

## FULL COUNCIL

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026

To: All members of **Woughton Community Council**

**Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Nick Scott (Vice-Chair)**, Eamonn Bobey, Tony Coughlan, Margaret Ferguson, Michael Ferguson, Donna Fuller, Penny Glasgow, Michael Holland, Luke Louis, Charlie Marsh, Ruth McMillan, Stacey Munkley, Deanna Norris, D'Anne Mordecai, April Rennie, Liz Simpkins, Lorna Webb, Alan Williamson

## NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of Council to be held on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026** commencing at **6:00pm** at the **Woughton Community Council Hub, the Council Chamber, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG**, when the business set out in the following agenda will be transacted.

Steve McNay  
Council Manager

**Please ensure that your mobile phone and other electronic equipment is switched to silent or is switched off completely during the meeting.**

Members of the public can attend in person, submit questions in advance and or watch live via [www.facebook.com/woughtoncc](http://www.facebook.com/woughtoncc).

Please be aware that this meeting is being recorded and broadcast live. Microphones are live at all times – if you are not speaking formally within the meeting, please do keep any additional noise to a minimum and be aware that anything said within this meeting will be in the public domain.

The full Calendar of Meetings can be accessed from the following link on the website:

<https://www.woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk/calendars/>

## AGENDA

### **FC 140/25 Apologies for Absence:**

To receive and record apologies from members.

### **FC 141/25 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.

### **FC 142/25 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:**

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

- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**(Attached)**

### **FC 143/25 Chair's Announcement(s)**

### **FC 144/25 Questions from the public:**

To allow questions and comments from the public (maximum of 15 minutes in total).

### **FC 145/25 Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors report:**

An update on relevant information from Cllrs Fuller / Smith, regarding MKCC

### **FC 146/25 2 minute Estate updates from councillors**

To give an opportunity to all councillors to provide a brief update on activities and issues from the estates they represent.

### **FC 147/25 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:**

- a) Woughton Welfare Trust - **Cllr Maggie Ferguson**
- b) MKALC - **Cllrs McMillan, Rennie & Smith**
- c) Parishes Forum - **Cllrs McMillan & Smith**
- d) Sustainable MK - **Cllrs Ferguson and Rennie**

**(Verbal reports – information only)**

### **FC 148/25 To note the minutes from the following Committees:**

- a) Planning, Licensing and Development 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025
- b) Operations and Resources 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**(Attached – information only)**

### **FC 149/25 To consider a response to the naming decision from MKCC with proposal to have 'Terrier' as a standalone name.**

As previously mentioned, MKCC added 'Grove' to the suggested name of 'Terrier' – discussion and agreement with regard to any response.

**(Verbal report and decision needed)**

### **FC 150/25 To consider ongoing involvement in a 'Beyond' project, following the success of the initial project.**

To consider whether to be part of the 'part two' project proposal, supporting the Open University to build upon the existing 'pilot'.

**(Proposal outline attached – decision needed)**



**FC 151/25 Resident and community engagement approach**

To discuss the future of resident engagement, associations and focus over the coming year, including the idea of 'resident panels', estate focused work and links to Neighbourhood Planning consultation.

**(Paper attached - discussion)**

**FC 152/25 The future of parishes with restructured government**

Following an approach from the Community and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, consideration of any feedback regarding the role parishes may play in the future.

**(Communications received attached – discussion and agreement on any feedback)**

**FC 153/25 To consider any views regarding EV infrastructure**

In response to a consultation from MKCC, consideration of any views regarding the placement of Electric Vehicle infrastructure, including charging points and 'car club' infrastructure.

**(Paper and weblink attached – discussion and agreement on any feedback)**

**FC 154/25 Consideration of any items for discussion within council or committees over the coming months**

An opportunity to submit any ideas for issues that might benefit from greater oversight within a council or committee meeting.

**(Verbal discussion only)**

**Date of next meeting:**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026, to commence at 6.00pm. Held at Council Chambers, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG



# Woughton Community Council

## FULL COUNCIL (including some Services Committee issues)

15<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### MINUTES

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

**Also present:**

Steve McNay (Council Manager)  
Marta Sobis (Responsible Finance Officer)  
Tash Darling (Youth and Community Manager)

**FC 120/25 Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies were received from:  
Cllrs Stacey Munkley and Lorna Webb.

**NOTED**

**FC 121/25 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 122/25 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:**

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

- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Two minor changes were proposed, to reflect that Cllr Louis was present (marked as absent) and that TVP weren't present at the Tinkers Bridge drop in.**

**Cllr Norris proposed that, with these changes, the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Marsh.**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

The updated minutes were signed by the Chair.

**FC 123/25 Chair's Announcement(s)**

The Chair noted the following points

- Congratulated the Clerk for being awarded the SLCC BMK Clerk of the Year
- Ward allowances – need spending if not already
- Café and fridge on Tinkers Bridge is closed this Saturday, alongside food to go on Friday and Sunday.
- Santa is coming to the estates this week – poster shared to update times and dates. There is also a tree decorating session on the 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Community Lunch on Thursday.



**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 124/25 Questions from the public:**

There were no questions.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 125/25 Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors report:**

Cllr Fuller provided a brief update – usual casework challenges, but slightly different in the run up to Christmas (time pressures).

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 126/25 2 minute Estate updates from councillors**

Beanhill

- Santa coming!

