

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF
WALTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on 3 APRIL 2019
Room 4, MK SNAP, Bourton Low, Walnut Tree, MK7 7DE
at 7:00pm**

Present:

Councillors: Joanna Bolton, Phil Chambers, Dawn Filby, Brendan Metcalfe, Ian McColl, David Newland, Simon Lorrimer-Roberts, Amanda Taylor and Mario Toto.

Officer: Lesley Sung (Council Manager) and Lisa Emmanuel (Project Support Officer)

Members of the Public: 3

FC185 WELCOME AND PUBLIC FORUM

The Vice-Chairman, Councillor Mario Toto welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the public requested to speak and a summary is set out as an addendum to the minutes.

FC186 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Following the resignation of the Council's Chairman, it was moved by Councillor David Newland, seconded by Councillor Joanna Bolton and

Resolved: That Councillor Mario Toto be elected as the Chairman of the Council for the remainder of the 2018/2019 year.

FC187 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair wished to give his thanks to Councillor Terry Reynolds who had recently resigned as the Chairman and as a Councillor on Walton Community Council. Councillor Toto wished to thank Mr Reynolds for his effort and dedication to the Council over the years.

FC188 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

FC189 MINUTES

Resolved Unanimously: That the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 6 March 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

FC190 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

FC191 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS AND VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the vacant role of Vice-Chairman is not filled for the remainder of the 2018/2019 year.
2. That Councillor Simon Lorrimer-Roberts be appointed as the Chairman of the HR Committee for the remainder of the 2018/2019 year.
3. That the vacancies on the Council's Standing Committees not be filled for the remainder of the 2018/2019 year.

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FC192 COUNCIL MANAGER'S REPORT

Resolved Unanimously: That the Council Manager's report be accepted.

FC193 COUNCILLOR ITEM – COUNCILLOR JOANNA BOLTON – KNIFE CRIME

Councillor Joanna Bolton requested that the following item be considered by the Council:

“Knife crime is a huge problem and on our televisions every day. Some areas are establishing safe areas for knives to be handed in which does not involve the police. Is this something for the Council to consider?”

Councillor David Newland attended the Danesborough & Walton Community Forum on 28 March and had raised these matters with Thames Valley Police representatives at the meeting. He reported increased searches had reduced the amount of knives in the area and a knife amnesty had seen 73 knives handed in at Bletchley Police Station. The police were working in partnership with the schools in an attempt to reduce the number of school age children carrying knives.

Resolved Unanimously: That Councillor David Newland be thanked for his report and that the report be accepted.

FC194 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered the following planning Applications:

- (a) **Planning Application 19/00397/FUL – 5 Gable Thorne, Wavendon Gate, MK7 7RT** – Single storey front, side extension, double garage with first floor.
- (b) **Planning Application 19/00424/PNHSE – 41 Bernstein Close, Browns Wood, MK7 8EH** – Prior notification for a proposed single storey rear extension measuring 3.6m from the rear wall of the existing dwelling with a maximum ridge height of 2.9m and maximum eaves height of 2.1m.
- (c) **Planning Application 19/00554/FUL – 14 Lavender Grove, Walnut Tree, MK7 7DB** – Single storey rear extension and relocation of fence along southern boundary with 2m tall panel fence.
- (d) **Planning Application 19/00458/FUL – 1 Groundsel Close, Walnut Tree, MK7 7NT** – Retrospective application for loft conversion.
- (e) **Planning Application 19/00564/FUL – 78 Dunchurch Dale, Walnut Tree, MK7 7BU** – Single storey front extension.
- (f) **Planning Application 19/00626/FUL – 13 Cook Close, Walton Park, MK7 7JA** – Erection of a part single part two storey extension.

Resolved Unanimously:

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1. That in respect of planning application 19/00564/FUL – 78 Dunchurch Dale, Walnut Tree, the Council objects to the application on the grounds that 2 of the 3 available car parking spaces will be removed in an area where on-street parking is a particular issue.
2. That no objections or comments are made in respect of the remaining planning applications.

FC195 CALDECOTTE SITE 'C' DEVELOPMENT BRIEF – CONSULTATION

Milton Keynes Council was carrying out a 6-week consultation on the Caldecotte Site 'C' Development Brief until Wednesday 29 April 2019.

Resolved Unanimously: That the Council responds to the consultation making the following points:

- The site could be used as a temporary car park to alleviate some of the parking issues in Caldecotte.
- Land needs to be reserved for the construction of a bridge across the railway line.
- If a road bridge is not constructed, then access and entry to the development site will be made much more difficult due to traffic congestion caused by the increased time the level crossing barrier would be down due to the East/West rail planned upgrade.
- Any consideration of a hotel on situated in the development area should comprise of sufficient car parking spaces.

FC196 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

Resolved Unanimously: That the invoices to be paid be authorised and the payments list signed by the Chair of the Regulatory Committee and Councillor Ian McColl.

FC197 COUNCIL BUDGET 2018/2019 AND 2019/2020

The Council received the budget and statement of financial position for 2018/2019 and for 2019/2020. An amount of £61,157 had been allocated in the 2019/2020 budget for loan repayments for a loan which was to be drawn down against the construction of a pavilion at Browns Wood Sports Ground. The pavilion build was no longer viable and the Council considered the re-allocation of the funds.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the 2018/2019 budget and final statement of financial position be accepted.
2. That the Council considers the allocation of the £61,157 at the next meeting of the Council.

