



AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Democratic Services

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21 November 2019

ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee will be held at **6.30 pm on Tuesday 3 December 2019** in **The Paralympic Room, Aylesbury Vale District Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF**, when your attendance is requested.

Membership: Councillor S Jenkins (Chairman); Councillors B Everitt (Vice-Chairman), M Bateman, S Chapple, A Cole, S Cole, P Cooper, B Foster, T Hunter-Watts, S Jarvis and R King

Contact Officer for meeting arrangements: Craig Saunders; csaunders@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

Any changes will be reported at the meeting.

3. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 8)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 September, 2019, copy attached.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interests.

5. AYLESBURY GARDEN TOWN UPDATE (Pages 9 - 34)

To consider the attached report.

Contact Officer: Clare Manders (01296) 585620

6. LEVELS OF FLY TIPPING WITHIN AYLESBURY VALE (Pages 35 - 36)

To consider the attached report.

Contact Officers: Will Rysdale (01296) 585561 & Naomi Batson 01296 585506

7. WORK PROGRAMME

The next meeting on 10 February, 2020, will be the Committee's last before vesting day and the new Buckinghamshire Council comes into being. There are some items outstanding on the Work Programme.

It may be possible, given the Officers' commitment to Local Government Reorganisation work, to report on the outstanding items at that meeting. Members may however feel that anything as at the date of the last meeting should be referred for scrutiny by the new Council. The items concerned are:-

- Aylesbury Town Centre / Town Centre Partnership – pedestrianisation / uneven surfaces / cobbles / taxis in Market Square.
- HS2 Infrastructure work update.

ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

24 SEPTEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Councillor S Jenkins (Chairman); Councillors B Everitt (Vice-Chairman), M Bateman, S Chapple, A Cole and R King.

APOLOGIES: Councillors S Cole, P Cooper, B Foster, T Hunter-Watts and S Jarvis and M Winn.

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 June, 2019, be approved as a correct record.

2. UPDATE ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2019-2022

The Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019-2022 had been produced following a review of the housing and homelessness needs of residents within the Vale and been approved by full Council on 12 December 2018. The Strategy outlined the Council's plan on addressing these needs over the next 3 years. The accompanying Action Plan was detailed at Appendix 1 to the Committee report.

The report included information on the Housing Team that was part of the county-wide housing work stream that was currently working to map all contracts and processes to ensure that relationships were maintained post Vesting Day. Transition provisions allowed up to 24 months for a new County-wide Strategy to be produced.

As AVDC's Strategy was valid until 2022, the immediate focus was on maintaining business as usual for all clients. Beyond this, the new Strategy would start to be developed that would continue to uphold the positive contribution that AVDC and the other Districts had made to homelessness in the Vale.

The Committee was informed on the 4 strategic aims of the Strategy and notable achievements during the period January – June 2019 were highlighted, as follows:

1. Strategic Aim No. 1 – The Prevention of Rough Sleeping.

In February 2019, the number of rough sleepers had fallen below 10. However, the most recent count in May 2019 had identified 17 rough sleepers. Information was provided to Members on rough sleeping initiatives that were being undertaken to support those at risk from homelessness, which included carrying out bi-monthly counts. A lack of high needs supported accommodation within the county remained a significant challenge.

Implementation of the Homeless Reduction Act continued to place demands on the Housing Team as more complex data recording was required. The partnership with Riverside Housing for Winter Emergency Provision and temporary accommodation at Bearbrook during the coldest periods had proved to be successful. In February 2019, the first properties had been supplied and released by VAHT as part of a housing first type model for medium risk clients.

Following on from lessons learnt from the Building Resilience Pilot, the Districts had funded a county-wide short-term Prison/Probation and Housing Liaison Officer contract

provided by Connection Support, to ensure prisons met their statutory duty to refer which came into effect in October 2019.

The Tenancy Sustainment Contract managed by the County Council had been extended to include support for new tenants.

2. Strategic Aim No. 2 – To Facilitate and maximise the supply of affordable housing.

The number of new affordable homes for January-June 2019 was 155. While there were no statutory obligations to provide a certain number of new affordable homes, Aylesbury consistently achieved more than the other Bucks districts.

Shared equity loans were being explored in Haddenham, as were plans to bring forward a number of social rented houses. The current figure was 34, subject to changes in the exact number of completions. A proportion of the New Homes Bonus had also been ring-fenced for the delivery of new affordable housing.

Members were informed that Bucks Home Choice, the social housing allocation policy for Bucks, had been reviewed and the new policy would go live on 1 October, 2019.

Information was also provided on the Accommodation Officer post, on the Environmental Health team successfully prosecuting landlords in breach of HMO Licensing rules, and that the draft masterplan for Aylesbury Garden Town was currently being developed.

3. Strategic Aim No. 3 – Responding to the ongoing challenges of welfare reform.

The Revenues and Benefits team continued to support Universal Credit (UC) claimants and worked closely with the housing team to help mitigate and prevent homelessness. Information was also provided on the Housing Debt Advice team and the Citizens Advice service “Help to Claim” for customers who required extra support when making a new UC claim or moving onto UC.

4. Strategic Aim No. 4 – Contribute to the improvement of health and well-being services for people at risk of homelessness.

The Mental Health Nurse post within the Housing team was working well to identify homeless people who had mental health needs so that appropriate interventions and referrals could be made.

The Housing Team had met with the Clinical Commissioning Group, who did not have a Duty to Refer, to explain the need for GPs to notify the Housing team on patients at risk of homelessness at the earliest opportunity.

Members were also informed on the following pieces of legislation introduced this year:-

- The Homes Act (Fitness for Habitation) – 20/3/2019 – which gave additional rights to tenants who lived in social or privately rented houses and flats.
- Draft Domestic Abuse Bill – 21/1/2019 – together with a consultation document.

