

## WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Memorial Hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.30p.m

<b>Present</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	P. Farrant (in the chair) C. Cowmeadow, M. Geddes, D. Hopkins, J. Jeffreys, J. Rae, P. Skelton, K. Temple
	<b>Clerk</b>	Mrs L. Stapleton
	<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr, Brooke
	<b>Also Present</b>	PCSO Dabnor & colleague 2 members of the public (7.41)

### 126/17 **Town Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor thanked members of the Committee, for their hard work in organising the Christmas Fayre, which was very much appreciated.

### 127/17 **Declarations of Interest**

- a. Personal interests: None Declared
- b. Pecuniary interests: None Declared

### **Meeting closed for public speaking time (7.33)**

Two members of the public present requesting update of the downgrade of the A5130 and HGV restriction. Informed that the downgrade is expected approximately April 2018, MKC were also requested to investigate the HGV restriction.

### **Meeting Re-convened 7.42**

### 128/17 **Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 had been circulated, approved and signed as a true record.

### 129/17 **Progress Reports** for information.

#### a. Clerk

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

1. Completing application to install Christmas Lights on light and further documents from Forde & McHugh were required and paperwork from ourselves.
2. Completion of Site Survey for delivery of new photocopier.
3. Working figures for Halls budgets, and finance budgets.
4. Delivery and training on new copier.
5. Took all the wreaths off war memorial, not been secured and blowing across Memorial Green, prior to Christmas Fayre.
6. Prepare Road closure notices and letters to residents. Thanks to Paul who secured them on posts and delivered letters.
7. Chased Sharpe Pritchard and MKC regarding lease to car park. Should be with us shortly.
8. Been chasing MKC nearly everyday to remove Road Closure signs. Hopefully it will be done this week.
9. Have sent letters to Wavendon and Aspley Heath PC and Bow Brickhill PCs requesting that they consider a grant to the running costs to the Library, Aspley Guise Parish Councils need an application form to go out in the next financial year.
10. Pedestrian Refuge – Taylor Wimpey. Could be a Highway Safety Audit problem.

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

Faded Disabled parking bay lines High Street	Reported
Faded yellow lines in Downham Road	Reported
Russell Street, High Street, The Leys	
Bollard down on corner of Wood Street	Completed
Loose Grid across pavement outside Gibson Andrew Flat above post office	

- b. **Halls and Library**  
Cllr. Geddes reported on the meeting held on 20 November and the proposed budgets. It was explained that income had gone down therefore it was proposed that hall rents would not be increased. A meeting was held with Library officers and the Librarian and Woburn Sands Library is classed as the best performing Library in MKC.
- c. **Environment**  
Nil to report.
- d. **Police and Policing**  
PCSO Dabnor reported on crime figures. There were no other concerns.
- e. **Edgewick Farm**  
Cllr Skelton reported that Calendar sales had now cleared their printing costs.
- f. **Fulbrook School**  
Cllr. Farrant reported that the school facing financial issues and looking at funding for Secondary years.  
Planning application for a MUGA had been submitted to Central Beds.
- g. **Market**  
Market had to be cancelled on 10<sup>th</sup> December due to weather conditions. A small pop up market will be held on the Memorial Green on Saturday 16 December.
- i. **Christmas Fayre**  
Cllr. Farrant mentioned the Fayre was well attended. The music from the Fayre might have to be reviewed.
- j. **Music Festival**  
Cllr. Brooke circulated a report that a meeting will be taking place and the option of 2 stages will be investigated.
- k. **Love Woburn Sands**  
Nil to report
- l. **East/West Rail/Network Rail**  
Nil to report.

#### 130/17 Unitary Councillor Report

Report had been circulated with information regarding the concern that the Expressway is causing, especially in Wavendon. The Capital of Culture bid and the issue that leaving the EU making the bid void It is being urged that the legality of this decision be discussed.

