

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 17th December 2012.

1. Present:

Cllr. D. Livingstone – Chairman
Cllr. J Nicholas – Vice Chair
Cllr. M Chapman
Cllr. M Cato
Cllr. M Geaney
Cllr K Geaney
Cllr. C Osler
Cllr. D Sanders
Cllr. K Thomas
Cllr. N Vidamour
Cllr. D Wolfe

Mrs C McMillan – Clerk to Council
PCSO Matt Wareham
Cllr G Small
Rob Goddard & IT Technician - Mirus IT Support

2. Apologies:

Cllr. D. Edmonds
Cllr M Mitchell-Doyle
Cllr. R Verman
Cllr. C. Williams

3. Absent Members:

There were no absent members

4. Declarations of interest

Cllr D Livingstone declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 and took no part in the discussion or voting.

5. Public Time

There were no issues raised.

The Chairman asked members for permission to receive the report from the Police before the next agenda item.

Police – PCSO Matt Wareham tabled the police report giving an update on crimes reported in the parish confirming to members that there is still a reduction in crime in comparison to the previous year.

6. IT Health Check

Rob Goddard from Mirus IT Support informed members of the current position following a complete health check of the computer hardware and gave recommendations for future requirements. Council was informed that the systems are in good working order although ageing and members may look to replace the server and consider disaster recovery options.

It was **agreed** to discuss the recommendations under agenda item 9.

7. Minutes of the meeting on Monday 26th November 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26th November, having already been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising:

Cllr M Geaney confirmed that the Annual Meeting for Furzton & Shenley Lodge Neighbourhood Action Group has been deferred to January. Cllr Geaney gave her apologies as time constraints had not allowed her to update the Safer Neighbourhood website and confirmed this would be done as soon as possible.

Cllr D Livingstone informed members that he had met with the Chief Executive of Badminton England to discuss the proposed National Badminton Arena and commented that this facility will be of significant benefit to Milton Keynes. Cllr Livingstone confirmed that all members are welcome to attend the public consultation on 12th January where there will be a virtual presentation.

8. Reports

Clerk:

The Clerks' report was noted and the items will be dealt with in the order of agenda items.

Ward Councillors

Cllr Gerald Small:

- Updated members that the new grit bin had now been installed at Braford Gardens, Shenley Brook End.
- Informed members of the closing of the Oxley Park Youth Club following the decision from John Franklin, the volunteer who has run the club, to resign.
- Informed members that there is a public meeting on 4th January regarding traffic issues on the Linden Homes site at Westcroft and planning officers from MK Council will be in attendance.

Planning & Environment Committee

Cllr K Thomas:

- Informed members that the Committee received a presentation from Briony Serginson, Head of Community Engagement regarding a proposal to develop an environmental study centre at Howe Park Wood and that a small ambulance station for rapid response would be attached to the centre.

- Informed members that the Committee received a presentation from Bob Wilson, Development Plan Manager on three topics. (Neighbourhood Planning, the National Planning Policy Framework and the Core Strategy). The need for a neighbourhood plan was discussed and it was agreed that a register of land owned by the Parish Council and undeveloped land within the parish should be compiled before proceeding further.
- Updated members that he, the Chairman and Clerk attended a planning consultation for Salden Chase, this would be a smaller development than originally planned for up to 1850 houses including affordable housing. Cllr Thomas commented that although the plans show a primary school there had not been a consideration for a secondary school to be built. There will be a public consultation in February 2013.

Community Committee

Cllr M Geaney:

- Informed members that there had been three grant applicants at the meeting:

Milton Keynes City Orchestra - The Committee heard that funding was required to fund the professional performances which provide educational and outreach activity programmes in schools around the parish and the committee resolved to award a grant of £1,585.

Milton Keynes Women & Work - The Committee heard that funding had been required to help support employment related resources and volunteer costs for the unemployed within the parish and members agreed not to award a grant at this current time as it was not clear that funding would directly benefit our residents.

Shenley Brook End Village Hall - The Committee had received an application for funding to cover the cost of the annual Christmas Bingo. Cllr Geaney informed members that on this occasion as no-one had been available to attend the meeting, members had agreed to still consider the application and awarded a grant of £100.

