

Newton Leys News

WWW.NEWTONLEYS.ORG.UK/NEWS
NEWS@NEWTONLEYS.ORG.UK

81% SUPPORT A NEW PARISH!!!!

Following our update in our Spring 2015 Newsletter, we conducted a survey which was sent to all residents who responded to the article, those on the email list, and via Facebook. We received over 150 responses and 81% of those support the degrouping of Newton Leys from Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council, and the creation of a local parish council which will focus solely on Newton Leys.

The people of Newton Leys are very clear that they want an independent community and identity rather than being an urban extension of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford. The Residents Association are championing this change, as they believe an independent parish council will put Newton Leys first. Some of the benefits of this will be that we can ensure that you are better able to influence the ongoing development of Newton Leys. Currently the average property at Newton Leys pays £133 per year to the BFSTC, which is spent across Bletchley. A parish for Newton Leys would be able to ensure that more of the council tax derived from Newton Leys would be spent in Newton Leys, on assets and infrastructure that is important to our community.

Newton Leys is a development which straddles principal council boundaries, with the majority of development being within Milton Keynes, and a small section (currently only the Bovis site) within Aylesbury Vale. An independent parish would only cover the Milton Keynes area as parish councils have to be within the area of one principal council. The Residents Association will support residents within the Aylesbury Vale site to create their own parish.



ASDA CHECKOUT THE LOCAL CENTRE SITE

The planning application for Local Centre has been submitted to Milton Keynes Council for consideration. The planning documents state the local centre will contain a 783 square metre ASDA supermarket, a parade of six retail units, an older persons care home, a day nursery, and a public house/restaurant. We contacted ASDA for comment just before we went to print, and they are unable to comment at this time.

Central to the local centre site will be a square which will be a focal point for the local centre, with 104 parking spaces plus room for cycles and motorbikes

The planning application also sees the development of 14 apartments and 20 houses overlooking the local centre, helping to create a safe environment.

NEWTON LEYS SUMMER FAYRE

Save the date. On **Saturday 5 September 2015** we are planning to have a Summer Fayre in the community centre, and on St Helena Avenue in front of the Community Centre.

Hopefully the sun will be out, and we will all have an opportunity to meet new people from across Newton Leys.

We will have lots of fun things to do for adults and children. There is no entrance fee, but we will be fundraising on the day, so please do make sure you buy a few raffle tickets.

If you would like to volunteer, book a stall, or want any further information, please email us at events@newtonleys.org.uk

WIND TURBINE APPEAL

An appeal against the decision made by Milton Keynes Council to reject an application for a 90 metre high wind turbine on the waste management site next to Newton Leys has been made by FCC Environment.

According to FCC's own picture, the wind turbine would be clearly visible from Oakbrook (picture below is next to the school site), Jubilee Lake, and most of the development. Milton Keynes Council rejected the wind turbine on the basis that its height and siting would result in significant adverse impacts on the visual amenity of Newton Leys. It was also stated that the scale, proximity, movement and siting would cause significant impact on the residential amenities in Newton Leys by appearing overwhelming and dominant.

At a recent RA meeting, a vote was taken to object to a wind farm in Newton Longville, which would have been visible from Newton Leys. That does not however mean an automatic objection to turbines. The RA consulted residents via Facebook and the mailing list whether it should support or object at appeal. 82% of respondents stated we should object. 12% wished to support, and 6% stated we should abstain. The RA will therefore object.

The appeal will be heard by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. You can make a comment of support or objection directly at acp.planningportal.gov.uk using case number 3097672 by 19 August 2015.

FCC currently have permission to landfill in the claypits next to Newton Leys until 2022.



OUTLINE EXTENDED.....

The original outline planning permission for Newton Leys expired in June 2013, and a subsequent extension application was submitted by Taylor Wimpey in April 2013. Our Town Councillor gave a passionate speech to the Planning committee in support of extension.

Taylor Wimpey were granted an extension period of 8 years to complete, however at the current build rate it will be finished by the end of the decade.

Many of the promised community facilities have not yet been delivered, however the submission of the planning application meant that there was an opportunity to renegotiate the planning obligations agreement (also known as Section 106 Agreement) between Milton Keynes Council and Taylor Wimpey.

The Residents Association and our local community engagement officer employed by Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council were instrumental in sending a strong message that we would not tolerate any further slippage in the timescales for provision of facilities.

Development of the facilities has meant that Milton Keynes Council had to accept slightly less social housing than it would normally. Of the remaining 888 homes left to build in MK, only 58 will be social housing.

Milton Keynes Council were able to negotiate £1.23 million towards provision of a health centre, at a site on or close to Newton Leys. This is one of the most requested facilities in the recent survey of residents, so it will be welcomed. We may need to lobby NHS England to build the facility quickly, so it would be appreciated if you can go to www.newtonleys.org.uk/join-us and sign up for our email list. We will then email and let you know what you have to do at the appropriate time.

The Newton Leys Community Centre which is currently in a temporary facility in St Helena Avenue will move to new purpose built building located at the rear of the development on Jersey Drive. It is envisaged that the centre will open at some point in 2017.

When complete Newton Leys will have 2000 homes, with 1650 in Newton Leys and 350 in Aylesbury Vale.

