

Leighton-Linslade Partnership Project List

The below aspirations were adopted by Leighton-Linslade Town Council at its meeting held on 29 November 2021 and are separate to the aims and objectives set out in the Town Council's Five Year Plan 2019-2024.

Central Bedfordshire Council would be a necessary and significant Partner in the below aspirations. The Partnership Committee should take a central responsibility albeit in some cases in conjunction with the relevant Town Council Committee

Partnership Committee	Comment November 2021	
1	Provision of a Tourist Information Centre in the town centre.	A network of information outlets is being established through the provision of leaflet racks at Library and multi-storey car park. Town centre free WiFi launched 2020 will provide visitors with fast and free access to information.
2	Vandyke Road youth club	This facility is owned and managed by Central Bedfordshire Council. However, the Town Council continues to review services for young people within the parish through its centrally located Teenage Advice and Information Centre.
3	Town centre and retail improvements	LLTC with CBC officer support, formed a South Side of the High Street Task & Finish Group in 2020, now superseded by a South Side working party for January 2022 – July 2023.
4	Support the provision of local school facilities	Central Bedfordshire Council has statutory responsibility and is developing a Schools for the Future programme. Potential change from 3-tier to 2-tier school system under consultation.
5	Cultural and community facility	This is a long-term aspiration which might come forward in plans for future development of land south of the High Street. Big Plan II contained an aspiration for a better venue for Arts & Drama and a conference room. Central Bedfordshire Council is drafting a Cultural Strategy.
6	Ensure the Children's Centre on Vandyke Rd is expanded to cope with demand.	This rests with Central Bedfordshire Council. LLTC supports a number of initiatives for young children including offering subsidised facilities to the Mentmore Under Fives Playgroup and the Pages Play Café.
7	Employment land on eastern urban extension	Big Plan stated aspirations to: a) Ensure that designated employment land on the plans for East of L-L will use local apprentices who have been unable to find work; b) secure mixed use commercial/industrial/office development; c) provide starter units for small businesses. Whilst land has been designated for employment uses, these aspirations will be dependent upon market forces and third parties.

8	Ensure land is set aside in major developments for future community needs such as leisure & recreation.	Ongoing through the planning process.
9	Ensure social and community infrastructure is available in first phase of future developments.	S.106 developer contributions determined and trigger points set by Central Bedfordshire Council and published on its website with the relevant planning applications.
10	Leighton-Linslade Green Wheel	A long-term partnership ambition through the Ouzel Valley Park Steering Group. LLTC purchased Peace Meadow to secure this green space.
11	Secure a new leisure centre as part of the development to the East of the town	Central Bedfordshire Council has now announced the intention to deliver a new leisure centre to the east of the town to replace Tiddenfoot leisure centre.
12	Continue to restore sand pits in and around town to public open space.	Central Bedfordshire Council liaises with quarry operators and land owners on this. LLTC kept advised as part of the Sandpit Steering Group which meets on a quarterly basis.
13	Promote renewable energy and sustainable living to residents.	LLTC in 2019 adopted a set of environmental ambitions and in 2021 declared a climate emergency and an intention to become carbon neutral by 2030. CBC has recently published its Sustainability Plan which includes the intention to develop a virtual advice centre for communities about sustainable living and the intention to work with groups and parish councils.
14	Campaign for improvements in bus services and community transport services	Ongoing through groups such as the Eastern development Exemplar steering group (S106 funds agreed for sustainable transport)
15	Continued investment in the Cycling network & encouragement of increased cycling	Leighton Buzzard was previously a designated Cycling Town. In 2021 CBC has established a sustainable transport and active travel team.
16	Healthcare provision	LLTC has formed a Health Services Task and Finish Group to encourage progression of healthcare provision proposals to meet the ever-growing needs of the town and its surrounding area. The future provision of a healthcare facility/hub has been an agenda item on previous Partnership Committee meetings and remains a town wide priority. LLTC's Task and Finish Group has sought information and involvement from CBC and BLMK CCG in the next steps planned for 2022 (engagement work leading to service modelling and outline business case development).
17	Additional cemetery land	The Town Council has in recent years investigated and considered a number of options for increasing its burial capacity. Public engagement with residents confirmed a wish for LLTC to remain a burial authority. Land allocated for this purpose in the planning applications for the eastern urban extension are not within the parish boundary & its suitability for this purpose is not known. CBC assistance has been sought in securing additional cemetery land.
18	Additional allotment land	LLTC has seen a significant increase in waiting lists since the Covid-19 pandemic. Plots are managed and re-let on a regular basis.

		Land allocated for this purpose in the planning applications for the eastern urban extension are not all within the parish boundary but LLTC has submitted detailed comments on planning applications in respect of proposed sites.
19	Ensure any Central Bedfordshire planning strategy incorporates many of the Big Plan requirements deemed essential for future growth.	LLTC continues to review and comment upon emerging Central Bedfordshire planning strategy and has made representations in respect of the Local Plan.
20	Improved facilities at Tiddenfoot Waterside Park	As set out in the Masterplan for Tiddenfoot Waterside Park. Proposals for improved facilities presented to committee and to the Ouzel Valley Park steering group in 2021.

Projects of importance to the town but where a third party/other organisation may be pre-eminent/in the lead

Community Safety Sub-Committee

21	Ensure police resources deployed locally keep pace with the town's population.	Operational policing decisions rest with the Chief Constable of Bedfordshire Police. The Town Council's community safety budget and Operation Dodford framework agreement provide a mechanism for ongoing communications with the Police. LLTC has had numerous communications with Bedfordshire Police, the Police Crime Commissioner and the local Member of Parliament in respect of ensuring sufficient policing numbers and a local hub which is accessible to residents.
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Other

22	Soft play facility	LLTC recognises a wish from residents for delivery of a soft play facility of sufficient size to be useable by a wide range of age groups. This would require a building of suitable size and height, ideally in an easily accessible location or with car parking. To date no such location has come forward.
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Objectives endorsed by Leighton-Linslade Town Council 29 November 2021