

FULL COUNCIL

27th October 2025

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Nick Scott (Vice-Chair), Eamonn Bobey, Tony Coughlan, Luke Louis, Deanna Norris, D'Anne Mordecai, Liz Simpkins, Lorna Webb and Alan Williamson

Also present:

Steve McNay (Council Manager)

FC 88/25 Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received from:

Cllrs Margaret Ferguson, Michael Ferguson, Penny Glasgow, Michael Holland Charlie Marsh, Ruth McMillan, Stacey Munkley and April Rennie,

NOTED

FC 89/25 Declaration of interests:

Under the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, made under s30 (3) of the Localism Act, members must declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting, and any additional interests not previously declared.

No declarations were made.

FC 90/25 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:

To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on:

- Monday 22nd September 2025

Cllr Smith proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

This was seconded by Cllr Scott.

RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.

The minutes were signed by the Chair.

FC 91/25 Chair's Announcement(s)

The Chair noted the following points

- 1st November – bingo in CHMP to raise funds towards the maintenance of the memorial.
- 9th November – Remembrance service. 11th November – Children's Remembrance Parade.
- 8th November – Disco Bingo in CHMP.
- 1st November – new play park opening at 11am opposite Chambers.
- The Chair also updated on activities at No 99, including ESOL and Tea and Tech.

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 92/25 Questions from the public:

There were no questions.

RESOLVED – noted.



FC 93/25 Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors report:

Cllr Smith provided a brief update, stating that things are still very busy and that if residents have a need, to contact her. Benefit changes are making people confused and people encouraged to contact the Woughton Advice Service if needed

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 94/25 2 minute Estate updates from councillors

Beanhill

- Usual fly tipping, etc.
- Lots of lights out across the estate
- Alleyways all be done by landscaping team and looking good
- Christmas event being planned – watch this space!

Coffee Hall

- Chapter is closed for resurfacing work
- Santa is visiting on the 19th December for Coffee Hall
- Councillor drop in planned for November – watch this space.
- Mega fireworks display at the Bowl this weekend, so lots of road closures and parking restrictions in place.

Eaglestone

- Resurfacing issues on pathways
- Railing around the pond (ascot) is deteriorating and a potential risk?
- Harrier Court is unlikely to be completed before Christmas – further delays.

Leadenhall

- Ongoing issues with parking – Cllr Glasgow is liaising with the heads of the education establishments

Netherfield

- Shop issues remain – ASB, begging, etc.
- SHDF is moving along – drop in on Thursday
- Leaf clearance from roads has started
- Information regarding bingo, Santa Sleigh etc also shared.

Peartree Bridge

- Paths to the rear of Waterside are being looked at.

Tinkers Bridge

- As no councillor present, the Council Manager provided an update from Cllr Rennie
- SHDF are doing snagging. TB just about complete.
- Secured funding for warm room, will be Thursdays 5.30pm
- Housing, TVP, ASB will be in attendance at meeting place 7th Nov 2pm till 4pm
- Secured a store toy match for Tinkers Bridge for Christmas.
- TB community fridge will be open Christmas eve.
- Santa Sleigh on 20th
- Community Fridge changing to 9.30 – 11.30.

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 95/25 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:

- Woughton Welfare Trust - **Cllr Maggie Ferguson**. No report.
- MKALC - **Cllrs McMillan, Cllr Rennie & Cllr Smith**. All welcome to attend, with attendance from Arts and Heritage, High Sheriff and Parks Trust.
- Parishes Forum - **Cllrs McMillan & Cllr Smith**. No report
- Sustainable MK - **Cllrs Ferguson and Rennie**. Nothing, but meeting planned.



RESOLVED – noted.

FC 96/25 To note the minutes from the following Committees:

- a) Planning, Licensing and Development 1st September 2025
- b) Operations and Resources 8th September 2025
- c) Services and Communities 15th September 2025

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 97/25 Council Managers report

The Council Manager provided information about activities and spending since the last meeting of Full Council. Full details within the papers pack.

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 98/25 Preparation for 2027 Election

With a view to promoting the democratic process and ensuring WCC is prepared for the next election in May 2027, proposals around actions to take over the coming months were suggested within the paper provided by the Council Manager.

There were a range of views offered, including concerns that there are fewer people standing for elections, considering how to best engage with community members, need for clarity around what different levels of government do, branded engagement stuff, food and making it accessible.

There were also ideas exchanged about how engagement might take place. Clarity around a 'role description' was also requested, but in an accessible way. It was suggested that a fuller, more detailed breakdown is brought back to Full Council, once fully prepared.

Proposals:

- *Council agrees to the holding of individual councillor sessions to explore specifics, in line with the proposed format included within this paper*
- *Council agreed to a series of engagement events during 2026 to promote inclusion within the democratic process, help ensure sufficient candidates for contested elections and to encourage a more diverse range of candidates within the council at the next election, specifically representing the diversity of the parish.*

Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Webb.

RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.

FC 99/25 Christmas preparations and proposals

With the festive season fast approaching, a review of proposals, plans and closures for the council, activities, services and similar took place, updating council accordingly.

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 100/25 Budget update (via Operations)

An update of the recent budget proposal made to Operations Committee for comment and any further input from wider council, prior to November's budget proposal, was provided for full council. MKCC need precept figure in January, so final budget and precept needs agreeing in December. Any further ideas for inclusion in the budget to be considered at Operations Committee in November.

Residents were also encouraged to complete the consultation questionnaire, to help contribute towards this decision.

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 101/25 Service Plan ideas – initial discussion



This was an initial opportunity for councillors to contribute to the development of the 2026/27 Service Plan, focusing on delivering activities during the coming council year. Initially discussed at Services Committee who suggested bringing it to Full Council as well. Ideas to be submitted for inclusion.

RESOLVED – noted.

FC 102/25 Update on Canal and River Trust attendance at Full Council

Following a request for CRT to provide someone to attend a meeting to explore how we can work together to make the canal safer, following recent tragedies. The CRT has responded, stating that they haven't got anyone to attend meetings after 6pm. Councillors discussed the situation and felt that it was important that a meeting was held, suggesting that if nobody can come in the evenings, a daytime option could be offered instead.

Proposal

That Council invites a representative of the CRT to attend a daytime meeting, with councillors from the wards that border the canal, alongside any other interested parties (e.g. ward councillors) to discuss the issues at hand.

Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Scott.

RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.

Date of next meeting:

Monday 24th November 2025, to commence at 6.00pm. Held at Council Chambers, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 6:50PM

Chair _____ Date _____

