

WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Memorial Hall, 4 High Street, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, MK17 8RH

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Full Council Meeting

Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm in the Committee Room, Memorial Hall.

MINUTES

316/23	<p>Present: Councillors P. Skelton, M. Geddes, C. Cowmeadow, T. Sutton, J. Rae, J. Green, R. Lanyon-Hogg, G. Brooke, Ward Councillor D. Hopkins Clerk A. Jordan</p> <p>Members of the Public: Wavendon Councillor Marlese Levermore and three members of the public</p>	
317/23	Apologies and approve reasons for absence: none	
318/23	<p>Town Mayor's Announcements (if any):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire's declaration of office on 31st March. • Mayor Skelton informed the council of holiday dates he will be away and some days overlap with Deputy Mayor Cowmeadow also being away. 	22-29 April tomorrow until 27 April
319/23	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</p> <p>a. Under the localism act 2011 (section 26-37 and schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council's code of conduct Cllr D Hopkins referred to his entry in the member's register of interests Cllr J. interest in planning Theydon Avenue</p>	
<p>The meeting will be adjourned for Public Question Time</p> <p>The time allocated is at the discretion of the Council/Chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the Town Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the Town Council meeting itself. This period is not part of the formal meeting; brief notes will be appended to the minutes as an aide memoire. A Councillor with a prejudicial interest in a particular issue may address the Council on the issue during Public Question Time subject to the Councillor leaving the room in the event of an exchange of the issue between the public and the Council during this period.</p>		
320/23	<p>Minutes: To consider the approval of the draft minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on Monday 13th March 2023. To be circulated.</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 300.c. Cllr P Skelton met with RTM to discuss Club Lane work ▪ 300.f. no news on SID for Bow Brickhill Rd yet: can go to Edgewick Farm corner in meantime ▪ plan: MK response was submitted and is on the WSTC website 	APPROVED
321/23	<p>Progress Reports:</p> <p>a. Halls and Library Report. Nothing to report</p> <p>b. Sports Hall update: Taylor Wimpey have replied to our letter, Cllr m Geddes discussing with Clerk the next stage. WSTC think MKCC at fault for unclear specifications. But would like Taylor Wimpey to compensate for costs to WSTC.</p> <p>c. Environmental Report and Edgewick Farm: litter an ongoing issue. Broken glass can be reported to MKCC and they clear promptly. Rubbish behind the chemist has been cleared.</p>	

	<p>The anomaly with footpaths rights of way on the Swan Hill developers map has been corrected.</p> <p>Litter pick day on 30th April, advertise on website & social media, 10am.</p> <p>Theydon Avenue speed watch want to advertise for new recruits.</p> <p>d. Music Festival: 94 bands have been booked over 5 venues Friday to Monday. There will also be a Scarecrow trail and a sunflower competition, and raffle. Still waiting for removal of basketball hoop in the recreation ground to give space for stalls. Cllr T Sutton is now Treasurer for Music Festival. Many other volunteers are helping.</p> <p>e. Futures Group: the first meeting is Tuesday 18th April.</p> <p>f. SEMK: stakeholder meeting. L&Q updated on their plans, they are submitting a revised plan which will come to WSTC for comment. A positive revision taking into account WSTC comments, but the number of houses i.e. density, is still in question. Plan: MK envisages 3,000 dwellings but the potential new houses WSTC calculate based on developers initial, scoping plans is almost 4,000. There followed discussion about health care provision and schools. MKCC could slow down, the government is not making this urgent.</p> <p>Swan Hill: Cllr Green reported on their revisions. They have taken WSTC comments into account, e.g. play area, social housing, increased number of bat boxes, hedgehog runs, trees & lighting but still intend to remove hedge. To request the redway goes into the development to keep the hedge.</p> <p>g. EWR: government making announcement in May on the entire Bletchley to Cambridge route. When work starts the line will be closed for a minimum of 3 years. Note: having a route does not guarantee the train service, EWR need to produce a business plan.</p> <p>h. Election update: three councillors will continue Cllrs J. Green, G. Brook and T. Sutton. Three new councillors due to start in May. Request the 3 new councillors pass on information to Clerk ahead of May meeting to help with allocating committees. Clerk taking advice from MKCC about co-opting.</p> <p>i. Clerk's Report: to be circulated</p>	<p>Clerk to contact new councillors</p>
322/23	<p>Unitary Councillor Report: to be circulated. Planning (an interest in Church Farm application). Is causing concern in Wavendon as access is not confirmed yet. Aspley Guise Strawberry Farm – development could set a precedent but is recommended for refusal by Planning Officers. Stop the Arc group circulating interesting and balanced information. CIF mentioned in report. If Councillors have ideas to apply. New bins concerning residents. CIL start by looking what was put in last time. Check MKCC objectives before applying.</p>	
323/23	<p>Finance:</p> <p>a. To consider and approve payments for April. To be circulated.</p> <p>b. End of year accounts and budgets. Thanks to staff for the work on this. Some 'teething' troubles with Sports Hall but income is increasing well. Summerlin Centre doing very well, the Memorial Hall is breaking even. The GPCC doing very well too. Thanks to Sam for well organised bookings. Edgewick Farm went over budget due to Barn roof and water leak.</p>	<p>APPROVED</p> <p>Approve changing to new bank</p>