Coffee Hall

- House locally noted as concerns regarding level of waste stored in and around. Ward councillor to follow up outside the meeting.

Eaglestone

- 21 lampposts reported for maintenance / repair.
- Pond area caused some difficulties with mud left on paths. Drain needs clearing – still being chased.
- Scaffolding down on Harrier Court and work ongoing.
- Suggested that there is a community forum growing on the estate – to be nurtured and supported.

Leadenhall

- Quiet, but Santa Grotto last week. Students praised for their work and involvement. Good relationship with the Academy growing.

Netherfield

- Last Fridge prior to Christmas – reopening January.

Peartree Bridge

- 20<sup>th</sup> December sees the decorating of the tree between 1.30 – 2.30pm and Santa

Tinkers Bridge

- Lamppost and street lighting an issue and reporting not allowed as already reported. Concerns re Safety.
- Issues at the shop area – needles, vomit, faeces, etc.
- Verges on the estate are challenging, due to parking on the grass, churning up. Parking an issue all over and causing difficulties for emergency services.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 127/25 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:**

a) Woughton Welfare Trust - **Cllr Maggie Ferguson**. Focus on fuel poverty and food.

Recently, some white goods provided. Going well.

b) MKALC - **Cllrs McMillan, Cllr Rennie & Cllr Smith**. Meeting in Feb.

c) Parishes Forum - **Cllrs McMillan & Cllr Smith**. Lots around Artificial Information and suggestion that a policy would be needed before using. MKCC budget. Sports grant – getting football teams into deprived areas.

d) Sustainable MK - **Cllrs Ferguson and Rennie**. Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> December – 5 fridges attended, how to move forward, collaboration, new vehicle needed, waste management, etc.

**RESOLVED – noted.**



**FC 128/25 To note the minutes from the following Committees:**

- a) Planning, Licensing and Development 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025
- b) Operations and Resources 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025
- c) Services and Communities 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 129/25 Council Managers report**

Larger Councils Committee elections completed and re-elected to this. Formal meeting with Sports England group. IT procurement ongoing. Some 'New Town' planning stuff – no impact on Woughton. Conference attended to present the food offer. Full detail in the paper pack. Request that Council Manager considers returning to MKCC regarding the naming policy (to be added to next years agenda).

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 130/25 To receive consultation feedback overview for consideration.**

The Council Manager provided an overview of the feedback offered – relatively low numbers, but widespread support in all areas from those that did provide a view. Contradictions (reduce landscaping / increase landscaping), requests for various elements. Some positive feedback, some less so. Majority support for reasonable increases to precept – feel details in the papers pack.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 131/25 Budget proposal for 2026/2027 (via Operations)**

The Council Manager and RFO spoke to the budget and precept issues, looking at the budget that has been spoken to for the past few meetings and recommended by the Operations Committee. The financial figures were also discussed with clarity around the impact of any proposed increases noted, in terms of actual impact on the various bands within the properties locally.

**Proposal:**

That the council agrees to the proposed budget, as detailed in the paper pack

**Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Mordecai**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

**FC 132/25 To ratify the precept proposal for 2026/2027 (via Operations)**

Further discussion was held regarding the recommendation from Operations Committee of a seven (7) percent increase each year over a three (3) year period. It was agreed that the council would only ratify the agreement for the coming year and again, clarification of the specific figures, including the breakdown of increase for each band were provided.

**Proposal:**

*That council agrees to the proposed 7% increase in precept for the 2026/2027 council year, meaning a total precept of £977,318.72p.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Mordecai**

**RESOLVED by way of majority vote, with 3 against and 1 abstention.**

**FC 133/25 To consider a grant application from Community Arts Development MK for a carnival workshop event**

There was discussion about the proposed provision of a workshop event, linking this to the previously agreed aim of recreating carnival for 2027. Due to the nature of the applicant (a CIC) and the timescales for the event, advertising has already taken place. These issues



mean that a grant would NOT be compliant with the policies in place. It was suggested that the funding could be provided through alternative budgets, given the partnership between the applicant and the council. Awarding a grant was felt to be potentially setting a precedent where the guidance can be ignored.

**Proposal:**

That the applicant is supported to deliver the event through a subsidy through existing budgets (£500) but is NOT awarded a grant.

**Proposed by: Cllr Bobey. Seconded by: Cllr Scott**

**RESOLVED by way of majority vote with abstentions from four (4) councillors.**

**FC 134/25 To consider an approach for funding from St Marks Meals**

Following correspondence, council considered whether a full application from St Marks Meals is suitable. The council discussed the proposal and felt that the investment into community food approaches from the council is already significant and that the other partners within the parish (all statutory services), would be better funding routes. As a result, the following was ratified:

**Proposal:**

*That the council does not feel an application from St Marks Meals would be suitable or compliant with the grants process.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Williamson**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

**FC 135/25 To inform council of a consultation regarding a 'no u-turns' rule for Marlborough Street**

Following correspondence from MKCC Highways department, information regarding the consultation and consideration of any response was discussed. The council made the following feedback:

**Proposal:**

*That the council is supportive of the proposal, but requests that the following feedback be provided to the Highways department, via the consultation feedback:*

- *That the speed limit on the road be reduced*
- *That the junctions be closed, rather than no u-turns*
- *That Highways to provide any information on alternative considerations*
- *That cameras are considered to assess any difference in behaviours*

**Proposed by: Cllr Norris. Seconded by: Cllr Smith**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

**FC 136/25 To provide council with the Interim Internal Audit report provided by Auditing Solutions.**

The Council was provided with the Internal Auditors report, that offered a clean bill of health for the council. The RFO was congratulated on her work towards this outcome.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC 137/25 To inform Council of a consultation around 'on-call' fire stations and engines from Bucks Fire and Rescue**

Cllr Fuller spoke to the current consultation and considerations for the parish, detailing that whilst there would be some changes, these would be minor within the immediate vicinity and have limited impact – some movement of vehicles between stations, but the majority of the main issues lay elsewhere within the wider area (main in Buckinghamshire).