Newton Leys Residents Association meets on the third Thursday of every other month, at the Newton Leys Community Centre.

Our next meetings are

Thursday 17 September

Thursday 19 November (*Annual General Meeting*)

Thursday 21 January

Meetings start at 7.30pm and it is an excellent way of meeting people in the local community.

Please see www.newtonleys.org.uk/meetings for more info.



Newton Leys Residents' Association

COMING SOON MORE PLACES TO PLAY FOR OUR YOUNGER PEOPLE

The play area on Hopkins Road and Dickens Lane within the Bovis site have been open for some time, and despite having more housing - Taylor Wimpey are still yet to deliver any of their equipped areas of play.

The Residents Association have been successful in forcing Taylor Wimpey to change the small play area which is to be developed in Santa Cruz Avenue in Phase 4 of the development. The site was previously used as the Willow Lake builders compound.

The original site design was not very safe, having no fencing bordering the site, and being adjacent to a main road.

The play equipment was also very basic, and was designed with very young children in mind.

It will be sometime before any of the other play areas are delivered. With the next play areas to be delivered in Phase 5 and Phase 7, neither of which have detailed planning permission at the present time. A neighbourhood park (large playarea) will be developed next to the Willow Lake showhomes upon closure of the showhomes. We are working with the Town Council to bring this forward.

The Residents Association insisted that more appropriate play equipment for a range of ages was selected. Safety is also critical and the entire site was redesigned to ensure that it was safer for those people using the facilities.



SCHOOL REPORT

SIGN UP FOR



The Governors of Newton Leys Primary School are all working very hard to get the new school ready.

Milton Keynes Council will run the primary school which is located on San Andres Drive in Oakbrook and will provide 630 places and a 39 place nursery.

The School recent advertised for '*a dynamic and energetic leader to plan for the opening and growth of our brand new purpose built school which will drive educational standards at the heart of the local community*'. The Headteacher will be appointed with effect from January 2016.

The School is being built by family owned construction company Wilmott Dixon. Construction started on the site in late July 2015, with ground workers currently on site preparing the site for main building works.

Steve Waldron, Site Operations Manager stated 'It is our intention that throughout these works, we never cause you to complain' Any issues can be given to Steve on 07813 832351.

The school will open in September 2016.

Newton Leys will officially be on the map very soon.

The Residents Association has been having discussions with Milton Keynes Council and Transport for Buckinghamshire who maintain the local road network to obtain signage to Newton Leys.

It was discovered that neither the Council nor Taylor Wimpey requested any destination signage for Newton Leys as part of the planning process.

During our discussions, we were able to persuade the Council that this would be a useful addition, and would prevent many delivery drivers from getting lost.

New local distributor signage will be installed by the Council's contractor over the next few months.

**SIGN UP FOR UPDATES AT
JOIN.NEWTONLEYS.ORG.UK**

COMMUNITY EVENTS UPDATE

BULB PLANTING EVENT

Beth Benton, the Community Engagement Coordinator employed by Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council recently organised a bulb planting event. Lots of bluebell bulbs were planted in June, which will make Newton Leys blooming beautiful next Spring.

More bulbs have been acquired. For those who missed it, and would like to take part, another event is planned in the Jubilee Woods adjacent to Jubilee Lake, and also in Fox Covert in Phase 2. This will take place in late September

If you would like to be involved check out the Newton Leys Community Facebook page or join our mailing list for updates

A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Residents Association has received donations from four very generous residents following our last newsletter. We have received £130 (1 x £100, and 3 x £10) in donations from residents who requested anonymity. THANK YOU ALL!

We don't receive any permanent funding at all, and we have to fundraise to put on all of the community events, as well as keeping our website running. If you wish to provide support, please visit our website at www.newtonleys.org.uk/donate

If you would rather donate your time, that is welcome too!

RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED FOR SUMMER FAYRE

Can you help us with some prizes for our Summer Fayre? We will be running a tombola and a raffle at the Summer Fayre this year.

Our Summer Fayre event helps us to raise much needed funds to help us run events at other times of the year, to provide prizes to our regular competitions and to communicate with you via this professional newsletter and via our website.

Help us to help our community by donating to our prize fund. Last year, a Laptop and Tablet donated by Tesco at Fenny Lock helped us to raise a lot of money for our event. So please feel free to ask your employer if they are willing to support you. Email events@newtonleys.org.uk



Please register to be part of our mailing list. The Residents Association wants the details of every resident at Newton Leys.

This will allow us to communicate with residents such as you via email, updating you on important issues as they happen rather than waiting to receive a quarterly newsletter.

It will also allow us to obtain your opinion via regular polls and surveys.

We will therefore offering one lucky resident from our mailing list a £25 Amazon voucher.

You've got to be in it to win it, so if you are not already signed up for our email alerts, visit the membership website now at <http://join.newtonleys.org.uk>.

We will draw the winner at the Newton Leys Summer Fayre on Saturday 5th September 2015.



Sessions available for children 2-4 15 hours free funded sessions

Drop in to meet the team and see what we have to offer you and your child

Call us now on

07528 051512 or 07528 051557

or email buttonspreschool09@gmail.com



Newton Leys Community Centre
Chepstow Community Centre
Warren Children's Centre
Westcroft/Oxley Park Pavilion
Coming soon - Stoke Hammond