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FC198 OPT TO TAX

On 7 March 2018, the Council had agreed to 'Opt to Tax' by the end of March 2019. This was based on the amount of tax that could be claimed back in respect of the construction of a pavilion at Browns Wood Sports Ground. Now that the building of a pavilion was no longer going ahead, the Regulatory Committee recommended to the Council that the decision to Opt to Tax be rescinded.

Resolved Unanimously: That, due to the pavilion build at Browns Wood Sports Ground was no longer going ahead, the Council's decision to opt to tax be rescinded.

FC199 s.137 GRANT APPLICATION – MK SNAP

The Council received details of a grant application for £2,000 from MK Snap for arranging a MK Snap live community summer music festival and BBQ in June 2019. The grant was recommended for approval by the Regulatory Committee.

Resolved Unanimously: That a s.137 grant of £2,000 be awarded to MK Snap for a live community summer music festival and BBQ in June 2019.

FC200 BROWNS WOOD SPORTS GROUND – INSTALLATION OF A MULTI-USE GAMES AREA (MUGA) AND EXTENSION TO CAR PARK – RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PROJECTS COMMITTEE

At the last Full Council meeting, the Council had agreed not to go ahead with the construction of a pavilion at Browns Wood Sports Ground and this now had implications on the installation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and the proposed extension of the car park. The Projects Committee at its meeting held on 26 March 2019 recommended that the MUGA and car park extension continues and that their construction is funded through s.106 developer contributions.

A full tender process will be carried out for the works. Indicative costs are as follows:

• MUGA	£80,000
• Car Park	£147,000
• Drainage	£61,000
• Lighting/ducting etc	£34,650

Resolved:

1. That, to ensure that the Council complies with planning conditions, the Council re-applies for planning permission for the retention of the play area, outdoor gym and pump track and that a fresh planning application is made for the installation of the MUGA and extension/improvement to the car park, at a cost of £351 to come from s.106 monies.

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2. That the plans to install the MUGA and the car park extension at Browns Wood Sports Ground is progressed.
3. That, with the use of s.106 monies, an open access MUGA be installed as per the original specification and that lockable gates be installed to ensure some security controls are in place.
4. That with the use of s.106 monies, the car park at Browns Wood Sports Ground be extended as per the original specification (tarmac main car park area and gravel on the overflow) with the addition of a car park barrier and one electric car point.
5. That a quote be requested from Ringway in respect of cost of extending the car park.
6. That the Projects Committee give further consideration for the need for lighting in the car park extension and that a separate quote be obtained for the works.
7. That the Projects Committee consider alternative uses for the area which had been allocated for the pavilion build.
8. That the Projects Committee give further consideration about the use of s.106 monies that had been allocated for the sports hall (£22,421).
9. That monies be released from reserves to allow the Operations Committee to consider employing a security contractor to maintain security at the sports ground through operation of a car park barrier and the opening and closing of lockable gates at the MUGA.
10. That the Browns Wood Sports Ground Working Group be dissolved and all matters relating to the facilities at the sports ground be considered by the Projects Committee.

FC201 DEVOLVED SERVICES – RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PROJECTS COMMITTEE

The Projects Committee at its meeting held on 26 March 2019 considered landscaping options for 2019/2020 and beyond. Milton Keynes Council had now agreed to cover the cost of residual weed spraying as part of its future landscaping contract and this meant that Walton Community Council would no longer need to consider covering the cost of this work. The Projects Committee has considered that taking on the landscaping contract was not viable but would instead continue to top-up services in its priority areas.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the Council does not wish to take on the landscaping contract beyond 2020.
2. That for 2019/2020, the Council opts to undertake an additional summer prune of hedges and shrubs on roadsides, footpaths, play parks and high use areas at a cost of £14,000.
2. That part of the cost of the additional summer prune be funded through the devolved services budget (£10K).

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3. That the shortfall in funding (maximum of £4k) be allocated from the Council's reserves.
4. That the Devolved Services Working Group be dissolved and that any future devolved services matter be considered by the Projects Committee.

FC202 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

Resolved Unanimously: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting so that the Council could discuss Agenda Item 16 (Council Structure – Recommendations from the HR Committee) as the matter involved the discussion of individual staff members.

FC203 COUNCIL STRUCTURE

(Note: In the absence of the Council Manager, Councillor Toto took the minutes for this item).

The recommendations of the HR Committee were presented by Councillor Toto. An objection was raised by Councillor Brendan Metcalfe concerning him not having received copies of the documents being presented in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: That further consideration of the proposed Council structure be postponed until after the start of the new Council year, at which time an extraordinary confidential meeting of the Full Council will be called to exclusively address this matter.

The meeting ended at 9.05pm

Accepted as a true and accurate record

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Signed

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Date

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ADDENDUM TO MINUTES – 3 APRIL 2019

Public Participation

Ward Councillor David Hopkins:

- Plan:MK had now been adopted.
- There had been some interest in installing 20mph zones in Woburn Sands
- Danesborough Forum will be meeting at 4pm tomorrow.

Ward Councillor Vanessa McPake:

- The 2 preferred options for the Oxford – Cambridge Arc will be known in September.
- Campaigning for a play area at the Walton Manor development to be installed early – asking the Council to make comment on this.
- MKC was compiling details of litter hotspots at the end of the month – Walnut Tree Playing fields identified as a litter hotspot area.
- Still some issues of residents contaminating their recycling waste – more education needed on what to put in and leave out of clear sacks.