

WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Memorial Hall on Monday 10th December 2018 at 7.30p.m.

Present Councillors: Cllr K Temple (in the chair)
G. Brooke, C. Cowmeadow, P Farrant, M. Geddes, D. Hopkins
J. Jeffreys, J. Rae, P Skelton

Clerk : Mrs L Stapleton

Apologies: None

124/18 **Town Mayor's Announcements**

Cllr Temple had attended The Woburn Sands Band concert on 8th December and presented a cheque for £500 a donation from the Christmas Fayre.

125/18 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Cowmeadow and Farrant on item 13.

126/18 **Minutes of previous meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2018 and signed as a true record.

127/18 **Progress Reports** for information

a Clerk

- Arrange date and collection for Column Christmas Lighting installation
- Arranged delivery of sacks and collection of plastic from Globe at The Methodist Chapel
- Attended Library Meeting
- Prepared figures for Environment Budget Meeting
- Collated grant applications and prepared draft budgets for Finance meeting
- Attended S.106 meeting with Cllr Jeffreys
- Investigated the use of a cherry picker to install Christmas lights on gable end of Library at last minute as come away from fixing. Eventually MKC arranged for this to be done.
- Attended meeting with Mr Bradley
- Investigation of flood under stage still ongoing
- Attended site visit with Tree officer regarding tree works at the memorial Green and Mowbray Green Submitted planning application for tree works on the Memorial Green.
- Attended LWS meeting

Items I am chasing

Pedestrian Refuge – Taylor Wimpey. Will be included in works early 2019

Note of complaints registered to Environmental Services

Chasing the hole in the path outside flower shop

Street Lights Vicarage Street & Downham Road

Island bollards outside The Weathercock Inn

Leaning sign posts on High Street, site visit arranged, 2 posts will be taken away. Now waiting for replacement posts.

b. Halls and Library

Cllr Geddes reported on the Library meeting. Members approved that refreshments could be provided as a thank you to the volunteers who have helped throughout the year at the Library. New estimates will be obtained regarding the rear ramp to the Library and investigations regarding a new back door which will have to be widened to be fully compliant.

c. Environment

Cllr Skelton enquired if the Clerk had spoken to the Grounds contractor, but he had not been in the office.

The Clerk showed some pictures of 2 very large planted pots which Kings Landscape had offered the Council, the front of the Summerlin Centre was suggested.. The Clerk will report this and enquire if this would be a suitable location.

- d. Police and Policing**
Police had been invited but no attendance.
- e. Edgewick Farm**
Cllr Skelton reported that the Clerk had applied for S.106 funds to be released to purchase the Boardwalk. To be officially authorised.
- f. Fulbrook School**
Cllr Cowmeadow reported that item 13 covers what had been discussed.
- g. Market**
The Christmas Market on 8th December was a huge success and was very busy.
- i. Christmas Fayre**
Cllr Farrant reported that the Fayre was extremely busy and a meeting had been held to discuss pro's and con's. Improvements needed for car parking investigations will be made. Len Jenkins switched on the lights and the Fayre had raised £500 a cheque will be presented to the Band.
- j. Summer Festival 2018**
Nil to report except volunteers are required on the committee as well as the day.
- k. Communications**
Nil to report
- l. Love Woburn Sands**
Cllr Brooke reported that the Trustees will be interviewing for someone to take bookings for the Community Taxi.
Cllr Geddes reported that a meeting had taken place with Mr G. Cooper and Mr C. Batten, who mentioned the projects which they wish to continue with, the Community taxi, interaction with the feeder schools. It has also come to light the problem of loneliness and various ways were being investigated on how they can help.
They would also like to publish a small booklet showing what is going on in Woburn Sands, a map and useful contact details. They would be looking at advertising paying for the printing of these booklets.
- m. East/West Rail/Network Rail**
Drop In session held.

128/18 Unitary Councillor Report

Cllr Hopkins had circulated a reported which was included decision from the Secretary of State regarding Wavendon Properties, criteria of implementing a 20mph restriction and legalities, cost of a full time PCSO, Levanti Gate, and problems with drain clearing on Newport Road, and winter road salting.

Plan:MK stakeholder group due to be held in January has not confirmed, it was suggested that invitees should consist of representatives from Asplands, Education, Greensand Country and some residents.

129/18 Planning

- a. Notification from Milton Keynes Council of the following applications
18/02736/FUL Ground and first floor extension including a tiled hipped roof over the existing garage at:
St Hilary 46 Weathercock Lane Mr M Purton
Query if MKC happy regarding parking and the style of 1930's house is not compromised
18/02911/FUL Part 2 storey, part single storey rear extension and internal alterations at:
46 Russell Street
No planning objection but to note neighbours comments especially regarding the shared side passage.
- b. **Notification of Decisions made from Milton Keynes Council**

55 High Street	Permitted
57 Theydon Avenue	Permitted
18 Russell Street	No Objection
16 Station Road	Refused

c. **Parklands, Greens, Updates (Greens Community Room)**

The Clerk will contact Thornes Housing Association regarding an update on the Greens Community Room.