**RESOLVED – noted.**



**FC 138/25 Festive period updates**

The Council Manager clarified the events programme over the coming weeks, alongside the closure of council services over the festive period.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**FC139/25 To update council on the outcome of the recent Community Governance Review**

Although no direct impact, provision of the report noting changes following the recent review of parish councils within the city was offered, with some updates from the Council Manager.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**Date of next meeting:**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 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 7:22PM**

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



## PLANNING, LICENSING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025, 6:00pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, the Council Chamber, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG.**

**Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Penny Glasgow, Michael Holland, April Rennie, Charlie Marsh (non voting second from Beanhill), Ruth McMillan and Alan Williamson.**

**Also present:**

Steve McNay (Council Manager)  
Two (2) members of the public.

**LD 58/25 Apologies:**

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr Deanna Norris.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**LD 59/25 Declarations of Interest:**

*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.

**RESOLVED – noted**

**LD 60/25 Questions from the public (maximum 10 minutes):**

Although no questions from the public, members of the public from Tinkers Bridge made a statement regarding the application that is currently being considered for Holmfield Close (LD67/25).

**RESOLVED - noted**

**LD 61/25 Chairs announcements:**

The Chair provided details of upcoming events and other news about council provision and local activities.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**LD 62/25 Minutes of previous meeting(s):**

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

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025.

**Cllr Smith proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Glasgow.**

**RESOLVED by was of majority vote.**

**LD 63/25 To consider and respond to the following planning applications:**

- PLN/2025/2282 - Approval of details required by conditions 3 (hard & soft landscaping), 8 (tree protection) and 10 (replacement tree planting) of permission ref. 20/02245/FUL at The Former Cripps Lodge Site, Broadlands, Netherfield, Milton Keynes MK6 4JJ**



- b) **PLN/2025/2284** - Approval of details required by condition 23 (external materials) of permission ref. 20/02245/FUL at The Former Cripps Lodge Site, Broadlands, Netherfield, Milton Keynes MK6 4JJ
- c) **PLN/2025/2283** - Approval of details required by condition 21 (noise mitigation) of permission ref. 20/02245/FUL at The Former Cripps Lodge Site, Broadlands, Netherfield, Milton Keynes MK6 4JJ
- d) **PLN/2025/2285** - Approval of details required by condition 19 (EV charging points) of permission ref. 20/02245/FUL at The Former Cripps Lodge Site, Broadlands, Netherfield, Milton Keynes MK6 4JJ
- e) **PLN/2025/2286** - Approval of details required by condition 6 (surface water drainage) and 7 (maintenance of surface water drainage system) of permission ref. 20/02245/FUL at The Former Cripps Lodge Site, Broadlands, Netherfield, Milton Keynes MK6 4JJ

These five applications were considered as one item, as all relate to the development of the specific site on Netherfield. They were all considered to be more specialist in their needs (relating to conditions attached to the permission awarded). There was some discussion around (b) (External materials), but the view of the committee was that these were all positive steps towards getting this project up and moving and as such, were supportive of these applications. Queries were also raised around the contractors that have been appointed – these are confirmed as Higgins Partnership, with details of the approach that they are planning to take.

**Proposal:**

*That the committee is in support of the applications and encourages a swift start to the project.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Rennie**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

- f) **PLN/2025/2093** - Construction of micro energy storage facility at Land at Langland Road and Barnfield Road Junction, Netherfield, MK6 4HY

The Council Manager spoke to the paper, explaining the application. It was noted that the land had previously been suggested for housing development, which this development may mean would be unable to proceed in future.

**The committee offered no comment to this application.**

- g) **PLN/2025/2323** - Installation of roof-mounted Solar PV with max installed capacity of 347.51 kWp, connected through 4x inverters with 301 power optimizers, for a max AC power output of 233.20 kW and estimated annual production of 333.10MWh; for flat roof areas, solar PV panels will be no higher than 600mm above the highest part of the roof, and no will be panels located within 1m of the external edge of any roof; for pitched roof areas, panels will not be installed above the highest part of the roof (excluding chimneys) and will not project more than 200mm from the roof slope or wall surface at THE MILTON KEYNES ACADEMY, FULWOODS DRIVE, LEADENHALL, MILTON KEYNES, MK6 5LA

The Council Manager spoke to the paper, which the committee considered a positive step towards sustainability.

**The committee offered no comment to this application.**

- h) **PLN/2025/2207** - Certificate of lawfulness for proposed use of existing dwellinghouse (use Class C3) for supported care for up to 3 young persons, living together as a single household



and receiving care (use Class C3b or Class C2) at 28 Trubys Garden, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5HA (NB Informal consultation, NOT formal planning)

The Council Manager spoke to the paper, detailing that this application was an updated application that clarified some of the issues previously noted by the planning authority as reasons to refuse the previous application.

