

# **SHENLEY BROOK END & TATTENHOE PARISH COUNCIL**

1 Wimborne Crescent  
Westcroft District Centre  
Milton Keynes  
MK4 4DB



## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Held at Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Offices Monday 22nd May 2017, 7.15 p.m.**

In attendance: Cllr J Nicholas – Chairman of the Parish Council  
Parish Council Members and Officers.  
Cllr. C Williams  
Cllr. P Cannon  
Cllr. M Geaney

0 Members of the public

**1. To receive and approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016**

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016 were received and approved.

**2. To receive the Annual Report of the Parish Council**

The Chairman of the Parish Council gave a report on the activities of the Council over the last year (attached).

**3. To receive the reports of the Ward Councillors.**

Cllr. C Williams gave a report on his activities as a ward councillor over the last year (attached)

Cllr. M Geaney gave a report on her activities as a ward councillor over the last year (attached)

**4. An Opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and raise issues on matters related to the Parish.**

There were no members of the public present.

Meeting Closed            19:30

## Annual Parish Council Report 2016/2017

### **Precept**

Due to budget cuts Milton Keynes Council have scaled down their activities and will eventually only support their statutory duties which do not include landscaping or street cleansing. They have already reduced weed spraying to once per year. The Parish Council therefore took the decision, that to keep our Parish clean and tidy, we would take over these duties from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 and take the offer of a grant from Milton Keynes Council from the council tax raised by them from our parish. Unfortunately due to certain contractual constraints we were unable to take up this offer. Ongoing negotiations will result in our coming to an arrangement regarding extra works in the parish to keep us tidy and safe. To facilitate this we put up the precept by £1.19 per month on a band D property which is prorated on other bands. We have worked hard to trim our budget, but do not wish to have to cut back on our services to the Parish, and therefore reluctantly took the decision to fund the extra works by increasing the precept.

### **Over 60's Clubs**

The Diamond Club organised by Pat Morris has been meeting for some time on Wednesday's in the Parish Council meeting room. The club has proved so popular that to accommodate all those wishing to attend we have started a second club organised by Karen Wheeler on Thursday's which has been called the Emerald Club. Both clubs are busy with games, quizzes speakers and outside trips and the organisers take suggestions from their members and set their timetables accordingly.

### **Emerson Valley Community Centre**

The centre owned by the Parish Council goes from strength to strength and is almost fully booked with regular user groups and birthday parties etc. Following the repairs and refurbishment undertaken in the first year the centre is in a good condition and now has efficient heating and air conditioning.

### **Neighbourhood Action Groups**

We have one Neighbourhood Action Group in the Parish at Shenley Lodge and Furzton, they help members of the public who come to them with problems including litter and parking. The times and dates for their meetings are on the Parish Council website and they would welcome new members from within their area. The other grid squares are covered by a Specific Incident Action Group which was set up when the Neighbourhood Action Group folded due to lack of support. This group can be implemented to deal with specific issues and then dissolved again once those issues are dealt with. Therefore there are no regular meetings.

### **Parish Council Office Premises**

We moved into our new building at the end of July 2016 and the building was officially opened in mid-September.. It has been a great success and much more suitable for our requirements. The first floor is only used for storage at the moment but it gives us room for future expansion as Parish Council's are expected to take on more and more of the local services. It will be a valuable asset for the community and fit for our purpose, which is to help the council become more accessible to the public. One immediate change is that as a service to the community we are now able to distribute pink recycling sacks.

### **Parish Councillors and Officers**

Parish Councillors have again this year been supported in a very professional manner by our officers, and we owe them a vote of thanks for their hard work.

- Sharon passed her exams in June 2016 and was promoted to Parish Manager and Rebecca is our Facilities and Administration Officer, both work hard to keep our office running smoothly.
- Karen joined Oliver on the Warden team at the beginning of the year. Tony unfortunately had to take ill health retirement. In January we employed two further wardens AJ and Paul, one to replace Tony and the other to boost the team for the extra work they now need to undertake.

Andy and his youth team have worked hard with the young people of the parish and he is currently recruiting to bring the team back to full strength following Helen recently leaving us.

