:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656



Kerrie pressing for a zebra crossing on Countess Way last year. It's in place now.

2021- 22 COUNCIL BUDGET

In February we voted for a 2.5% council tax increase. Anything higher would have been very difficult for many people.

We successfully amended the budget to include an extra:

- £170,000 for child poverty
- £100,000 for more litter bins
- £ 65,000 for planning enforcement
- £ 50,000 for mental health
- £ 15,000 for volunteer flood wardens

Mail or text Sam for more information:

focusteam@live.co.uk
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