

## Woughton Community Council

### Full Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, 6:30pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, Council Chambers, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes.**

**Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair),** Donna Fuller, Brian Hepburn, Phillip Hopcraft, Luke Louis, Nick Scott, Liz Simpkins Alan Williamson.

**Also present:** Steve McNay (Council Manager).

**In attendance: Cllrs Jordan Coventry (Vice-Chair),** Elina Apse, Maggie Ferguson, Amber McQuillan, Ruth McMillan, John Orr, Yvonne Tomlinson, Pam Wilson.

**Also in attendance:**

Brian Barton (Committee & Member Services Officer),  
Tash Darling (Youth Manger/Safeguarding Lead Officer),  
Samone Winsborough (Responsible Financial Officer/Operations Manager).

**FC 149/22 Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr Janette Bobey (unwell)  
Cllr Terri Parish (technical issues)  
Cllr Lauren Townsend (meeting)

**AGREED**

**FC 150/22 Declaration of interests:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**NOTED**

**FC 151/22 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:**

The minutes of the meeting held on:

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Were **AGREED** and will be signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

**FC 152/22 Chair's Announcement(s):**

The Chair informed the meeting that the Blue Light Hub walk, which is an event to thank all NHS staff during the pandemic for all their hard work and sacrifice and to also remember loved ones that had passed away due to Covid-19, will be held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7:00pm, the first 100 attendees receive free glo sticks, the

route will be from the Blue Light Hub in Ashlands to the Milton Keynes University Hospital in Eaglestone, the Chair appealed for as many people as possible to attend.

The Community Café has recently reopened between 11:00am to 2:00pm, Cllr Donna Fuller and Cllr Sue Smith attend each session to help residents with any issues.

**NOTED**

**FC 153/22 Questions from the public:**

There were no questions from the members of the public.

**NOTED**

**FC 154/22 Ward Matters arising:**

The problem of rat sightings on various estates was raised by Cllr Brian Hepburn, and the Council Manager responded with a written report.

Cllr Liz Simpkins said there had been problems with rats on Eaglestone which came over from the Milton Keynes University Hospital site, and suggested that contact is made to see if they are still having the same problem with rats.

It had been suggested that a group of residents buy into a pest control call out, but this maybe a problem due to different housing providers.

Cllr Donna Fuller said that the Milton Keynes Council's Housing Revenue Account (HRA) could fund a scheme to prevent the rat problem and talks are ongoing.

**RESOLVED**

- 1. That the Council notes the report.**
- 2. That Milton Keynes Council Elected members follow up with Milton Keynes Council officers to see what the outcomes are.**
- 3. That if / when any further information is forthcoming, a further discussion takes place to decide if any Woughton Community Council action is needed / any Woughton Community Council influence could bring better outcomes.**

Cllr Alan Williamson said that he has concerns around parking on matchdays at the Stadium MK with visiting supporters, in the event that the MK Dons are promoted there could be an increase of supporters, parking on the estates around the Stadium MK which will cause additional problems.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Council Manager to contact Milton Keynes Council around the potential for parking restrictions on matchdays at the Stadium MK if this becomes an issue.**

Cllr Jordan Coventry raised the issues of provision and maintenance of salt bins, the Council Manager responded that Milton Keynes Council have been made aware and will be dealing with this matter.

**NOTED**

Cllr Phil Hopcraft was concerned about black sacks being left out before and after collections have taken place.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the Council Manager to ask the Woughton Community Council environment Team to look into the issue of black sacks being left out before and after collections have taken place.**

Cllr Maggie Ferguson asked if anything could be done about the increase of fly tipping on Netherfield, including incidents of house removal contents either dumped or left in gardens. The Chair responded that Milton Keynes Council has recently appointed a number of enforcement officers to try to deal with this problem. Cllr Donna Fuller replied that housing officers at Milton Keynes Council could speak to tenants about dumping rubbish, although it becomes more difficult with tenants of housing association and private lettings.

