

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Jaime Tamagnini-Barbosa, Aamir Bhatti, Joanne Dooley, David Newland and Charlie Wood

**Officers:** Dan Preston (Community Engagement Officer), Lesley Sung (Council Manager)

**Members of the public: 1**

**CEC050 ELECTION OF A CHAIR**

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee it was proposed and

**Resolved unanimously:** That Cllr. Jaime Tamagnini-Barbosa is elected chair of the Committee for the meeting.

**CEC051 URGENT ITEM**

The Committee was asked to approve the inclusion on the agenda of an urgent item regarding the funding of an extra club night for the Friendly Neighbourhood Club. The reason for urgency being that the Club needed to inform Wavendon Gate Pavilion of their intention to use the additional evening by Wednesday 23 February.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the urgent item be added to the agenda and discussed after approval of the minutes.

**CEC052 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Tate Chapman-Ballard and Adam Chapman-Ballard.

**CEC053 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received

**CEC054 MINUTES**

**Resolved Unanimously:** That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Community Engagement Committee held on 22 February 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**CEC055 URGENT ITEM – FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURHOOD CLUB**

The Committee was asked to consider a request from the Friendly Neighbourhood Club (FNC) for extra funding for an extra club night at Wavendon Gate Pavilion. Following the closure of the club that was currently using the Wavendon Gate Pavilion on the third Tuesday of every month, the FNC had been offered the third Tuesday for an extra club night. The FNC was using the Pavilion every other Tuesday of the month, with the members going for a meal on the third Tuesday, but the rising costs of eating out had led to a significant reduction in people attending the meal. The FNC felt that their wish to increase membership of the club, which had dropped by around 1/3 following the pandemic, would be better served by an extra club night.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the extra funding for the FNC club night on the third Tuesday of the month at Wavendon Gate Pavilion be agreed, with the monies coming from the Third Age budget. This extra cost will be approximately £13 per month.

**CEC056 STANDING ITEM – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER’S REPORT**

The Committee received a report on actions taken by the Community Engagement Officer since the last meeting.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the report be accepted.

**CEC057 STANDING ITEM – SCHEME OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

No decisions had been taken under the scheme of delegated authority since the January meeting.

**CEC058 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAM**

The Committee reviewed the Community Engagement work program.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the report be accepted.

**CEC059 CO-OPTION TO THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Following the Full Council decision of September 2021 (Minute FC066 refers) the Council had advertised for members of the public to be co-opted onto the Community Engagement Committee. The Community Engagement Officer had received one completed application, from Browns Wood resident Adrian Dumitru. Mr Dumitru had been invited to attend the meeting to answer questions from the Committee. Mr Dumitru is a Romanian national, who has been living in the UK for six years. Working within the community was something that he felt passionate about and wanted to learn more. He advised the Committee that he could bring skills in planning, budgeting, and accountancy to the Committee. Mr Dumitru said that he could help to build bridges between the Council and the Romanian community residing in the area.

**Resolved unanimously:** That Adrian Dumitru be co-opted onto the Community Engagement Committee for the remainder of 2021/2022, with the intention of continuing into 2022/2023.

**CEC060 RESIDENTS SURVEY**

The Committee discussed the planned residents’ survey. The Council Manager stressed the importance of the questions in the survey needing to reflect the Council’s Strategic Priorities, which were due to be updated at the Full Council meeting in March 2022 and discussed at a strategy meeting on 26 February. The survey needed to engage residents and ask important questions relating to priorities such as the potential to take on landscaping services and community assets in the future.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the formulation of the survey questions be considered after the Strategy Day and agreement of the Council’s strategic priorities at Full Council on 2 March 2022.

**CEC061 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

The Committee had previously discussed the formation of Community Service Awards at the January meeting (Minute CEC047 refers). To keep the first year relatively simple, candidates for the ‘Community Champion’ award would be nominated by Walton Community Councillors and Ward Councillors, with a

winning candidate decided by the Community Engagement Committee in April. The Committee consider where and how the award would be presented.

**Resolved unanimously:**

1. That a 'Community Champion' Award scheme be set up and the award presented to the winning candidate at the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2022.
2. That, for 2021, candidates for the award be nominated by Walton Community Council Councillors and Milton Keynes Council Ward Councillors.
3. That the winner of the Award be decided by the Community Engagement Committee at the April Community Engagement Committee meeting.
4. That the formation of other suggested awards be discussed later in 2022.

**CEC062 SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

The Committee considered the draft Social Media Policy, which had been considered by the Community Engagement Committee in January and also by the Operations and Regulatory Committees in February.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the Committee has no further comments or recommendations to make regarding the draft Social Media Policy and that the Policy as presented, be recommended for adoption by Full Council.

**CEC063 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The Committee discussed the form and timing of the Annual Parish Meeting (APM). The APM is a resident-led meeting, facilitated by the Council with an agenda set by the residents. Past meetings had taken place in Mk Snap, with guest speakers from local businesses and Milton Keynes Council, and the 2021 meeting was held virtually.

**Resolved unanimously:**

1. That a meeting date of 12 May 2021 with a start time of 7pm be recommended to Full Council.
2. That the meeting arrangements be considered by Community Engagement Committee at the March meeting.

**CEC064 EASTER PLAY SESSIONS**

The Committee received details of the schedule for the Easter Play sessions for children in the Parish aged 7-16 years old. The report stated that the sessions were due to run over a three-week period as the schools in the area had staggered Easter holidays. Sessions were planned to be run by Milton Keynes Play Association, Special Ops and Caldecotte Xperience. Caldecotte Xperience has increased its prices and the Committee was asked to consider increasing the subsidised price charged to parents for the sessions at Caldecotte.

**Resolved unanimously:**

1. That the schedule for Easter 2022 be agreed.

2. That the price charged to parents for Caldecotte sessions be held at £5 for the Easter holiday sessions, with a rise to £6 for the summer holiday sessions.

**CEC065 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE BUDGET**

The Committee reviewed the 2021-2022 Community Engagement Committee budget.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the budget be accepted.

**THE MEETING ENDED AT 8:44PM**

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