

Happy New Year!

Focus



Focus #399 on Willen and Willen Park

9 issues a year since 1979, not just at election time.
Written by Kerrie Bradburn

To CONTACT Us

focusteam@live.co.uk

07803 036 656

www.focusteamlive.co.uk



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@focusteamlive



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Milton Keynes East

At the time of writing we are still awaiting the first schedule of works from Berkeley St James for the initial works on Tongwell Street. **Vegetation clearance will begin this month** as this has to be completed before nesting season.

Residents of Chillery Leys have been engaging with Berkeley to see if some trees can be saved. As soon as we have a schedule we will share this through our website and email updates. Sign up here:

<https://focusteamlive.co.uk/en/subscribe-by-email>

The permanent closure of Carleton Gate has been provisionally confirmed for **22nd March 2023**.

Meeting slides

Email or text us for any of the slides from the liaison meetings on MK East.

focusteam@live.co.uk
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Ecological considerations

Berkeley St James' Ecology Consultant from HDA Ecology attended the October liaison group meeting and made us aware of some of the measures that will be used to **protect local wildlife** during and after development:

- the use of low-level lighting columns where appropriate
- LED lighting to be focussed on specific areas
- permeable crash barriers to be used
- the provision of gaps underneath the acoustic barrier
- an animal shelf to be provided under the bridge
- the use of features such as dropped kerbs, 'wildlife friendly kerbs' and the fitting of ladders into gully pots at key locations to void entrapment of small animals in the road corridor

Do you have any questions for the developer's ecology team?

Let us know:

focusteam@live.co.uk
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The Lib Dem **Focus** Team

Working & keeping in touch all year round

Voter ID and Elections

Despite much opposition, it has now been confirmed by the government that photo ID will be required for voting in elections from now on. The first election these changes will impact will be the May 2023 Local Elections. Please email us if you'd like to know the full list of acceptable identification documents to ensure you can vote. Postal votes remain the same, so if you're worried you don't have correct ID we suggest applying for a postal vote to ensure you're not disenfranchised! Email/text us and we can help with applying.

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Budget

Consultation

The Council is consulting on its draft budget for 2023/2024.

Email/text us for a copy of the draft and instructions on how to comment:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656

Have your say on our draft budget

Support for local people in tough times

Investing in our local economy to ensure good jobs and secure employment

Providing value for money, cutting waste not services

We're consulting until 31 January



Cost of living support from the council

The Council has a number of different resources/packages in place to help with the cost of living crisis. Please let us know if you'd like us to forward you on their leaflet containing all of the information relating to this.

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Newest member of the team!



My husband and I were delighted to welcome our second daughter, Daphne, into the world on Sunday 6th November. We are all doing well adjusting to being a family of 4. Thank you to everyone who sent well wishes. Beatrice is loving being a big sister!

Kerrie, Uroy & Sam The Lib Dem **Focus** team

We aim to reply to mails, text or calls within 48 hours. Texting's usually fastest. If we don't, please get in touch again in case we've missed your message.

Thank you !



Stronger Economy, Fairer Society Opportunity for Everyone