	<p>c. Proposal to move bank accounts to Unity Trust Bank Parish Councils - Unity Trust Bank. This bank has several benefits due to having accounts specifically designed for local councils.</p>	
324/23	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a. 23/00498/FUL Application to remove signs outside Barclays Bank. 8-10 High Street. WSTC has no objection.</p> <p>b. 23/00715/TCA Application to crown a Scots Pine. 7 Theydon Avenue. No Objection.</p> <p>c. 23/00448/HOU Removal of existing sided extension and building a new two storey extension, side and rear. 11 Deethe Close. Parking concerns are not a planning considerations, there is no reason to not recommend the plans on their own but MKCC should look at the parking, they have an algorithm for parking for new houses. Cllr Green and Clerk to respond.</p> <p>d. 23/00437/CLUP a detached outbuilding for use as a gym and store. 30 Station Road. Notification only. Permitted development.</p> <p>e. 23/00095/ENF a complaint regarding an alleged breach of planning control concerning the installation of coloured lights in a conservation area, at 12 High Street.</p>	
325/23	<p>Notifications of decisions made from Milton Keynes Council:</p> <p>a. 22/02940/TPO 64 Weathercock Lane. APPROVED.</p> <p>b. 23/00127/TCA 6 Sandy Court/18 Russell Street. NO OBJECTION (WSTC had no objection).</p> <p>c. 40 Station Road. MKCC have put a (temporary) TPO on the tree. Clerk to send thank you we agree with this.</p> <p>d. 4 Station Road extension approved but no mention of caveat requested by WSTC.</p>	
326/23	<p>Annual Town Meeting: Decide who is to present reports. TVP report from PCSO AmyRyan; Annual Report from Mayor P. Skelton, Planning inc. Swan Hill Cllr J Green, Halls Cllr M. Geddes, Environment Cllr R. Lanyon-Hogg, Edgewick Farm Cllr P Skelton, Finance Cllr C. Cowmeadow, Unitary report and EWR/SEMK Ward Cllr D. Hopkins, 2 ½ mins each. Report on the GPCC Cllr M. Geddes.</p>	
327/23	<p>GPCC: WSTC Councillors met with the council solicitor to discuss creating a new charity that maybe entitled to rate relief for sports hall and the Old Fire Station. There are three options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GPCC takes on Sports Hall as lease. Simple, but would need to make changes so that the council is not the trustee 2. Incorporated charity which gives limited liability to trustees, lease sports hall but the Town Council maintains the freehold. Then transfer assets of current charity to the new charity. 3. Do above (2) and also incorporate as a business too which means if the charity wanted to raise money in future they could do so, as well as protecting the liability of trustees. <p>The third option appears best for council to save money and protect trustees liability.</p> <p>It was suggested the final decision is postponed for the new council to decide. The Councillors need to be aware of a possible conflict between trustees who</p>	<p>AGREE to start this process and the new council can make final decisions. Recommend 3rd option.</p>