The Housing Team had also responded to a number of Government consultations regarding tackling homelessness, the Mental Capacity Act Code, an MHCLG Allocations Evidence Collection Exercise and on improving access to social housing for members of the Armed Forces, Veterans and their families.

Members sought additional information and were informed:-

- (i) that there were 4,900 people on the Bucks Home Choice waiting list, which included 1,700 applications for over 55s. However, many of these were not necessarily people with a housing need but people who had a house but wanted to move. The biggest pressure and shortage for BHC was for one bedroom single person accommodation.
- (ii) that the targets in the VALP in relation to providing affordable housing as part of new developments was completely separate to the Housing and Homelessness Strategy. However, the Council was always proactive to negotiate as much affordable housing as possible and 700 lets had been delivered last year.
- (iii) that Aylesbury Vale was fortunate to have 100 units at Griffin Place for temporary accommodation. Wherever possible the Council tried not to use B&B accommodation for temporary accommodation although a few had been used that were located in the High Wycombe area. Wycombe had inspected these B&Bs to ensure they complied with safeguarding requirements although there were also plans for Officers from AVDC to check relevant premises.
- (iv) that while the Council Housing teams already had good work relationships, Officers were working to ensure that a seamless service would continue to be provided from 1 April 2020.
- (v) on the process for children who came out of care and had a housing need.
- (vi) that the AVDC Housing service was proudest of how quickly it responded to housing, and especially homelessness, issues. While homelessness legislation provided Councils with wide discretion on how they responded to homelessness issues, AVDC accepted 80% of homelessness applications compared to a national average of 55%.
- (vii) that the Housing team had worked with the Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group (who were based at the Gateway offices) in relation to homelessness / rough sleeping issues that GPs might encounter and had rolled out information so that GPs knew how to refer people who were homeless or had no fixed address.
- (viii) on the partnership working done with organisations specialising in primary care, substance dependency, mental health, employment and health.

Members noted the amendments to the strategy document and commented that they were happy for the Action Plan updates to be published on the Council's website, and –

RESOLVED –

That the progress and achievements up to the end of June 2019 against the Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019-22 Action Plan be noted.

3. FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2019-20

Under European food law the Food Standards Agency (FSA) was deemed to be the competent authority. To ensure these powers were exercised consistently across the country by local authorities, the FSA had developed a framework agreement, part of which included the production by each local authority of a food service plan.

Service plans were seen as an important part of the process to ensure that national priorities and standards were addressed and delivered locally. The details to be

contained in the plan were specified by the FSA. Plans had to contain the following information:-

- Service Aims and Objectives.
- Background.
- Service Delivery.
- Resources.
- Quality Assessment.
- Review.

The Committee received a report which contained the Food Service Plan for 2019/20. Key features of the plan included:-

- There were 1,690 registered food businesses in Aylesbury Vale (this was 108 fewer premises than 2018/19, partially due to the work undertaken in checking and removing businesses that had closed).
- Premises were given a risk rating from A to E. Resources were targeted to ensure higher risk premises (A, B, Non-compliant C and Unrated) were inspected in accordance with the FSA Code of Practice.
- The number of premises that were deemed to be 'broadly compliant' with the law was 97.81%.
- In 2018/19 AVDC achieved 92.9% of programmed interventions with 100% of premises inspections rated A- non compliant C were completed.
- The backlog of unrated inspections from the previous year had been reduced and was 37.

The report also highlighted areas of improvement or exploration to improve efficiency and to ensure AVDC was offering the best service to customers. The Cabinet Member was in attendance and endorsed the work carried out to formulate the plan.

Following the report's introduction, Members had further questions and were informed:-

- (i) that there was not a direct correlation between the risk ratings (A-E) given to premises to ensure higher risk premises were inspected in accordance with the FSA Code of Practice, and the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme that gave each business a rating of 0-5 based on how well it met the requirements of food hygiene following an inspection by a food safety officer.
- (ii) with an explanation of the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme and some of the factors that were considered during inspection visits. If there were particular issues then an officer might re-visit a business to ensure that improvements had been made although the FHRS rating would not be updated until after the next inspection visit, unless specifically requested by the premises.
- (iii) with an update on the Council's Food Business Advice Service.
- (iv) that businesses didn't have to display their FHRS rating on site, although they were published on a national website.
- (v) on the planning that the team had done in preparation for Brexit, including with some local businesses that would be most impacted. Health certificates were not currently required for moving animal products within Europe although it was possible that new requirements would need to be complied with post-Brexit.

- (vi) that it was unfortunate that the Bucks Herald had recently published an article commenting on the Council's Food Service team's capacity and resilience that had been incorrect and inaccurate.

RESOLVED –

That the contents of the 2019-20 Food Service Plan be noted and comments passed to the Cabinet Member.

4. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered their future work programme for the meetings on 3 December 2019 and 10 February 2020, and expressed an interest in the following coming to the Committee:-

- Aylesbury Garden Town Update.
- Update on HS2 Infrastructure Work (to invite HS2 to attend the meeting)
- Update on outcome of changes to the County Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres.
- Aylesbury Town Centre / Town Centre Partnership – covering issues such as pedestrianisation of the Town Centre, uneven surfaces/cobbles, taxis in Market Square, and traffic flow in the Town Centre, car parking charges impact on footfall (statistics)
- Business Rates – on what was being done to assist current businesses and attract new businesses to the Town Centre (However, this issue is within the remit of the Finance and Services Scrutiny Committee).

RESOLVED –

That the Work Programme be updated, as agreed at the meeting.

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AYLESBURY GARDEN TOWN UPDATE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To update Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee on the Aylesbury Garden Town Project. Members are asked to note the purpose and programme for engagement.

2 Executive summary

The Aylesbury Garden Town 2050 Vision was launched at the start of November 2019. The Draft Masterplan will be out for public consultation from Monday 6th January until Monday 3rd February 2020. The 2050 Vision is appended to this paper. This paper introduces the Vision and sets out the programme of engagement on both the Vision and Draft Masterplan. Stephen Hill (Interim programme Manager for Aylesbury Garden Town) will be present at Committee to provide a presentation and verbal update.

3 Supporting information

Background

- 3.1 Work has been ongoing over the last 18 months to produce an Aylesbury Garden Town Masterplan and associated high level Vision.
- 3.2 In September the Aylesbury Garden Town Board approved the Draft Masterplan for public consultation (to commence in January 2020), and in October the Board approved the Vision for publication (Appendix A).
- 3.3 The Vision sets out the high level aspirations and principles for what Aylesbury should look like as a Garden Town by 2050. The Vision recognises the role of Aylesbury as the County Town, the importance of the economy and strength of the Town Centre. It also celebrates the role of Aylesbury as the birthplace of the Paralympics, promoting an accessible, inclusive place.
- 3.4 The Vision identifies 8 key principles which build on Aylesbury's heritage, strengths and opportunities as a Garden Town to tackle the Town's challenges head on and for the benefit of all. This series of interrelated principles underpin proposals and initiatives within the Draft Masterplan. The Draft Masterplan sets out in detail how the AGT Vision will be delivered through a comprehensive and co-ordinated town-wide plan.
- 3.5 The Vision and Draft Masterplan have been the subject of extensive engagement with key stakeholders throughout over its 18 months development. Initial briefings with Members from AVDC and BCC (and Town Council and Parish Clerks) took place back in February 2018. This was then followed by an ongoing programme of workshops and briefing sessions with key stakeholders focussed around updating on and discussing the emerging vision and masterplan.

Vision and Masterplan Engagement

- 3.6 Following approval in October, an extensive programme of engagement commenced to formally launch the 2050 Vision. The Vision has been publicised since 1 November through social media channels, the media,

AGT website with editorial articles in Vale Life, Aylesbury Live Guide and Aylesbury Vale Times (AVDC's resident newsletter to 50,000 homes).

- 3.7 To coincide with the launch of the Vision, a number of stakeholder events are being held throughout November, with key parties, to provide the opportunity to explain the vision in more detail and preview the detail of the draft Masterplan, which will be the subject of public consultation in January.
- 3.8 The events are as follows:
- 13 November –6 pm to 8pm presentation/exhibition with elected Members (AVDC & BCC) on the Vision and Draft Masterplan and Q&A.
 - 20 November -5.30 pm to 7:30 presentation/exhibition to Town and Parish Council's) on the Vision and Draft Masterplan and Q&A.
 - 25 November -1.30pm-3pm Staff briefings for AVDC and BCC presentation, exhibition and Q&A.
 - 25 November–3pm to 5pm presentation, exhibition and Q&A with the Built Environment and key Stakeholder Forum.
 - 25 November -6pm to 8pm presentation, exhibition and Q&A with Community Forum.
- 3.9 The formal public consultation on the Draft Masterplan will be undertaken from Monday 6th January until Monday 3rd February 2020. There will be an extensive programme of public events around the Draft Masterplan. This will involve a roadshow (with publicised public exhibitions), multi-channels of engagement and multi-media coverage. Whilst the main consultation activities will be focussed on the AGT area, overall coverage of the Draft Masterplan will be across the District. We will also write to key stakeholders and partners to seek their views
- 3.10 Stephen Hill (Interim programme Manager for Aylesbury Garden Town) will be present at Committee to provide a presentation and verbal update.

4 Resource implications

- 4.1 None

Contact Officer
Background Documents

Clare Manders 01296 585620
Aylesbury Garden Town 2050 Vision (Appended)

Aylesbury Garden Town 2050 Vision

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Foreword

The next 30 years is an exciting new era for Aylesbury as it grows into a Garden Town.

It's nearly three years since Aylesbury was awarded Garden Town status and given a once in a lifetime opportunity to improve the lives of our community. Since then we've been drawing up plans for the way the town will evolve over the next few decades, through listening and engaging with the many different groups that make Aylesbury the great place that it is. We've heard from residents and local businesses, as well as stakeholders, community groups and partners - and we've used that feedback to shape our Vision which builds on Aylesbury's heritage and strengths and looks to its future opportunities as a Garden Town.

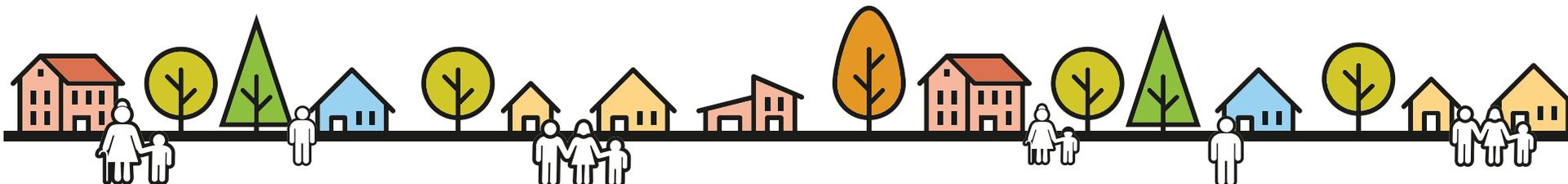
Our Vision for 2050 explains our collective ambitions for Aylesbury Garden Town and our aim to create an Aylesbury that is designed for everyone. As the birthplace of the Paralympic Movement, a legacy of inclusion and accessibility is an essential part of the future of the town. We want to make Aylesbury a greener, more inclusive and prosperous place, where everyone can enjoy a high quality of life.

