



WOBURN SANDS
TOWN COUNCIL

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WINTER NEWSLETTER 2024

www.woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk
(see privacy policy)

Dear Resident,

Woburn Sands Town Council has a new domain name with a 'gov.uk' ending to clearly identify us as a local council.

Our website can be found at
www.woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk
and our new emails are:

- bookings@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk
- office@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk
- clerk@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to all our residents!

MEMORIAL HALL, 4 HIGH STREET, WOBURN SANDS,
MILTON KEYNES, MK17 8RH
CLERK: ALISON JORDAN
TELEPHONE: 01908 585368
E.MAIL: clerk@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk



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FROM MAYOR GWYN JONES

There have been a number of positive and negative events that have happened in Woburn Sands since our last Newsletter. The most concerning was the flooding that occurred following the torrential rain experienced in September that damaged a number of homes and business premises locally. As a result the Town Council hosted a meeting of interested parties in November to seek to improve our community response to such events. We extend our gratitude to local residents who assisted so willingly at the time. More recently the Christmas Fayre had to be sadly cancelled, again because of the weather and we'd also like to extend our thanks to the determined volunteers who make these arrangements on the Town's behalf.

On a more positive note the Christmas Lights are twinkling and the High St looks fantastic. Don't forget to support local businesses over the festive period. If they thrive Woburn Sands benefits. There was also a wonderful turnout on Remembrance Sunday and the respect and gratitude shown to our fallen Heroes was palpable.

The New Year will bring with it many challenges and opportunities. The plans and intentions for the Woburn Sands area are becoming clearer and it is important that we are all given the opportunity to familiarise ourselves with the intentions of planners and developers that will inevitably impact on our day to day lives. On the 17th January 2025 East West Rail will be holding a consultation event at the Summerlin Centre when you will have the opportunity of asking any questions you may have. The Town Council is also hoping to arrange public meetings with developers in the near future so that we are all informed of the future of the land between Woburn Sands and Bow Brickhill. If we approach these consultations positively, we may not be able to stop the tide but we may be able to influence the flow!

In the meantime, we wish you all a very happy Christmas and a very Happy New Year.



WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL COUNCILLORS

We have had several new councillors join Woburn Sands over the past few months. Now they are settling in and joining various committees it seems a good time to introduce them.

Councillors have an official Town Council email address but general enquiries should go to **office@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk**

As well as the nine Town Councillors below, we also have three Ward Councillors for the Danesborough Ward of which Woburn Sands is a part.

Cllr Gwyn Jones, Mayor and Chairman of the Council

Halls Committee member

cllrgwynjones@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Robert Allan

Councillor

Finance Committee member

cllrrobertallan@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Wendy Green

Councillor

Environment Committee member

cllrwendygreen@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Gwynn Smitham

Chair of Halls Committee

Finance Committee member

cllrgwynnsmitham@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Keith Temple, Deputy Mayor

Chair of Environment Committee

cllrkeithtemple@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Kim Fisher

Councillor

Environment Committee member

cllrkimfisher@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Alex Poppleton

Finance Committee member

cllralexpoppleton@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Trudie Sutton

Chair of Finance Committee and Halls Committee member

cllrtrudiesutton@woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr David Hopkins

Ward and Town Councillor

Environment Committee member

david.hopkins@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Cllr Tracey Bailey

Ward Councillor

tracey.bailey@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Victoria Hopkins

Ward Councillor

victoria.hopkins@milton-keynes.gov.uk



CHANGES TO WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

Due to the bank holidays, collections between Wednesday 25 December and Friday 10 January will take place up to two working days later than usual, as below:

Normal collections will resume from Monday 13 January 2025

Original collection date	Revised collection date	Bin/sack collection
Wednesday 25 December	Friday 27 December	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN
Thursday 26 December	Saturday 28 December	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN
Friday 27 December	Monday 30 December	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN
Monday 30 December	Tuesday 31 December	BLACK, RED & BLUE
Tuesday 31 December	Thursday 2 January	BLACK, RED & BLUE
Wednesday 1 January	Friday 3 January	BLACK, RED & BLUE
Thursday 2 January	Saturday 4 January	BLACK, RED & BLUE
Friday 3 January	Monday 6 January	BLACK, RED & BLUE
Monday 6 January	Tuesday 7 January	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN
Tuesday 7 January	Wednesday 8 January	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN
Wednesday 8 January	Thursday 9 January	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN
Thursday 9 January	Friday 10 January	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN
Friday 10 January	Saturday 11 January	BLACK, BLUE & GREEN

Real Christmas trees will be collected if the trunk is no more than 15cm / 6in in diameter, fit neatly inside your green bin with decorations removed. Alternatively, trees can be taken to one of the city council's recycling centres. You can book a slot and check the opening hours at:

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/hwrc



UPDATE FROM EAST WEST RAIL



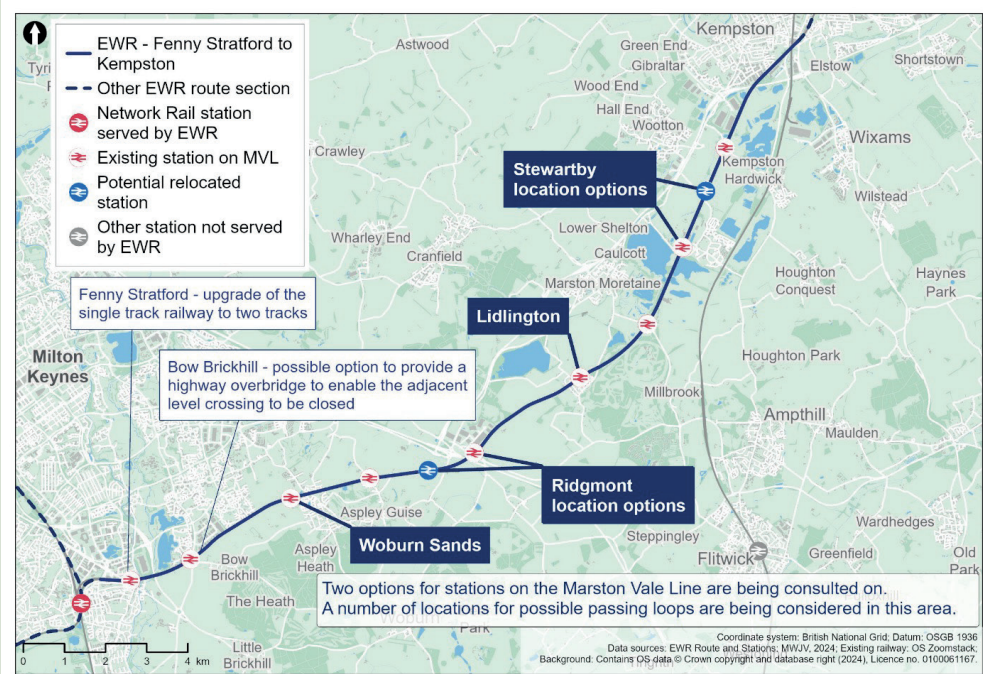
A NEW STATION FOR WOBURN SANDS?

During the 2021 consultation, we explained that moving Woburn Sands station would allow us to build a bigger and better station, and this has subsequently been confirmed as outlined in the Consultation Document published on 14 November. The station would need to be expanded to accommodate the increased number of passengers that would use East West Rail and the longer trains that would carry them. This would not be possible to the same extent in its existing location.

For this reason, a relocated station a short distance to the west of the existing station is considered to offer a better passenger experience and more options for how passengers get to the station, including drop-off and parking facilities and bus

stops. The station and car park would be located to the west of the existing station and to the north of the railway within the area of the South East Milton Keynes Strategic Urban Extension proposal (SEMK). This location would continue to provide easy access for existing residential areas via Newport Road and direct access to the new housing development.

A new road bridge is planned to the west of the proposed station as part of the SEMK development in this area and is therefore not included in our proposals. We will continue to have further discussions with the developer and Milton Keynes City Council as the proposals are progressed. Under the current proposals, there would be up to four trains per hour.



EWR said a number of stations may need to be consolidated or built to offer more services.



ADVICE FROM MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL REGARDING FLOODING

If you, your family or your business are involved in an incident and believe you may be in danger always telephone 999 to request the appropriate emergency assistance. If you are not in danger but may be affected indirectly, you may be advised to GO IN, STAY IN, TUNE IN.

Although we will do all we can to assist, please note that it is the responsibility of owners and occupiers to protect their property in the event of flooding. We do not hold unlimited supplies of key items such as water pumps or sandbags.

REPORTING FLOODING

If your property is in imminent danger of flooding, please call our Customer Services 01908 252353. Our phone lines are open from 09:00 - 5:15 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and 10:00 - 5:15 on Wednesdays. Out of hours emergency telephone: 01908 226699.

5 STEPS TO FOLLOW DURING A FLOOD EVENT

STEP 1

Before flood water enters your home, close and lock downstairs windows and doors. Keep the keys safely to hand and move upstairs.

STEP 2

Continue to listen to situation updates from your local radio station and Floodline on: 0345 988 1188.

