

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26th June 2023, 6:30pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, Council Chamber, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes

Present: Cllrs Nick Scott (Vice-Chair), Maggie Ferguson, Michael Ferguson, Penny Glasgow, D'Anne Mordechi, April Rennie, Liz Simpkins, Alan Williamson.

Also present:

Steve McNay (Council Manager)
Ian Tegerdine (Landscaping Manager)

FC 46/23 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Jeanette Bobey (personal)
Cllr Donna Fuller (meeting)
Cllr Ruth McMillan (work commitment)
Cllr Luke Louis (personal)
Cllr Sue Smith (meeting)

AGREED

FC 47/23 Declaration of interests:

There were no declarations of interest.

NOTED

FC 48/23 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on:

- Tuesday 30th May 2023

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

FC 49/23 Chair's Announcement(s):

The Chair wished a speedy recovery to all those who were unwell.

NOTED

FC 50/23 Questions from the public:

The Council Manager suggested leaving the written response from a member of the public regarding the landscape contract until that item was up for discussion. The Chair agreed to do so.

NOTED

FC 51/23 Ward Matters arising:

Councillor Alan Williamson passed over a letter regarding empty properties on Beanhill, residents were concerned as they felt that they could be used to house those in need, along with the loss of rental income and that the length of time that some have been empty for.

It is not known if all the properties are managed by Milton Keynes City Council.

It was agreed that the ward councillors and Council Manager would investigate further the tenure of the empty properties on Beanhill.

RESOLVED

That the ward councillors and Council Manager to investigate further the tenure of the empty properties on Beanhill.

FC 52/23 Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors report:

No Ward Councillors were present.

NOTED

FC 53/23 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:

- a) Woughton Welfare Trust - **Cllr Maggie Ferguson – No contact from the trust, although the Council Manager did state that they have requested a meeting, the details of which will be passed to Cllr Ferguson as the Woughton Community Council representative.**
- b) MKALC – **Cllr Ruth McMillan, Cllr Liz Simpkins, Cllr Sue Smith – No meeting has taken place.**
- c) Parishes Forum - **Cllr Liz Simpkins, Cllr Sue Smith – Neither councillor was present to provide any feedback.**

NOTED

FC 54/23 To note the minutes from the following Committees:

Operations & Resources Committee – Monday 22nd May 2023.

NOTED

FC 55/23 Council Manager's report:

The Council Manager updated the meeting on activities that have taken place, including the Chairs Awards, Councillor and Officer training (with the next session booked for Wednesday 12th July 2023) and engagement events for new Councillors.

A full written report is available if requested.

NOTED

FC 56/23 To update council on the Landscape contract for September 2023, with details now provided for funding offered:

The Council Manager and Landscape Manager updated Council on the current discussions around the new contract, having recently received details of the financial costs.

The uplift that was expected has not transpired and the overall contract value is below that which reflects the costs associated with delivering the service that is currently offered.

The Council Manager provided further detail on costs, options and proposals for the future, and also read out a written submission from a member of the public that suggested that the residents of Peartree Bridge value the service and would support Woughton Community Council continuing with the contract.

Several councillors offered opinions that maintaining the contract is the preferred option, with some concerns about the additional funding needed. The Chair suggested that a 'break clause' within the contract may be a way forward to ensure that affordability is maintained.

Cllr Ferguson requested details of the 'additional works' that are planned for the new contract period, the Landscape Manager agreed to provide them before the end of the week (Friday 30th June 2023).

All present agreed to work to engage their residents to find out what the views of local people are and contribute to the discussion and decision at the July Full Council meeting.

There were also several specific requests for works to be done across the parish, which the Landscape Manager responded to.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That council considers the report and the options available.**
- 2. That councillors submit any queries or questions regarding the contract to the Council Manager before Monday 17th July 2023, for consideration at the July meeting.**
- 3. That councillors are prepared at the July meeting to make a final decision on the contract and the approach that Woughton Community Council will take.**

FC 57/23 To inform council of the upcoming B&MKALC Conference, and to discuss if Councillors wish to attend:

The Council Manager read the invitation from the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils (B&MKALC) to attend the 2023 Conference entitled: Communities: Enrichment & Resilience.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That council notes the invitation.**
- 2. That councillors consider whether they would like to attend and, if so, inform the Committee and Member Services Officer by Monday 31st July 2023. It should be noted out that there are only two (2) tickets per council allocated at this point.**
- 3. That, if necessary, a 'lottery' is drawn and tickets are then bought for those who are selected to attend.**

FC 58/23 To inform council of an opportunity to become a 'governor' at Charles Warren school:

The Council Manager read out an email sent by the Chair of the group that oversees the Charles Warren school, inviting someone from the council (officer or elected member) to become part of that group.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That council notes the invitation.**

2. That if any councillor or officer is interested in the position, that they inform the Council Manager.
3. That if more than one (1) person is interested, that all parties' details are passed to Charles Warren School for them to decide who is most suited.

Date of next meeting:

Monday 24th July 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 7:32PM

Chair _____ Date _____

DRAFT