

Are you registered to Vote?

There will be local elections in this area in May 2024 and there is likely to be a general election this year too.

Make sure you're ready for both by ensuring you're registered to vote

Register here: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Remember, you'll also need Photo ID to vote in person:

www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id

The easiest way to vote is by post. For an application form email or text Uroy:

focusteam@live.co.uk

07803 036656

Politics is broken - only we can fix it.

2024 needs to be the year we kick this government into touch, but we need to change the very nature of politics.

A two-party system that serves no one, except the vested interests of the Conservative and Labour parties. That swings from blue to red and back again, while nothing really changes. **A political system that has been fundamentally broken for generations.**

Read our new year message here for another way: www.libdems.org.uk/news/article/new-year-2024



The council has published its draft budget proposals for 2024/25. Read about how we're proposing to balance our budget for the year ahead while delivering key priorities and managing significant demand for our services here:

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/consultations/draft-city-council-budget-202425

Are we prioritising the right areas? Do you have any other ideas?

You can respond to the consultation by emailing budget@milton-keynes.gov.uk.

For a copy of the draft budget or if you've any questions text or email Uroy:

focusteam@live.co.uk

07803 036656



Your Focus Team:
Sam, Kerrie & Uroy

Did you know?

We're the biggest ward in MK and we represent over 13,000 people.



Contact Us:

focusteam@live.co.uk



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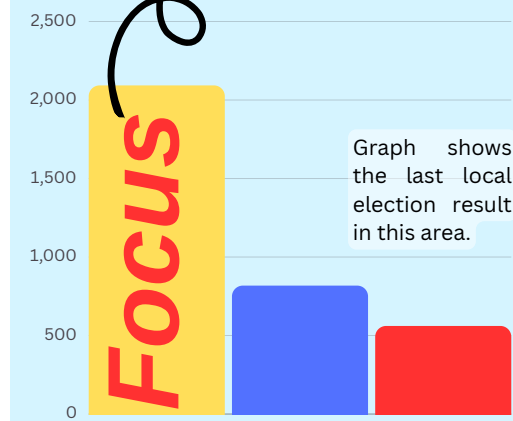


[focusteamlive](https://www.facebook.com/focusteamlive)



[focusteamlive](https://www.instagram.com/focusteamlive)

People in this area know they are best served by Uroy and the *Focus* Team.



Graph shows the last local election result in this area.

Register to vote here: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Focus

#409 on Broughton Ward
Brooklands, Broughton, Broughton Gate
Middleton, Milton Keynes Village, Oakgrove,
Willen & Willen Park

Written by Kerrie Bradburn.
Printed on recyclable paper and delivered by volunteers

Wheelie good news...



Initial data from the first months of the new waste system have shown a massive increase in recycling!

- ✓ Residual waste (black bin) tonnages are DOWN 21%!
- ✓ Recycling tonnages (blue and red combined) are UP 35+%!
- ✓ Food and garden waste recycling tonnages are UP 12%!

Thank you to everyone who's taken the time to learn how to properly use the new system and separate their waste so carefully each week. Your efforts really do add up and are a critically important contribution to the fight for a greener, more sustainable world ♻️

We will keep monitoring these numbers and ensure a comprehensive update of tonnages is provided after the system has been in place for a full year.

We know there have been some challenges as we've adjusted to the new system and there were a handful of issues over Christmas but these numbers are very encouraging.

The new wheelie bins were our top priority in 2023 (it was Kerrie's motion to the Council in 2019 that started all this).

What do YOU think should be our top priority in 2024?

Let Uroy know on:

focusteam@live.co.uk

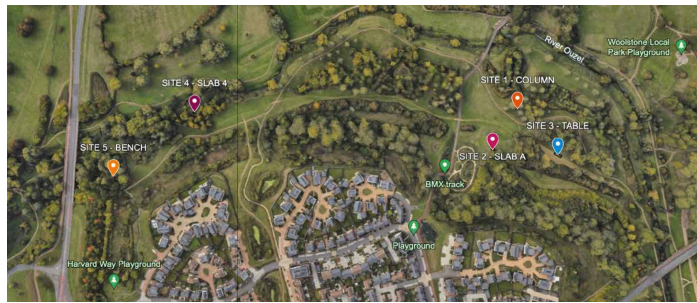
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Middleton, MK Village & Oakgrove

Thank you to the Oakgrove Resident's association for hosting such a wonderful Christmas event on the 16th December. Uroy, Sam and I had a fantastic time and our kids really loved meeting Santa! We look forward to events to come in 2024.



New Public Artwork for Oakgrove



The artworks/sculptures will offer places to sit, gather, and picnic, with plinths also acting as tables and benches.

The sculptural objects will be robust and designed to be touched.

For a copy of the plans and a more detailed map of locations email or text **Uroy:**

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656

Lantern Festival Huge Success!

We were so pleased to hear that the Lantern Festival in Middleton was a great success with over 150+ people in attendance. We'll include details for the next one towards the end of the year.



Great work!



Thank you to Broughton and Milton Keynes Parish Council for the recent improvements at Middleton Pavilion. It's had a fresh lick of paint, a new entrance ramp installed and there have been new signs erected by the playing fields to deter illegal encampments.



Brooklands, Broughton & Broughton Gate

Brooklands Health Centre

There has been a lot of chatter about the new provider at Brookland's Health Centre and there have been some clear issues in the provision for and communication with residents. Whilst we have no control over the service, we have passed on resident feedback to the group, One Medical, and stressed that if present service levels continue, we would be pressing for an open meeting between the group and local residents.



Estate Handover Recommendations Published

Through 2021 and into 2022 we were advocating for MK Council to take a deeper look at the processes involved when developers hand over estates to them - this is called Adoptions. We are acutely aware of the issues faced by residents who live in areas that are not yet adopted and wanted to see what practical steps the council could take (within legal parameters) to improve and or expedite the process. The final report has been published and if you'd like us to send you a copy email or text Uroy: focusteam@live.co.uk / 07803 036656

Other things we're working on...



Uroy has reported this flooding in Havelock Avenue on Brooklands.



We're still pressing for developer & Police action on these parked lorries outside people's homes.

Willen & Willen Park

Flooding in the Village



Thanks to the residents in Willen who contacted Anglia Water and the Parks Trust about the most recent flooding on Milton Road, the worst since the remedial works in early 2021. Both say it's not them. Sam's contacted the Internal Drainage Board (who oversee Ouzel water levels) to get this resolved.



Warm Welcome Willen Pavilion



at the Willen Pavilion
Portland Drive
Every Tuesday 1:30-3:30

Come and enjoy a FREE session of
Seated Aerobics 1:30 - 2:15
led by a qualified instructor
Participants are welcome to stay after the session to enjoy free refreshments



Starting on Tuesday 9th January
Just turn up - pre-booking not required

Frozen in time

We spotted this picture of a Frozen Willen Lake from 1987 on Living Archive's Facebook page!

If you're interested in MK's history we really recommend liking their page and taking a look at their website:

www.facebook.com/living.archive.7
<https://www.livingarchive.org.uk>