**The committee offered no comment to this application.**

- i) **PLN/2025/2473** - Change of Use of dwellinghouse (use class C3) to a 6-bed HMO (use class C4) and alterations to front elevation including garage conversion (part-retrospective) at 38 Farthing Grove, Netherfield, Milton Keynes, MK6 4HH

The Council Manager spoke to the paper, noting that there is a high level of HMO's within the vicinity, meaning that policy may not be compliant. Despite this, the property is licenced with MKCC and as such, this application looks to formalising and improving the provision. Concerns were noted around levels of parking (one / two spaces, not compliant with the policy in place).

**Proposal:**

That the committee requests a response that expresses concerns around parking standards, proliferation of HMO's within the vicinity and fire compliance.

**Proposed by: Cllr Rennie. Seconded by: Cllr McMillan.**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

**LD 64/25 To consider and respond to the following licensing applications**

- a) Street Trading Consent Renewal - Best Kebabs, St Dunstons, Coffee Hall, Ref 132325

**The committee offered no comment to this application.**

**LD 65/25 To review the content of the presentation regarding the MK City Plan 2050**

Following attendance at the formal meeting, the committee was shown the slides and information relating to the next stage of the MK City Plan 2050 process (Regulation 19 consultation). The Council Manager spoke through the highlights and explained that the current situation is that the consultation considers whether this plan is compliant with the law. The presentation also spoke to Neighbourhood Planning and the following was proposed:

**Proposal:**

*That the Council Manager invites a representative of MKCC Planning Department to a planning committee meeting to explore the current proposal regarding WCC NP.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Williamson**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

**LD 66/25 To consider parking restrictions for parts of Eaglestone, after consultation with residents**

Following consultation by Cllr Holland with residents on Eaglestone, consideration of WCC support for further highways work within the estate was requested. The Council Manager and Cllr Holland spoke to the paper, explaining the proposals to promote more friendly parking and access issues.

**Proposal:**

*That the committee supports the proposals regarding parking management within Hawksmoor Close, namely double yellow lines and hatching near bollards, and welcomes further action to address traffic safety and parking concerns within the estate of Eaglestone.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Holland. Seconded by: Cllr Smith.**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**



**LD 67/25 To review decisions made by MKCC Planning relating to previous agenda items**

a) Planning at Holmfield Close.

As noted above, this was discussed within the public question part of the meeting, due to members of the public having concerns about this and additional elements relating to the site.

The Council Manager updated the committee on the refusal of the previous application, alongside an application regarding the previously agreed application (for one property, from 2022 / 2023). Presentations were also made by residents of Tinkers Bridge, specifically those closest to the site in question.

The issues raised included the previously agreed permission and the conditions that were placed upon the permission. These included a several conditions relating provision of information and agreement of this from the planning authority, prior to any work starting. Another condition was that work needed to start within three (3) years of permission being granted, namely by 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Ecology, biodiversity, lighting, water management, etc. were all concerns that were noted, alongside the non compliance with key policy documents.

It was agreed that, utilising delegated authority, that the Council Manager would respond to the application that is currently in place, detailing the concerns that have been noted and submit within the agreed timeframe (by close of play on 1<sup>st</sup> December).

**RESOLVED – noted.**

**LD 68/25 Consideration of the new draft proposal for Scrap Metal Dealers and Collectors policy**

The committee was invited to consider any response to the draft policy noted above.

**The committee offered no response to this consultation.**

**LD 69/25 Review of the parking survey undertaken at Chapter**

The Committee was provided with an overview of a month-long parking survey around the school at Chapter, seeing the impact of parking and traffic management more widely.

**Proposal:**

*That the Council Manager sends copies of the report to New Chapter School, the Cabinet Member with responsibility for transport and to MKCC Enforcement with a view to more active enforcement and action from all.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Smith. Seconded by: Cllr Rennie**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

**Date of next meeting:**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 @ 6.00pm**

**Woughton Community Council Hub, The Local Centre, Council Chambers, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG.**

**THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7:12 PM**

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



## OPERATIONS AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025, 6:00pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, the Council Chamber, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG.**

**Present: Cllrs Deanna Norris (Chair), Sue Smith (Vice Chair), Donna Fuller, Charlie Marsh, D'Anne Mordecai, April Rennie, Alan Williamson.**

**Also present:**

Steve McNay (Council Manager)

Marta Sobis (Responsible Finance Officer – RFO)

**OC 48/25 Apologies:**

There were apologies received from Cllrs Tony Coughlan and Penny Glasgow

**RESOLVED - noted**

**OC 49/25 Declarations of Interest:**

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.

There were no declarations received.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**OC 50/25 Questions from the public (maximum 10 minutes):**

There were no questions received.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**OC 51/25 Chairs announcements:**

The Chair shared details of the upcoming Santa Sleigh tours.

**RESOLVED - noted**

**OC 52/25 Minutes of previous meeting(s):**

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

- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

**Proposed by: Cllr Norris. Seconded by: Cllr Smith.**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote**

**OC 53/25 To review and approve the following policies:**

- Whistleblowing Policy
- Staff Handbook

The committee discussed the policies, with the Council Manager explaining the changes proposed. These included in the whistleblowing policy some adjustments around detailing what might lead to whistleblowing, external disclosures and a more comprehensive policy.

