

Amersham Community Board – 30 September 2021

Chilterns Lifestyle Centre Update

Pre-Opening Progress: There continue to be regular ongoing meetings with all the incoming tenants in the run up to practical completion. In readiness for operating from the premises, we are currently facilitating access for the specific fit outs and installation of equipment for each tenant and the library, ensuring it will be fully functional for the opening. These works have commenced in part and will continue through October for completion before the planned opening.

At this point it is worth noting that whilst there are issues within material supply chains that are affecting the whole construction industry, despite these challenges (which remain live) and the impact of the pandemic for almost the entire duration of the build, the Lifestyle Centre is due to be completed by late October and open by early November.

There is also a significant staff recruitment programme underway as the site will offer a wide range of employment opportunities from entry level through to experienced technical specialists. Everyone Active are working closely with Chesham Job Centre to ensure there will be opportunities for young people through the Government's Kickstart programme as well as comprehensive training opportunities for those wishing to build their career in leisure. Jobs range from lifeguards, swim teachers, Spa Manager, café, catering, health and fitness instructors to coaches. The new Centre Manager James Sexton has been appointed and is working hard to build the and expand the team needed to provide the wide range of activities that residents will be able to enjoy from early November.

Parking: When the new Centre first opens, there will be limited parking onsite while the Chiltern Pools and Community Centre buildings are demolished to create the new extended car park for the Centre – this will have 270 spaces and is expected to open in autumn 2022. The car park at the council offices on King George V Road in Amersham is set to become a Pay & Display car park from next month to provide additional car parking for the public and visitors of the new Centre.

Ticket machines will be installed from mid-October and the barrier at the entrance will no longer be in use. Blue badge holders will be able to continue to use the car park while displaying their badge.

Parking charges will apply Monday to Friday 7.30am to 6pm; parking will be free on Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays. There will be a maximum stay of three hours with a 30-minute period free of charge. Visitors will be able to pay for parking at the Pay & Display machines or via RingGo. Signage and other communications will be put in place to inform people of the changes.

The charges will be as follows:

- 30 minutes free
- Up to 1 hour £0.70
- Up to 2 hours £1.40
- Up to 3 hours £2.00

The main Centre car park will have charging bands covering a five-hour period for customers, there will be no free 30-minute parking periods.

The charges will be as follows:

Up to 1 hour £0.70

Up to 2 hours £1.40

Up to 3 hours £2.00

Up to 4 hours £2.50

Whilst the new car park is being built a temporary arrangement for coach drop-off and parking will also be in place on King George V Road.

Residential roads around the Centre remain subject to parking restrictions and will continue to be regularly monitored by Parking Enforcement Officers.

The parking arrangements will continue to be monitored to ensure that customers use the appropriate parking that is available for the visitors and users of the new Centre.

Opening Event: Plans are in train for an official opening event in November (date to be advised).