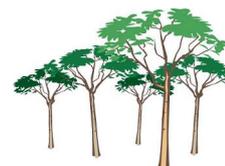


SHENLEY BROOK END & TATTENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

6 Wimborne Crescent
Westcroft District Centre
Milton Keynes
MK4 4DE



Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Parish Office, 6 Wimborne Crescent, Westcroft, on Monday 29th July 2013.

1. Present:

Cllr. J Nicholas - Chairman
Cllr. M Cato - Vice Chairman
Cllr. M Chapman
Cllr. D. Edmonds
Cllr. M Geaney
Cllr. K Geaney
Cllr. D Livingstone
Cllr. M Mitchell-Doyle
Cllr. S Moore
Cllr. C Osler
Cllr. K Thomas
Cllr. R Verman
Cllr. C Williams

Mrs C McMillan – Clerk to Council
Ward Cllr Gerald Small
Ward Cllr Edith Bald

2. Apologies:

Apologies were received from:

Cllr. N Vidamour
Cllr. D Sanders
Ward Cllr Stuart Burke

3. Declarations of interest

Ward Cllr Chris Williams declared an interest in Agenda Item 10 – Road safety, Dulverton Drive.

4. Public Time

There were no members of the public present at this meeting.

5. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24th June 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24th having already been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising:

Cllr J Nicholas clarified that at the previous meeting Mr White had stated that the Parish Council own two of the ponds at Shenley Brook End. Following a meeting at the ponds where Cllr J Nicholas and Cllr M Cato attended. Mr White stated he did not think he had stated that.

Cllr C Williams confirmed he had received a complaint about bins around Furzton Lake.

Cllr Williams asked for clarification with regards to a member joining a committee mid year, the Chairman confirmed this had been agreed and formed part of Councils' Standing Orders and asked the Clerk to distribute the latest version.

6. Reports:

Police Report: There was no report other (than a one page list) this month and no Officers' were available to attend. The Clerk was asked to request the updated crime report and circulate to all members.

Clerk: The Clerks' report was noted and the items will be dealt with in the order of agenda items. The Clerk updated members that the 'recording message' had been ordered and are awaiting confirmation of when this will be activated.

Cllr D Edmonds added that this system will protect parish officers.

Chairman: The Chairman report having been previously circulated was noted and the Chairman asked members if they had any questions, there were no questions on the report.

Ward Councillors:

Ward Cllr Gerald Small updated members on issues he has been dealing with including:

- Fly Tipping at the Clock Tower.
- Wenning Lane Car Park Issues – Cllr Small is arranging a meeting with the residents for a brainstorming session.
- The footpath at Tattenhoe which frequently floods.
- Noise issues at Westcroft Pavilion.
- Rubbish issues around Westcroft.

Cllr Small also updated members that:

- Savills' now have the contract for maintenance around the Morrison's site.
- The dog bin is now in place in Exbury Lane.

Cllr Keith Thomas informed Ward Cllr Small that the redway leading to Kingsmead is continually filled with rubbish, bottles and dog mess.

Ward Cllr Small asked Cllr Thomas to email him with the issues.

Cllr Dave Edmonds confirmed that the Howe Park Neighbourhood Action Group have purchased two litter bins to be installed in Westcroft District Centre and were waiting for confirmation from Morrisons' to go ahead and install the two bins as they had already agreed to empty them.

Cllr Mark Mitchell-Doyle confirmed that he has watched the Management Company early in the morning who bring black bags to remove the rubbish but appear to leave other rubbish, cigarette ends on the floor. Ward Cllr Gerald Small confirmed he would like to monitor this.

Cllr Keith Thomas informed members that an MKC Officer, Tom Brockway had previously tried to find out who is responsible for what around the Westcroft District Centre. Cllr Small confirmed that the painting had improved the area. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council as tenants of Hornbeam, along with other tenants had paid for the painting last year.

Ward Cllr Chris Williams, (as Chair of the Advisory Board, Sunshine Children's Centre) thanked the Parish Council for the £500 grant that was given to purchase teddy bears for the 'Teddy Bear's Picnic'. The grant allowed the Children's Centre to give a teddy bear to every child present and there was a small number left over for some of the younger ones who could not attend the picnic. Cllr Williams confirmed the event was a huge success.

Cllr Williams updated members on matters he has been dealing with including:

- Litter issues at Furzton Lake and asked the Chairman whom he should write to at The Parks Trust. The Chairman confirmed that the letter should be sent to Mr David Foster, Chief Executive.
- The CAB weekly drop-in sessions at the Sunshine Childrens' Centre, Cllr Williams confirmed he would forward the details for the website.