With regard to the Staff Handbook, mainly changes to language, with an aim to making the document more accessible and inclusive, alongside updating some information and minor changes to some aspects (e.g. inclusion of vapes within the smoking policy).



## Proposal

*That the committee agrees to ratify the changes proposed within the documents provided and with the review dates noted. The committee also agrees to the Staff Handbook being further reviewed during 2026 to ensure all policies and procedures are consistent across the council.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Norris. Seconded by: Cllr Marsh**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

## OC 54/25 To consider an initial draft of a councillor safety policy

Following concerns raised at a recent training session, an initial draft of a councillor safety policy was provided to be considered by the committee. There was a positive discussion that explored issues around safety and potential options for ways to ensure all working with the council could be kept safe. The Council Manager explained the purpose and reasoning behind the approach.

Linked to the Lone Working policy. Ideas included:

- Using shared diaries.
- Personal alarms (either linked to call centres or otherwise)

Issues were noted around the fact that risk can be managed to some extent, but issues remain (e.g. traveling between appointments, issues in the street, etc.).

It was agreed that the Council Manager would look at training as part of this approach (e.g. use of shared calendars, etc.) and return to the committee with an updated version.

**RESOLVED – noted.**

## OC 55/25 To agree a budget proposal for the 2026/2027 council year.

The RFO reviewed the up-to-date budget proposals, which included a variety of scenarios as requested previously by the committee. The RFO explained that the scenarios included the options around both inflation and any precept increase, with 3% the default inflation rate (despite it being slightly higher, currently). The RFO also explained the impact of LCTRS ending. The Council Manager also provided updates on financial impacts (based on banded tax rates) and feedback from the annual survey.

Having spoken through the various proposals, the committee discussed options and linked this to the precept discussion (see below).

## OC 56/25 To agree a precept recommendation for the 2026/2027 council year

Following the budget discussions, the committee also provided a recommendation for the Full Council meeting, regarding the precept level suggested.

### Proposal:

*That the committee recommends a 7% increase each year for the next three years to be take to the Full Council meeting for formal ratification.*

**Proposed by: Cllr Williamson. Seconded by: Cllr Marsh**

**RESOLVED by way of unanimous vote.**

## OC 57/25 To update the committee on the recruitment process for the Operations Manager / Deputy Clerk position

The Council Manager updated the committee on the recruitment process, explaining that Mable Kong Rawlinson has been appointed to the position, coming with an impressive CV and impressing the interview panel. They are enthusiastic about starting and eager to get all the necessary information so that she is as well informed as possible.

It was suggested that the council could invite them to attend some activities in advance, so that they can get to meet people in advance.

Mable is due to start at the beginning of March, as has a three month notice period to work.

**RESOLVED – noted.**



**Date of next meeting:**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2026 @ 6.00pm**

**Woughton Community Council Hub, The Local Centre, Council Chambers, 60, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 5EG.**

**THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 6.42PM**

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



# WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Full Council – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Agenda Item FC 149/25

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** To clarify councils submission of names for new streets in Netherfield.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the committee notes the report and the proposal noted below

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

Following ratified decisions at both Services Committee and Full Council, the following was submitted in response to the request for names for the two new roads:

*Following discussion at both Services Committee and Full Council, Woughton Community Council considered that maintaining the ‘manorial land’ theme of the estate would be preferable and, as a result, resolved to submit the following names:*

- *Acre Lodge (with a link to the ‘Lodge’ in the former ‘Cripps Lodge’ site)*
- *Terrier (Description of a manor which follows a topographical arrangement – this is especially linked to Netherfield, with the flattened roofline working with the topography).*

*It was also requested that, whilst it is acknowledged that roads cannot be named after people, that the flats that are planned as part of this development, are also considered to be named, with both Wilson and Bobey to be considered as names for the block(s). Kevin Wilson was a significant local presence, and the first leader of the MK Unitary Authority (as well as a Woughton Parish Councillor) and Janette Bobey is a former councillor and residents association member who has dedicated over 25 years to the estate.*

The following was the response that was received from MKCC:

*Good Morning,*

*Thank you for the street name suggestions. I have now added “Acre Lodge” and “Terrier Grove” as the street names for the development.*

*While streets can only be named after individuals who are deceased, I see no issue with putting “Wilson” and “Bobey” forward to be considered for naming the blocks of flats.*

Whilst this is a positive response, the addition of ‘Grove’ to ‘Terrier’ is not accurate in terms of what was proposed, seconded and ratified at council.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

FC 119/25 Initial paper and proposal.