We will continue to work in partnership with our local community and stakeholders to ensure that as Aylesbury grows, we include all the right things to help it thrive.

I welcome your feedback.



Cllr BILL CHAPPLE OBE
Chair Aylesbury Garden
Town Partnership





Aylesbury Garden Town: Our 2050 Vision

Aylesbury Garden Town is the County Town of Buckinghamshire.

Building on the town's proud history as the birthplace of the Paralympic Movement, it is internationally renowned as an attractive and inclusive place, enabling people and communities to reach their full potential.

It is an innovator in health and wellbeing, public service and sustainable travel.

The historic town centre is the vibrant heart of Aylesbury Garden Town, a thriving community and commercial hub, full of life, interaction and culture.

Green, healthy, productive and accessible, Aylesbury Garden Town is simply a great place to be.

What is Aylesbury Garden Town?

Aylesbury was awarded Garden Town status by the government in January 2017 as part of the national Garden Communities programme. This promotes excellence in design and planning, evoking earlier Garden Cities such as Welwyn and Letchworth which have stood the test of time.

Aylesbury Garden Town is not a new town. It is a new era for a town with a long and rich history, embarking on a new phase of change and growth. Key public sector partners have come together to lead the delivery of this change.

Aylesbury is within one of the key areas for growth in the UK. Around 16,000 new homes are set to be built by 2033, and construction is underway at Berryfields and Kingsbrook.

Aylesbury's evolution as a Garden Town will be shaped by emerging policy and guidance including the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) 2013-2033, the Aylesbury Garden Town Masterplan (to be consulted upon soon), and the Aylesbury Vale Design Guide (currently under preparation).

This document, the Aylesbury Garden Town 2050 Vision, supports the Policies contained within the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) covering the period to 2033, in particular Policy D1 Delivering Aylesbury Garden Town. It also looks beyond the 2033 VALP period, identifying further ambitions for the Garden Town to 2050.

The AGT Vision sets out the Partnership's long-term ambition for Aylesbury—a 21st century Garden Town—and informs the emerging AGT Masterplan, which further explains how the vision will be delivered through a comprehensive and co-ordinated town-wide spatial plan.



Market Square



Circus Field Basin



Bourg Walk Bridge



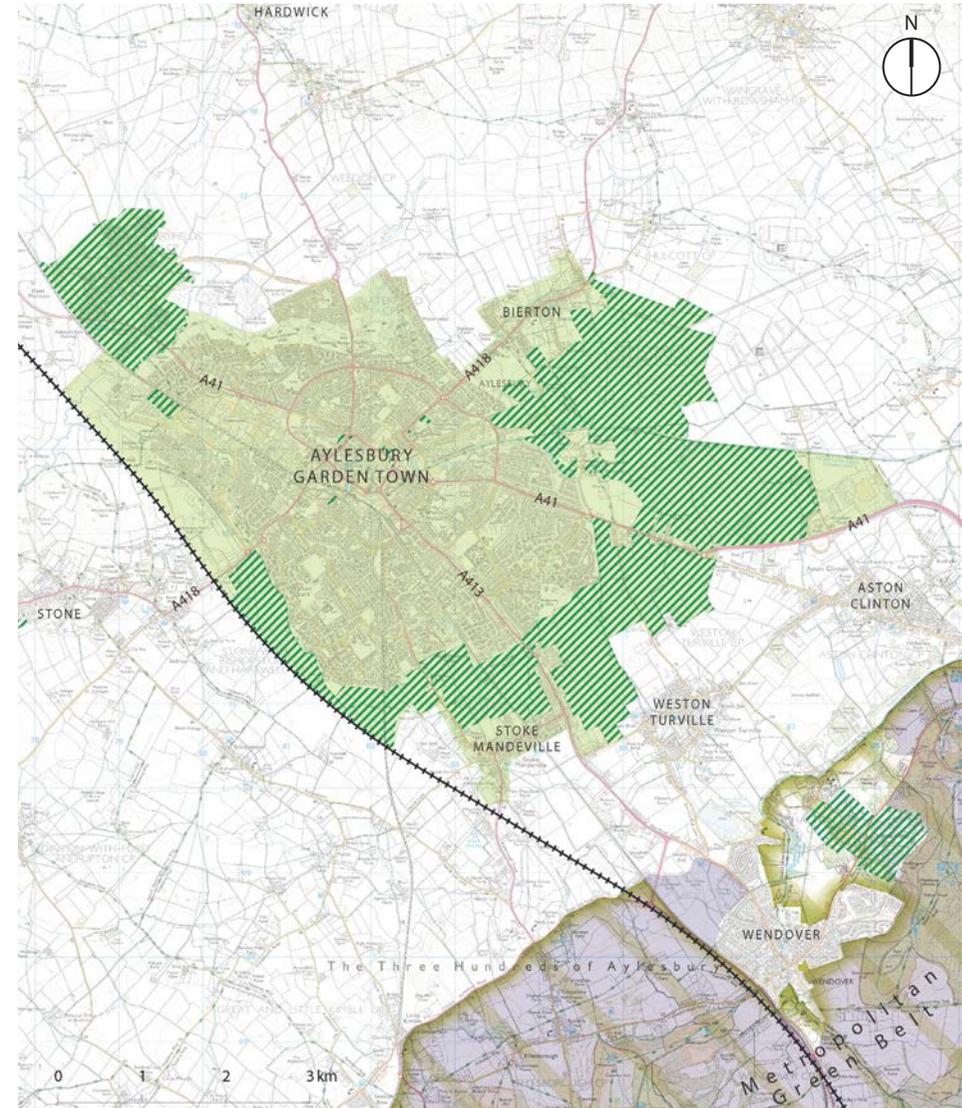
Waterside Theatre

Where is Aylesbury Garden Town?

Aylesbury has a rich history and is Buckinghamshire's County Town. It benefits from a great location, close to London and within the government-proposed Oxford-Cambridge Arc, which presents a global-level opportunity to attract jobs, business and investment.

Aylesbury Garden Town covers the existing built up area of Aylesbury and new residential and employment development sites at the edge of Aylesbury, that are currently being planned as part of the VALP, some of which are already under construction.

-  Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan allocated sites
-  Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
-  Metropolitan Green Belt
-  Proposed High Speed 2

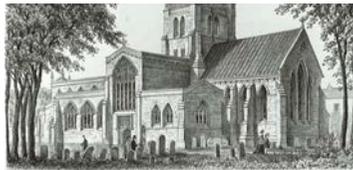


Garden Town location

The Eras of Aylesbury

Aylesbury has evolved over many centuries into the town we know and love. Designation as a Garden Town is the start of an exciting new era in the town's evolution.

Aylesbury of yesterday



EARLY HISTORY & MEDIEVAL MARKET TOWN

Aylesbury's history of habitation dates back to the Iron Age. The Romans built Akeman Street. The Saxon's knew it as Ægel's burgh.

In medieval times, Aylesbury grew into a large village hosting a weekly market and annual fairs for the surrounding area. Walton was a hamlet to the south. Today's town centre, with large open squares surrounded by shops and inns, is a remnant of the town's medieval commercial importance.



COUNTY TOWN

In 1529, Aylesbury was designated the county town of Buckinghamshire.

With this new civic and administrative function and its existing flourishing cattle market, Aylesbury became the principal market town in the county and known for its lace manufacturing and duck breeding.



VICTORIAN TOWN

Aylesbury's industrial identity grew with the opening of the canal and railway. Small businesses, and then larger industries flourished.

The town grew gradually and new public facilities and suburbs of terrace housing were constructed. In 1865 a corn exchange was built where grain could be bought and sold. Aylesbury continued to be famous for its ducks.



BIRTHPLACE OF THE PARALYMPIC GAMES

On 29 July 1948 – the same day as the Olympic Opening Ceremony – the first "Stoke Mandeville Games" took place launching what was to become the Paralympic Games.

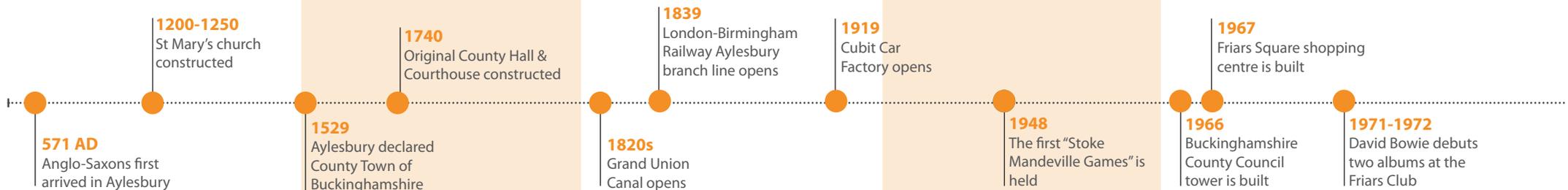
The Paralympic legacy continues today. Stoke Mandeville Stadium and the National Spinal Injuries Centre are nationally important facilities.



GROWING TOWN

In the 1950s and 60s, Aylesbury grew rapidly bringing new people, businesses, culture and prosperity to the town.

Aylesbury has continued to grow throughout the 20th century and into the 21st.



Aylesbury of today



CULTURAL RENAISSANCE

In the 21st century, Aylesbury is a vibrant commercial centre. Its heritage as a market town and county town ring true in its streets, squares, and weekly markets.

As a testament to this heritage, Aylesbury has seen numerous recent changes that bolster its role not only as a place to live, but as a place rich in culture and leisure, with great spaces and events attracting people from the surrounding areas.

2002 was the first year of Aylesbury's children's literary and arts festival, now known as WhizzFizzFest.

In 2005, Aylesbury was designated a cycling demonstration town, creating the Gemstone Routes and the striking Bourg Walk Bridge.

In 2010, the 1,200 seat Waterside Theatre was opened. The theatre hosts musicals, comedies, plays, opera and ballet performances.

In 2015, Buckinghamshire New University opened its Aylesbury Campus. It offers a wide range of specialist courses for students of all ages.

In March 2019, The Exchange opened, creating a new public square surrounded by restaurants, shops and homes in the heart of the town centre.

2002
The first WhizzFizzFest is held

2005
Aylesbury is declared a cycling demonstration town

2009
Bourg Walk Bridge opens and wins the Engineering Excellence Award

2010
Waterside Theatre opens

2015
Aylesbury Campus of the Buckinghamshire New University opens

2019
The Exchange opens

2017
Aylesbury is awarded Garden Town status

Aylesbury of tomorrow



AYLESBURY GARDEN TOWN

The Garden Town will build on Aylesbury's strengths and protect its historic character and culture.

It will address the challenges that we face today, and that we anticipate will shape Aylesbury over the next 30 years.

The Garden Town programme will seek to improve the quality of life for all within Aylesbury, creating a place to be proud of. The Vision and Principles set out in this document will help to set the aspirations for that change and will be further informed by the Garden Town Masterplan.

Challenges to 2050

Aylesbury faces a number of big challenges over the next three decades, that Garden Town status can help to meet. These include:



ENSURING OUR TOWN CENTRE IS FIT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

How we shop and work is changing. This is affecting the health of town centres around the country. We want Aylesbury Town Centre to retain its historic role as a destination for activity, culture and exchange.



BETTER CONNECTING WITH OUR ENVIRONMENT

Aylesbury has great canals, brooks and green spaces, but some of them are hidden and underused. It is on the doorstep of the Chiltern Hills. We want to reinvigorate the town's green and blue spaces, for the benefit of people and nature.



MAKING THE MOST OF OUR GREAT LOCATION

Aylesbury's location between London and the government-proposed Oxford - Cambridge Growth Arc is a big opportunity for long term economic prosperity, if the right conditions for investment are created.



ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO WALK AND CYCLE

Aylesbury is dependent on the car. We need to kick-start a behavioural change towards more walking, cycling, public transport, and innovative transport solutions such as car clubs, making it easier for everyone to get around, making us more healthy and active, and breathing life back into Aylesbury's streets.



IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF AYLESBURY'S RESIDENTS

Aylesbury has a diverse population. It also has pockets of social deprivation. We want investment and growth to benefit everyone who lives here, helping everyone live happier, healthier lives.



CREATING DISTINCTIVE AND ATTRACTIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Just over 16,000 new homes will be built by the mid-2030s. We want to create well designed and attractive places where new communities can flourish.



ADAPTING TO CHANGE

The UK Parliament has declared a climate emergency and committed to cutting greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, with Aylesbury Vale District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council following suit. At the same time, technology is transforming the way we work, live, move, and respond to environmental challenges. We want the Garden Town to harness this change for the good of those who live and work in Aylesbury.



HARNESSING THE BENEFITS OF GROWTH

Properly planned change and growth can tackle existing challenges, making things better for everyone, not worse. That's what we want to achieve at Aylesbury. We are committed to 'joined-up thinking' and supporting partnerships between public and private sector organisations and local communities.



Credit: BMD 2019



Credit: ADN

Ambitions for 2050

We have identified eight principles which build on Aylesbury's heritage, strengths, and future opportunities as a Garden Town, to tackle these challenges head on and for the benefit of all.

This series of interrelated principles are the foundation for the Garden Town era of Aylesbury. They will underpin proposals and initiatives contained in the Garden Town Masterplan and the entire Aylesbury Garden Town programme.

These principles have the people and community of Aylesbury at their heart. They seek to define how Aylesbury will become a high quality and truly inclusive place to live.



Aylesbury for everyone

At the heart of our vision is an ambition to create an Aylesbury that is designed for everyone. Aylesbury is the birthplace of the Paralympic Movement. This important legacy of inclusion is an essential part of the future for Aylesbury and forms a core value in the Garden Town Vision.

As we work towards delivering the Garden Town, our ambition is to see Aylesbury emerge as an exemplar in its approach to inclusion.

We need to keep talking to everyone who lives, works and visits Aylesbury so that we can understand how we can make Aylesbury work for everyone. We want to create a welcoming environment, where inclusion and equal access to opportunities will sit at the centre of the decision-making process for the Garden Town.



Waterside Festival. Credit: ADN



Vision for more accessible, people-friendly places



Paralympic Flame Lighting Ceremony at Stoke Mandeville Stadium



Aylesbury Old Town

Putting the town centre first

“In 2050 Aylesbury’s town centre is a thriving community and commercial heart. It is a destination, a place to live and a place of exchange, commerce, and leisure that goes beyond just retail. The Garden Town is supported by a greater mix of uses and activities across a wider central area supporting long-term population and economic growth.”

The heart of the Garden Town

Our town centre will continue its historic role as a cultural and community hub. A range of new and old quarters will evolve to breathe new life into the centre. A vibrant mix of uses will create activity and footfall, day and night, weekdays and weekends, reflecting changes in the way people live, shop, work and have fun.

Reconnected with the communities it serves

We will break down barriers created by road and other infrastructure, to re-connect the historic town centre to surrounding communities and employment zones. This will allow the town centre to grow, creating new places to live and work centrally.

Our public spaces matter

We will create people friendly, accessible and healthy streets and spaces across the Town Centre, while conserving and highlighting Aylesbury’s precious heritage.



The Exchange, Aylesbury. Credit: BMD 2019.



Superkillen Park, Copenhagen



The Scene, Walthamstow, London



Cambridge Street , Princesshay, Exeter



New Road, Brighton

An innovation and investment hub

“In 2050 Aylesbury is the prime location for investment and job creation in Buckinghamshire. It has capitalised on its position within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc to grow jobs and businesses attracting investment due to its high-quality business and living environment”.

A key location within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc

We will create space and the right conditions for new and innovative employment sectors that plug into the Oxford-Cambridge business network and secure a prosperous future for Aylesbury. Catalyst locations will include the town centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital and Stadium, Berryfields, and Woodlands Enterprise Zone.

Playing to our strengths

We will capitalize on existing specialisms and our links to nearby economic hubs to grow our economy in meditech, space, energy and high-performing engineering, creative industries, food processing, mobility and the public sector.

Creating an environment for innovation and flexibility

We will encourage the location of light industrial uses towards the outer link roads, enabling the town centre to expand and transform into an entrepreneurial hub of flexible office space and mixed uses easily accessible by walking or cycling. We will be a test bed for new, emerging technologies and employment.

Supporting small businesses

We will create new, different and flexible work spaces in the town centre and local centres to support Aylesbury’s self-employed residents, start-ups and small businesses. Aylesbury will be a place to grow your business in a thriving environment.



Aylesbury Campus of the Buckinghamshire New University. Credit: ADN



Co-working space



Innovation in existing economic strengths

The highest quality of life for all

“In 2050 Aylesbury Garden Town supports the highest quality of life for its diverse population, through the provision of accessible local centres and neighbourhood hubs with community facilities that meet the needs of all.”

Centres of activity

Local centres will be enhanced as the hubs of community life, providing clusters of shops, services, and facilities for residents close to home.

Hubs of daily life

As the town grows, we will carefully plan and design new facilities to be in the most accessible locations, so that all homes are in walking distance of the services they need, enhancing the sense of community and quality of life for residents.