Planning & Environment Committee:

Cllr R Verman updated members that:

- Members are still attending meetings regarding the South West Milton Keynes (previously known as Salden Chase) and continue to offer support (but not financial).
- Bellcross Homes development for Kingsmead South with approximately 238 units. Cllr J Nicholas is in touch with the developers and will keep members updated.
- A new dog bin has been installed in Exbury Lane, Westcroft and is well used.
- The litter bin in the Star Car Park at Furzton Lake is regularly a problem with overflowing, mainly from use by the fishermen. Our warden team are often asked to empty this bin. Cllr R Verman confirmed he has written to The Parks Trust but no reply to date has been received.
- The wardens have been busy around the parish including attending a PR exercise at Long Meadow Aspiration Day.
- The Committee re-affirmed the Planning Terms of Reference.
- The Rosemullion Allotments Association had requested Green Bins for Windmill Hill allotments and this request was refused but they were given permission for a one-off barbeque event to raise funds.
- Overgrown plots at the allotments need action taken to get them tidied up, this is being reviewed.

Community Committee:

Cllr M Geaney informed members that:

- There had been two grant applications received at the last meeting:

Tattenhoe Community Group - It had been resolved to award a grant of £400 for the printing of two issues of Tattenhoe Newsletter. This grant was awarded on the proviso that it is for two editions, one in October 2013 and the other in March 2014.

Tattenhoe Youth Football Club - It had been resolved to award a grant of £349.50 to purchase two Event Shelters for the Annual Pre-season Tournament.

Cllr M Geaney also updated members that:

- The Committee received a presentation from AgeUK to explore how the Council can reach the senior citizens of the parish to find out what they may need or would like to do.
- The Committee agreed to put to full Council to hold an event “Pride in your Parish Day” to promote the whole of the parish.

Policy and Finance Committee:

Cllr J Nicholas informed members that:

- The P & F minutes need to be adjusted to confirm that the Committee reviewed three Policies and Terms of Reference. The content of the Policies were correct but that the format should be similar on all Terms of Reference.

Cllr Chris Williams asked for clarification of Minute No 9 – Newsletter Content with regards to what could be written by Ward Councillors’.

The Chairman confirmed that the Committee agreed that they could see no reason why any Ward Councillor should not write an article for publication in the Newsletter provided it is ‘non-political’.

The Clerk confirmed she would resend the Policy for the Newsletter to all members.

7. Meeting Updates:

The Chairman confirmed that in future where Meeting Assessment Forms have previously been circulated no verbal presentation would be required. The member completing the form would take questions at the meeting if required.

The Parks Trust:

Cllr J Nicholas:

- There had been no further meeting but there is one due next week following which she will circulate a report.

Shenley Lodge & Furzton Neighbourhood Action Group

Cllr K Geaney:

- Informed members that the last meeting was short with 11 members in attendance mainly due to holidays.
- There have been numerous number plate thefts and various other crimes in the parish.

- Well done to the Parish Wardens' for dealing with the overgrown bushes on Loxbeare Drive.

Howe Park Neighbourhood Action Group

Cllr D Edmonds updated members that following the resignation of the Chairman Eric Cooper, he has taken over as Acting Chairman until a new Chairman is appointed at the AGM, which he is trying to arrange for 15th August 2013 where the group can move positively forward.

STARS:

There have been no further meetings.

Parishes Forum:

There have been no further meetings.

The Valley Steering Group:

Cllr D Edmonds commented that there have been temporary banners on the railings and Cllr R Verman confirmed he would look into what banners are still on display and confirmed they are waiting for the next meeting date now that new Co-Chairs have been elected.

Ward Cllr Edith Bald, Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing joined the meeting and gave an update on:

- MK Council finances and financial planning, exploring all income opportunities.
- Confirmed that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme is being worked on at the moment and Parishes will need to include the extra cost in their budgets as the support is not a foregone conclusion.
- The Re-generation MK project.

The Chairman thanked all the Ward Councillors for their updates.

8. Finance

Payments to be authorised including retrospectives were approved and members received an update on first quarters' finances for 2013/14. The Chairman confirmed we would shortly be receiving the second half of the precept.

9. Developing the Strategy

This draft Strategy has been prepared by the Strategy Group of NALC who asked Bucks & Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils to distribute to all members. The aim of this is to:

- achieve a new and effective strategy for the National Association and the sector as a whole
- ensure that the strategy is delivered successfully
- secure a new culture of unity and co-operation.

Members noted the full consultation document and noted their comments.

10. Transport:

Road Safety - Junctions of V3 Fulmer Street with Dulverton Drive and Hawkshead Drive.

Members reviewed the proposal at great length to look at ways to reduce the number of casualties involved in traffic accidents at the above set of junctions.

Cllr Chris Williams stated that this junction , in his opinion, was far less dangerous than Livesey Hill, Shenley Lodge where there have been major accidents.

Cllr M Chapman commented that MKC are trying to do their best to resolve these issues but need the support of parish councils to get the best possible solutions. After a lengthy discussion, Cllr J Nicholas confirmed to members that there were two alternatives and members should vote:

Cllr Chris Williams as a Ward Councillor did not vote.