**SUGGESTED PROPOSAL:**

That council decides whether to write in response and request that 'Terrier' is included as a standalone name, or leave it as 'Terrier Grove', as suggested by MKCC. Given the initial feedback from councillors following discussion, it is suggested that the following proposal be considered:

*That council requests that the Council Manager respond to MKCC reminding them of the original proposal and asking for 'Terrier', as a single word, to be considered as the name.*

**AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager

## **FC 150/21 – Beyond Project continuation paper**

***The following is the submission that is proposed for the second phase of the Beyond project, a partnership with WCC and the Open University to encourage more diversity within environmental education and work places.***

***Phase one is ongoing, with an end date of March 31<sup>st</sup>, and three (3) events have currently taken place. These have proved successful, whilst also showing some elements of concern.***

***Council is asked to consider whether involvement in the second phase, where the project works across four sites (with WCC taking the lead locally only), building on the work undertaken in phase one.***

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**Title:** BEYOND-WISE: Broadening the Engagement of Young People in Environmental Science from Areas of Multiple Deprivation in Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland and England

### **Summary**

#### **Context**

The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) has recognised the lack of diversity in the environmental sciences in higher education and related professions. This context affects the whole of the UK: ethnic minorities make up <5% of the labour force in environmental professions, compared to 18.3% of the UK's population. The same issue of underrepresentation applies to those who come from low socio-economic status as well as those who identify as disabled. This context constrains the pool of talent who can advance NERC science, damaging lives for minoritised groups, and limiting growth in environmental industries.

#### **The challenge the project addresses**

Various reasons have been suggested for the low representation in the environmental sciences, a salient one being lack of early exposure and connection with the natural world. It is therefore salient to note that areas of multiple deprivation often have communities who are the least connected to nature, as well as being cold spots, i.e., areas of low inclusion in higher education. In combination, these forms of deprivation feed into a self-replicating cycle of low diversity and lack of inclusion in individuals studying environmental sciences in higher education and, subsequently, disproportionately low numbers in environmental professions. In contrast to arguments that point to 'a leaky pipeline', we argue that there are in fact structural and systemic issues at play.

BEYOND-WISE seeks to address this challenge through tailored, community-led engagement that connects minoritised groups and individuals with environmental scientists and professionals in each of the UK's four component nations.

#### **Aims and objectives**

We aim to increase diversity in NERC science by engaging young people from areas of multiple deprivation with environmental sciences, through scientists and professionals, inspiring them to pursue further education, volunteering opportunities, and professional careers in this field.

### Objectives

1. Establish partnerships with schools, community groups, and environmental organisations in each of the UK's four nations.
2. Co-develop and deliver, with community groups based in 'cold spots', engaged environmental programmes that are locally relevant, culturally sensitive and equitable.
3. Offer mentorship opportunities by connecting young people with role models in environmental sciences, including researchers, conservationists, volunteers, and professionals.
4. Co-produce digital and physical resources that highlight career pathways within environmental sciences, highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of the field, volunteering opportunities, and a variety of professional skills.
5. Construct a UK community of practice, focused on environmental topics within NERC's remit, further framed by local issues of concern to Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and England.
6. Monitor and evaluate the impact of BEYOND-WISE in terms of increased awareness, interest, and aspirations towards environmental science education, volunteering, and careers.
7. Work with other projects in the 'Opening up the Environment 2026' programme to share learning and leadership to inform how NERC engages equitably with communities.

### Potential applications and benefits

The key benefit of our approach is to expand the talent pool in environmental sciences and related professions. Our measure of success will be that more young people from underrepresented groups across the UK will be encouraged to consider environmental science careers in research and/or related professions, and in volunteering, thereby increasing diversity across the sector.

As a secondary benefit, the project will advance knowledge of how to effectively engage underrepresented communities with environmental sciences, promoting inclusive engagement with the natural world, thereby improving lives of underrepresented groups, and building a new talent pool that helps to drive growth in environmental industries.

## 3. Vision

### Our vision

Our vision is for BEYOND-WISE to contribute to the co-creation of a diverse and inclusive environmental science workforce that is reflective of diversity of the UK society.

### Realising our vision

BEYOND-WISE seeks to address these challenges through tailored, community-led engagement that connects minoritised groups and individuals in each of the UK's four component nations with environmental sciences, scientists, and related professionals. A further objective is to work with other projects in the 'Opening up the Environment 2026' programme, and the NERC Community Engagement Team, to share learning and leadership to inform how NERC engages equitably with communities.

BEYOND-WISE is designed to offer 120 young people from minoritised groups in the UK's four nations opportunities to connect with the natural world. This will be done through intermediary community-based organisations that are already familiar to them. We will achieve this goal by co-constructing 'third spaces' (Bhabha 1994) for equitable engagement with young people irrespective of social, cultural, and racial differences. We will support this engagement by forms of inclusive leadership that are informed by connectedness, respect, humility and intentionality (Holliman et al. 2024).

We will utilise the Open University's (OU) unique position as a national, nations-based and regional university with an educational mission for all. This position has been strengthened further by the new Civic University Agreement for Milton Keynes led by the OU, while the OU's offices in the nations have already made a commitment to their civic mission.

We will work in partnership with four community-led organisations based in 'cold spots' (Henderson, 2020), areas of multiple deprivation, in four UK cities (30 young people per city):

- Wales, Cardiff—collaborating with The Grange Pavilion Youth Forum and the Open University in Wales.
- Ireland, Belfast—collaborating with The Forthspring Inter-community Group and the Open University in Ireland.
- Scotland, Edinburgh—collaborating with Granton Youth Ltd. and the Open University in Scotland.
- England, Milton Keynes—we will extend our reach from our Stage 1 project, where we engaged with the Woughton Community Parish Council to cover the whole of Milton Keynes, connecting to the Open University's Headquarters

BEYOND-WISE will build on the lessons learned from our Stage 1 BEYOND Project, and other NERC-funded projects designed to widen access to nature (Holliman et al. 2025; 2024), to broaden participation in NERC science by engaging young people in their local environments, fostering partnerships, and showcasing a range of pathways into environmental science careers and individual mentoring of students (Dowey et al. 2024).

