

Woughton Community Council

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th March 2020, 6:00pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes

Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Jordan Coventry (Vice-Chair), Elina Apse, Janette Bobey, Tina El-Shabrawry, Margaret Ferguson, Donna Fuller, Brian Hepburn, Philip Hopcraft, Luke Louis, Ruth McMillan, John Orr, Nick Scott, Liz Simpkins, Lauren Townsend (from 6:48pm), Alan Williamson, Pam Wilson.

Also present: Brian Barton (Committee & Member Services Officer), Steve McNay (Council Manager), Samone Winsborough (Responsible Financial Officer / Operations Manager).

In attendance: Cllr Carol Baume (Woughton & Fishermead Ward-Milton Keynes Council), three (3) members of the public.

FC 122/20 Apologies for Absence:
Received from Cllr Terri Page (unwell).

AGREED

Cllr Shammi Akter – non-attendance – no apologies received.

NOTED

FC 123/20 Declaration of interests:
There were no declarations of interest.

NOTED

FC 124/20 Minutes of previous Full Council meetings:

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020 was **AGREED** and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

FC 125/20 Chair's Announcement(s):

The Chair informed the meeting that the NALC Spring Conference has been cancelled due to the coronavirus.

A policy for Woughton Community Council on Covid-19 (Coronavirus) was circulated at the meeting and will be uploaded onto the website and notified on social media.

NOTED

FC 126/20 Questions from the public:

There were no questions from the members of the public.

NOTED

FC 127/20 Ward Matters arising:

Cllr Phillip Hopcraft said that there is a tree at the back of Rochfords on Coffee Hall that needed to be removed, Milton Keynes Council had taken a long time in getting this actioned, also the newly installed lighting did not have identifying numbers on each of the columns.

The Council Manager responded that he had reported the tree to Milton Keynes Council, and they went to undertake a site visit and could not find it, this was due to the area being named differently in their database.

Cllr John Orr expressed his concern about newly installed lighting on Tinkers Bridge that had been placed in the wrong locations.

The Council Manager said that he would write a paper on the issues relating with the Milton Keynes Council response times and the locations for newly installed lighting.

Cllr Jeanette Bobey was concerned about a new shop on the site of the former public house at the Netherfield Local Centre that had recently been allowed to sell alcohol on the premises, following its successful licencing application, but wondered if there were any conditions attached. The Council Manager said he would investigate this and report back.

RESOLVED

1. **That the Council Manager to write a paper on the issues relating with the Milton Keynes Council response times and the locations for newly installed street lighting.**
2. **That the Council Manager to find out if there are any conditions attached to the licence for the new shop on the site of the former public house at the Netherfield Local Centre, in relation to the selling of alcohol on the premises.**

FC 128/20 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:

- a) Woughton Welfare Trust - Cllr Elina Apse - **No report.**
- b) Hedgerows Family Centre - Cllr Maggie Ferguson - **No report.**
- c) MKALC - Cllr Elina Apse, Cllr Sue Smith - **Presentation on the MK2050 Futures strategy document and proposal to encourage Parish & Town Councils to write to both MP's on the validity of Neighbourhood Plans and the five (5) year housing supply as in the Plan MK document.**
- d) Parishes Forum - Cllr Janette Bobey, Cllr Sue Smith - **Presentation on the MK2050 Futures strategy document.**

NOTED

FC 129/20 To note the minutes from the following Committees:

- a) Accounts Sub Committee - Wednesday 15th January 2020
- b) Operations Committee - Wednesday 20th January 2020
- c) Policy & Resources Committee - Monday 10th February 2020
- d) Services Committee - Monday 27th January 2020

NOTED

FC 130/20 To update the committee on the proposed refurbishment work to the Netherfield Meeting Place:

The Council Manager updated the committee on the refurbishment plans for the Netherfield Meeting Place.

The Netherfield Councillors had submitted various maintenance items for consideration.

The Council Manager said he will assess the work to the fire exits at the Netherfield Meeting Place.

The Council Manager will also add onto the booking forms that any booking by a group or individual with not include the use of the courts unless prior arrangements have been made for their use, so that members of the public can have access to the courts whilst a booking inside the building is taking place.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the council notes the report.**
- 2. That the council agrees to the immediate actions proposed below and agrees funding of up to £4,000 towards this.**
- 3. That the council agrees to continuing investigations into grant and external funding for the larger scale works needed in the long term, including quotes for external decoration and for the large refurbishment of the sports area.**
- 4. That the Council Manager to assess the work to the fire exits at the Netherfield Meeting Place.**
- 5. That the Council Manager to add onto the booking forms that any booking by a group or individual with not include the use of the courts unless prior arrangements have been made for their use, so that members of the public can have access to the courts whilst a booking inside the building is taking place.**
- 6. That the Council Manager provides an update as and when new information or opportunities arise.**

FC 131/20 To approve the proposed new Committee Structure, and the Terms of Reference:

The Council Manager updated the council on the new committee structure and proposals for Council Year 2020/2021 (from May 2020).

Discussion centred on whether training should be compulsory for all Members appointed to the committees as indicated in the draft Terms of Reference.

