



Arlesey

Neighbourhood Planning

Referendum

Information for Voters

There will be a referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan for your area. It is to be held on 30th November 2017. Below you can find out about:

- the referendum and how you can take part
- the Neighbourhood Plan
- the neighbourhood area
- The development plan (of which neighbourhood plans are a part)

Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan

A referendum asks you to vote YES or NO to a question. For this referendum you will receive a ballot paper with this question:

“Do you want Central Bedfordshire Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Arlesey to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

How do I vote in the referendum?

You show your choice by putting a cross (X) in the ‘YES’ or ‘NO’ box on your ballot paper. Put a cross in only **one** box or your vote will not be counted.

If more people vote ‘YES’ than ‘NO’ in this referendum, then Central Bedfordshire Council will use the Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Arlesey area.

Referendum expenses

The referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the referendum is **£2624**. The number of persons entitled to vote in the referendum by reference to which the limit has been calculated is **4433**.

Can I vote?

You can vote in the referendum if you live in the parish of Arlesey and:

- you are registered to vote in local council elections, and
- you are 18 years of age or over on 30th November 2017

You have to be registered to vote by **Tuesday 14th November 2017** to vote in the referendum. You can check if you are registered to vote by calling [0300 300 8052](tel:03003008052)

The referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures which are similar to those used at local government elections.

Ways of voting

There are three ways of voting:

In person: on 30th November 2017 at Arlesey Village Hall

Most people vote in person at their local polling station. It is easy and a member of staff will always help if you are not sure what to do.

- You will receive a poll card to advise you about the polling station.
- If you do not receive your poll card, you can contact 0300 300 8052
- Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.
- If you are not in the queue at the polling station by 10pm you won't be able to vote, so make sure you arrive in plenty of time.

•••••

By post:

- To vote by post, fill in an **application form** and send/email it to **Electoral Services, Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, SG17 5TQ** or email electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk to arrive by 5pm on **Wednesday 15th November 2017**.
- You should receive your postal vote about a week before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can get a replacement up to **5pm on Thursday 30th November 2017**.

By proxy:

- If you can't go to the polling station and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody you trust to vote on your behalf.
- To vote by proxy, fill in an application form and send it to **Electoral Services, Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, SG17 5TQ** or email electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk to arrive by 5pm on **Wednesday 22nd November 2017**.
- When you apply for a proxy vote you must say why you cannot vote in person.
- Anyone can be your proxy as long as they are eligible to vote and are willing to vote on your behalf. You will have to tell them how you want to vote.

Postal and proxy vote application forms are available from Electoral Services on [0300 300 8052](tel:03003008052) or for downloading at: <http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/how-do-i-vote>

Am I registered to vote?

- If you're not registered by Tuesday 14th November 2017, you won't be able to vote.
- You can register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

How to find out more

- Further general information on neighbourhood planning is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/neighbourhood-planning>
- For queries relating to the neighbourhood plan please contact the Planning Policy team by emailing localplan@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk