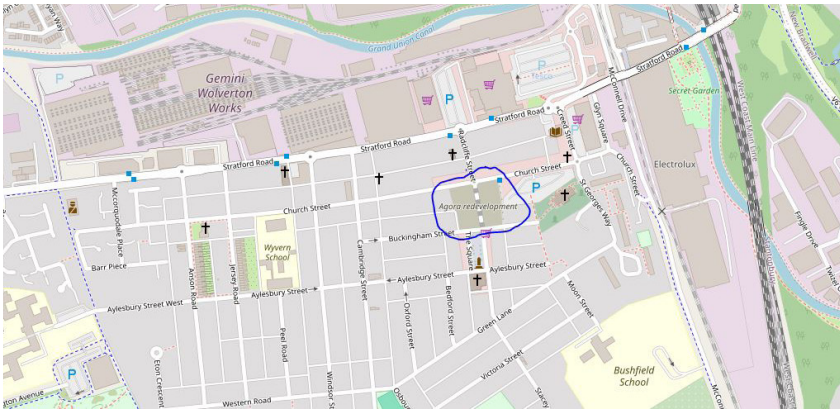
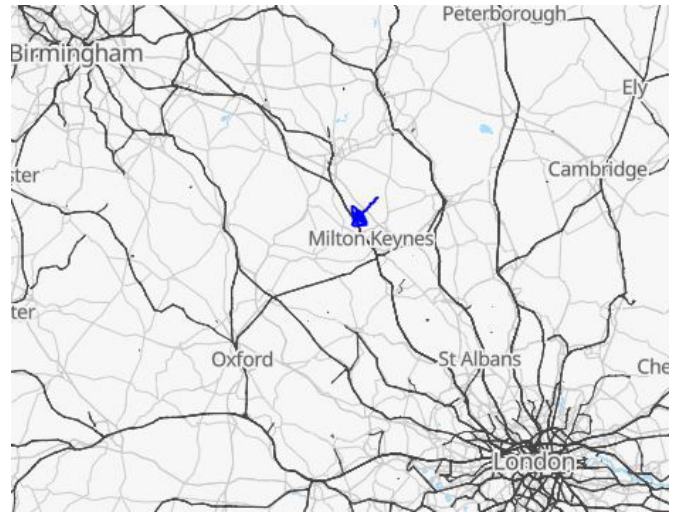


WHY WOLVERTON?

Why is Wolverton such a great location for the **Still Green** cohousing project?

Wolverton is the UK's first Victorian Railway town, a new town of the 1830's, now part of the city of Milton Keynes. Wolverton's location, half way between London and Birmingham, led to it being chosen by the London and Birmingham Railway Company in 1838 as the location for a railway depot. The town then developed around the depot as a planned community, with housing, places of worship, schools and shops all designed to give railway workers a good quality of life.

Rolling forward to 1967 and the location for the new town of Milton Keynes was selected because it was midway between the cities of London, Birmingham, Oxford & Cambridge. Wolverton became part of this new development.



Wolverton is a market town undergoing regeneration. **Still Green** is part of that regeneration story. Wolverton has a lot to offer now as well as a rich history.



Although urban in character, Wolverton is also located alongside the Grand Union Canal, and close to the river Great Ouse, with rolling countryside within a walkable distance from the urban area.



<https://stillgreencohousing.org>
Facebook: @StillGreenMK

Photographs on this page: Grand Union Canal, backs of houses in Wolverton, Holy Trinity Church Old Wolverton. All © David Phillips under CC (BY) license

Maps from openstreetmap.org. Aerial view showing location for Still Green taken from Love Wolverton Design and Access Statement <https://lovewolverton.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Love-Wolverton-DAS.pdf>



History

Old Wolverton (less than 2 km away from Wolverton) is in the Domesday Book with 50 households in 1086, and is the site of a scheduled ancient monument consisting of a deserted medieval village and a Norman castle. There still exist many buildings that predate the Victorian period.

Present day Wolverton was started in 1838 by the London to Birmingham Railway and at that time it was just called “Wolverton Station”. It was the site of the railway workshops, as well as a stopping off point for train travellers to have a welcome break and some refreshment; there were no toilets or buffet cars on trains in the 1840s and 50s!