- Informed members that the Committee had discussed the options for Oxley Park Youth Club and had agreed to defer this until it was clear whether Shenley Church End Parish Council were in agreement to part fund this project.
- Updated members that there was a new volunteer helping at the youth sessions and it had been agreed that a CRB check must be completed.

Policy and Finance Committee:

Cllr D Livingstone:

There had been no further meetings therefore there was nothing to report. The Chairman updated members regarding the Council Tax Support Impact on Parish Councils that the good news appears to be, a minimal shortfall in precept income. If approved, this will be ratified by MK Council in February. Going into a third year of frozen precept has got to be good news for residents.

The Parks Trust:

Cllr J Nicholas:

- Informed members that there had been no further meetings but updated members that the plans for the environmental study centre at Howe Park Wood have gone to MK Council as a planning application.
- Updated members that the Forestry Commission have confirmed that the tree disease Chalara Dieback is still an issue as the spores are air borne therefore it is a case of not if, but when ash trees locally may be affected.

Shenley Lodge & Furzton Neighbourhood Action Group

Cllr M Geaney:

- Confirmed that they are to purchase 1000 fridge magnets, similar design to the Howe Park Neighbourhood Action Groups.
- Updated members that the EVA's are regularly carried out and that the resident surveys have been completed and Cllr Geaney is in the process of compiling a report with the findings.
- Cllr Geaney has agreed to look at parking issues at Furzton car park to see if the problems have been resolved.

Howe Park Neighbourhood Action Group

Cllr J Nicholas:

- Confirmed that there has been no further meeting.

The Valley Steering Group:

Cllr M Chapman:

- The last meeting had been postponed therefore there was nothing to report.

The Local Council Support Associates:

Cllr K Geaney:

- Confirmed that the meeting had taken place and members had discussed the Community Asset transfer and the implications identified. Cllr Geaney confirmed that the LCSA had provided a link to a recent LGA publication, Empowering Communities – making the most of local assets. This link would be forwarded to the Clerk.

STARS:

Cllr N Vidamour:

- Confirmed he had been unwell therefore could not attend the last meeting but understood the topic covered the Cycling Strategy, details of which are on the Milton Keynes Council website.

9. Finance

Members discussed the IT health check and discussed the options which had been presented to Council. (Cllr D Livingstone refrained from participating in the discussion and the vote).

It was proposed and **agreed** unanimously to arrange for 'Guardian Backup Recovery' to be installed immediately.

It was **further agreed** to obtain the purchase price and lease options for a new server. Although the server is ageing, it had been identified that there was no immediate need to purchase a replacement, Council were minded that long term there would be a necessity and be required to budget for it in the future.

Payments to be authorised including retrospectives were approved.

Cllr J Nicholas asked members if the Clerk be authorised to reinvest the £50k investment which matures later this month. It was **agreed** the Clerk would reinvest these funds.

10. Budget 2013/14

The Chairman asked members if the draft budget met with approval and it was **agreed unanimously** to approve the Budget for 2013/14.

It was also unanimously **agreed** to retain the precept at £51.61 for a band D property for 2013/14.

11. Community Asset Transfer

The next tranche of Community Asset Transfer list has shown that Shenley Brook End Community Centre will be on the asset transfer programme. The Chairman confirmed that a meeting will take place on Friday 8th February 2013, 6pm at the Community Centre which he will attend and informed members they may also attend if they so wish. Members agreed that until Council see the finances of the centre, no decisions will be reached.

12. Future meeting dates:

The following dates and times were noted:-

Planning & Environment Committee – Monday 7th January 2013

Community Committee – Monday 14th January 2013

Policy & Finance – Monday 21st January 2013

Parish Council – Monday 28th January 2013

The Chairman informed members that Cllr D Wolfe wished to make an announcement. Cllr Wolfe informed members that she had made a decision to resign as a member of the Parish Council due to work commitments and confirmed she had enjoyed being involved with the Council.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Wolfe for the time and commitment she had given to the Council.

Meeting closed: 21:21 hours

Signed.....Chairman