

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th February 2023, 6:30pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, Council Chamber, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes

Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Jeanette Bobey, Maggie Ferguson, Donna Fuller, Penny Glasgow, Brian Hepburn, Luke Louis, Ruth McMillan, Amber McQuillan, John Orr, Terri Parish, Pam Wilson, Alan Williamson.

Also present:

Steve McNay (Council Manager)

In attendance:

Cllr Elina Apse (zoom video call)

Also in attendance:

Brian Barton (Committee & Member Services Officer) (zoom video call)

FC 168/23 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Elina Apse (personal)

Cllr Jordan Coventry (holiday)

Cllr Nick Scott (unwell)

Cllr Liz Simpkins (unwell)

AGREED

FC 169/23 Declaration of interests:

There were no declarations of interests.

NOTED

FC 170/23 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th January 2023 were **AGREED** and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

FC 171/23 Chair's Announcement(s):

The Chair informed the meeting that the Council Manager had attended a meeting at the Stadium MK about events to be held at the Milton Keynes Bowl, there are two (2) events planned so far, on Saturday 5th August 2023 – Sunday 6th August 2023 is Reggae Land, and on Sunday 25th June 2023 Muse.

This is likely to be the final year for concerts, as being converted into football training pitches.

NOTED

FC 172/23 Questions from the public:

There were no questions from the members of the public.

NOTED

FC 173/23 Ward Matters arising:

Cllr Amber McQuillan informed the meeting that the Beanhill Residents Association has been disbanded, and volunteers are being sought to try and set up a new residents association.

NOTED

FC 174/23 Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors report:

Cllr Donna Fuller – casework mostly on housing, attends meetings on the Children’s and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee.

Thanked the residents of Netherfield on how they conducted themselves when there was a lot of press intrusion recently.

The first meeting of the Estates Renewal Forum for Netherfield will be held on Tuesday 21st February 2023 which will agree the membership of the committee and the meeting dates, an opportunity to advertise the meeting in the Netherfield Residents Association newsletter was missed due to a lack of response from the Community Engagement Officer, Cllr Fuller said that she will speak to the officer concerned to ensure that it does not happen again.

NOTED

FC 175/23 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:

- a) Woughton Welfare Trust - **Cllr Elina Apse** – No report.
- b) MKALC – **Cllr Sue Smith, Cllr Pam Wilson** – Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 1st February 2023, well attended with a detailed presentation from Thames Valley Police, invitation extended to visit the Blue Light Hub, Cllr Sue Smith was re-elected as Chair.
- c) Parishes Forum - **Cllr Liz Simpkins, Cllr Sue Smith** – meetings will no longer be held via zoom video call, but by teams for the foreseeable future.

NOTED

FC 176/23 To note the minutes from the following Committees:

- a) Planning, Licencing & Development – Monday 9th January 2023.

NOTED

FC 177/23 Council Manager’s report:

Nothing to report as all matters are being dealt with in this meeting.

NOTED

FC 178/23 To agree costs for various electrical works on buildings managed by Woughton Community Council:

Clarkes & Son Electrical Services Ltd checked all the fixed electrical installations in all the buildings either owned or rented from Milton Keynes City Council. These are done as part of the statutory/regulatory requirements under the Health and Safety at

Work Act 1974, Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, Electricity at Work Regulations 1989, Workplace (Health and Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 and the I.E.E Code of Practice for Service Inspection and Testing of Fixed Installations.

All the quotes have been received back and the and the total costs for these works is £5,705.22p.

It was suggested to investigate the landscape depot electrical costs and even though the contract stipulates the work has to be completed before vacating the premises, the meeting felt that the Council Manager should see if Woughton Community Council can be excused that obligation in the contract.

