

## **WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Memorial Hall on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.30p.m.

**Present Councillors** C. Cowmeadow (in the chair)  
P. Byrne, P. Farrant, M. Geddes, J. Jeffreys, Dr. J. Rae,  
P. Skelton, K. Temple  
**Clerk:** Mrs L. Stapleton  
**Also Present** 1 member of the public (until 7.50)  
**Apologies:** Cllr. D. Hopkins and A. Bramall

### **157/16 Town Mayor's Announcements**

Cllr. Cowmeadow had no announcements.

### **158/16 Declarations of Interest**

- a. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- b. Personal interests: Cllr. Temple declared an interest in planning application 55 Vandyke Close due to a close relative having an interest. He will take no part in the discussion for this application.
- c. Pecuniary interests: None declared

### **Meeting Closed for Public Speaking 7.32**

Resident spoke regarding agenda item 11. Details minute 166/16

### **Meeting re-convened 7.50**

### **159/16 Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2015 had been circulated, approved and signed as a true record.

### **160/16 To Accept Nomination for Co-Option**

The Chairman reported that interviews had taken place and recommends for approval the Co-Option of Peter Skelton.

This was approved by all members and he then joined the Council for the remainder of the meeting.

### **161/16 Progress Reports for information**

- a. The Swan  
Requested site visit to investigate Corner of Hardwick Road and large puddles, including broken drain and blocked drain.  
No reply. Will take photo of drain flooded.

#### **On-Going**

#### **Items I am chasing with MKC**

##### Planning/Enforcement

37 High Street air conditioning unit Still awaiting Conservation rpt. **Carl Stokes**

Chased cannot take further until report is received from the Conservation team.

13 Maple Grove, extension of garden into MKC land **Legal & Property**

Chased no news

Railway Land, site visit took place early December, since recent application withdrawn a further visit aware of some breeches taken place. Information had been requested but none received.

##### Issues

Pedestrian Refuge Still in negotiations with Network Rail regarding traffic management, but looks like early this year.

**Emma Walton**

Garage Doors over car ports at Parklands

Due to short of staff compliance letters have not been sent to date.

**Note of complaints registered to Environmental Services.**

<b>Faded road signs</b> Newport Road opposite Cranfield Road and Station Road opposite Weathercock Lane.	To be replaced
<b>Faded Disabled parking bay lines High Street</b>	To be replaced
<b>Footway (Station Rd – Wood St ) in Theydon Ave.</b>	Planned works
<b>Willow Tree Parklands</b>	No Information
Request for sign not to obstruct entrance into Mowbray Green from Lay-by	To be investigated
Notified MKC are not replacing any signs.	

**Information**

Contractor monitoring Fire Station Car Park. Item on agenda

Notification of level crossing closure 12 – 14 March 2016 for Network Rail 23.00 – 04.30

Proposed works to sub-station should commence 15<sup>th</sup> February on the Memorial Green.

**b. Halls**

Clerk reported that automatic flush unit for Gents WC at the Summerlin had to be replaced. Fire safety annual checks have been carried out at the Memorial Hall and The Old Fire Station, the Summerlin Centre required all extinguishers to be replaced due to being 5 yrs old

**c. Environment**

It was agreed to hold an Environment meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> March at 2p.m., to enable a thorough check on the public open spaces on the Parklands development, especially the south of the site.

**d. Police and Policing**

PCSO attended to give recent crime figures, over the past month had gone down by 5%. He also informed members that the interim Sgt. will be leaving to be replaced by another interim sgt.

**e. Edgewick Farm**

Cllr. Jeffreys reported that the trees in the Rec had been vandalised.

£411.30 profit had been made from sales of the calendars.

The Hedgelaying has been completed

Thank you was also given for the donation which towards the new information board.

Information is being sought regarding Hardwick House, the Clerk will try and source some details, and forward to Cllr. Skelton.

**f. Fulbrook School**

Cllr Cowmeadow reported that the new curriculum and marking details were the main item discussed. New intake numbers were good.

**g. WSBCA WS Community Market**

Next market is on 13<sup>th</sup> March with a good number of stalls.

Cllrs. Byrne and Rae will do the refreshments.

**h. Christmas Fayre**

Progressing

**i. East West Rail**

Currently financial allocations decisions have to be made.

## 162/16 Unitary Council Report

Cllr. Hopkins circulated his report commenting on School Transport, Council budget, Parklands Phase 5 & 6, East West Rail, resident issues regarding litter and St. Marys School at Wavendon and the proposed move, Cllr. Cowmeadow reiterated that this move would only exacerbate that residents of Woburn Sands have to enter the Bedfordshire school system, especially at primary stage.

## 163/16 Planning

Notification from Milton Keynes Council of the following applications:

- a. 16/00075/FUL                      Erection of 4 bed bungalow and extension and alteration to existing bungalow at:  
**55 Vandyke Close                      Mr I Quest**  
Object due overdevelopment, beyond building line, adjacent to railway line cars having to cross public footpath and parking problems.
- 15/03128/TCA                      Notification of intention to crown reduce 3 Sycamore trees by 3 mtrs. at:  
**16 Station Road                      Mrs S. Pardy**  
Happy to accept tree officers comments.
- 15/03130/TCA                      Notification of intention to crown reduce by 2m x 1Horse Chestnut tree and pollard 2 Lime Trees back to main trunk at:  
**16 Station Road                      Mrs S. Pardy**  
Happy to accept tree officers comments.
- 15/03192/FUL                      Erection of detached garage with garden store & hardstanding at:  
**87 Newport Road                      Mr R Franklin**  
No comment
- 16/00148/FUL                      Demolition of existing garage and utility room, proposed 2 storey side extension with garage and ground floor front extension (resubmission of 15/01431/FUL) at:  
**63 Elm Grove**  
No Comment but neighbours comments to be taken into consideration  
Notification from Central Beds  
Erection of 2 two storey dwellings at land to the rear of **75 – 77 Station Road**  
Object on grounds of lack of safe parking and a danger to pedestrians.
- b. **Notification of Decisions made from Milton Keynes Council**  
18 Blackthorn Grove                      Permitted  
19 Cranfield Road                      Permitted  
17 Downham Road                      Refused  
**Late notification received** after the Clerk chased with MKC.  
Appeal upheld for 47 High Street in November.
- c. **Parklands, Greens, Updates (if any.)**  
**Agreed to meet with Connolly Homes for a review meeting and to check that conditions have been met regarding Landscape Boundary Treatments.**
- d. **F.O. Parklands** meeting report had been circulated, this group contact Milton Keynes Council direct, and possibly be requesting items that were not agreed on the approved landscape plan. Main issue is the unadopted roads, condition of these areas have deteriorated. They wish that priority be given to MKC adopting the Highways as soon as possible.

Agreed that some of the concerns raised will be investigated at the next Environment meeting.

However it was stressed that all items should come through the Town Council.

Cllr. Hopkins will take the issue of adoption of highways up with MKC.

#### **164/16 WS Library**

Meeting to review Partnership Agreement was agreed to be held 15<sup>th</sup> February. Cllrs. Geddes, and Mrs Jeffreys will attend. Sharing Libraries document will also be discussed and reply to our letter. Notification from MKC that that all items will be removed from workroom if office moves to study room.

Quotation to put breathable sealant on exposed exterior brickwork from Esk Decorators was accepted.

The Clerk explained that original contractor could not be contacted as previously agreed but Esk had been kept informed of works originally, but were unable to quote for removal of exterior paint.

#### **165/16 West Midlands Franchise Consultation**

Cllr. Rae explained that this item was also discussed at MK Public Transport sub group meeting. Consultation started 15<sup>th</sup> December – 22<sup>nd</sup> March. All details had been circulated. No comment.

#### **166/16 Station Road Traffic Issues**

Member of the public had received Network Rail traffic survey details under FOI.

This had been independently analysed who had found more appropriate routes, some information contradicted the analyses received from MKC.

Agreed the following.

1. Request the 2 authorities to look at all signage, it was noted that the most difficult time will be during the next 3 yrs. whilst works are taking place on the A421.
2. Continue to press the 2 authorities to carry out wider surveys.
3. Request 2 authorities to investigate Long Term Transport Solution, Woburn Sands, Wavendon and Woburn being excluded from main route.
4. The new analyses received will be sent to both authorities once agreement has been given for the independent analyst to have name put on document.

It was also noted that there was no survey taken on night activity.

#### **167/16 MK Public Transport Sub Group**

Cllr. Rae reported on meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> January. Once again Park & Ride signage was raised as nothing had progressed. Andrew Coleman had promised to contact the Council but nothing had been received to date. Bus stop moves at Coachway will coincide with the next bus timetable changes. It was also reported the bus route 300 could go further into Magna Park as it expands.

#### **168/16 Quotations for re building rear wall at Summerlin Centre**

Council have received notification from Chris Jones that due to an accident he will be unable to carry out the work for the unforeseeable future.

The other quotes were reconsidered and agreed that LPS should be asked to carry out the works.

#### **169/16 Swallowfield School**

Notified that there are a couple of vacancies on the Governing Body and enquiring if any Councillor would be willing to fill one of these vacancies.

Councillors will contact the Clerk if interested in the post.

#### **170/16 External Audit for Smaller Authorities**

Notification that the deadline to Opt Out is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

It was resolved not to opt out of the external audit arrangements for Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd is putting into place which will take effect from April 2017.

**171/16 The Old Fire Station**

Farrow Civil Engineers have suggested that an ACO drain could be installed in front of Front door reshape surfacing a bit to alleviate flooding into the building. If carried out with remedial works to car park would be an extra £1,100.

Agreed that these works should be carried out, but after a site visit to discuss all works.

Notification that a small sum of money could be made available from S.106 money to help bring the building up to standard regarding damp, insulation, flooring and new windows and doors.

Agreed for quotations to be sought.

**172/16 Greg Rutherford Tribute**

Playground Supplies suggested rubber coated mulch could be used, as in playgrounds, various colours suggested and outline of where to be installed.

This was agreed to obtain a quotation.

**173/16 Notification of Urgent Decisions that have been made.**

None.

**174/16 Finance**

- a. List of Payments circulated was approved for payment
- b. Internal Audit checks to be carried out by Cllr. Cowmeadow.
- c. Agreed to ask Denise Batchelor to carry out the internal audit for 2015/16 at a fee of £50

**175/16 Correspondence for Information**

Notification received with information regarding applications for street parties to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Queen.

Letters of thanks received from Parent & Toddlers, George Wells and 3 Parishes for grants.

**176/16 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda**

Cllr. Temple enquired if the Council would like to receive a template for establishing an Emergency Plan. This was agreed.

Cllr. Mrs Jeffreys reported that Mr Breslin was wondering if a small evening performance with some readings might be considered for William Shakespeare birthday. Members agreed that this would be a good idea.

**177/16 Date of next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

Meeting Closed 9.46 p.m.