Schools and services

Health services will be provided in accessible locations, and in an integrated way to support the health and wellbeing of residents. People in Aylesbury will have access to excellent education opportunities, both academically and vocationally.

A place for everyone

Aylesbury will be a place where everyone, including the town’s most vulnerable people, are supported to reach their full potential.



Bigg Market local centre, Newcastle



Aylesbury Grammar School



A vision for making Exchange Street pedestrian friendly



Play in the Park, Vale Park



Prestwood Infant School

A green and healthy Garden Town

“In 2050 a web of green and blue infrastructure puts the ‘garden’ in Garden Town. As a result of the Garden Town programme Aylesbury’s communities are better connected to the countryside and the Chiltern Hills. The town’s waterways have been revealed and naturalised, streets are greener and outdoor spaces are more accessible, biodiverse and active.”

Aylesbury Gardenway

We will create a continuous loop of exciting and beautiful green and blue spaces around Aylesbury, connecting parks, woodlands, leisure destinations and heritage sites.

The Gardenway will become a focus for community activities. It will connect people to nature and will make it easy to get out into the countryside and enjoy the great outdoors.

Going against the flow

We will work to open up and naturalise Aylesbury’s hidden waterways, making them more accessible, healthy and productive. The canal, river and brook corridors will become spaces for walking and cycling, recreation, biodiversity and climate change mitigation.

The best of Town and Country

New communities will be designed to be as green as possible, with half their land dedicated to multifunctional and accessible green space to maximise benefits such as for wildlife, recreation and health.

Greening Aylesbury

Everyone will be encouraged to get involved in helping to manage their local green spaces. Together we will plant new woodland and street trees, create pocket parks, grow community gardens, and introduce green spaces and play facilities that work for everyone.



Vision for greening Aylesbury

Aylesbury on the move

“In 2050 people choose to walk, cycle, or use public transport for everyday journeys within Aylesbury, because the town is easy to navigate and has an integrated and inclusive transport system. In fact, sustainable travel accounts for more than 50% of journeys starting in Aylesbury. Residents benefit from active lifestyles and streets are people- friendly places.”

Active, greener travel for all

We are committed to reducing congestion, pollution and our carbon footprint by making it easy and affordable for everyone to walk, cycle and use public transport regardless of where you live, your age and physical ability. Our target is that by 2050 at least 50% of trips originating in the Garden Town will be made by sustainable modes.

Healthy, active travel

Aylesbury will be a great place to cycle and walk. The Gemstone routes will be upgraded as part of a connected network of high quality, safe routes linking destinations across the town.

The future is now in Aylesbury

Aylesbury will be a living lab, a test-bed for new technologies including new forms of transport and data usage which will help us to move around and make life easier for residents and businesses.

Healthy streets

Aylesbury’s streets will be both places to move through and places to spend time in. Through traffic will be removed from the town centre so that the town’s streets can become people friendly, convivial spaces again.

Getting there together

When passengers arrive in Aylesbury by train or bus, they will be greeted by a station experience that is pleasant and easy to navigate. Once in Aylesbury, there will be many shared ways of getting around reliably and comfortably including bus, demand responsive transport, and car clubs.



Vision for a more people-friendly station boulevard



Cycle path, The Netherlands



Cycle parking at the Exchange. Credit: BMD 2019.

Distinctive Garden Communities

“In 2050 Aylesbury is a showcase for new approaches to housing delivery and design. New garden communities provide varied, beautiful neighbourhoods that Aylesbury’s residents are proud to call home”.

We know when we’re home

The design of new buildings, streets and green spaces will create distinctive neighbourhoods within Aylesbury Garden Town. We will demand place-specific, bespoke and best practice design solutions.

We built it together

We will be bold in working collaboratively with communities, local stakeholders and development partners to ensure viable and innovative approaches to the delivery and long-term management of our spaces and places.

Aylesbury Garden Town Masterplan

Our new communities will be planned in a joined-up way, across site boundaries and ownerships, to deliver the town-wide objectives of the Garden Town Masterplan.

Distinctive and connected

We will develop a strong vision for each new community, so that each neighbourhood has its own distinct identity, while being a fully connected part of the wider Garden Town.

Designing a Garden Town

All development in Aylesbury will be required to be of the highest design quality standards and exemplary in inclusive design. Everyone will have equal access to the well-designed homes, streets, spaces, and buildings that make up Aylesbury Garden Town.



Fairford Leys



Canalside, Aylesbury



Kingsbrook, Aylesbury



Goldenmede, The Rothschild Foundation. Credit: Rothschild Foundation.



Aylesbury Canal Basin. Credit: ADN

A Smart and Sustainable Garden Town

“In 2050 technology is used to help make Aylesbury a better, more resilient and sustainable place. Aylesbury’s integrated data services make life easier for residents and ensures access to local and strategic services”.

Resilient from the start

We will do everything we can to ensure that Aylesbury looks towards low carbon technology and is a pioneer of technology that greens our transport and energy infrastructure.

Let’s be smart about it

Data and digital platforms will be used deliberately and securely in the planning, design and management of the Garden Town to support innovation, service delivery, overall liveability and business growth. 5G broadband will be available everywhere, and free public wifi will be available in the Town Centre.

Our utilities are green and connected

We will strive to increase local renewable energy generation and introduce district energy systems. A co-ordinated approach to utilities planning will enable us to deliver utilities more efficiently and with less waste.



Solar road



Wind turbines



Autonomous shuttle



Electric bus



Solar truck

Integrated delivery of the Garden Town

“In 2050 Aylesbury Garden Town is known for having been delivered through long term ambition and sustained partnerships between the community, public and private sectors. Expectations placed upon delivery partners have been increased but the returns have been greater. Aylesbury Garden Town is an aspirational place to develop, work and live.”

