

## Policy & Resources Committee

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018, 6:00pm at the Woughton Community Council Hub, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes**

**Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Thillai Visvendran (Vice-Chair),** Jordan Coventry, Donna Fuller, John Orr, Pauline Prop, Yvonne Tomlinson, Alan Williamson

**Also present:** Brian Barton (Committee & Member Services Officer), Steve McNay (Council Manager), Samone Winsborough (Responsible Financial Officer / Operations Manager).

**PR 25/18 Apologies:**

Received from Cllrs Nick Scott (holiday), Kevin Wilson (personal commitment), Pam Wilson (personal commitment).

**NOTED**

**PR 26/18 Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**NOTED**

**PR 27/18 Questions from the public (maximum 10 minutes):**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**NOTED**

**PR 28/18 Chairs announcements:**

The Chair informed the meeting that the Tinkers Bridge Christmas party will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The Thames Valley Police Forum will be held at the Tinkers Bridge Meeting Place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The Residents Forum will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The staff and Councillors Christmas get together will be held at the Woughton Community Council Hub 12:00pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

Cllr Donna Fuller said that she had a meeting earlier with representatives from the Safer Communities team, they were unaware about the issues concerning responses to the public when using the 101 number and would like Woughton Community Council to let them know of any incidents when this occurs.

The Safer Communities Team are undertaking a project on supporting victims of domestic violence in the community.

The Safer Communities Team are also undertaking a residents and company employees survey, which closes on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, and will shortly be undertaking a project on improving mental health services in the community.

The meeting felt that Woughton Community Council needs to work more in partnership with Milton Keynes Council on the issues raised at the meeting with the Safer Communities Team and which could be incorporated into the 2019/2020 Service Plan.

Cllr Jordan Coventry spoke about an incident where some residents on Eaglestone had challenged staff from the Milton Keynes Hospital who had parked in their street, and the Police had to be called as the situation had escalated, Cllr Coventry said that a solution needs to be found about parking in the Woughton area.

**NOTED**

**PR 29/18 Minutes of previous meetings**

The minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 were **AGREED** as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

**PR 30/18 Update on the draft 2019/2020 budget and consultation:**

There have been five (5) responses so far on the budget consultation, a leaflet has now been delivered to all households in the Woughton area, Cllr John Orr expressed his concern that the consultation does not allow for residents to choose an option not to raise the precept, and that the survey appears to be encouraging residents to support an increase.

It is envisaged that in future budget consultations will be undertaken a lot earlier in the year, with a more comprehensive engagement with residents using a range of different strategies.

**NOTED**

**PR 31/18 To sign off the quarter two (2) VAT Return:**

Members expressed concern that Woughton Community Council pays business rates even though it is a local government organisation, it was proposed that representations should be made to HMRC.

**RESOLVED**

- 1. That the committee notes the report.**
- 2. To sign off the quarter two (2) VAT Return.**
- 3. To make representations to HMRC as to why Woughton Community Council pays business rates even though it is a local government organisation.**

**PR 32/18 To approve the October bank reconciliation:**

The meeting queried the amount of the utility bills for each meeting place, Members requested that Milton Keynes Council should be approached to allow Woughton Community Council to source better utility providers.

It was suggested that a paper be presented to the next Accounts Sub Committee meeting and the next meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting on the financial management of the meeting places.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the committee approves the October bank reconciliation.
2. That a paper is presented to the next Accounts Sub Committee meeting and the next meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting on the financial management of the meeting places.

**PR 33/18 Update on the Cripps Lodge site on Broadlands, Netherfield:**

The Committee felt there should be no less than 50% or preferably a higher amount of the properties on this site being Council owned rental properties and allocated as a priority to residents living in the Woughton area.

Members also wanted to see a covenant place on each property that prevented them possibly being converted into houses in multiple occupation.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee notes the report.
2. That the Committee believes that there should be no less than 50%, but preferably a higher amount of the properties on this site being Council owned rental properties.
3. That properties should be allocated on a priority basis to residents living in the Woughton area.
4. That the Committee believes that there should be a covenant on each property preventing a dwelling being converted into houses of multiple occupation.

**PR 34/18 To update the committee on the future of Langland Community School, Netherfield and Moorlands Primary School, Beanhill:**

Members said that they wanted both Schools kept open for the benefit of the children and parents of the Woughton area. The Council Manager will write to the Regional Schools Commissioner.

It was further proposed that a Member is appointed to lead on this matter and report back to council on a regular basis.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee notes the report.
2. That Woughton Community Council to open discussions with the schools, Milton Keynes Council, the Regional Schools Commissioner and others to try and ensure a successful future for both of these primary schools each of which serves a recognised estate within the Woughton area.
3. To appoint a Member to be a lead on this matter and report back to council on a regular basis.

**PR 35/18 Cheques for payment:**

There were no cheques presented for payment.

**NOTED**

**Date of next meeting:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019, Woughton Community Council Hub, The Local Centre, Garraways, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes.

**THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7:03PM**

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

DRAFT