

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF
WALTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on 2 February 2022 at 7pm in
The Atrium, MK Snap Building, Bourton Low, Walnut Tree,
MK7 7DE**

Present:

Councillors: Adam Chapman-Ballard (Chairman); Councillors Tate Chapman-Ballard, Joanne Dooley, Rukhsana Malik, Brendan Metcalfe, David Newland, Jaime Tamagnini, Amanda Taylor, and Charlie Wood.

Officers: Lesley Sung (Council Manager), Ruth Rose and Lesley Davies (Operations Officer)

Members of the Public present: 3

FC150 WELCOME AND PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were three members of the public present at the meeting and their comments are attached as an addendum to the minutes.

FC151 URGENT ITEM

The Chairman advised the Council of the need to consider an urgent item. The item related to a change to a s.106 release form, the change of which, needed to be made as soon as possible and could not wait until the next meeting of the Council.

Resolved Unanimously: That the urgent item be accepted onto the agenda and considered as Agenda Item 5(a).

FC152 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Aamir Bhatti

Resolved Unanimously: That the apology be accepted.

FC153 MINUTES

Resolved Unanimously: That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Full Council held on 5 January 2022, be approved, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings, subject to the following amendments:

Minute FC135 – Welcome and Public Forum – the word ‘was’ to be changed to ‘was’.

Minute FC145 – Planning Applications – the extraneous quotation mark be removed from the last bullet point in the last paragraph of the preamble.

Minute FC149 – Reports from Councillors – in the first sentence of the last paragraph in the preamble, the word ‘no’ should be corrected to ‘not’

The numbering of the Minutes (Minute 133 should be Minute 148 and Minute 134 should be Minute 149).

FC154 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

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FC155 CO-OPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS

The Council's appointed Councillor interview panel presented its recommendations to fill the two Councillor vacancies that existed, to represent the parish wards of 'Caldecotte' and 'Walnut Tree and Walton.' The Chairman reported that the panel had interviewed 3 candidates.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That Joanne Dooley be co-opted to the Council, representing the parish ward of 'Caldecotte.'
2. That Charlie Wood be co-opted to the Council, representing the parish ward of 'Walnut Tree and Walton.'
3. That the Council witnessed Councillor Joanne Dooley and Councillor Charlie Wood sign their Declaration of Office.
4. That both Councillors Joanne Dooley and Charlie Wood advise the Council Manager of the Committees that they wish to join.

FC156 URGENT ITEM – S.106 RELEASE FORM RELATING TO PLANNING GAIN FOR REFURBISHMENT OF WALNUT TREE PAVILION

The Council Manager submitted details of a s.106 application release form for £36,700 in relation to refurbishment and improvement at Walnut Tree Pavilion. She reminded the Council that the release of £43k of s.106 monies had been agreed under the terms of the transfer of Walnut Tree Pavilion and Sports Ground from Milton Keynes Council to Walton Community Council.

The Council Manager reported that Milton Keynes Council had given assurances that the remaining £6,300 could be drawn down from another s.106 pot. The monies would cover security and community safety costs associated with the pavilion.

The s.106 monies for Walnut Tree was for the refurbishment of the pavilion which meant that the cost of improvements to the playing fields needed to be removed from the application and replaced with alternative planned improvements to the pavilion.

The revised application should be sent to Milton Keynes Council by 4 February 2022, the date their Leisure Board would be meeting to consider the application.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the Council recognises that the s.106 monies available was less than the £43k agreed as part of the transfer of Walnut Tree Pavilion and Sports Ground but accept that the shortfall would be made up from a separate s.106 application to be made later.
2. That the s.106 application revisions be agreed and submitted to Milton Keynes Council.

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FC157 COUNCIL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Council Manager submitted her report and advised the Council of the need to postpone the Council's Strategy Day.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the Council Manager's report be noted.
2. That the Council's Strategy Day to consider the Council's direction of travel and longer-term strategy be held on either the 19th or 26th February 2022.

FC158 SCHEME OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY – DECISIONS

The Council reviewed the decisions taken under the adopted scheme of delegated authority during the months of December 2021 and January 2022.

Resolved Unanimously: That the decisions taken be accepted.

FC159 WALTON REFRESHED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Council considered the documents that made up the submission version of the Walton refreshed neighbourhood plan. The documents consisted of:

- Consultation Statement
- Basic Conditions Statement
- Modification Proposal Statement
- Draft Refreshed Walton Neighbourhood Plan

The documents would be submitted to Milton Keynes Council which would undertake its own consultation on the draft plan. Milton Keynes Council would then send the plan to the planning inspector who would assess whether the changes made to the plan was so significant that it would trigger a referendum.

The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group that had been made up of parish councillors, residents and council staff considered the changes to be minor and the need for a referendum on the plan were unlikely. Expected adoption of the plan was around June 2022.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the Consultation Statement be approved.
2. That the Basic Conditions Statement be approved.
3. That the Modifications Proposal Statement be approved.
4. That the submission version of the refreshed neighbourhood plan be approved.
5. That all the neighbourhood plan refresh documents be submitted to Milton Keynes Council for examination.
6. That the Council thanks Stuart Copeland Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Refresh Working Group) and resident members of the Group for all the work they had put into developing the refreshed plan.

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FC160 TRANSFER OF HINDHEAD KNOLL FROM MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL TO WALTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At its meeting in January 2022, the Council had agreed to the transfer of the land, subject to reasonable quotes received for the annual maintenance of the site.

The Council Manager reported that the estimated annual cost of maintaining the open space and children's play area at Hindhead Knoll was £2,700. She advised that there was the potential for covering this cost from s.106 monies over the next 7 years.

Milton Keynes Council was due to take a Delegated Decision at its meeting on 8 February to agree the transfer of the land to Walton Community Council, subject to their agreement of Walton Community Council's business case for acquisition of the land.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the Council acknowledges the estimated cost of annual maintenance and inspection costs of £2,700 for the open space and children's play area at Hindhead Knoll.
2. That the Council accepts the business case submitted to Milton Keynes Council to support the transfer of the land.
3. That subject to Milton Keynes Council's agreement to transfer the land, at its Delegated Decision meeting on 8 February, the Council instructs its appointed solicitor to action the transfer.
4. That negotiations continue with Milton Keynes Council in respect of eligible s.106 monies that may be available for the maintenance and enhancement of the Hindhead Knoll open space and children's play area.

FC161 FINANCE – AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

Resolved Unanimously: That payments presented to the Council be authorised by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Adam Chapman-Ballard and the Chair of the Regulatory Committee, Councillor Amanda Taylor.

FC162 COUNCIL BUDGET 2021/2022

The Council received the Council Budget 2021/2022 and the Responsible Finance Officer's report on the main variations and forecasts.

Resolved Unanimously: That the Council Budget 2021/2022 and the written report of the Responsible Finance Officer on the main variations to the Budget be accepted.

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**FC163 RECOMMENDATION FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE –
INCREASED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR YiS (YOUTH INFORMATION
SERVICE) FOR PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE**

The Council at its meeting in December 2021 had agreed its budget 2022/2023 that included an amount of £2k to fund YiS Wellbeing Hubs for 8 weeks (based on £200 per session). The Hubs provide a drop-in service for young people aged 14+ who would like a space to access support for their mental health and wellbeing without the need of a referral or an appointment. Young people gain access to light touch, early intervention information, signposting and guidance before they hit crisis point.

The Community Engagement Committee received a presentation from YiS at its meeting in January 2022 who had reported that the counselling services may increase in cost from £200 per session to £250.

Having a better understanding of the services on offer to young people, the Community Engagement Committee made a recommendation to increase the number of sessions and to agree a substantial increase in the budget to support this recommendation.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the Council agrees with the Community Engagement Committee and approves:
 - Funding for additional YiS Services to cover a session per week for 50 weeks, commencing in the new financial year.
 - That additional funding of between £8k to £10.5k be allocated for YiS mental health provision for young people and that the funding be released from the Council's 2022/2023 General Reserve.
 - Monitoring and review of the support provided to young people through regular contact and feedback from YiS.
 - Feedback on the first 25 weeks of operation be considered as part of a review by the Community Engagement Committee and that if after evaluation, expected effectiveness of the support had not been realised, there will be an opportunity to cease support for the operation.
 - Funding to YiS to cover the cost of provision of mental health services for young people is paid to YiS three months in advance.
 - The wellbeing Hubs to be held at Walnut Tree Pavilion and that the use of the meeting room for counselling sessions be provided free of charge.
2. That YiS be requested to provide the Council with details of the service and that performance indicators be set to ensure the Council is providing a good service with value for money.

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3. That if the Community Engagement Committee considers the provision of the service is a success, it then investigates the possibility of providing a longer-term commitment for the provision of mental health services for young people.

**FC164 COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES AND CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE –
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL INDEPENDENT
REMUNERATION PANEL**

The current Walton Community Council Basic Councillor Allowance is £750 per year with the Chairman receiving an additional £500 per year.

The Council received Milton Keynes Council's Independent Remuneration Panel's report and took account of its recommendation in respect of Councillor and Chairman's Allowances for Councils that do not hold Quality Council status.

Resolved Unanimously:

1. That the Basic Walton Parish Councillor Allowance be set at 7.5% of the Basic Milton Keynes Councillor Allowance, at £837 per annum.
2. That the Chairman's Allowance be set at 15% of Milton Keynes Council's Chairman's Allowance, at £1,675 per annum, which will be in addition to the Basis Parish Councillor Allowance.
3. That the Council continues to pay a mileage allowance of 45p per mile (for a car) in line with the HMRC recommendations for approved Councillor duties only.
4. That in accordance with s.5, para 30 of the Regulations (S12003 No. 1021), the Council publishes details of allowances on its noticeboards and on the Council's website.

**FC165 EAST/WEST RAIL – PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON
LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES GROUP FOR BLETCHLEY / MILTON KEYNES
SOUTH**

The Council Manager reported that the first meeting of the Group was 15 February 2022.

Resolved Unanimously: That Councillor Joanne Dooley be appointed as the Council's representative on the East/West Rail Representatives Group.

FC166 REPORTS FROM CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The Chair of the Community Engagement Committee reported on decisions made at the last meeting:

- The Committee made recommendations to Council to increase the funding for additional wellbeing sessions covering mental health provision for young people.



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- The Committee had agreed that the Council's streetfood and farmer's market at Hindhead Knoll would commence on the first Sunday in April 2022.
- The Committee agreed to organise a Community Service Award with the scope and criteria of the scheme being considered at the next Community Engagement Committee meeting.

The Chair of the Operations Committee reported that Walnut Tree Pavilion and Sports Ground terms of hire was the main topic of discussion at its meeting.

The Chair of the Regulatory Committee reported that planning applications and changes to the Council's bank mandates had been the main topics of consideration at its meeting. It had also considered three Milton Keynes Council consultations on 'Dementia Friendly Policy,' 'Street Trading Policy' and Milton Keynes Council Budget 2022/2023.

Resolved Unanimously: That the report be noted.

FC167 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor David Newland reported that he had been in contact with a resident about car parking in Shuttleworth Grove. Cars had been clocking the pavement which made it difficult for people with disabilities and people with pushchairs to pass through. He added that he had contacted the Council Manager about the Warden monitoring the area and to write to the Wavendon Gate School requesting that they ask parent to park their cars respectfully when dropping off and picking up children from school.

Councillor Amanda Taylor reported that she had attended the MKALC (Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils)

Resolved Unanimously: That the reports be noted.

The meeting ended at 9pm

Signed:

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Chairman

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Date

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ADDENDUM TO MINUTES OF 2 FEBRUARY 2022

PUBLIC FORUM

Ward Councillor Jenni Ferrans was present at the meeting and raised the following issues:

- Installation of the final enforcement proposals around the Herons Schools and Lichfield Down will soon be out for public consultation.
- Milton Keynes Council had set up a Housing Group to look at issues around the provision of social and affordable housing in Milton Keynes.
- A new roundabout on the H9 would allow for access to new development
- Spend deadlines for the s.106 monies from the Walton Grange development were extended for a further 3 years.
- Requested the potential to provide arts and craft session for children during the Easter holidays.

Ward Councillor David Hopkins was present at the meeting and raised the following issues:

- He had attended two meetings about the proposals at SE:MK and added that a Stakeholder Group had been established of which, Walton Community Council would be invited to take part.
- The first meeting of the East/West Rail stakeholder group was scheduled for 15 February 2022
- There was £800k tariff available to cover the extension of the H10

A representative from Woburn Sands & Wavendon Football Club was present at the meeting and raised the following matters:

- Woburn Sands and Wavendon Football Club was one of the largest football clubs in MK with over 130 members.
- The Club had achieved 3-star accreditation.
- The Club hosted girls' teams
- He enquired about the Club using Walnut Tree Pavilion playing fields for matches next season.
- He could offer ground maintenance services for use of the football pitches at Walnut Tree.
- He advised that about 20% of club members resided in Walnut Tree.