## **RESOLVED**

**To include an article in the Woughton Gazette about reporting and prevention of fly tipping, and how to arrange the removal of household items.**

### **FC 155/22 Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors report:**

Cllr Donna Fuller reported to the meeting that she has been dealing with the issue of rat sightings, trying to assist vulnerable residents, dealing with housing repairs, Milton Keynes Council have indicated that there will be additional monies for landscaping, and that Estate Renewal forums are in the process of being set up. Thanks was expressed to Woughton Community Council for the support in achieving the return of a bus service to Coffee Hall.

## **NOTED**

### **FC 156/22 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:**

- a) Woughton Welfare Trust - Cllr Elina Apse - **Nothing to report.**
- b) MKALC - Cllr John Orr, Cllr Sue Smith, Cllr Pam Wilson - **Next meeting will be taking place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022. The main presentations will be by all three e scooter contractors, the cabinet member, lead Milton Keynes Council officer and a representative from Thames Valley Police.**
- c) Parishes Forum - Cllr Sue Smith, Cllr Alan Williamson – **Next meeting will be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022, which will be reported back on at the next Full Council meeting.**

## **NOTED**

### **FC 157/22 To note the minutes from the following Committees:**

Operations Committee – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

## **NOTED**

### **FC 158/22 Council Manager's report:**

The Council Manager updated the Council on various activities and delegated decisions made since the previous meeting.

## **RESOLVED:**

**That the Council notes the report.**

### **FC 159/22 To provide an initial report into accessibility issues at Woughton Community Council buildings:**

The Council Manager provided an initial report into accessibility issues at Woughton Community Council buildings following a request by a local resident.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Council notes the report.
2. That improvements around accessibility are considered when the fuller improvement plans are developed, with costs considered and budget allocated / funding applied for.
3. That regular checks are undertaken by officers to ensure accessibility is maintained where possible.

**FC 160/22 To update the Full Council meeting on the Covid-19 restrictions, easing and risk management:**

The Council Manager updated council on Covid-19 restrictions, easing and risk management.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Council notes the report.
2. That the Council continues to manage the ever-changing risks, responding accordingly in line with best practice and legislative demands.
3. That this issue of Covid-19 restrictions, easing and risk management remains a 'standing item' on the Full Council agenda.

**FC 161/22 To commence considerations around provision of a Landscape contract from April 2023:**

The meeting commenced discussion on the considerations around provision of a Landscape contract from April 2023.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Council notes the report and associated papers.
2. That the Council starts to consider their view on continuing delivery of a Landscape contract at the end of the current delivery in March 2023.
3. That the Council considers financial approaches to any decision with agreement on any 'top up' levels (if any) for future contracts.
4. That Council considers, *in principle*, whether they would wish to show commitment to future delivery, despite lack of clarity around finances and ongoing costs.
5. That this issue around provision of a Landscape contract from April 2023 returns to Council for discussion as and when appropriate, with a decision on 'commitment' being agreed at the March 2022 Full Council meeting.

**FC 162/22 To agree the draft letter to both Milton Keynes MP's in support of hybrid meetings, for NALC's Lobby Day to be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022:**

Members said that they were happy with the content of the letter to be circulated to both Milton Keynes MP's via email and to ensure B&MKALC are copied in.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Council Manager to send the letter to both Milton Keynes MP's in support of hybrid meetings by email and to copy in B&MKALC.**

**FC 163/22 To discuss ideas for future training & development, to include arrangements for an Away Day:**

The Council Manager informed the meeting that it is hoped that an awayday can be held in April/May this year, and asked for any suggestions for training and discussions to be considered.

Ideas proposed were training on IT and team building.

**NOTED**

**FC 164/22 To update the Full Council meeting on the Quarter 3 VAT return:**

The Responsible Financial Officer informed the meeting that the Quarter 3 VAT claim had been successfully submitted for a total of £5,829.72. Which was received on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

**RESOLVED**

**That the meeting notes the report.**

**FC 165/22 To agree the November & December 2021 Bank Reconciliations, list of payments and receipts:**

The Chair in conjunction with the Responsible Financial Officer has undertaken the necessary spot checks of payments and invoices to ensure compliance with the financial regulations.

**RESOLVED**

**That the November & December 2021 Bank Reconciliations, list of payments and receipts were AGREED.**

**Date of next meeting:**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 6:30pm, at the Woughton Community Council Hub, The Council Chamber, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG.

**THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7:36PM**

Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_