

NEW COMMUNITY FACILITIES

1.0 ALLOTMENT SITE

- 1.1 The Allotment Site was due to open at the beginning of April 2024 and an open day was due to take place in February/March 2024 so that tenants could visit the site and see where their plot was located. Unfortunately, the ground at the site is still too wet and it is now likely that the allotments will open sometime in May 2024. It will take a period of at least 10 dry days before tenants have access to the site.
- 1.2 By now, Anglian Water should have connect the water pipes to the mains.
- 1.3 Allotment plots have been allocated to residents on the waiting list. Tenants are requested to complete and sign a tenancy agreement, provide proof of address, pay a 6-months tenancy and a security deposit (50% annual cost).

Allotment Plot Size	6-Month Tenancy Cost	Security Deposit	Annual Cost
75m	£55.00	£55.00	£110.00
70m	£50.00	£50.00	£100.00
Community Plot - Up to 140m	Free	Free	Free

- 1.4 The 6-month tenancy starts from 1 April 2024 to 31 September 2024. From 1 October 2024, the allotment cost will change to an annual charge. A reduced annual cost will be charged in the 2024/2025 allotment year to take account of late access.
- 1.5 Community Plots (up to 140m²) have been offered to Watling Academy and Whitehouse and Watling Primary Schools. Watling Academy and Whitehouse Primary are considering the offer.
- 1.6 **Stats to date:**
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Confirmed Tenancies: | 67 |
| Partial Confirmed Tenancies: | |
| • Paid but not provided all paperwork | 3 |
| • Correct paperwork but no payment | 2 |
| • Wrong payment | 1 |

1.7 Reducing Vacant Plots

The Council felt that take-up of allotment plots may increase once the allotment site is open. The Council may consider offering 140m plots (by merging 2 x 70m plots) or offering second plots, if vacancies still exist after a short period of opening.

2.0 COMMUNITY MEETING PLACE

- 2.1 The Community Meeting Place is due to open on 23 July 2024.
- 2.2 At a suitable point, Milton Keynes City Council will arrange a site visit for Whitehouse Community Councillors to look around and start to get a feel for the size of the spaces and how the building is laid out.
- 2.3 A Business Plan for the Community Meeting Place is on the agenda for this meeting. This includes estimated costs to cover contracts, maintenance, services, compliance and testing.
- 2.4 The Council needs to agree a way forward regarding regular hire bookings, e.g. Expressions of Interest, allowing toddler groups / pre-school or after school clubs.

3.0 TEMPORARY SHOP

- 3.1 Planning permission for the temporary shop has been granted and groundworks are progressing.