Cllr. Jeffreys informed members that she had attended a S.106 meeting with the Clerk and Paul. Van Geete. In order not to lose any funds due to expiry, it was confirmed that there was a small amount towards bus service and MKC suggested could be spent on bus stops etc. A lot of money was earmarked for Asplands but complicated due to the Bedfordshire Trust want to use it for Cranfield, MKC clarified that the money is ring-fenced for Woburn Sands and if it is not used will be returned to Taylor Wimpey, she is trying to arrange an urgent meeting with Asplands. Money used by highways was still unclear.

d. **F.O. Parklands**

There had been a site survey of all the street lights on the estate, many not working, some areas have been adopted and the Clerk can report these, remaining is under the management of the developers.

129/18 **Speeding Traffic**

Cllr Hopkins circulated details on how to apply for 20mph on residential streets, Theydon Avenue was requested by a resident, but would implicate other roads being included such as the Groves estate, this will be discussed at the January meeting.

130/18 **Drop in Session – Network Rail**

Session regarding the closure of the school crossing was held on 5th December. Drawings were displayed showing 3 options.

Residents extremely unhappy after agreeing to withdraw their objection letters with the proviso that a footbridge is built and the staff at the drop in session saying a footbridge was not an option.

More information will be put on the website when known and in the next newsletter.

Cllr. Geddes is registering to speak on behalf of the Town Council at the Public Inquiry.

131/18. **Clean-up Fund**

Further details have been obtained regarding the Foamstream machine. This is a small flat back lorry with bowser which the driver operates either when driving or personally with a 60 mtr hose. Environmentally safe with no chemical. Can use lorry with our own driver for 7 hrs which is £106 including water and foam. An operative from Newport Pagnell is happy to do work at £20 per hour. Treating weeds on kerbsides alleyways, around buildings etc.

It was **RESOLVED** to express an interest in this scheme with the view of paying for an operative.

132/18 **Update on Top Ten Priorities for Woburn Sands**

The following changes were agreed and to be published on the website.

2.ii To promote the Town

5iii HGV's travelling through town (except for access) now has 7.5 tonne limit imposed.

133/18 **WS Warden**

Cllr Temple indicated that a Parish Council in Milton Keynes were paying a warden (not parking) £18,000 per annum plus NI

Cllr. Cowmeadow also had made enquiries where Kent C.C. provide Parish Wardens assigned to villages paid £17,000 - £18,000 for 37 hour week. This could be an option to share with other parishes tackling dog fouling, youths, and limited parking powers.

134/18 **Fulbrook School Consultation**

Papers had been circulated on the proposal to extend the age range and the Admission arrangement.

RESOLVED to send a letter of support giving pupils the option to stay together in Woburn Sands.

135/18 **Notification of Urgent Decisions that have been made.**

None

136/18 **GDPR**

Cllr Rae reported on the information sent from BALC regarding the use of volunteers to help with the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllrs have a duty to ensure that volunteers consider and declare any conflicts of interest and be aware that all their emails/communications when working on behalf of the Council are subject to the access of information legislation with respect to FOI.

137/18 **Finance**

- a. List of payments circulated were approved for payment.
- b. Cllr Cowmeadow reported on meeting held 26 November, agreed that a series of meetings will be required to cover staffing issues with job responsibilities associated costs to be prepared for the future.

The draft budget is currently at a 5% increase. To be finalised on 11th January

The proposed Grants were discussed, the Clerk had made enquiries with the Public Arts Officer and informed that the 2 applications under The Arts did not meet the current criteria. These 2 applications will be discussed at the next finance meeting.

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 Three Parishes	Running Costs	£450
Friends of WS Station	Plan Tubs & Troughs	£75
George Wells Foundation	Running Costs	£200
Woburn Sands Library	Summer Reading Challenge materials	£150
St Michaels Church	Upkeep of Churchyard	£250
Swallowfield PTFA	Smart Boards	£100
Parent & Toddlers	Structural learning equipment	£200
WS Market	Insurance	£190
Three Parishes Fuel Charity	Running Costs	£100

- c. Internal Audit will be completed in January.
- d. The Clerk informed members that at the last Government Budget it proposed to reduce Business Rates for small Charities.
After checking with MKC that a Charity whose sole Trustees were parish councillors, were eligible to claim Rate Relief. The Clerk submitted an application and had received a refund of £3,022.96 for The Old Fire Station.

138/18 **Correspondence for information**

- a. Request to use Mowbray Green for St Michaels Church, for a Fair/Fun Day on the 18th May 2019
No objection
- b. Invitation to attend a consultation meeting from Milton Keynes Council regarding 2050 update on 7 February. Cllr. Skelton would like to attend.

139/18 **Councillors' reports and items for future agenda**

To consult with the shops what their views are regarding the public toilet remaining open.

140/18 **Date of the next meeting will be held on 14 January 2019**

Meeting closed at 9.28pm