	<p>are also councillors. The Clerk needs to ensure MKCC will approve what WSTC plan to do.</p> <p>The charities constitution will need up dating for the Charity Commission. Separation between council and charity is necessary, need to check with MKCC.</p> <p>Financial consequences: MKCC have agreed to suspend council tax payments until this is resolved, but we will have to pay the amounts owed until new charity takes over.</p> <p>Need to recruit new trustees for the charity.</p>	<p>The Clerk to speak to MKCC regarding the plans for the GPCC</p>
328/23	<p>Section 106 funding: update on Parklands consultation and suggested bench as a work of public art. Cllr Brook contacted Parklands Facebook group and the suggestion was for a bench to commemorate the coronation. Men in Sheds can create this.</p> <p>The recreation ground outdoor power box: an application has been submitted.</p> <p>The Old Fire Station garden: quotes needed for the work.</p>	<p>Clerk to liaise with Cllr Brooke</p> <p>Clerk to obtain quotes</p>
329/23	<p>20th Anniversary of Edgewick Farm being under the management of WSTC and volunteers. To decide on appropriate celebrations. Saturday 15th July. Bring your own picnic (not outside caterers), various activities are being planned. Councillors to inform the mayors at the time to invite them to the event.</p>	
330/23	<p>ERG: update on applications. Applied for £20,000 which will be spent on updating the Heritage Trail and incorporating the Fullers Earth trail. And some for new Xmas lights for the town. Yet to hear if we will receive the money.</p>	
331/23	<p>Staffing: confidential discussion concerning changes to staff contracts. The public were asked to leave for this item.</p> <p>It was proposed, and agreed, to make the Caretaker post a job share and advertise for a second caretaker.</p> <p>Clerk to draw up advert and contracts.</p>	<p>AGREE to advertise a job share for the Caretaker's position.</p>
332/23	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following a complaint from a resident the Clerk reported damaged kerb stones and uneven pavement on Theydon Avenue to MKCC who tell us it is not serious enough to repair yet. Can we request MKCC looks at whole of Theydon Avenue pot holes? • MKCC informed us they send parking patrols to Woburn Sands regularly, visit 16 streets and have issued six tickets so far this year. • Swallowfield Governors are asking about parking at the Summerlin Centre for parents to drop off / pick up children. This is not possible as hall hirers pay for the use of the car park and so we cannot leave the gates permanently open. In theory when Fulbrook works completed their should be sufficient parking for parking on school site at weekends. The biggest problem appears to be out of hours facility hirers. • Complaints that Mowbray Green bins not being emptied. The Clerk reported and they have been emptied now. • Complaint about tree cutting at Burlington Hall, but following checks they had permission as part of their building works. 	<p>Clerk to speak to Tony Brown MKCC to get back on schedule</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglian Water: WSTC do not want traffic made one way by the works because it will affect business on High Street and Frosts. • Love Woburn Sands befriending proposal. Ask what they are requesting from WSTC as this is not clear. 	
333/23	<p>Notification of Urgent Decisions that have been made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacted Taylor Wimpey about a leak in the Sports Hall roof, this is being dealt with this week. 	
334/23	<p>Councillor's reports and items for next agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levelling up plans from government, consulting on the levy which is quite radically different. NALC will be responding on behalf of local councils and have sent a document highlighting most relevant points, have their own consultation • NatWest war memorial went to MK branch but as NatWest have closed the original branch and reopened where is the plaque? Can we have it in the Memorial Hall? • Noticeboards look brilliant, up to date and busy. 	Clerk to contact NatWest
335/23	<p>Date of next meeting: Monday 15th May 2023, the Annual Town Council Meeting Venue: The Committee Room at The Memorial Hall</p>	

Meeting ended:

Signed:

Date: