

News Release

Market Trading in Central Bletchley

Pitches allocated for market traders have been relocated in response to measures implemented by Milton Keynes Council to make Queensway safe and to promote social distancing during the COVID19 pandemic.

A hard road closure area is being maintained as a pedestrian area and market traders will continue to be located in this space for the time being. An electric barrier has been installed to ensure the safety of traders and members of the public when vehicles enter and leave the site either to set up their stalls at the beginning of the day or to pack up at the end of trading. The only vehicles allowed to remain in the pedestrian area throughout the trading period are food traders who work from their mobile food vehicles. Other traders will be required to move and are provided with a parking permit to enable them to park without charge elsewhere.

These changes were made to keep the community safe and were negotiated with the Highways Authority which is responsible for road safety.

Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council has not increased pitch prices for market traders and they have recently been reduced for most traders. Payment must now be made on line in advance. All our market charges are publicly available on our website.

Unfortunately, the number of market traders had reduced before lockdown began and several regular traders have been unable to return at this time. Since the relocation and easing of lockdown, there has been new interest however and we welcome new market traders.

At a meeting next week the Town Council will consider different ways to develop the market going forward.

For further information, please visit the Bletchley Market webpage on our website.

You can also contact us by email <u>info@bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk</u> or by phone on 01908 649 469.

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