Members felt that the word “must” be replaced with the word “should” attend any training session etc in all of the Terms of Reference except for the Services & Communities Committee Terms of Reference where “must” be replaced with it is “necessary” for Members to attend any training sessions etc.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the council notes the report.**

2. That the council agrees to the proposed Terms of Reference for the new committees and the updated Terms of Reference for existing committees.
3. To replace “must” with “should” attend any training session etc in all the Terms of Reference except for the Services & Communities Committee Terms of Reference where “must” is replaced with it is “necessary” for Members to attend any training sessions etc.
4. That the council tasks the Committee and Member Services Officer with developing a new calendar of meetings for the 2020/2021 council year.

Cllr Lauren Townsend entered the meeting at 6:48PM.

FC 132/20 To update the committee on the recent meeting with Milton Keynes Council regarding localised flooding:

The Council Manager informed the meeting that he is preparing to hold meetings with local residents so that they can attend and indicate on maps supplied by Milton Keynes Council their property, so that there is a more comprehensive database of those areas susceptible to potential future flooding.

Councillors will also send evidence to the Council Manager, Councillors also asked for copies of the map so they could consult with their residents, it was further reported to the meeting that the drains on Netherfield had been filled in with concrete by Milton Keynes Council.

The meeting felt that Milton Keynes Council had been slow in responding to repair claims by householders.

It had been reported that Milton Keynes Council were denying insurance claims, that their own insurance provision was more expensive with more stringent conditions attached to the policy.

Residents had also said to Councillors that their insurance premiums were getting more expensive or being denied cover by insurance companies.

Even though the Woughton area is a flood risk, water companies are refusing to attend meetings with Councillors. There was also an issue about the lack of clarity about the ownership of the water pipes, the Council Manager said that Milton Keynes Council is in talks with Anglia Water and the situation is improving.

NOTED

FC 133/20 To report back to the committee on the recent Woughton Conference:

On Friday 14th February 2020 saw the first Woughton Spring Conference take place.

This event came from discussions which suggested that working with partners to try and open discussions about working creatively, collaboratively and with the needs of local residents.

The conference was attended by thirty-five (35) people, including representatives from Milton Keynes Council, Citizens Advice, local GP practices, local education

providers, ward and Parish Councillors, Community Action and others. There were four (4) workshops, plus opening addresses by Cllr Nigel Long and Cllr Hannah O Neil.

Feedback from participants has been positive, with a total of eighteen (18) responses to the feedback survey.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the council notes the report.**
- 2. That the council agrees to a further event to take place in late 2020.**
- 3. That the council considers workshop ideas for another event, considering the needs of the parish and the needs of the council.**

FC 134/20 To agree to submit a letter to Mr Iain Stewart MP & Mr Ben Everitt MP on the period of validity of Neighbourhood Plans and the Five Year Housing Land Supply Calculation:

MKALC and Hanslope Parish Council have asked Parish and Town Councils to write to persuade the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to amend the National Planning Policy Framework with regard to two matters; the calculation of, and responsibility for, an Authority's Five (5) Year Housing Land Supply and the period of validity of a 'made' Neighbourhood Plan.

The meeting agreed to lobby Mr Iain Stewart MP and Mr Ben Everitt MP using the template letter from the Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils (MKALC) as circulated to Members.

RESOLVED

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To agree to send the template letter as drafted by the MKALC to Mr Iain Stewart MP & Mr Ben Everitt MP.**

FC 135/20 To agree to produce a submission to the Milton Keynes Council MK2050 Futures consultation:

The meeting agreed to produce a submission to the Milton Keynes Council MK2050 Futures consultation.

The deadline for comments is Friday 17th April 2020.

The MK2050 Commission as set up by Milton Keynes Council produced a strategy document which has now gone out to consultation.

The strategy document considers the challenges for the future growth of Milton Keynes and the proposed vision by the commission.

Milton Keynes Council has suggested a response along the lines of the questions, as prepared below, although this is not restrictive to any other points and or comments that can be put in any submission.

- Do you agree with taking a long-term approach to 2050?
- Will these proposals stand the test of time?
- Have we set the right ambitions for the growth of Milton Keynes to 2050?
- Does this Strategy cover the right issues?

- Do you have any comments on any part of this Strategy?
- Do you have any comments on the assessment of growth locations (available online)?

Members were asked to provide the Council Manager with any feedback after consulting with their residents.

The Council Manager to write up a draft submission with highlights and suggestions pertinent to the Woughton area and circulate to Members.

The Policy & Resources Committee with give the final sign off before the submission is sent to Milton Keynes Council.

Individual Councillors can still make their own submissions.

RESOLVED

1. **To note the report.**
2. **To agree to make a submission to the Milton Keynes Council MK2050 Futures consultation.**
3. **That the Council Manager to write up a draft submission with highlights and suggestions pertinent to the Woughton area and circulate to Members.**
4. **That the Policy & Resources Committee to give the final sign off before the submission is sent to Milton Keynes Council.**

Date of next meeting:

Monday 11th May 2020, 6:00pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7:45PM

Chair _____ Date _____