

Resident Involvement News

News from the Community Partnership Team
July 2015 Issue 78



Resident Involvement Impact Session (Reflect, Assess and Progress)

Wednesday 1st July, 10am – 12pm,
Room 3, Civic Offices

Resident involvement with Milton Keynes Council

- What difference do you think it makes having residents in the room?
- Is it a positive use of everyone's time?
- How do things change when residents are involved?
- How can we measure impact and progress in shared projects?
- What can we do to produce still better input and outcomes for all?

Nic Bliss, chair of the Confederation of Co-operative Housing (CCH), will be running the session to examine what good Resident Involvement looks like and to explore what we can do better here at Milton Keynes Council. It is so important that you come along and give us your ideas to make sure we are providing the best service for you.

To book a place (and they are limited) or for any further info, please call Katherine Geddes on 01908 253174 or email on katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk

MKC Housing Summit 2015

Friday 17th July

9:30am (registration from 9am) – 1pm

Council Chamber, Civic Offices

Milton Keynes is a fast developing energetic City, we are building homes faster than anywhere else and yet in the midst of this fantastic progress we are faced with soaring homelessness and tales of young people driven out by unaffordability.

Something is wrong, there is a glitch in the system that runs the risk of damaging what we have worked so hard to build, a strong cohesive community where families can thrive.

The summit will draw together experts and interested parties across the housing sector to discuss the issues, look at ways we can increase the types of property available and all work together to ensure MK remains somewhere people want to come, where they can live in a home that suits their needs and feel safe that their children can also do so.

Please note that space is limited and booking is essential and limited to one delegate per organisation. To book your place please send an e-mail to Paul Gibson at paul.gibson@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Residents Association Network Thursday 30th July, 7-9pm, Room 2, Civic Offices Focus on Funding

We'll be looking at different funders, both local and national, guidelines governing applications and how best to complete applications to secure that all-important funding contribution. Charlotte Layton from MK Community Foundation will be joining us to share info on the grant support they currently offer and what they expect to see in successful completed application forms.

Useful Information in MK

Play Rangers News

The Play Rangers have been working across Milton Keynes for over 7 years offering open access play sessions to children aged 8-16. Sessions are completely **free** and run on an open access basis so children are free to come and go as they please. Children under 8 are advised to be supervised by an adult or older sibling.

Some activities may result in children getting wet or muddy so they are advised to wear appropriate clothing.

Children are asked to fill out a registration form the first time they attend so we can monitor numbers and have emergency contact details in the unlikely event we should need them.



The Play Rangers are pleased to announce they will be offering open access free play sessions across Milton Keynes this summer. Each week they will be offering different activities. These will include:

Week 1

Sports Day, Fruit Kebabs & Cardboard Houses

Week 2

Inflatable Rings, Felt Bags, Biscuit Decorating & Giant Games

Week 3

Smoothie Bikes, Door Signs, Planting & Sports

Week 4

Bath Swing, Scooters, Clay Modelling & Breeze Block Carving

Week 5

Cooking on a Fire, Junk Modelling, Design a Keyring, Giant Bubbles
Den Building/ Arts & Crafts

Week 6

Assault Course, Snow Cones, Tiles & Mosaics

Please note: Some activities are dependent on the weather and the venue so may change during the summer.

Play Ranger Beach Parties Announced!

The Play Rangers are pleased to announce they will be running Beach Parties again this summer. Over the past 7 years the Beach Parties have continued to get bigger and better and provide children with an opportunity to experience the Beach in their local park. This year activities will include Sand, Water Slide, DJ, Inflatables, Sand Bottles, free Stick of Rock and much more. The Beach Parties are **free** to attend for all children.

For information on times and locations of all these exciting activities, call the Play Rangers on 01908 253210.

FOCUS ON..... FISHERMEAD

Fishermead Residents Association has been actively working with Serco to try and solve some of the continuous problems surrounding rubbish and recycling.

Not only does Fishermead have a “Community Champion” sponsored by Serco to carry a device with which to report problems directly to their teams, but we have just jointly hosted an event entitled ‘Rubbish & Recycling Education Event’.

The intention of the day was to help residents understand what goes where, as far as their waste is concerned. There were plenty of visitors to the tepee, under which Serco had taken residence for the day, and plenty of orders for grey caddies and green bins. Many residents were extremely happy to be able to pick up a roll of pink recycling bags, which seem to have been in short supply on the estate.

The FRA were happy to provide music to cheer the often bedraggled visitors while they enjoyed a cup of tea or watched their children play on the free bouncy castle.

The day was a complete success, despite the weather!



Engage MK is a network run by Community Action: MK in partnership with Safer MK. It provides training and networking opportunities for people working in local communities including Residents Groups and Neighbourhood Action Groups.

To find out more about Engage MK or to sign up to receive information please contact Hannah@CommunityActionMK.org or call 01908 661623.

Save the Date! Our next workshop for Residents Groups will be on **Monday 24th August**, focusing on the topic of ‘Social Media’. [Sign up to our mailing list](#) for more information or [visit our website](#).

Consultations:

Only MKC consultation which is currently open for comment is that on the proposed Kents Hill Park Development. You can find this consultation at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/consultations/Consultation/1361

There is also an online questionnaire available regarding the ongoing review of MK Libraries – you can find this at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/libraries/sharing-libraries

Dates for Your Diary July and August 2015

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| Wednesday 1st July | <u>Resident Involvement Impact Session</u> Room 3, 10am-12pm (booked places only) |
| Friday 10th July | <u>MK Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service</u> – information and support event for young people and their parents. 1-5pm at The Buszy. To book, call 01908 254518. |
| Wednesday 15th July | <u>Resident Involvement Review Group</u> Room 4 @ 10.30 – discussing the Rent Review, and format and content for this year's Housing Review |
| Thursday 30th July | <u>Residents Association Network</u> Room 2, 7-9pm – focussing on Funding how to apply for it and how to get it. |
| Thursday 6th August | <u>Housing Services Forum - Scrutiny</u> (tenants scrutiny presentation), Rent Review Update and information on Complaints Procedures, 7:30pm |
| Tuesday 18th August | <u>Carers MK event</u> – for parents and carers to participate in a session of fun activities together. 12-2pm at Moulsoe Millenium Hall, Cranfield Rd, Moulsoe, MK16 0HB. To book, email Anne Matthews at Carers Milton Keynes or call on 01908 231703. |
| Wednesday 19th August | <u>Resident Involvement Review Group</u> Room 4 @ 2:30 – final look at proposed Rent Review policy for September Cabinet and draft Housing Review |

To find out more information or to book a place on any of the Resident Involvement events you can contact Katherine Geddes from the Community Partnership Team on **01908 253174** or email katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk
Meetings include light refreshments and we can arrange transport if you need it.

Important dates for Residents' Associations in July*

| <u>Residents Association</u> <u>(in alphabetical order)</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Date and time</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| All Bradville <i>Facebook: ABRA All Bradville</i> | Monthly meeting | 16 th July, 7:30pm | Bradville Hall Community Centre |
| All Bradville | Fun Day | 4 th July, 12-4pm | Bradville Hall Community Centre |
| Beanhill <i>Facebook: Beanhill AG</i> | Fun Day | 4 th July, 11am | Football pitch at Capron |
| Beanhill | Monthly meeting | 6 th July, 6pm | Moorland Centre |
| Central Milton Keynes <i>Facebook: Central Housing Residents Association</i> | Monthly meeting | 28 th July, 7:30pm | Centrecom |
| Coffee Hall <i>Facebook: Coffee Hall RA</i> | Monthly meeting | 31 st July, 7:30pm | Coffee Hall Community Centre |
| Fenny Stratford <i>Facebook: Fenny Stratford Residents Association</i> | Monthly meeting | 13 th July, 7:30pm | George St Community Centre |
| Fishermead <i>Facebook: Fishermead Residents Association</i> | Monthly meeting | 20 th July, 7:30pm | Trinity Centre |
| Fishermead | Fun Day | 25 th July | |
| Lakes | Monthly meeting | 8 th July, 7:30pm | Spotlight |
| Leon | Monthly meeting | 27 th July, 6pm | Duncombe Street Community Centre |

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| Loughton <i>Facebook:Loughton Residents Association</i> www.loughtonmk.org.uk | | | |
| Netherfield | Monthly meeting | 29 th July, 7:30pm | Woughton Community Council offices |
| Oldbrook | Monthly meeting | 16 th July, 7:30pm | Oldbrook Community Centre |
| Oldbrook | Tabletop sale and Fun Day | 18 th July, 11:30 am-2:30pm | Oldbrook Community Centre |
| Tinkers Bridge <i>Facebook:</i> | Monthly meeting | 30 th July, 7:30pm | Tinkers Drop in |
| Water Eaton www.bfstc.co.uk | Monthly meeting | 22 nd July, 7:30pm | The Rest Centre next to Bletchley Library |

*Information drawn from 2015 Healthchecks or given via email response. If your RA is not included here and you would like it to be, please contact me on katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Information and updates from the Tenants Scrutiny Panel can be found here:
www.mkhtenantscrutiny.co.uk



The Resident Involvement Newsletter is produced by The Community Partnership Team

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Copies are available in alternative formats on request.