

## Full Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 6:30pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, Council Chamber, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes**

**Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Nick Scott (Vice-Chair),** Eamonn Bobey, Janette Bobey, Tony Coughlan, Margaret Ferguson, Penny Glasgow, Michael Holland, Charlie Marsh, Deanna Norris, D'Anne Mordecai, April Rennie, Liz Simpkins, Lorna Webb, Alan Williamson

**Also present:**

Steve McNay (Council Manager)

**FC 18/24 Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies received from:

Michael Ferguson (work commitment),

Donna Fuller (meeting clash)

Luke Louis (personal)

Ruth McMillan (unwell)

**RESOLVED – Noted and accepted.**

**FC 19/24 Declaration of interests:**

The were no declarations of interest declared.

**NOTED**

**FC 20/24 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

**RESOLVED**

**Proposed by Cllr Sue Smith    Seconded by Cllr Nick Scott.**

**FC 21/24 Chair's Announcement(s)**

The Chair noted that the Coffee Hall Meeting Place will be closed from the 15<sup>th</sup> March, reopening after the Easter break, to enable refurbishment work to be undertaken.

**FC 22/24 Questions from the public:**

The Council Manager read a question received requesting information about the removal of a lock from the bollard to the rear of Woodrush Close, which has resulted in people driving through this area. The Council Manager agreed to investigate and respond directly to the questioner.

**FC 23/24 Ward Matters arising:**

Cllr Eamonn Bobey requested the issue of the paths at the ABC park be addressed, due to the overgrowth meaning that they are becoming impassable.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**FC 24/24 Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors report:**

Cllr Sue Smith updated the meeting on activity at the principal authority, covering budgets, precepts and similar.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**FC 25/24 Estate updates from councillors**

NF – lots of work around the refurbishment works being undertaken. Also an increase in fly tipping and contact made with the MKCC portfolio holder to try and find resolution to this ongoing issue.

TB – fly tipping an increasing issue, with one house noted as a significant offender. This property was highlighted as one with numerous issues and is being addressed. Also issues with waste collection as parking has made it hard for SUEZ to manoeuvre – no second visit has taken place, so reported. Landscaping work has helped, but public realm issues still need sorting. Initial meeting of the SHDF (housing renewal) took place.

CH – an initial meeting to try and start a new Residents Association is planned for Friday.

ES – Parking issues on Montagu and Harlans being addressed with TVP. Fly tipping is improved. Highways are working on the flooding at the pond area.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**FC 26/24 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:**

a) Woughton Welfare Trust – **an initial meeting has been arranged with Cllr Maggie Ferguson. Positive movement.**

b) MKALC – **28<sup>th</sup> February is the AGM, being held in Chambers at WCC and online. All welcome.**

c) Parishes Forum – **in December, SOFEA presented. Local Transport plan and New City Plan also covered, alongside new ways of street cleansing.**

**RESOLVED - noted**

**FC 27/24 To note the minutes from the following Committees:**

a) Planning, Licencing & Development - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

***Proposed by Cllr Sue Smith, seconded by Cllr Penny Glasgow.***

b) Operations & Resources - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

***Proposed by Cllr Sue Smith, seconded by Cllr April Rennie***

c) Services & Communities - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

**RESOLVED**

***Proposed by Cllr Nick Scott, seconded by Cllr Deanne Norris.***

**FC 28/24 Council Manager's report:**

The Council Manager spoke to the report provided, detailing activities undertaken and the delegated decisions that have been made.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**FC 29/24 To propose committee membership for Clls. Marsh and Webb, following co-option at the previous meeting.**

Discussion took place that both new councillors would like to sit on Services Committee, with Cllr Alan Williamson withdrawing from that committee.

***Proposal from Cllr Sue Smith***

***'That Clls Marsh and Webb are appointed to the Services and Communities Committee and that Cllr Williamson is removed from that committee'***

***Seconded by Cllr D'Anne Mordecai. Unanimously agreed by way of vote.***

**RESOLVED**

**FC 30/24 To propose a change of agenda item to promote time efficiency.**

Following a paper from Cllr Smith, the council discussed the idea of introducing a 'sixty second update', limiting update to sixty seconds per estate. The Council Manager suggested that this may be too quick and that a 2 minute limit maybe preferred. The two options were put to the vote.

***Proposal from Cllr Alan Williamson***

***'That the estate updates are changed to a 'two minute update' for each estate'***

***Seconded by Cllr Liz Simpkins and passed by majority vote.***

**RESOLVED**

**FC 31/24 To inform the council of proposals and preparation for the Annual Meeting(s) in May**

The council was updated on the proposals agreed at the Operations Committee regarding the Annual Meetings, with an explanation of the way that the meetings work for the benefit of the newer councillors. Cllr Sue Smith requested that an additional document was reviewed, namely the Code of Conduct.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**FC 32/24 To update the council on the Neighbourhood Plan review**

The Council Manager update the council on the current proposals for the review, including the detailed breakdown of the proposed scheme of works from the consultants. This includes a 'walk around' on Wednesday (28<sup>th</sup> February) to assess sites for development, sites for protection, etc. Details of this were sent round by the Council Manager earlier in the month and, following further conversations, a programme for the day, enabling councillors to be part of the estates they represent, will be sent round to those involved.

There remain some gaps in non councillor representation, which it would be good to have filled.

Cllr Smith updated the meeting on the initial engagement that took place on Beanhill and the potential for this to happen elsewhere, which may help engage some residents to take on the roles needed.

Further meetings of the review working group will be arranged and, whilst not formal meetings, will form part of the council meeting calendar.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**FC 33/24 To inform the council of the Quality Council scheme, expectations and standards needed, with a view to submission for the May 2024 round of assessment.**

The Council Manager provide an overview of the scheme, with pros and cons of undertaking the assessment and application process alongside an evaluation of where they felt the gaps in current evidence are for the three (3) levels of award. After discussion around the level that should be aimed for an initial proposal was made:

**Proposal from Cllr Sue Smith**

***‘That the council tasks the Council Manager with creating a Local Council Award Scheme submission for the Foundation level for final agreement at Full Council on 29th April, to be provided to the assessment panel on or before 3rd May 2024’***

***Seconded by Cllr Charlie Marsh and passed by majority vote.***

**RESOLVED**

Following this vote, there was some further discussion around aiming higher and working towards the two (2) higher levels over the coming years.

**Proposal from Cllr Tony Coughlan**

***‘That following awarding of the Foundation level, that the Council Manager works towards the ‘Quality’ level over the 2024/25 council year and then the ‘Quality Gold’ level in 2025/26’.***

***Seconded by Cllr Nick Scott. Passed by unanimous vote.***

**RESOLVED**

**FC 34/24**

**Date of next meeting:**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 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 7:11PM**

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