RESOLVED

- 1. That council notes the report and costs associated.**
- 2. That council agreed to the works being undertaken to ensure compliance and safety.**
- 3. That Woughton Community Council will continue to liaise with Milton Keynes City Council around a contribution towards these costs, especially for the buildings that they own.**
- 4. That the works will aim to minimise disruption to any bookings, whilst accepting that there may be some impact.**
- 5. That the Council Manager to investigate whether Woughton Community Council is obliged to pay for the electrical work to the landscaping depot on Fishermead.**

FC 179/23 Netherfield at 50:

Officers from Milton Keynes City Council have been in contact with Woughton Community Council around the 50th anniversary of Netherfield, suggesting that this takes place in 2023. To mark this event, Milton Keynes City Council are submitting a funding bid for this and some other Milton Keynes estates, to enable activities to take place within the locale.

There are already several activities planned for Netherfield over the coming year a festival was proposed to take place on the estate, the start of the 'decarbonisation' housing improvement scheme, potential for the new Cripps Lodge site development to start, creation of the ERF for Netherfield and ongoing works around some heritage assets (e.g. Owl and Pussycat, ABC park, Jed's Trail, etc.).

In addition to this, Milton Keynes Arts Centre are also looking to continue working in the area which may include projects on or around Netherfield.

These projects have come from various places and are based upon either funding that is available or from feedback from residents. It is proposed that Woughton Community Council works with residents, partners, plus any others who may come along, to develop and deliver a programme of events during 2023.

The meeting felt that it needs to be investigated as to when Netherfield and Tinkers Bridge were constructed as it was believed that Tinkers Bridge was constructed before Netherfield.

RESOLVED

1. That council agrees to officers and councillors working with Milton Keynes City Council around events and plans to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Netherfield.
2. That the proposed 'festival' for 2023 includes links to the half century achievement.
3. That ideas around what could happen to mark the occasion are shared to enable as wide a programme of events as possible.
4. That all this is based upon feedback from residents, past and current, of the estate.
5. To investigate when Netherfield and Tinkers Bridge were constructed.

FC 180/23 Grants panel:

Alongside the precept, contracts and 'additional income' (rentals, etc.), Woughton Community Council also uses grant funding to support activities within the council. Most of these grants are for specific items and / or projects and cover a wide range of issues.

Over the past year or so, the following grants have been awarded to Woughton Community Council:

- Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) – towards the costs of Youth activities and food over the school holiday periods.
- LEAP grants to fund physical activity within the youth service.
- Community Infrastructure Funding (CIF)* – two applications agreed.
- Fencing for the community garden
- Storage and equipment for flooding (pumps, PPE, brooms, barriers, etc.)
- Warm Rooms funding via Milton Keynes City Council towards the costs of providing food and warm spaces during this winter period.
- One Stop funding towards the cost of a coffee machine
- Other small bits to buy trees, shrubs and similar.

Woughton Community Council also have bids submitted, which are awaiting decisions on:

- Big Lottery Fund towards the costs associated with the Community Gardens
- CIF* funding towards solar power at the Tinkers Bridge Meeting Place, toilet improvements at the Coffee Hall Meeting Place and a bike store at the offices
- Further HAF bids in for Easter and summer.

*It should be noted that the CIF funding is to 'match fund' contributions made by Woughton Community Council there is a budget allocated for the elements mentioned, which can then be subsidised further by the CIF monies.

The meeting felt that it would be useful to update members on a regular basis on the progress of any grants applied for, that there could be a regular agenda item to cover this on a rolling basis.

Council agreed to no Councillor membership of any 'grants panel', but that they will receive updates regularly with regard to applications, progress and awards'.

RESOLVED

- 1. That council notes the report and 'flow chart as circulated.**
- 2. That council notes the grants that have been awarded and those that are 'in process'.**
- 3. That council agrees to no Councillor membership of any 'grants panel', but that they will receive updates regularly with regard to applications, progress and awards'.**

FC 181/23 NALC Lobby Day:

The next NALC lobby day to be held with Peers, MPs and senior civil servants in parliament is Tuesday 28th September 2023.

The meeting was asked for suggestions, members ideas were to ensure that Parish and Town Council's can provide a dependent carers / childminding allowances, and to allow hybrid meetings.

If any member has any further ideas then they should contact the Council Manager.

NOTED

FC 182/23 Meeting Places:

Members considered a consultation with residents regarding the community centres, covering what people would like to see, whether residents would support investment in the centres and how this might work.

The meeting felt that the consultation should cover all estates, even those without a community centre as residents were likely to use a neighbouring estate if they had a community centre.

That the consultation should take place in the new council year after the elections.

Any suggestions on the consultation should be given by Members to the Council Manager, and to consider further at the May Full Council meeting.

RESOLVED

- 1. That council notes the report and the supporting papers that have been presented regarding the improvements that are felt necessary across the community centres.**
- 2. That following discussions at previous meetings and requests from councillors, council now agrees that a consultation should take place with residents around the use of, investment in and long term value of the community centres.**
- 3. That council considers agrees that the consultation should cover all estates, even those without a community centre as residents were likely to use a community centre on a neighbouring estate if they had a community centre.**
- 4. That the consultation should take place in the new council year after the elections.**

FC 183/23 Consideration of a consultation around ‘white lines’ at H junctions for properties on Coffee Hall and initial proposal:

The issue of parking on Coffee Hall, specifically to the north of the estate (Lloyds end), has been discussed at council and committee meetings for several years. Negotiations with the principal authority, Highways, stakeholders and householders have taken place, with limited action.

There is now an agreement to commence some remedial works that may help the situation. These include removal of the ‘narrows’ on Lloyds, installation of yellow lines along the length of Lloyds and around the junctions of the five (5) roads and further works along Chapter again, to protect the junctions and promote the smooth and safe flow of traffic (including the bus service).

As part of these discussions, agreement has also been made to provide white ‘H box’ markings along the residential roads to protect access to driveways / houses.

Whilst Highways have agreed to this work free of charge (usual cost of around £200 per household), they have requested that Woughton Community Council provide details of the places these markings are wanted / needed. Whilst one way of managing this could be to simply place markings everywhere that there are gates to a driveway, some residents may not want markings outside their properties and so permission may be a better way to deliver this project.

It has been agreed that the northern end of the estate can be covered.

RESOLVED

To defer this agenda item and the consultation to the next meeting as more information is required.

FC 184/23 Neighbourhood Plan:

Since June 2022, the Planning, Licencing & Development Committee has reviewed the policies that make up the Neighbourhood Plan that was agreed in 2017. Whilst the plan remains an excellent document, the area has undergone significant change since 2017 and this review has shown that there is work that can be done to further improve the plan.

It is likely that the changes that have been proposed mean that any new plan will be a significant piece of work and one proposal is that further grant funding is applied for to appoint an officer to undertake this work. If changes are significant, a further referendum may also be necessary.

If there are any additional elements that members feel would benefit the area for any new Neighbourhood Plan. These should be passed to the Council Manager for inclusion in the Planning, Licencing & Development Committee meeting for Monday 3rd April 2023 (by Monday 20th March 2023).

RESOLVED

- 1. That council notes the report, the review document and the neighbourhood plans within the city wide listing noted.**
- 2. That council considers whether there are other elements that they feel would be appropriate to include in any revised Neighbourhood Plan.**

3. That following this, additional elements are included in the review document and advice is then sought with regard to the best way to progress, funding application, full review, referendum, etc.
4. That council considers the review to be as part of the development of a plan that is suitable for a further five (5) year period (and possibly longer), reflecting the changes to the area (and more widely) since 2017.
5. To find out what is required to take the neighbourhood plan to examination and to a referendum and to buy in advice on those matters.

Date of next meeting:

Monday 13th March 2023, 6:30pm, at the Woughton Community Council Hub, The Council Chamber, the Local Centre, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8:00PM

Chair _____ Date _____