#### 131/17 Planning

Notification from Milton Keynes Council of the following applications

- a. 17/03151/FUL                      Single storey rear extension at:  
**18 Vicarage Street**  
*No Comment*
- 17/03015/FUL                      Single storey rear extension for use as Garden Room at:  
**34 Russell Street**                      Mr A Ladd  
*No Comment*
- 17//03091/FUL                      Proposed pitched roof over existing single storey flat roof element. Internal  
amendments and fenestration alterations at  
**14 Pine Grove**                      Mr Holder  
*No Comment*

b. **Notification of Decisions made from Milton Keynes Council**

5 Clay Gardens	Permitted
1 Russell Street	Permitted
38 Theydon Avenue	Permitted
9 Station Road (Burlington)	Permitted

Application received from Central Beds for a proposal to install a 25 x 7 m polytunnel in field adjacent to Edgewick Farm. Cllr. Jeffreys reported that a letter had been sent expressing the Council's concern of the tunnel having a visual impact on area especially from Edgewick Farm.

c. **Parklands, Greens, Updates including S.106 funds.**

Nil to report

d. **F.O. Parklands and WS Angling Club**

Cllr. Farrant reported that SWIMS will hopefully start in the Spring

e. **Plan:MK**

Councillor Geddes has circulated draft response this was approved.

Informal meeting with representatives from O&H Properties took place on 29th November, regarding developments between Woburn Sands and Bow Brickhill. O&H agreed that it would be preferable to only develop north of the railway in the short term.

f. **Notification from Hayfield Consortium that an outline application for 650 houses off A421 has been submitted.**

Cllr. Jeffreys will circulate a draft response for approval based on our previous comments.

132/17 **Notification of External Auditor for 2017/18**

Auditor will be PKF Littlejohn LLP from 2017 – 2022. Cost £400 plus any other expenses if required, the Annual Return will now be known as the "Annual Governance and Accountability Return" and will need to be completed in accordance "proper practices" as set out in the practitioners guide. These forms will be sent out electronically.

133/17 **Maps of Open Spaces**

Cllr. Skelton circulated draft comments which were approved. The Clerk will respond.

134/17 **Meeting with MKC Highways Representatives.**

It was reported that certain highway improvements and SID could come out of the S.106 money.

It was confirmed that Taylor Wimpey has been given the go ahead to install the pedestrian refuge on Station Road. It was confirmed that the downgrading of the A5130 could be implemented in April. The officers attending were unaware that an HGV restriction had been requested to be implemented at the same time and would be looking into this. Agreed to request confirmation that this is now in progress.

135/17 **Notification of Urgent Decisions that have been made.**

Nil

136/17 **Finance**

a. Cllr. Cowmeadow will reported on the finance meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> November.

The Clerk had been requested to request more information regarding the lower tax base for next year. This was a result of over estimating new housing last year and an increase of exemptions. It was agreed to query again for more information.

Grants

It was resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure: the following grants.

Three Parishes £450, Sands Singers £200, Friends of Woburn Sands Station £50, St. Michael's Church £250, 3 Parishes Fuel Charity £100, Parent & Toddlers £100, Swallowfield Lower School £100, Evergreens £100, George Wells £200

Staff Salaries

It was resolved to approve the following salary increases to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018

Clerical Assistant

An increase from £8.60 per hour to £8.80. The Clerk will calculate any overtime due on a monthly basis at the normal hourly rate.

Caretaker

An increase from £8.10 per hour to £8.50 at 16 hours per week.

Clerk An increase of 2% from £25,156.00 to £25,659.12

- b. List of payments circulated were approved for payment.
- c. Next meeting to finalise budgets will be held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 6 pm.

**137/17 Correspondence for information**

BBRUA latest newsletter received.

**138/17 Communications**

Cllr. Rae informed members that visits to web site this month were up.

Social media was discussed and agreed to hold meeting after Christmas to discuss hopefully when Cllr.

Brooke can attend, Cllr. Temple will also join the group.

**139/17 To Approve Reason to move the Date of Next Meeting**

Due to time restraints to approve budgets and waiting further information from MKC it is resolved to hold the next meeting 15 January 2018 not 8<sup>th</sup> January.

**140/17 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda**

Nil

**141/17 Date of the next meeting will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

Meeting closed 8.51 pm