



Settlement Name	Arlesey
Settlement Hierarchy	Minor Service Centres
Placemaking Area	Ivel Valley Quadrant
Population 2020 Mid-Year Estimate	6,157
2025 Population Forecast	6,372

The parish population figures are calculated using 2020 mid-year estimates from ONS, CBC housing completions from 2020-2022, and 2022-25 planned completions from the June 2022 housing growth trajectory (supplied by Planning).

Settlement Description

Arlesey is a long linear settlement which has been expanded and consolidated significantly by new housing development in recent years. Additional development is planned.

The open space sites listed below have been included because of their primary function as publicly available recreational open space only. The open space types reflect those most commonly found in Central Bedfordshire. More information on the background and assessment methodology can be found in the Leisure Strategy Chapter 2: the Recreational Open Space Strategy.

Section 1: Open Spaces within Town

Site Name	Typology	Owned by	Site Size (Ha)	Site ID
Arlesey (Hillary Rise) Allotments	Allotments & Community Gardens	ATC	1.27	702
Etonbury Community Orchard	Allotments & Community Gardens	CBC	0.48	4545
Stotfold Road Allotments	Allotments & Community Gardens	ATC	0.28	4546
Arlesey Cemetery (Hitchin Road)	Cemeteries & Burial Grounds	ATC	8.40	713
Memorial Copse Arlesey Cemetery	Cemeteries & Burial Grounds	ATC	0.12	4325
St. Peter's Church Cemetery	Cemeteries & Burial Grounds		0.94	696
Arlesey Recreation Ground Play Area	Children's Play Space	Owned by Gothic Mede Academy / BEST Maintained by ATC	0.11	704
Howberry Green (CBC) Play Area (x2)	Children's Play Space	CBC	0.07	709a &b
Chancellors (CBC) Play Area	Children's Play Space	CBC	0.16	701
The Hermitage Play Area	Children's Play Space	Mr Steve McSweeney	0.02	693
Chapel Drive (CBC) Play Area	Children's Play Space	CBC	0.09	707
St Johns Road Play Area	Children's Play Space	ATC	0.12	322

Chancellors Play Area	Children's Play Space	CBC	0.05	4243
High Street Playing Fields MUGA	Facilities for Young People and Teenagers / Outdoor Sport	ATC	0.13	705
Arlesey Recreation Ground BMX/Skate Park	Facilities for Young People & Teenagers	ATC	0.41	706
Woodland Chase (Informal Open Space)	Informal Recreation		1.57	700
Glebe Meadows WT Reserve (Informal Open Space)	Informal Recreation	Wildlife Trust BCN	2.20	694
Etonbury Wood (Informal Open Space) (permissive access)	Informal Recreation	CBC	15.22	690
Arlesey Common (Informal Open Space)	Informal Recreation	Tom Wilson	11.91	4216
Arlesey Recreation Ground	Large Recreation Spaces	ATC	2.30	4218
Gothic Mede Academy Playing Fields	Outdoor Sport (Education)	Gothic Mede Academy / BEST	1.51	4544
Etonbury Academy 3G Pitch	Outdoor Sport (education/community use)	Edu	0.70	1225
Arlesey Town Football Ground	Outdoor Sport	ATFC	2.60	1207
Arlesey Recreation Ground Outdoor Gym	Outdoor Sport	ATC	0.03	4629
St Johns Road Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.08	340
Gothic Way Amenity Space 1	Small Amenity Space		0.17	701A
Gothic Way Amenity Space 2	Small Amenity Space		0.03	4343
Chase Hill Road Amenity Space 1	Small Amenity Space		0.15	699
Chase Hill Road Amenity Space 2	Small Amenity Space		0.02	4321
Carters Close Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.03	698
Weavers Orchard Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.03	708
Carters Way/The Rally Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.51	697
The Rally Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.11	4234
Saffron Close Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.06	4233
Chancellors Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.09	4244
St John's Road Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.03	4325
Church End Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.03	4450

Lymans Road Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.04	4323
Arlesey Library & Nursery School Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space	CBC	0.10	4466
High Street Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space		0.06	4471
Howberry Green 1 (CBC)	Small Amenity Space	CBC	0.15	710
House Lane Pocket Park	Small Amenity Space	CBC	0.03	4547
Pix Green Amenity Space	Small Amenity Space	CBC	0.06	4548
Stotfold Road Copse	Small Amenity Space	ATC	0.10	4549

Site ownership has been included where known, and will continue to be updated.