Our approach will be informed by equitable approaches to engaged research, combining and extending theoretical approaches from the social sciences with environmental sciences. This will be put together with the contextual knowledge from wider constituencies with lived experiences of multiple deprivation and approaches, to address the structural and systemic inequalities (Dowey et al. 2024; Holliman et al. 2024).

Through BEYOND-WISE we will build on this earlier approach, co-developing each event to meet the needs of the local context (Wales, Ireland, Scotland; and England). We will also host nation-wide events that offer young people opportunities to gain perspectives on other young

people's lived experiences of the natural world and environmental sciences by comparing their stories.

Together, the project's ambition is to connect young people's lived experiences with the natural environment in their local and national contexts, laying stepping stones for their pathways into higher education, volunteering opportunities, and professions in the environment sector.

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**Council Manager notes:**

***This is the overview of the second stage project, following on from the work that has been done over the past few months. The local coordinator, based at WCC (Suze Miller), has done an excellent job and laid a strong foundation for the next stage.***

***There are some issues that should be considered and which will be essential for all to be aware of, during stage two; ensuring sufficient local (i.e. Woughton) engagement of young people and fully costing the work that is planned and delivered, to ensure full cost recovery. This follows on from the pilot phase, where delivery of high quality, engaging sessions meant additional officer resource (unplanned, due to the speed with which the project needed to be delivered). Whilst this was managed through prudent management of the project budget, the second phase budget (and timescales) are such that this should not be an issue in the future.***

***The full proposal includes a payment of £60,000 towards the costs associated with WCC involvement in this project, which would cover any and all expenses associated with delivery.***

***As such, it is recommended that the council continues working with the Open University on the project, should funding be successful, allocating sufficient resource and compliant with the aims of Woughton Community Council.***

## WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Full Council – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Agenda Item FC 151/25

**PURPOSE OF REPORT: To consider an approach to resident engagement and involvement, including Neighbourhood Plan considerations.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the committee notes the report and the proposal noted below

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

The following was sent for consideration at this meeting:

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***Resident's groups - promote and encourage***

*Although some estates have resident's associations who represent their residents' views in various forums, we have several estates with no one group representation and only individuals trying to improve their community and environment without the support of residents.*

*Today, life can be challenging for families which means it is the same people taking on the role of looking after and working in isolation to improve their living environment. When these people leave the area, become ill, or are unable to continue, this work stops and sometimes their good work is lost, and things return to how it was.*

*I would like to find a way forward to promote, encourage and support likeminded residents who want to improve their environment and become a voice for residents. This will be a challenging initiative as many people remember how it was, inefficient, unappreciated and difficulty working together.*

*I look at this from an Eaglestone perspective, although I know it is the same with other estates, I feel it needs a new way of looking at the current situation and thinking outside the box.*

*In the first instance, especially in parallel with the neighbourhood plan consultation, a way forward could be finding people who care for their environment and community and have the skills, experience and time to start the rebuilding of an estate community. This is something that is not a quick fix or has instant recognition. However, if we don't start somewhere nothing will change.*

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In addition to this, the Residents Association Forum is due to meet again, and one proposal has been made that this includes a wider remit – a 'residents panel' where people who want to be involved, can be, whether there is an RA or not.

Other issues include:

- the engagement around the elections that are due in May 2027, to ensure sufficient candidates and a democratic process fully delivered

- the continued funding for the community meals, alongside additional development of community 'leaders', focusing on training and development
- The Neighbourhood Plan and the need to both publicise and engage with residents around this
- Ongoing challenges around Resident Associations (or the lack thereof) and how best we can support both existing and new associations to flourish.

It may be considered that there is a disconnect between what the council has stated that it would like to see and what is being delivered by members and officers of the council. The lower number of responses to the annual consultation reflects feedback from around half a percent of local residents, but we see far more people using our services – why aren't we hearing views? We have a hugely diverse community, but only three percent of respondents described themselves as BME community members. What are the barriers to engagement with the non white British community members? And there have been suggestions that council doesn't provide sufficient support for working age adults – how can we more effectively engage with ALL members?

### **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

We have a community development worker, who has a relatively broad remit. We also have a team of officers and members, many of whom would like to see a more joined up approach to this subject. Is there a need for a more structured approach, with clearly defined expectations of officers? Do we need to look at councillor surgeries and support this through space, additional staffing or other resources? Are there things that the existing staffing resource could / should be doing, in the view of council?

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There is a budget for engagement, and this is currently reasonably healthy. This means that ideas and suggestions that might have a financial impact, can be considered within the existing budgets, rather than a need for any further expenditure.

### **OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

This paper is intended as a starting point for discussion, with a view that a wider, more complete approach is written up and, if appropriate, published – this would also support the next stage of quality council submission, where a plan for engagement is key.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

### **SUGGESTED PROPOSAL:**

This paper is intended as a conversation starter, and there are no proposals attached. Council may wish to consider anything for formal for the next FC meeting, where ratified decisions can be made regarding this subject.

