

Woughton Community Council

Services & Communities Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26th January 2021, 6:00pm via Zoom Video Call and Facebook Live.

Present: Cllrs Nick Scott (Chair), John Orr (Vice-Chair), Janette Bobey, Brian Hepburn, Luke Louis, Sue Smith, Alan Williamson, Pam Wilson.

Also present: Brian Barton (Committee & Member Services Officer), Tash Darling (Youth Manager & Safeguarding Lead), Steve McNay (Council Manager), Sean Perry (Community Services Manager), Ian Tegerdine (Landscaping Manager).

In attendance: Cllr Donna Fuller.

SC 118/21 Apologies:

No apologies were submitted.

NOTED

Cllr Ruth McMillan was not in attendance or submitted her apologies.

Cllr Terri Parish was not in attendance or submitted her apologies.

Cllr Lauren Townsend was not in attendance or submitted her apologies.

NOTED

SC 119/21 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

NOTED

SC 120/21 Questions from the public (maximum 10 minutes):

There were no questions from the members of the public.

NOTED

SC 121/21 Chairs announcements:

The Chair thanked all staff for continuing to provide the various services throughout 2020 and wished everyone a happy new year.

The Chair reminded residents that the bin collection will now take place on Thursday and not on Wednesday due to the recent bad weather.

NOTED

SC 122/21 Minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the Services & Communities Committee meeting held on Monday 26th October 2020 were **AGREED** as a true and correct record and will be signed by the Chair.

Communities and Environment Fund Application(s)

There were no funding applications for consideration at this meeting.

NOTED

Reports

SC 123/21 Update on the provision of services provided by Woughton

Community Council:

The Service Managers gave an overview of the service delivery, current successes, challenges and proposals for delivery during the current restrictions, for the following services:

- Landscaping.
- Environment
- Youth Service
- Wellbeing and Advice Service
- Community Fridge
- Community Development Events

RESOLVED

That the committee notes the report.

SC 124/21 Update on the Services & Communities Annual 2020/2021 Service Plan:

The Council Manager provided an update to the committee on the Services & Communities Annual 2020/2021 Service Plan.

RESOLVED

1. **That the committee notes the report.**
2. **That the Council Manager continues to work with officers to achieve the plan, with variations based on the circulated report.**
3. **That an 'end of year' report be provided to this committee at the April 2021 meeting.**

SC 125/21 Update on various items for information:

The Council Manager updated the committee on information for the following items:

- Back Alleyways
- Public Realm Funding

The Council Manager informed the meeting that Milton Keynes Council has confirmed that the Public Realm funding will not end by April 2021 this is due to Covid-19.

The Council Manager will update the committee when there is any further information to report back on.

RESOLVED

1. That the committee notes the report.
2. That the committee to be provided with updates regarding the following items:
 - a. The management of the 'back alleys' across the parish, specifically on Beanhill.
 - b. The 'Public Realm' money allocated to four estates being managed by Resident Associations / groups.

SC 126/21 To agree a proposal to some short-term adjustments to the Grants programme, in response to the impact of Covid 19 during the current financial year:

The Council Manager proposed some short-term adjustments to the Grants programme, in response to the impact of Covid 19 during the current financial year.

RESOLVED

1. That the committee agrees that any funding allocated for activities that have been cancelled due to Covid 19, is extended for a further twenty four (24) months, rather than being returned.
2. That the level of funding for the year 2021/2022 reflects the limitations on spending due to the restrictions, but that additional funding be enabled as and when the pandemic allows activity to start again.

SC 127/21 To agree to proposals on the provision of services during the pandemic and to consider any issues that may arise:

The Council Manager informed the committee about the provision of services during Covid 19 and to consider any issues that may arise, it is further proposed to produce a post Covid 19 plan to be updated on a regular basis, the document is to be managed by the Community Services Manager.

RESOLVED:

1. That the committee notes the report.
2. That the committee considers any issues that may need additional resource or focus once the pandemic is more managed.
3. That the committee develops a work plan to address these issues, with flexibility to respond to any unforeseen issues that may arise.
4. That this plan is updated and adjusted as the situation changes and that the document is managed by the Community Services Manager, in conjunction with this committee.

SC 128/21 Update on the 'Santa Sleigh' event and proposed delivery for Christmas 2021:

The Council Manager updated the committee on the 'Santa Sleigh' event that had taken place and proposed that this is delivered for Christmas 2021 to take place on every estate in the Woughton Community Council area.

RESOLVED

1. That the committee notes the report.
2. That the committee agrees to:
 - a. Woughton Community Council providing a sleigh, on the rear of a vehicle, with a Santa.

- b. That this visits each of our residential estates during the latter part of December 2021, preferably in the early evening once it is dark(ish).
 - c. That Residents Associations can, if they choose, add on elements to the Santa sleigh event (e.g. giving out chocolates, holding an event, etc.) but that this is optional.
 3. That a full programme, risk management scheme, involvement of other groups and associated work is undertaken and provided to this committee on or before November 2021 meeting for final agreement.

SC 129/21 Update on previous discussions around fly-tipping and the actions to be implemented:

The Council Manager updated the committee on previous discussions around fly-tipping and the action points arising.

Reports that any waste with a Woughton Community Council 'label' on it (a notice that stated this is fly tipping) would not be removed by Serco is not the case any rubbish that has a Woughton Community Council notice on it will be reported and should be collected in the same way as any other fly tipped waste.

A request for a Service Level Agreement regarding the Serco contract cannot be provided due to 'commercial confidentiality'.

The Council Manager has written to Milton Keynes Council regarding the fencing work on Netherfield and the request that contractors clear up any waste.

The Leader of the Council informed the meeting that the Cabinet Member for the Public Realm at Milton Keynes Council has indicated that she is happy to attend a meeting to discuss fly tipping issues.

The Leader of the Council said that she will contact the Cabinet Member for the Public Realm at Milton Keynes Council, inviting her to attend the next Full Council meeting.

RESOLVED

1. That the committee notes this report.
2. That the Council Manager continues to work with the Environment Team, Serco and Milton Keynes Council departments to make improvements to the parish regarding waste and recycling in all guises.
3. That any further information is provided to this committee as and when it becomes available.
4. That the Leader of the Council to contact the Cabinet Member for the Public Realm at Milton Keynes Council, to invite her to attend the next Full Council meeting to discuss fly tipping issues.

SC 130/21 update on dog waste bin issues and proposals for future provision:

The Council Manager updated the committee on the dog waste bin issues and proposals for future provision.

Cllr Brian Hepburn asked if the dog waste bins could be refurbished rather than replaced, the Council Manager said he will look into this.

The Council Manager will evaluate the practical and financial implications of providing bins instead of dog waste bins.

RESOLVED

1. That the committee notes the report.
2. That the committee agrees to a full evaluation of dog waste bin provision, with any additional demand and / or alternative placement addressed, working with Resident Associations whilst acknowledging budgetary constraints.
3. That issues relating to the allegation that dog bin contractors are driving over grassed areas are addressed and managed.
4. That the committee is presented with a full report and proposal at the March 2021 meeting.
5. That the Council Manager to look into the cost of refurbishing a dog waste bin compared to replacing one.
6. That the Council Manager to evaluate the practical and financial implications of providing bins instead of dog waste bins.

Date of next meeting:

Monday 22nd February 2021, 6:00pm via Zoom Video Call.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7:38 PM

Chair _____ Date _____