Woughton Community Council

Full Council

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

Present: Cllrs Sue Smith (Chair), Jordan Coventry (Vice-Chair), Elina Apse, Janette Bobey, Margaret Ferguson, Donna Fuller, Brian Hepburn, Phillip Hopcraft, Luke Louis, Ruth McMillan, John Orr, Nick Scott, Liz Simpkins, Alan Williamson, Pam Wilson.

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

FC 269/21 Apologies for Absence:
Cllr Terri Parish (work commitment).

NOTED

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

NOTED

FC 270/21 Declaration of interests:
There were no declarations of interest.

NOTED

FC 271/21 Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting:
The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th March 2021 were AGREED and will be signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

FC 272/21 Chair’s Announcement(s):
The Chair reminded Members that the Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 4th May 2021.

NOTED

FC 273/21 Questions from the public:
There were no questions from the members of the public.

NOTED

FC 274/21 Ward Matters arising:
Cllr Maggie Ferguson – Cripps Lodge site on Netherfield security wooden fencing, which is not of a good quality, is not safe and has fallen onto the public footpath causing health and safety issues.
Cllr Sue Smith said that she will email Cllr Emily Darlington – Cabinet Member for the Public Realm at Milton Keynes Council.

Cllr Janette Bobey – Vandalism has recently taken place at the community garden site on Netherfield, rubble has been left in the garden from the former Buckland Lodge site by building contractors, and these are being thrown at people, passing cars and objects, especially at the ABC park, Milton Keynes Council should secure the site a lot better or clear the rubble.

Cllr Sue Smith said that she will email Cllr Emily Darlington – Cabinet Member for the Public Realm at Milton Keynes Council.

Cllr Elina Apse – Expressed her concern that the Buckland Lodge site needs to be made more secure due to recent anti social behaviour that has taken place.

NOTED

FC 275/21 Feedback from meetings with Outside Bodies:
a) Woughton Welfare Trust - Cllr Elina Apse – Been dealing with a lot of new and processing ongoing cases, a lot of work is taking place.
b) MKALC - Cllr Elina Apse, Cllr Sue Smith – A presentation took place by Milton Keynes Council on the Oxford to Cambridge ARC, ongoing issues with appointing representatives onto the Parishes Advisory Group.
c) Parishes Forum - Cllr Janette Bobey, Cllr Sue Smith – A presentation took place on supporting families.

NOTED

FC 276/21 To note the minutes from the following Committees:
a) Resources & Finance – Monday 1st March 2021.
d) Services & Communities – Monday 29th March 2021.

NOTED

FC 277/21 Update on the Eaglestone Activity Centre Structural Survey and further actions:
The meeting discussed the potential transfer of the Eaglestone Activity Centre by Milton Keynes Council to Woughton Community Council.

A full survey of the building and the external boundaries has taken place and a 137 page report listing the works that need to be addressed had been circulated to Members.

Members were concerned about the cost implications to undertake the building repairs and felt Milton Keynes Council should complete the works before the asset transfer takes place to Woughton Community Council.

RESOLVED

1. That council notes this report, the attached survey and Heads of Terms.
2. That council considers whether transfer of Eaglestone Activity Centre is the preferred course of action for the council.
3. That council considers whether any remedial work / additional financial contribution should be requested from Milton Keynes Council prior to any transfer.

FC 278/21 To note the ‘end of year report’ of the Annual Service Plan 2020/2021:
The Council Manager provided an “End of Year” report to the meeting on the achievements and challenges relating to the 2020/2021 Annual Service Plan.

The Chair asked that it was minuted to thank the staff, Councillors and Resident Associations for all their hard work especially throughout last year during the pandemic.

RESOLVED:
1. That Council notes the report.
2. That Council agrees to continuation where appropriate over the coming year, due to the impact of the pandemic.
3. That any budgetary implications are built into re-forecasting once the financial situation (i.e. end of year, etc.) is clear.

FC 279/21 To agree new signatories and remove previous signatories for the Metrobank account:
The Responsible Financial Officer informed the meeting that the following Metro Bank signatories need to be removed - Cllr Kevin Wilson and Cllr Thillai Visvendran, the Youth Manager and Landscape Manager.

It was proposed that the following should be Metro Bank signatories for all accounts:

- Council Manager
- Responsible Financial Officer & Operations Manager
- Accounts Assistant
- Leader of the Council
- Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee
- Chair of the Services & Communities Committee
- Chair of the Operations Committee

RESOLVED
1. That the Council notes the report.
2. That the Council agrees with the removal of the current bank signatories as listed in the minutes.
3. That the Committee agrees to the additional bank signatories as listed in the minutes.

FC 280/21 To agree the 2021/2022 Hire Rates for all the Meeting Places:
The Responsible Financial Officer informed the meeting of the proposed meeting place hire rates for the financial year 2021/2022, which members were asked to adopt.

The proposed rates are as follows:

- Charity, community groups: £20.00p per hour
- Corporate, private hire: £25.00p per hour
Special discounted rate £15.00p per hour

Cllr Sue Smith moved and Cllr Brian Hepburn seconded “That any resident living in the Woughton Community Council area would be entitled to a discounted hire rate of £15.00p per hour, subject to proof of residency.”

Cllr Jordan Coventry moved and Cllr Pam Wilson seconded “To increase the Corporate, private hire rate by £5.00p per hour (£30.00p per hour in total) to cover the cost of the discounted hire rate for local residents.”

RESOLVED
1. That the Council notes the report.
2. That the Council agrees to proceed with the publication of the new rates for the financial year 2021/2022 which are as follows: Charity, community groups. £20.00p per hour, Corporate, private hire £30.00p per hour, Special discounted hire rate for residents (subject to proof of residency) £15.00p per hour.

FC 281/21 Communities & Environment fund application – Covid-19 Families UK:
£1,000 towards a memorial lantern parade through Milton Keynes.

RESOLVED
1. That the Council notes the report and attached documentation.
2. To consider at a future Services & Communities Committee meeting organising a lantern parade walk around the Milton Keynes University Hospital area.
3. To not award the funding application.

FC 282/21 Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting:
a) To note that the date of the Parish and Annual meetings is Tuesday 4th May 2021.
b) To note the draft Parish and Annual Meeting agendas.
c) To note the 2021/2022 Calendar of Meetings.

NOTED

Date of next meeting:
Parish Meeting 5:30pm Tuesday 4th May 2021 via Zoom Video Call.
Annual Meeting 6:00pm Tuesday 4th May 2021 via Zoom Video Call.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7:50PM