

Resident Involvement News



News from the Community Partnership Team

May 2015 Issue 76

Get help to recruit new volunteers from the Royal Bank of Scotland

Staff at the Royal bank of Scotland (RBS) in Milton Keynes are organising a staff volunteering event for local groups on **Tuesday 14th July 2015 from 11am to 2pm**, at the RBS building at Silbury House, 300 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 2AZ.

They would like to invite any community group to meet their staff and explain about the volunteering opportunities that you may have and what support they could give. RBS have about 150 staff based in Milton Keynes, who are actively encouraged to give their time and efforts to support the local community and are allowed 5 working days a year to support their chosen activity or group.

They can offer a range of support from one-off ad hoc hours or days or to teams of people being able to commit to a more regular arrangement on a weekly or monthly basis.

This is your chance to meet lots of people who may be able to help you and your group. If you would like to attend, or have any questions about the event, please contact **Sarah Pumffrey** on **07990 798057** or sarah.pumffrey@rbs.co.uk

New Community Partnership Officer

Hi, I'm Katherine Geddes, new to Milton Keynes Council as the Community Partnership officer. I'll be working with existing residents associations, community groups and parish councils to create new, useful community projects, to successfully claim council grant funding, to complete funding applications to external funders and to locate answers to housing and community queries.

I will also be supporting the formation of new residents associations and improvement groups, focusing on the 7 estates earmarked for regeneration. I am currently working on the residents associations Healthcheck process so if you haven't heard from me yet, you will soon!

01908 253174

katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Housing Services Forum: change of agenda

Last month we advertised that we would have a guest from our Anti-Social Behaviour team coming to our next Housing Services Forum on Thursday 14th May, but unfortunately due to staffing issues, the team are unable to join us. We will still take details of those who attend who wish to be contacted by the ASB team about an issue you may be having, or you can contact the team directly:

ASB team can be contacted between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday on **01908 691691** choosing option 4 for ASB or asb@milton-keynes.gov.uk

We are still working with our Housing Policy and Development Officer, Paul Gibson to carry out our **User Led Rent Review** with tenants, which will be our only agenda item at the next Housing Services Forum.

The next Housing Services Forum will be Thursday 14th May at 7:30pm in the Bronte Suite, Civic Offices

Funding from MKC in 2015

We have started the process and have already got some dates in the diary to come out and meet some of you to go through your Health Check and award your annual Support Grant.

To find out how much your group may be able to access or to arrange your Health Check meeting, please contact Katherine Geddes.

This year, for the first time, the Community Partnership team will be accepting applications to the **Community Grants Fund** from Residents Associations, twice a year:

Grant 1:

The application submission deadline is **Tuesday 30th June** and you can apply for between **£50 and £700**.

Grant 2:

The application submission deadline is **Monday 30th November** and you can apply for between **£50 and £400**. The maximum you can apply for may be increased if we have money left over in our grants fund. This will be announced on 1st November and is calculated this way to ensure the maximum amount of money can be awarded to Residents Associations.

Residents Association Network

A big thank you to those who attended our first ever Residents Association Network in April. We had representatives from Beanhill, Fishermead, Loughton, Oldbrook, Tinkers Bridge and Fenny Stratford!

We talked about lots of things that were important to you, like the issues you all deal with in your areas, and ideas for training.

Thanks to Billy Skipsey, Treasurer of Fenny Stratford Residents Association for taking some great photographs on the night.

The next Network event will be in July:

Focus on Funding: grant applications and fundraising
Thursday 30th July, 7-9pm, Room 2

At this session we will look at:

- Where to apply for money
- What to apply for and how much
- Funding applications, hints and tips
- Best ways to fundraise

We will review any funding applications that you would like help with.

At these sessions, the Community Partnership Team will be there to lead and support, but we want you to help each other too, so please bring any ideas, advice and knowledge with you!



every step counts



Milton Keynes Health Walks

Volunteer 'Walk Leader' Training

A free training course for volunteers to learn how to lead a safe and fun health walk in the community.

Course Content:

- What are Health Walks,
- Benefits to walking
- How to lead a walk,
- How to plan a route,
- Leader responsibilities

Course Details:

- Thursday 4th June 2015
- 09.30am – 4pm
- The Parks Trust Pavilion,
Campbell Park, MK9 4AD

Please register your interest to become a Volunteer Walk Leader with:
Simon on Simon.Meadley@milton-keynes.gov.uk or call 01908 253619



Get Involved Calender

May, June and July 2015

Thursday 14 th May	Housing Services Forum, Bronte Suite @ 7:30pm – discussing the Rent Review
Friday 15 th May	Building Services Tenant Group @10am contact Derek Beaumont 253522
Wednesday 20 th May	Resident Involvement Review Group Room 4 @ 10.30 – discussing the Rent Review
Tuesday 26 th May	Scrutiny Group meeting - For info, contact Janette Bobey on 01908 676320
Tuesday 9 th June	Scrutiny Group meeting - For info, contact Janette Bobey on 01908 676320
Wednesday 10 th June	Resident Involvement Review Group Room 4 @ 2.30 – discussing the Rent Review
Tuesday 23 rd June	Scrutiny Group meeting - For info, contact Janette Bobey on 01908 676320
Wednesday 15 th July	Resident Involvement Review Group Room 4 @ 10.30 – discussing the Rent Review

To find out more information or to book a place on any of these 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.

Share your story

Do you have something to shout about?

We would like to include more things from your group in this newsletter and MK@Home.

Please contact **Katherine** with anything you might want to share, including achievements, projects, events – it could be about individuals or whole groups.

The Resident Involvement Newsletter is produced by The Community Partnership Team

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Copies are available in alternative formats on request.