Section 2: Recreational Open Space Strategy - Adequacy of Provision (balance between quantity / quality and accessibility)

Type of Open Space	Current Provision	Standard	Current Surplus / Shortfall	Future Surplus / Shortfall	Accessibility	Quality Issues	Other Issues
Countryside Recreation Sites							
	11.91	3.19	-7.73	-8.42	Arlesey Common and part of Arlesey Meadows in parish. Residents outside of target catchment - RSPB in north of Central Bedfordshire	n/a	Mids Beds GI Plan identifies opportunity for new country park in blue lagoon. This is also a key priority of the Arlesey GI plan. Arlesey and Stotfold are developing the Etonbury Green Wheel to offer enhanced access opportunities
Urban Parks							
	0.00	0.22	-1.35	-1.42	No existing provision and residents outside of desired walking distance, as well as car travel time to urban park.	n/a	Mid Beds GI Plan identifies potential recreation opportunities at restored landfill site – local GI Plan includes aspiration for a park. Urban Park - small scale parkland within Arlesey Cross dev. should be encouraged. Funding assistance needed for enhanced features and facilities, e.g. seating, public toilet.

Large Recreation Areas	Formal					Some areas outside of catchment	Requirement for improved facilities – additional infrastructure and refurbishment of existing spaces. Good quality site with a wide variety of facilities	Arlesey GI Plan includes aspiration to extend recreation ground and provide more facilities, including Trim Trail and garden. Outdoor Gym facility added Dec 2019 to rec ground.
	Informal					Informal space evenly distributed, few issues identified	Reduced catchment of informal space due to high environmental sensitivity of two sites and a third with medium sensitivity	Arlesey GI Plan priorities improving access to Etonbury Wood. Also raises importance of public access to Arlesey Common
Small Amenity Spaces		2.30	1.20	-5.09	-5.35			
		21.14	2.60	5.13	4.57	Informal space evenly distributed, few issues identified	Reduced catchment of informal space due to high environmental sensitivity of two sites and a third with medium sensitivity	Arlesey GI Plan priorities improving access to Etonbury Wood. Also raises importance of public access to Arlesey Common
Play Areas for Children						Some small gaps in existing distribution but reduced by access some to formal and informal recreation areas, however significant gaps in access still exist.	Quality varying. Most sites scoring below quality standard attributed to lack of recreational amenity. Carters Close and Gothic Way are lowest scoring sites.	
		1.78	0.55	-1.61	-1.72			
		0.53	0.11	-0.15	-0.17	Existing space well distributed, although there are a lack of play facilities to the far	Facilities above average quality. Play value is key area for improvement,	

						south of the village at Ramerick Gardens and Jubilee Crescent and to the north at House Lane, Church Lane, Chase Hill Road and Carters Way. Central location of existing facilities means that some residents are outside of catchment for existing provision, particularly north and west	particularly Chapel Drive.	
Facilities for Young People							Poor surface on MUGA (and site underused). Skate park and BMX track are good facilities for young people.	MUGA court surface re lined and coated in anti-slip coating annually. An increase in hire for netball has been experienced 2018/19 and 2019/20.
								Skate park upgrade required in near future to replace worn equipment
								Outdoor gym equipment installed Dec 2019 in need of surfacing to be added to reduce wear to field/mud issue
								Sail Shade required for recreation ground.

Allotments					Waiting list for existing allotments.	Above target quality standard although site would benefit from improvement to entrance etc. Appears to be project in development	Arlesey GI Plan includes aspiration to extend allotments (although this is caveated in relation to demand)
	2.03	0.37	-0.25	-0.33			
Cemeteries and Churchyards	Approximately one third of the space for burials remains in cemetery. Burials currently suspended until the Town Council has dealt with a water table problem. Burials are no longer suspended.						The Town Council Cemetery houses a memorial copse and a future project would be to create a footpath/walkway to access this area which is currently accessed over a grassed area.

Section 3: Recreational Open Space Strategy - Key Issues, Priorities and Delivery Projects

Type of Open Space		Key Issues	Typology Specific Priorities	Key Priorities identified by Strategy	Local Delivery Projects (identified by the T/PC & community) Project Cost must be included
Countryside Recreation Sites		Lack of access to countryside recreation sites within 20 minute drivetime target	Arlesey identified as potential location for one of three new sites in the CB.	1. Potential new countryside recreation site Mids Beds GI Plan identifies opportunity for new country park in blue lagoon. This is also a key priority of the Arlesey GI plan	
	Urban Parks	No existing provision and residents outside of desired walking distance, as well as car travel time to urban park.	Strategy seeks to prioritise provision of urban parks in major settlements and new provision not required therefore.	2. There are a lack of play facilities to the far south of the village at Ramerick Gardens and Jubilee Crescent and to the north at House Lane, Church Lane, Chase Hill Road and Carters Way.	Identified by Arlesey TC: Seating/benches required @ £200 each Play equipment required in Chase Hill Road green open space (future project idea) Additional items of play equipment to be installed at St John's Road play area
Large Recreation Areas	Formal	Some gaps in the distribution of existing spaces and large quantitative deficiencies. Quality issues with existing sites	Qualitative improvements Additional provision in areas outside of proposed catchment	3. The Recreation Ground has poor accessibility and a basic trim trail and youth shelter. GI Plan has aspirations to extend the area and provide more facilities	Identified by Arlesey TC: Identify and fund additional land purchase to extend current Recreation Ground (High St). TBC

				inc. adult exercise and garden.	Installation of small water park/feature - dancing jets. (£120-140k) - not applicable to Leisure s106. Potentially to form part of a larger scheme to include irrigation for adjacent facility such as football or bowling green. TBC Skate park upgrade required in near future to replace worn equipment. Outdoor gym area in need of surfacing to be added to reduce wear to field/mud issue. Sail shade required as future project as no shaded areas currently available on Rec ground.
	Informal	Opportunity to increase recreational value	Enhancement and maintenance of existing sites New provision in recognition of more restricted capacity of existing sites	4. Enhancements to informal open space 5. Footpath planning / design and installation around the previous landfill site sought, for public access. Potentially to include benches and public information boards.	Identified by Arlesey TC: Replacement dipping platforms and two wheelchair fishing platforms off the disabled access path at Arlesey Moat. £3k

Small Amenity Spaces	Some small gaps in existing distribution but reduced by access to formal and informal recreation areas. Large quantitative deficiencies	Significant quantitative deficiencies means new provision required in areas where there are existing gaps Qualitative improvements	6. New functional amenity spaces / recreation areas	
Play Areas for Children	Existing spaces well distributed to meet needs of current population. Provision average quality, although would benefit from improvements to play value	Qualitative improvements	7. Qualitative improvements to play facilities. There are a lack of play facilities to the far south of the village at Ramerick Gardens and Jubilee Crescent and to the north at House Lane, Church Lane, Chase Hill Road and Carters Way.	Identified by Arlesey TC: New play area for Chase Hill Amenity Space 1 and additional equipment at St John's Road Play Area @est £35,000.
Facilities for Young People	Good range of facilities. Central location of existing facilities means that some residents are outside of catchment for existing provision, particularly in the north and west. Poor MUGA	Qualitative improvements Resurface MUGA MUGA surface re-painted with pitch markings and anti-slip coating and kitchen facility added to pavilion	8. Qualitative improvements to Facilities for Young People	Identified by Arlesey TC: Replacement Skate Park @ estimated £120k. No estimate for BMX Track.

		Outdoor gym facility for both children and adults installed Additional bench sited next to gym		
Allotments	Waiting list at existing site, some demand for additional facilities identified although concerns about the degree to which this demand will be sustained	Requirement for additional provision if demand remains sustained.		Expansion of Hillary Rise allotment area to include clearing works to current fallow land and associated plumbing works required to provide water taps.
Cemeteries and Churchyards	Quality issues at cemetery due to concerns over water table. Memorial copse with access path created in cemetery.	Qualitative improvements	9. Address quality issues at existing cemetery.	Expansion of cemetery – planning / mapping, installation of road way and paths etc.

Section 4: Playing Pitch Strategy - Outdoor Sports Key Issues, Priorities and Delivery Projects

Sport / Facility	Site and Comments	Local Delivery Projects (identified by the T/PC & community) Project Cost must be included
		NB See Chapter 3 Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan for outdoor sport strategic priority projects to which s106 contributions may be secured from development in this parish. T/P councils wishing to have s106 contributions sought for the local projects instead of the strategic projects must clearly identify this below.
AGP	Etonbury Academy - The Football Association's priority to deliver a FS 3G at Etonbury Academy was delivered in 2015/16.	
Football	Significant pressure on existing pitches Armadillo Stadium (Arlesey Town FC) Arlesey Rec – at capacity, particularly for juniors Pressures on capacity of football pitches. Lack of other provision in the area Improvements to quality of existing football pitches and new football pitch provision required.	Arlesey Town FC. Improvement and expansion of current grass pitch to provide drainage additional playing area, changing facilities and floodlighting. Cost £36,000.
Cricket	n/a	
Rugby	n/a closest Biggleswade RUFC	

Hockey	n/a closest Sandy and Shefford HC	
Tennis	Public tennis courts	
Bowls	n/a	