STEP 3

Stay in your property if safe to do so or until either the emergency services tell you otherwise or the floodwater has gone.

STEP 4

Do not walk through floodwater. If it is necessary to walk through shallow water, take care for hidden holes, obstacles and other hazards.

STEP 5

If you come into contact with floodwater, wash any exposed body parts with bottled or cool boiled water before handling food or looking after wounds.



NEWS FROM WOBURN SANDS LIBRARY



setting. Supplementing our Town Council volunteers and our Storytime volunteers we have some remarkable youngsters associated with us throughout the year: our fabulous Duke of Edinburgh's Award students of 2024, and the hard-working Summer Reading Challenge volunteers as well as ongoing young volunteers who help with the routine work of the library. Thanks are due again to all these people and, of course, to all our customers for continuing to use this branch for their collectively large reading appetite in 2024!

2024 saw our largest ever offering of summer workshops and they were very well received with over 90 local youngsters participating. Two new workshops this year – 'Let's Make Music', with members of the Woburn Sands Band, and 'Craft a Model Beach Hut' from decorated recycled wood – expanded the range of creativity and complemented existing popular workshops ran by Julie and Chris, and local textile artist Myra. Whether in the form of a visual or an audio expression, youngsters achieved so much in the hour and impressed adults gave lovely feedback. This all came free of charge thanks to the ongoing support of the Woburn Sands Town Council. Keep an eye on the MK Libraries website for details of our next workshop, coming in February 2025 half term

We are fully aware of our exceptional position here at the Woburn Sands branch library – a position of excellent relationship with the local Town Council and our supportive partnership was celebrated in 2024 with the 10 year anniversary of the use of volunteers to extend the opening hours above the staffed hours. We are forever indebted to these volunteers for the precious time which they continue to donate. This has meant that for over 10 years we have maximised access and availability, meaning footfall and issues of books are robust, especially noteworthy given the size of our community

We have space in our Reading Group which meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month 7pm-8pm. If you fancy some more formalised book chat on a monthly book choice then phone library on 01908 582033 to enquire, or pop into the library.

Support from our community is undoubtedly what makes the branch successful: this year our Knit and Natter group (Fridays 2pm to 3.30pm) increased from a regular 2 to 6 members and Storytime hit an all time high attendance this year with no less than 25 children in one of the August weeks. Storytime is delivered by our dedicated and skilled volunteers Julie, Trudy and Denise, you can witness their magic with your little ones any and every Tuesday morning 11.15 to 11.45, free of charge.

We have been fortunate to benefit from generous donations of books this year, so for now we are asking for donations only of books in pristine condition and published in 2024/2025 - if you can help it is very much appreciated.

If you can spare a few hours a month to help with running the library, ask when you next visit.

Our volunteers are kept busy and further help is always welcome!



SNIPPETS



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Town Council would like to thank the Woburn Sands Community for turning out in large numbers for the Remembrance service. We would also like to extend

a special thanks to all those young people who took part, it was encouraging to see the number of youth groups that are active in the district. The band was superb and the playing of 'The Last Post' was poignant and moving. Everybody's contribution made it a memorable event.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

What a disappointment for many that the Christmas Fayre had to be cancelled. Our sympathies to all those volunteers who work for 9 or 10 months of the year preparing for this event. No one can predict the weather so far ahead, but a cancellation is rare.

If you would like to help the Fayre take place next year, please do contact woburnsandschristmasfayre@gmail.com They are especially in need of physically fit people to help put up the trees on the High Street.

MK ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME UNIT

The Town Clerk has been contacted by MK Environmental Crime Unit with this message: 'for the last few years, MKCC has contracted WISE to deploy uniformed litter wardens to take action against those who drop litter and fail to pick up after their dog has fouled on land, in the open air, that the public has access to. They have the power to issue Fixed

Penalty Notices to offenders and provide a visible presence to make people think twice about offending'. They have asked the Town Council to let them know if there are any particular problem areas.

Wardens will be patrolling looking for offenders, if you do not want to be served with a Fixed Penalty Notice then pick up after your dog and don't drop litter!

FLOODING

Following the flooding there has been a meeting between parish councils, MK Council Officers and residents on how to prevent flooding and protect people and property. This has been instigated by Lorraine Hearn who has worked hard liaising with the community, raised money to buy equipment, as well as checking and reporting blocked drains and gulleys, and encouraging others to do the same. We have had one meeting and are planning another before Christmas. Meanwhile, please see the advice from MK City Council on page 6.

COMMUNITY MARKET

Finally, we look forward to the last Community Market of the year on Saturday 14th December and hope the weather stays calm that day. Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas.

