

WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

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

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**Meeting of the Environment Committee on
Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 5pm to 6.30pm in the Committee Room, Memorial Hall.**

MINUTES

1/23	Present: Councillors J. Green, K. Temple, S. Green, M. Wathen, A. Poppleton. Clerk A Jordan.
2/23	Elect a Chairperson: proposed – Cllr J Green nominated Cllr A Poppleton , and Cllr K Temple seconded. Cllr A Poppleton AGREED Chair of the Environment Committee
3/23	Apologies: none
4/23	Agree terms of reference: It was queried if the Chair has to be present at every meeting of all committees. However, it is on the Standing Orders that the Chair and Deputy should be on all committees. Suggest adding another point on the terms of reference to include Climate Change: -WSTC had a climate Change Survey, 18 months ago this would be relevant. - can link in with local plans and current developments (e.g. SEMK) -practical actions could include green energy contracts, for example -zero carbon intention -social value -could put Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNER) relationship in here too – can invite to speak with us and how can they support us -Highways/electric vehicles these MKCC’s responsibility - Could WSTC be more pro-active requesting actions from Highways? -footpaths (councillors already walking/checking) Cllr Poppleton to draft wording to add a point(s) under duties / responsibilities
5/23	Mowbray Green update: tree works: a dead tree – Clerk has asked if we need permission to remove it as it is in conservation area. There are no tree protection orders (TPO) on trees on Mowbray Green. Should we be planting more trees? Have planted some and MK not as active as CBC. WS has limited space for more trees, could focus on replacing dead trees.
6/23	Edgewick Farm update: Wood to be removed to enable the fence to be repairs. Cllr K Templeton has a contact for cutting up logs to enable the fence to be repaired. Good to allow some wood to remain. Clerk to ask The Greensand Trust. To agree quotes to extend the fence boundary between footpath and sheep field. Under this year’s budget so fence is repaired before sheep return. Talk to The Greensand Trust for SEMK future support.

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7/23	Parklands: litter bins are not being emptied properly by MKCC, they are a poor design, also an excessive number of bins. Clerk has reported. There was then a discussion about the new bin collection contract.
8/23	Report from MKCC Highways regarding various work around Woburn Sands: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- MKCC are still considering a city-wide 20mph limit. High St speed sign is missing. Cllr Poppleton to ask Ward Cllr.- 7.5t weight limit, no repeater signs- zebra crossing parking bay. Can we have a pelican crossing to stop traffic? Halos on the lights to make more visible.- Chapel Street extending double yellow lines to be consulted- the lights in the Russell Street car park: WSTC hoped MKCC would replace them with insect friendly lights- Downham Rd. Highways are suggesting a bollard instead of planters- Speed Indicator Devices (SID) MKCC applied for two new ones with section 106 money on behalf of WSTC. Yet to be installed- there is money for traffic calming, this will go to MKCC Highways
9/23	Councillors Report: MK Climate Action group, attended by Cllr A Poppleton. Workshop/meeting to be held in Summerlin on 14 th Oct. 2.30 – 5pm. Cohesion on Climate Action in MK.
10/23	Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Natural Environment Partnership (NEP) - to consider the impact on Woburn Sands. DEFRA started pilot areas including Bucks. MK is a very low diversity area. One area for immediate action is Greensands Ridge, this means we can get involved in this plan; primarily about preserving biodiversity. Greensands is almost unique, only two in UK and few in world. This project could support SEMK considering its environmental impact. This is at the beginning and could get local people involved. WSTC need to keep engaging with them. (terms of reference re. climate change). Can LNRS/ NEP come and present to the council and WSTC can make them aware of SEMK?
11/23	Proposal to work with Bow Brickhill Parish Council on environmental principles regarding SEMK plans. (they used a consultant and this made a positive difference, could WSTC budget for next year for this). Cllr Green already emailed the Bow Brickhill Clerk about working together, asked to take it to their chair. Cllr A Poppleton to follow up. Aim to align with them re SEMK.
12/23	Date of next meeting: for budget setting – 6.00pm Monday 16 th October

Meeting ended: 6.15pm