Long term vision

We will maintain our commitment to the Garden Town project in the long term and across political cycles.

We look after the things we own

We will explore opportunities for the community to become more involved in the management of their local facilities and open spaces.

We're in it together

We can't do it ourselves. Our community and development partners will be part of the conversation from start to finish, so that we can all work together towards a better Aylesbury.

A rewarding place to deliver

We will be pro-active in attracting funding and working with our delivery partners in order to build high quality places and infrastructure.

We've got a plan

We are creating a Masterplan for Aylesbury Garden Town and an action plan explaining how we will deliver the Garden Town Vision. This will be regularly updated so that we have a clear roadmap for the future.



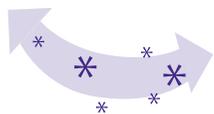
Aylesbury Garden Town vision workshop



Aylesbury pop-up exhibition

What happens next?

We are developing a Masterplan which proposes how the Vision for Aylesbury Garden Town will be delivered through development projects and investment in Aylesbury's town centre, neighbourhoods and green spaces. The Draft Masterplan, which will be consulted upon over the next few months, identifies a wide range of potential initiatives, from small to large, which will help make a difference. Examples include:



Places for business

The creation of high quality and innovative new employment space to capitalise on Aylesbury's location within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.



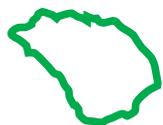
The Central Area

The regeneration and expansion of the town centre, and the creation of new employment led, waterside neighbourhoods adjacent to the Canal and Bear Brooks, to create a revitalised historic heart to the Garden Town.



Local centres network

Delivering a connected network of local centres and neighbourhood hubs within walking distance of all residents, to improve access to local services for all.



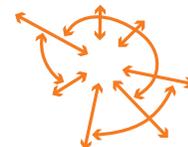
Greening Aylesbury

Enhancing, linking and expanding Aylesbury's green and blue spaces, gardens, parks and natural and heritage areas, to become focal points for Aylesbury's communities and provide accessible routes for walking and cycling.



Aylesbury waterways

The opening up and naturalisation of Aylesbury's forgotten brooks and waterways, to reconnect Aylesbury's communities with its hidden blue infrastructure.



Connected Aylesbury

The creation of a comprehensive walking, cycling and wheelchair network to encourage healthy travel choices and reduce car dependence. It will be easy to choose sustainable modes of transport for daily journeys.



Healthy streets

An improved road network delivered in parallel with public transport, walking and cycling enhancements to create attractive, healthy streets for people in Aylesbury's neighbourhoods and town centre.



Distinctive garden communities

The creation of new neighbourhoods at the edge of Aylesbury which embody the Garden Town Vision and deliver exemplary living environments.

What's already happening?

Work is underway to deliver the Vision.

To show people how our lives can change for the better, we have started work on a number of small but exciting projects across Aylesbury. Some of these are illustrated below. Our ambitions for wider and long term transformation will be set out in the Draft Masterplan and we will be seeking your views on these very shortly.



AGT Community food growing project launched



Improvements to Gemstone Cycling Routes and network, including the extension of the Waddesdon Greenway



AGT Kingsbury Square Parklet



SMART Connected Community, a Live Lab for piloting a number of data and technology-driven urban interventions.



Aylesbury AccessAble website, providing access information for key venues in the town centre

**For more information about Aylesbury Garden Town,
please contact us at the following:**



contactus@aylesburygardentown.co.uk



aylesburygardentown.co.uk



[@AylesburyGT](https://twitter.com/AylesburyGT)



[@AylesburyGT](https://www.facebook.com/AylesburyGT)

If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact us at the above.

LEVELS OF FLYTIPPING WITHIN AYLESBURY VALE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an update on the levels of fly tipping in Aylesbury Vale since changes were made to Household Recycling Centres in Buckinghamshire in April 2019

2 Supporting information

- 2.1 Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet agreed a series of changes to the county's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) service in January 2019. A public consultation about possible changes ran in Autumn 2018 for 8 weeks and received over 6,000 responses.
- 2.2 Key changes which started on 1 April 2019, were:
- all sites introduced charges for non-household waste
 - Aylesbury (Rabans Lane), Burnham, and Chesham household recycling centres now close 2 days a week on Wednesdays and Thursdays
 - Bledlow Household Recycling Centre has permanently closed
- 2.3 From 1 April 2019 residents have been charged for disposing of non-household waste items such as, bags of rubble, kitchen units, fence panels etc.
- 2.4 At the previous Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 24 September 2019, Cllr Stanier promised that officers would report on whether it is believed that these changes have directly impacted on the levels of fly tipping within Aylesbury Vale.
- 2.5 The following table provides a breakdown of the number of fly tipping reports we have responded to over for the period of April – October for the past 4 years.

Fly Tipping

| Number of Fly Tips | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|-------|
| Year | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | Total |
| 2016/17 | 76 | 53 | 60 | 61 | 61 | 73 | 66 | 450 |
| 2017/18 | 78 | 46 | 71 | 63 | 55 | 87 | 96 | 496 |
| 2018/19 | 79 | 73 | 61 | 72 | 73 | 77 | 87 | 522 |
| 2019/20 | 99 | 75 | 61 | 82 | 80 | 89 | 98 | 584 |

- 2.6 The table illustrates that there has been an increase in fly tipping year on year over the same period of months (April – October). The percentage increases between these years are:
- 2016/17 – 2017/18 – 10%
 - 2017/18 – 2018/19 – 5%
 - 2018/19 – 2019/20 – 12%

- 2.7 Despite recognising an increase it is not possible from these percentages to directly link the increase in fly tipping to the changes made to the HRCs.

3 Resource implications

- 3.1 None

Contact Officer
Background Documents

Will Rysdale / Naomi Batson 01296 585561 / 5506
N/A