- 1) Agree with stopping right hand turns and installing central barriers
- 2) Agree with the design of two roundabouts

It was 8 votes **for** the proposal to stop right hand turns, three votes for the roundabouts and one abstention. It was agreed to write to Andrew Jackman confirming members vote but if the first option was not acceptable then the second option should be implemented.

Traffic Management and Road Safety Capital Scheme

Application for consideration of schemes for Capital Funding - Highways and Traffic Management Capital Funding.

Members discussed the previous unsuccessful application for capital funding for Improvements to be made at Livesey Hill, Shenley Lodge. The Chairman suggested that she speaks to the Chairman of Shenley Church End about doing a joint funding application this year. Members agreed that any help from SCE would reinforce the importance of this major issue. The Chairman recommended talking to the experts for advice as to the best possible solution for this major issue. Cllr D Livingstone stated that the paperwork from last years' application is available is required.

The Chairman confirmed that the closing date for receipt of the initial application for funding is the 30th September, therefore could members bring any other possible suggestions to the next full Council meeting.

11. Community Asset Transfer

Members had received the Chairman's written report showing the current status of the Community Asset Transfer programme. The Chairman also updated members how the Sports Education Trust are looking at bidding for Tattenhoe Pavilion and the many events they are looking to hold for the Community.

Members discussed the CAT programme at great length and all agreed that if taking on any of the assets meant putting up the precept to cover Business Rates and/or repairs then this was not an option Council wished to take. Cllr Williams asked the Chairman and the Clerk how other Councils were managing the process, the Chairman confirmed she had discussed this at MKALC and most were comfortable with putting up the precept and the Clerk had emailed other local Clerks'.

The Chairman advised that members should vote on each asset in turn:

It was proposed, seconded and agreed (ten votes for with three abstentions) to walk away from the programme but to write a letter and confirm reasons why the Council did not feel they could continue with this process and voice the concerns of Council that the centres should be available to all the Community.

River Valley Meeting Place – Withdraw Council's bid

SBE Meeting Place – Withdraw Council's bid

Tattenhoe Pavilion – Not to bid, but all agreed unanimously, to support the Sports Education Trust morally and socially.

Emerson Valley Community Centre – The Chairman confirmed this was another matter as we already own this asset and confirmed that she will meet along with Cllr Maggie Geaney and Paul Oliver to discuss the way forward.

12. SLCC Pay Award

The Chairman confirmed that SLCC have confirmed the new 2013/14 paycales which amounts to a 1% increase to officers on the NJC paycales. Members discussed this paycale and asked why some but not all officers' were on this scale. Cllr Charlie Osler asked for this to be an agenda item to be discussed at the next Policy & Finance meeting to be held in October where the Committee can look at the Terms of Contracts for officers.

Cllr J Nicholas proposed, Cllr M Cato seconded and it was unanimously agreed to award **ALL** officers the 1% increase backdated to 1st April 2013.

13. New Website

The Webmaster has now completed putting the new website together and it was all up and running. Members agreed that the website looked very good and thanked Cllr Keith Thomas for all the hard work he has carried out. It was **agreed** that no further changes were necessary. Cllr K Thomas did comment that he was disappointed that he received minimal feedback from members regarding the new site considering members had originally requested it be updated. This comment was noted by all members present.

14. Editorial Working Party

Members discussed whether to set up an Editorial Working Party. This group would determine content for the website and newsletter. Cllr K Thomas confirmed what was actually needed was input from members. It was felt that this agenda item needed further discussion therefore it was agreed that Cllr K Thomas would prepare and distribute a paper and to defer item until next month.

15. Pride in your Parish Day

The Community Committee put a recommendation to Council to hold a 'Pride in your Parish' Day' where the whole parish could be promoted in one event. Cllr Maggie Geaney gave members' a brief update informing them she had made a provisional booking at MK Rugby Club for 26th June 2014 and that a small Working Group would be needed to plan it in advance.

The Chairman stated that she believes it is a good idea to have an event although reminded members that it is a large commitment and Council would need reassurances that members would have the time to plan this properly. The Chairman updated members that there is another event for all Town and Parish

Councils in Milton Keynes planned for June 2014 but that the two dates would not clash.

Cllr Charlie Osler commented that this seems a very good idea and proposed that we go ahead and book the event, which was seconded by Cllr Michael Cato and agreed by 12 members. Cllr M Geaney confirmed she would confirm the initial booking.

16. Future meeting dates:

The following dates and times were noted:-

Planning & Environment Committee – Monday 5th August 2013

Community Committee – Monday 12th August 2013

Policy & Finance – Monday 21st October 2013

Parish Council – Monday 2nd September 2013

17. Date of next meeting – Monday 2nd September 2013

Meeting closed: 21:47 hours

Signed.....Chairman