From the 1840s through to the 1950s almost everything in Wolverton had something to do with the railways. Most of the key 19th and early 20th century buildings were built by or for the railways. The parish church, St George the Martyr, was the first ever church built for the railways, dating from 1843. At its height, 4,000 men were employed at “The Works” but by the 1960s this number had halved, and it dropped further to 850 by the 1980s. Numbers employed dropped even further after that and less than 100 people are employed today. Nevertheless, Wolverton is the site of the longest continually used railway works in the world and is still (just) the home to the Royal Train. Wolverton is proud of its heritage.

The development of the New Town of Milton Keynes, in the 1970s and 1980s, made Wolverton a key area within the New Town and saved it from the effects of the decline of its key industry. It is now classified as a District Centre serving the Northern area of Milton Keynes, as well as acting as the northern transport hub. In 2001 much of Victorian Wolverton was designated as a conservation area, recognising the unique nature and architectural value of the redbrick terraces dating from the late 19th and early 20th century. It was this heritage that inspired the design of the new award-winning, town-centre, regeneration project, managed and led by developer TOWN and designed by URBED, Mikhail Riches Architects and Mole Architects (see <https://lovewolverton.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Love-Wolverton-DAS.pdf>)



Locals shop for cheese at the market in The Square.
Photo Courtesy of Future Wolverton



Crowds watch a skateboarding display in Wolverton. On the site of the new development. *Photo by factotum.film, courtesy of Future Wolverton.*

Arts and Culture

Alongside the Railway Works were recreational and cultural facilities, many initially provided by the Railway Company. Sadly, many fell out of use as the Works declined but some still exist, including Wolverton Sports Club with cricket, tennis and bowls, a second bowls club, Wolverton Central Working Men’s club, Wolverton Light Orchestra and the Wolverton Town Brass Band; all of which trace their history back to the heyday of the Works. Other cultural societies, including Wolverton Gilbert and Sullivan Society and Milton Keynes Museum (located in Wolverton), only go back 50 years! New developments are happening all the time; the newly created Market Hall Arts Venue is opening in 2026. Wolverton is still a place where cultural and community events happen. There is a biennial Lantern Procession around the streets before Christmas, a Firework display, a Scarecrow Festival, a monthly Street Market in The Square and surprising events such as skateboarding demonstrations: anything can happen in Wolverton!



Local singer/songwriter, Sheniah Asiamah, performs in the Square at the Wolverton market. *Photo courtesy of Future Wolverton*

A 15 minute location?

Milton Keynes has a lot of work to do before it is a 15-minute city where *all* residents can walk, bike, or use public transport to reach everyday destinations in no more than 15 minutes (see, for example earth.org), but if you are living in **Still Green**, right in the centre of Wolverton, you will be almost there!

15 minutes (or a little bit more).

Shops: Asda, Tesco and Lidl all less than 400m away, 3 to 5 minute walk (or 2 minutes by car)

Pharmacy (on The Square): 170 m, 2 minute walk

Wolverton Health Centre (GP) 1.5 km
18 minutes walk (5 minutes by car)

The Urb Farm (on Windsor Street, Wolverton) - good for locally grown fruit and veg in season.
970m, 12 min walk (5 minutes by car)

Wolverton Library & Town Hall 210 m, 3 minute walk

Wolverton Tennis Club & Cricket Club
555 m, 7 minute walk

Bowls Clubs: Wolverton Town (590 m) and Wolverton Park (870 m), 8/9 minute walk

Market Hall (Arts Venue & Café) 300 m, 4 min. walk

Wolverton Swimming Pool & Gym.
1 km 13 min. walk

Allotments at Furze Way (920 m) and Stacey Hill (830 m), 11/12 minute walk

Milton Keynes Museum 1.1 km. 14 minute walk

Access to public transport

Bus Stops are immediately adjacent to **Still Green**, with buses to all parts of Milton Keynes

Wolverton Railway Station 660 m, about a 10 minute walk. Typically 2 trains per hour each way

Milton Keynes Central Railway Station 5.3 km, 25 min cycle ride, 20 min by bus, 15 min drive, 4 min train from Wolverton station.

Coachway. Main coach station for Milton Keynes, near M1 Jnc 14. 12 km, 40 min cycle ride. 40 mins by bus (change at CMK). 16 min drive



Nigerian-inspired artwork on Station Square gives a bright welcome to the City. Photo from Milton Keynes City Council

Further afield	Distance	Time to get there		
		Cycle	Bus	Drive
Milton Keynes City Centre and the Shopping Centre	6 km	25 min	35 min (train 4 min + 10 min walk)	10 min
Bletchley South Milton Keynes,	12 km	37 min	1 hr 15 min (train 9 mins)	15 min
Bletchley Park	13 km	40 min	35 min	15 min
Cowper & Newton Museum, Olney	16 km	54 min	1 hr	20 min
Milton Keynes Gallery (with Sky Room Cinema)	8 km	25 min	35 min	10 min
Milton Keynes Theatre	8 km	25 min	35 min	10 min
Stantonbury Theatre	4¼ km	15 min	25 min	7 min
The Stables , music venue	16 km	50 min	1 hr 20 min	18 min
Stadium MK. Home of the MK Dons. Football, concerts and other events. Location of Odeon cinema	10 km	40 min	1 hr	12 min
Xscape CMK - Cineworld, Snow slope, sky diving, shopping, restaurants, climbing.	8 km	25 min	35 min	10 min
Westbury Arts Centre	8 km	30 min	1¼ hr	15 min
Arts Central (including The Box events space)	3¼ km	10 min cycle, 35 min walk	30 min	6 min
Stowe House & Gardens (National Trust)	20 km	1 hr	2 hr	25 min
Waddesdon Manor (National Trust)	40 km	2¼ hr	2½ hr	50 min
Stoke Bruerne Canal Museum	12.2 km	40 min	1 hr 10 min	15 min

Destinations	Distance	Cycle	Drive	Train	Trains per hour	Bus/coach
London. Trains go from Wolverton or Central Milton Keynes (CMK)	78 km	n/a	1 hr 40 min	47 min from Wolverton	2 from Wolverton	1 hr 37 min from Coachway
				30 min fastest CMK	6 from CMK	
Northampton	28 km	1½ hr	30 min	13 min	2	1hr 10 min
Birmingham	107 km	n/a	1¾ hr	1 hr 32min Wolverton	2 from Wolverton	1 ½ hr from Coachway
				56 mins fastest CMK	4 from CMK	
Oxford*	69 km	n/a	1¾ hr	Will be 42 min from CMK	Will be 2 an hour	1hr 25 min from CMK station
Cambridge*	83 km	n/a	1½ hr	n/a		2 ½ hr from CMK Station

***East-West Rail (EWR).** The EWR project is (re)building the line between Oxford and Cambridge, with a stop at Bletchley and a spur to Central Milton Keynes. At the time this document is being prepared, the line from Oxford to Bletchley is complete, but not yet operational. It will be several years before it is completed all the way to Cambridge. See <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/>

Local areas for nature, the countryside and walks	Distance	Time to get there
Ouse Valley Park Old Wolverton (the nearest open countryside)	1.6 km	20 min walk
The Floodplain Forest Nature Reserve	2.5 km	30 min walk
Wolverton Secret Garden	480 m	7 min walk
Wolverton Community Orchard	760 m	10 min walk
The Grand Union Canal (Access Point)	560 m	7 min walk
Buckingham Canal (Branch off Grand Union)	3.2 km	40 min walk or 15 min cycle
Stoke Bruerne & Blisworth Tunnel (Canal & museum)	12 km	40 min cycle, 1 hr 10 min by bus, 15 min drive
Linford Lakes Nature Reserve (permit only, Parks Trust)	4.9 km	1 hr walk or 15 min cycle. 10 min by bus followed by 25 min walk. 10 min drive
Stony Stratford Nature Reserve (Parks Trust)	3.1 km	40 min walk or 10 min cycle. 10 min by bus followed by 10 min walk. 10 min drive
Campbell Park (Parks Trust, Central Milton Keynes)	6.3 km	1 ½ hr walk or 27 min cycle. 45 min by bus, 10 min drive
Salcey Forest (Forestry Commission)	14 km	50 min cycle. 40 min by bus or 20 min drive
Stockgrove Country Park (Greensand Trust)	20 km	1 ½ hr cycle, 1 hr 50 min by bus. 20 min drive
Kings wood & Rushmere Country Park (National Nature Reserve)	20 km	1 ½ hr cycle, 1 hr 50 min by bus. 20 min drive

Faith and community groups

The City of Milton Keynes as a whole has a rich mix of faith communities and interfaith relationships are very positive, in both formal and informal settings. The community sector in Wolverton and the wider City is vibrant and diverse too. We are happy to help you find out more according to your interests.