



# THE LAKES SUMMER EXHIBITION

Event 16  
Design Exhibition at Water Hall Primary School  
Monday 8 July 2019, 3:30pm - 7:00pm



## Purpose of Event:

- Presenting and gathering feedback on the latest development proposals for new neighbourhoods.
- Presenting and gathering feedback on the latest proposals for new homes (resident resettlement sites).
- Presenting and gathering feedback on the latest proposals for Warren Park.
- Gathering information to help shape the proposals for the new community hub and retail spaces.
- Promoting the Commonplace Lakes Estate online map for wider environmental improvements.



## Who Was There:

- 37 Residents from Serpentine Court
- 57 Residents from wider Lakes Estate
- 18 Individuals from organisations working on the estate
- Approximately 112 visitors in total



## Feedback Gathered Through:

- Conversations with residents
- Online comments forum and workshop sheets
- Post-it note and feedback forms



## Organisations Represented:

- Milton Keynes Council
- Serpentine Court Steering Group (SCSG)
- HTA Design LLP
- Tpas

## Environmental Improvements to the Lakes Estate

- Resident volunteers and other team members discussed and recorded wider estate issues with Lakes Estate residents and stakeholders.
- Residents and stakeholders were invited to visit the recently launched Lakes Estate Map on the Commonplace consultation domain to share location specific comments.
- Please visit the landing page to view comments: [lakesestatemap.commonplace.is](http://lakesestatemap.commonplace.is)





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## Comments on new neighbourhoods and new homes

Residents from Serpentine Court and the wider area were generally supportive of preliminary plans presented.

Key themes and comments included:

### Drayton Road

- Back to back gardens will be good – retain access to rear existing rear gardens subject to security.
- Good to have extra parking spaces within the new development areas.
- Parking is a difficult for existing homes around Drayton Road homes.



### Melfort Drive

- Generally very Happy with the plans - It was noted that they appear to fit in well with surrounding homes.
- Liked the design of the new homes and shared green space.
- More parking on the estate as a whole is required. New housing acceptable as long as there is sufficient parking.
- Private gardens for new houses was supported.



### Serpentine Court

- Improved accessibility to Warren Park was supported and residents approved of the new path to connect the centre with the wider area.
- New roads need to be safe to cross for children. Safe crossing points needed on new roads generally.
- Existing residents keen to ensure that overlooking and privacy was addressed for existing properties.
- Existing Warren Park not well used and would hugely benefit from improved access.
- Taller buildings at Serpentine Court could be better for views and ventilation.



### Skene Close

- Local residents living adjacent to the site are concerned





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by the potential loss of open space.

- Fly tipping is a big issue and secure rear passages may not improve this issue. It is understood existing residents are fly tipping along their own boundaries in some cases.
- Trees to the north of the site are severely overgrown and overshadowing existing homes. Residents would like to see them cut back.
- Residents keen to see a new play area for children living near by.
- Residents noted many instances of overgrown footpaths and fly tipping. Unsafe paving areas were also noted.
- Parking is a big issue on Skene Close and Strangford Drive.



## Stoke Road

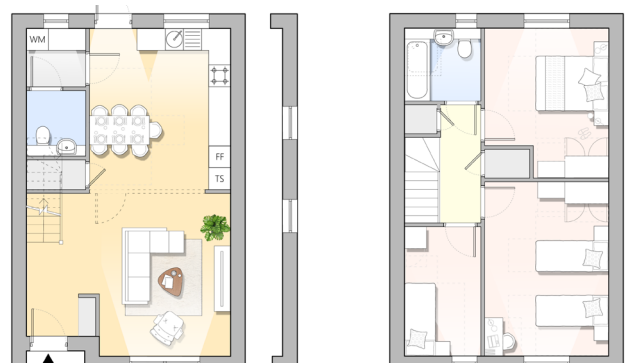
- The new SUDS pond area should be separate from new play spaces.
- Concern about 6 storeys apartments on Stoke Road – management / maintenance.



## House Types for resettlement sites

Residents from Serpentine Court were supportive of house and apartment types presented at the exhibition. Key themes and comments included:

- Shower / bath preferred in bathroom.
- Windows in kitchens for flats where possible.
- Residents were pleased that new home sizes will be generally bigger than existing homes and will have private amenity space.
- Further flat/house types should be presented at the next event (including Ground floor flats, wheelchair accessible flats, four and five bedroom homes).
- Opportunity for a separate kitchen/dining in flats would be appreciated.
- Balconies seemed too small compared to existing flats.
- People really liked the utility room in houses.





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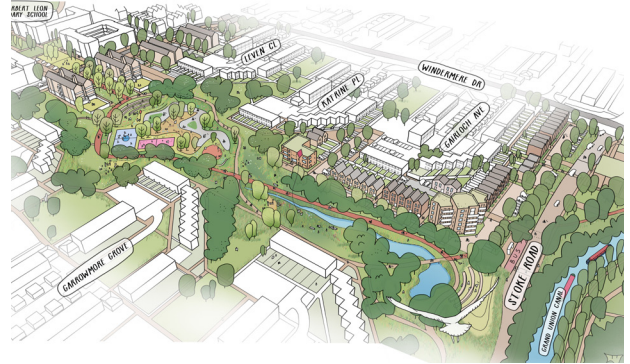


## Comments on preliminary Warren Park plans

The preliminary Warren Park proposals were well received by residents and local stakeholders. All local stakeholders were pleased the park was being improved for the wider estate.

Key themes and comments included:

- Few residents use the existing park due to the security fears and the existing condition of equipment.
- The most requested fundamental issues that needed to be addressed were bins (rubbish and littering seems to be a real concern), benches and poor lighting were also raised. More bins for dog mess in park.
- The skate park was generally well received - some concerns about older kids using mopeds/scramblers on the track especially as it isn't easy for police officers in cars to see - but most residents liked the idea of mixing it into the landscape and having something for older children.
- Water SUDS feature supported generally - some residents were concerned about the depth and proximity to play areas; however, staff explained the idea of shallow edges, deep planting and tall rich planting that protects the edges.
- The area of trees to the south of the proposed community hub is currently used as a public toilet often.
- Existing Trees – Several residents felt there were too many trees leading to over-shading of homes. Too many trees between nursery and Community Hub.
- Plant fruit trees in the new park.
- Enhancing bus routes – install audible bus information for those with poor sight.
- Include allotments for residents to grow fruit and vegetables.
- The regular bonfire event is good as it teaches children about fire safety.
- Check that there is enough space in the new park design for community events – fun day, picnic and other large events that happen on the park.
- Water play in the park for kids in the summer.





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## Feedback on Community Hub use

The exhibition event gave residents the opportunity to shape the layout and brief for the new community hub by contributing ideas for the type of uses. People were pleased to see a new community hub located near the improved Warren Park area. Key themes and comments included:

- Counselling support space and youth centre.
- Personalised graffiti artwork by the local community.
- Food growing areas, places to cooking together, eating together, peer support groups for mental health and long term health conditions, intergenerational activities.
- Outside seating area close to kitchen.
- Ensure the community hub is a space that can deliver a wide variety of options that can meet the needs of the whole community.
- Storage really important – Flexible kitchen plans would be good for events and cooking classes.
- Youth spaces facing green space and Warren Park would mean there is good access to new play and activity spaces.
- Separate areas for children and teenagers to avoid conflict.
- Flexible, bookable and affordable space for large and small gatherings.
- Outdoor space and garden.
- Key users – Young People, Children (i.e. early years alliance) and community.
- The overall size of the community space needs to allow for a variety of different uses.
- More parking spaces may be needed for the community centre.