- One Councillor left us during the year, David Livingstone. David served as a councillor for almost thirteen years and was Chairman for eight years of those. We thank David for all his work on behalf of the Council and wish him all the best for his retirement.
- In the past we were supported by Carole McMillan who joined us in 2008 as administrator, then following passing her exams she became our Parish Clerk from 2012 until 2014. In February this year we had the sad news that Carole had passed away and we send our condolences to her husband and family

## The Future

- **South West Milton Keynes (SWMK)** – This development was proposed some time ago by Aylesbury Vale District Council. The plans were stalled as further work was being commissioned following representations and responses from the consultation undertaken last summer. Aylesbury Vale are now taking this to the next phase by discussing at their Strategic Development Management Committee in June
- **Milton Keynes at 50.** We have been involved in various events the latest of which is an insert in our June Newsletter of the history of our parish researched by one of our Councillors
- **Tattenhoe Park facilities** Plans for a new sports/community/leisure facility for Tattenhoe Park and the development of the grid square have been delayed for various reasons. Outline planning permission extension for the whole of Tattenhoe Park has now been submitted and it is hoped that discussions will start and work get underway in the near future.
- **Garthwaite Sports/Community Centre** The open space designated as a sports ground adjacent to the allotments in Garthwaite Crescent is owned by the Parish Council and we have for some time been discussing how best to make use of this. We have had plans drawn up to use the land for a multi-use sports and community facility and build a small Sports/Community Centre. **We will be holding a Public Consultation event on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July at our offices in Westcroft from 3.30pm until 7.30pm when members of the public can view the plans and talk to Councillors and the Architects before we apply for Planning Permission.** Neighbouring properties will be notified by letter nearer the time.

Finally a **personal** thank you to Councillors and Officers for their support, they have all worked hard this year to keep the Parish Council running efficiently and to serve the residents of our Parish.

Chairman Cllr Jean Nicholas,

May 2017

**Ward Councillor's Annual Report to the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting  
of Shenley Brook End and Tattenhoe Parish Council.**

**Ward Councillor Chris Williams, Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017.**

A well-known, oft-quoted modern proverb states "*May you live in interesting times!*" – as many of you will undoubtedly realize, it is used in a negative sense, rather than a positive!

Well, I am here to tell you that we most certainly DO live in interesting times – and much of it, as it relates to Milton Keynes and to this Parish is very positive indeed!

In the last year, as a Ward Councillor, I have had input into such diverse matters as: -

- ✓ Dinosaurs requesting planning permission to play golf at Furzton lake,
- ✓ Trees being planted at the Oak Tree Centre on Shenley Brook End – you have one guess which species of tree is completely absent from the Oak Tree Centre site!
- ✓ Helping a resident of Putman House, Shenley Lodge, celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday,
- ✓ Finding a place to live for residents when their block of flats was struck by lightning,
- ✓ Assisting a developer and residents over a proposal to build nine top-end market homes,
- ✓ Having many and various roads resurfaced, including one described by a local resident as a "*bomb site*".
- ✓ Providing finance to install security fencing on land being used as an illegal car park,
- ✓ The usual plethora of broken / missing street lights and street name plates,
- ✓ Significant complaints about landscaping and weeds!
- ✓ and working with the Parish Council on a multitude of issues including:
  - Hertsmere Leisure Services,
  - resident's problems and concerns
  - and taking over services from MK Council.

As well as the above,

- I Chair MK Council's Housing & Community Committee. This involves me in every area of housing, from the devastation of losing one's home to the development of large housing sites across Milton Keynes,
- I am Vice-chair of MK Council's Licensing & Regulation Committee – this year, as last, the main thrust of our work has been the overseeing of Taxi Enforcement and Regulation,.
- I Chair the Sunshine Children's Centre Advisory Board,
- I am a Governor at one of our local schools,
- I am MK Council's representative on the Board of Trustees of the MK Citizens Advice Bureau.

I have also:

- Helped over twenty families with serious housing issues,
- Met with a variety of local people to try to resolve problems over welfare and other benefits,
- Mediated a small number of 'neighbourhood disputes'

The above is just a 'snapshot' of the life of a Ward Councillor – there is much more that I could add – but, hopefully, you get the picture!

Chris Williams, Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017.

## **Annual Report by Cllr. Maggie Geaney 22-5-17**

This has been an unusual year for Milton Keynes with no local elections  
Many things which affect the whole of MK were important to the residents of this Parish.

The proposal to remove the pink sacks and replace them with reusable containers brought a lot of questions and gave rise to press coverage, at present this seems to still be under consideration, but so far no further progress has been made.

The charges for residents parking places and emptying green bins was also something I received a lot of queries about.

Many of the issues I have dealt with have been personal ones regarding housing, landscaping, litter and other neighbourhood specific items.

I have been on several committees as diverse as safer MK and regulatory panel dealing with appeals from taxi drivers and housing, a great responsibility as I am dealing with people's lives. On these occasions I try to be as fair and careful as I can.

I am happy to be contacted by anyone who lives in my ward and requires help on any matter.