### **AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager

## WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Full Council – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Agenda Item FC 152 / 25

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** To consider any response regarding the future of parishes within the city, including any views on devolved services.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the committee notes the report and the proposal noted below

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

The following email was received by the Council Manager on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026:

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*Dear Clerk*

*We're writing to let you know about next month's meeting of the City Council's Community & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, on Tuesday 10 February.*

*The Committee will be considering what might be the likely role of parish and town councils in the Milton Keynes of 2050 which - by then - may have a population of over 400,000 and be part of a larger city region with a Metro-Mayor.*

*It will be discussing a paper prepared by Council officers about potential directions of travel towards 2050. But we would also like to hear your views - specifically on the devolution of services and assets to parish and town councils, and/or the design principles for neighbourhood area-based committees or governance.*

*If you would like to take this opportunity to let us know what you think please email Roslyn Tidman at the Council with your thoughts. We emphasise that this is a completely informal approach as we are outside the usual cycle of parish meetings. So, there is no suggestion that in replying you will be committing your parish to anything. And if you prefer, we can also report your comments to the committee anonymously. Please submit any comments in writing by midday on the 6 February.*

*Thank you !*

*Sam Crooks (Chair), Ansar Hussain (Vice Chair) and Shazna Muzammil (Vice Chair)*

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With significant change coming within the city, and uncertainty around the political future with elections taking place across the City Council later this year, looking and planning a longer term approach may be considered important, so that short term needs are not prioritised to the detriment of longer term planning.

The city will expand, with current projections suggesting 50,000 new dwellings over the coming decade or so. The 'new' new city proposal, with extended housing and installation of the Mass Rapid

Transit System (MRT) means that Woughton, sitting in the middle of the existing city, will be an important part of that future. And with a new hospital planned, 16,000 new dwellings within the city centre (to the north), significant investment within the Bletchley area (to the south), East / West rail potentially opening up transport corridors towards Oxford and Cambridge and the proposal for devolved powers to combined authorities, parishes are likely to become *the* local voice for residents and as such, your views on this are key.

### **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

Whilst there are no current plans around this proposal, in the event that further service deliver is devolved to the parishes, staffing will, naturally, increase in line with this. Looking to the South West, where significant devolution has taken place (Somerset, Devon), local councils have grown extremely large, extremely quickly and taken over significant resources and liabilities – ensuring that WCC is ready for this, should it happen, includes consideration of staffing needs and skill sets, as well as councillor knowledge, skills and development in these key areas.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Unclear at this point, but again, likely to have an impact in the longer term. Devolution cannot happen without addition financial resources, so likely to mean greater budgetary need. It should be noted that locally, councils that have taken on significant devolved services have increased precepts accordingly – be that taking landscaping services, green open spaces or play parks, precepts have increased as a result.

### **SUGGESTED PROPOSAL:**

This is intended to promote some conversation and discussion, with a view to a submission to the committee being developed as a result. Given this, any proposal will need to be based around the fact that this is an unclear and unknown situation.

*Council tasks the Council Manager to submitting feedback to the committee, based upon the discussions that have taken place, reporting back at the next meeting with the submission provided.*

### **AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager

**WOUGHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

*Full Council – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026*

*Agenda Item FC 153/25*

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** To inform council of a consultation regarding EV infrastructure, including charging points and ‘car club’ locations.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the committee notes the report and the proposal noted below

**MAIN ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

The following was received by the Council Manager on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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Hi Parish Councils,  
Please use the link [Have Your Say Today - MK Transport Conversation - Commonplace](#) to respond to the latest consultations. We are seeking your views on where you would like to see future EV infrastructure.

Thanks and we look forward to receiving your responses

Karen Boys  
Programme Manager, Transport Innovation

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Attached was a sheet that included the following:

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## **Latest Consultations: Electric Vehicle Charge Hubs and Car Clubs:**

**Summary:** To engage the public and other stakeholders in determining the most useful locations for future electric vehicle infrastructure around Milton Keynes

**Department:** Transport

**Start date:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**End date:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Category:** Transport

**Contact:** karen.boys@milton-keynes.gov.uk

**Content:**

[Have Your Say Today - MK Transport Conversation - Commonplace](#)

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The link takes you to a website where the following is embedded:

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**Charge Hubs overview**

Charge Hubs will provide quick on-demand charging using rapid and ultra-rapid chargers, which can top up a car battery in just 10 to 40 minutes. They will be conveniently located in areas such as local shops, leisure centres and in car parks near convenience stores and cafes to offer the customer purchasing/sit-down options whilst waiting for their car to charge.

Milton Keynes City Council would like your views

Press the purple 'Have your say' button and drop a pin on a location where a new charge hub should be.

**Do not identify a location as your main residence/home - please state the road name only - not your number or full address.**

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This page also includes a map, where pins can be dropped to explain where a charging point or car club may be wanted.

**STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:**

None

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None noted

**OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

This is a consultation that relies on internet access and a level of technical knowhow. It is fairly limited in scope and scale and, with six (6) different pieces of consultation already in place, it feels like a considerable piece of work to undertake, both for the planners and indeed, for those taking part in the consultation themselves.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

[Have Your Say Today - MK Transport Conversation - Commonplace](#)

**SUGGESTED PROPOSAL:**

*That council considers whether there is any feedback that they would like to offer towards this consultation and if so, tasks the Council Manager with collating and submitting this feedback.*

**AUTHOR**

Steve McNay – Council Manager