

Progress to Date

SDC have now been working on the new Bletchley Leisure Centre for nearly 2 years and would like to thank everyone for their positive reaction to our presence in this part of Bletchley.

The great news, as you may have already read is that the new Leisure Centre will be handed over to Milton Keynes Council on programme on 21st December 2009 with the old Leisure Centre closing its doors for the final time on Sunday 20th December 2009.

The new Leisure Centre will be opened to the public on 4th January 2010

The new Centre will provide the following facilities with full accessibility for people with disabilities:

- 8 lane 25 metre swimming pool with Sauna and Steam Room
- 6 badminton court Sports Hall
- 7 rink bowls hall
- 4 squash courts
- Spinning Room
- Fitness Suite
- Gymnastics hall
- Multi function hall
- Multi Use studio
- Café

Progress of Works

A variety of works in the dry sports areas are progressing well and the swimming pool is under more detailed construction and should be filled with water in early November 2009.

The perimeter hoarding is now being dismantled and you will be able to see the progress of landscaping work through the fencing.

For future reference, demolition of the old Leisure Centre will commence in January 2010 with the construction of the new multi storey car park and road to follow.

Car Parking until December 2009

The existing Car Park serving the old Leisure Centre will remain open during this period.

Please note that there is an area within the old tennis courts which is used by construction personnel for parking. This is to minimise SDC's use of car parking spaces allocated for the general public. As this area forms part of the Construction Site, it is not available for use by members of the public. Anyone electing to use this area for parking without permission does so at their own risk and their car may be blocked in by construction traffic.

Pedestrian Footpaths Until December 2009

- The designated footpath from the town centre to the existing Leisure Centre is up the east side of Princes Way and turn right by the Bowls Club. Signage is in place giving the necessary directions. Please take care when crossing our site access roads as large lorries and other construction vehicles could be turning onto Princes Way.
- The footpath from Queensway at the east end of the site, adjacent the old tennis courts, has been used by the public for many years but is not designated as a Public Footpath by Milton Keynes Highways. If you choose to use this footpath, please proceed with caution. You should be aware of construction traffic and cars parking in the Leisure Centre overspill car park adjacent the old tennis courts crossing this footpath.

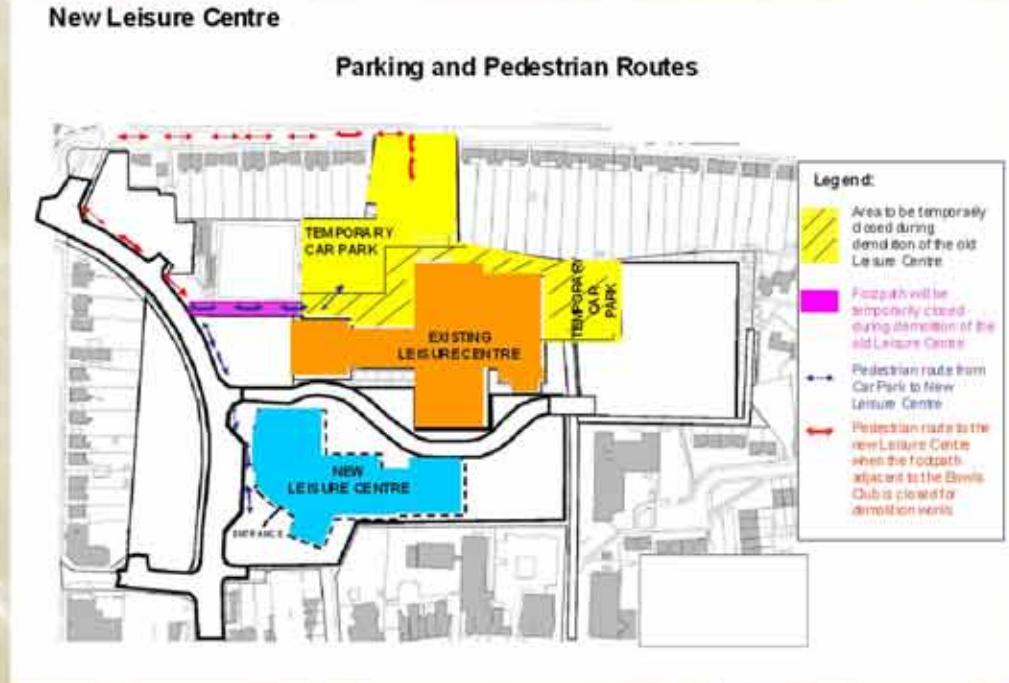
Car Parking and Pedestrian Routes to the new Leisure Centre from January 2010 onwards

Please read this section in conjunction with the sketch in the top right hand corner of this Newsletter.

The new Leisure Centre will open on 4th January 2010.

The existing Car Park serving the old Leisure Centre will be open and available for use.

There will be periods during January to March 2010 when demolition of the old Leisure Centre will require both the footpath (shaded red) adjacent the Bowls Club and certain areas (hatched) within the Car Park itself to be closed. During this time, the pedestrian route from this car park to the Leisure Centre will be via Western Road, North Street and Princes Way (red arrows on the sketch). The footpath adjacent the Bowls Club will be re-opened (blue arrows) for use after demolition is complete.



Tennis Courts

As we have previously advised, the area within the old tennis courts that has designated for parking by construction personnel will, on advice we have been given, remain unlocked at night to provide easy access and an open space for local youngsters to use. This is being done for safety reasons as it is considered preferable for them to enter the area, which they will do anyway, without climbing or damaging fencing.

We are pleased to report that this appears to be working well and will therefore be continued.

Theft and Vandalism

It is regrettable that theft of property owned by contractors and / or their personnel has re-occurred. The offenders have been caught on security cameras and reported to the Police.

Security arrangements have been increased still further in an effort to stop this unacceptable conduct.

Milton Keynes Council have now appointed Hertsmere Charitable Leisure Trust to manage the new Leisure Centre. They will now work alongside the Council and SDC in preparing for the opening of the new centre on 4th January 2010 and, most importantly, they will carefully and sensitively manage the transfer of the existing users from the old Leisure Centre into the new one.



If you have any queries, please contact the "Building a better Bletchley" Team on 01908 647 586

Improvements to Princes Way, making it more pedestrian friendly.
Brand new leisure sport facilities. State of the art, low energy, sustainable design.
Up to 300 new homes. New, safe, shoppers and leisure car park.
New public open spaces.