

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Adam Chapman-Ballard (Chairman), Tate Chapman-Ballard, Jaime Tamagnini-Barbosa, Aamir Bhatti, Joanne Dooley, Mandy Taylor, Charlie Wood and David Newland

**Officers:** Lesley Sung (Council Manager)

**FC076 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None received

**FC077 URGENT ITEM**

The Chair had agreed that an urgent item be added to the agenda, as item 8, on travellers in the Walton Parish area.

**FC078 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received

**FC079 MAJOR INCIDENT – FIRE AT WALNUT TREE – 19 JULY 2022**

The Council discussed the Council's, and Milton Keynes City Council's (MKCC), response to the fire at Candlewicks and the Kiddi Caru nursery. The Council had received the MKCC Emergency Planning – Emergency response handbook and commented that it made no mention of Parish Councils. It was noted that there had been representatives from Woughton Community Council at the emergency centre on the day of the fire, but no contact had been made with Walton Community Council (WCC), and that the staff and Councillors from WCC were side-lined. This was due to previous WCC administrations choosing not to get involved with the wider emergency response planning. The response on the day was reported as being chaotic, with the MKCC representatives not knowing who the WCC staff and Councillors were and being difficult to locate at the emergency centre. The Council Manager remarked that, though the day itself was chaotic, in the aftermath WCC has been better represented and consulted, with the Council Manager now part of the Emergency Response Group. The main action now remaining to be done was to decide how to distribute the money that had been raised by the appeal by both WCC and the Walton Community Support Project (WCSP). This would be done by the setting up of a panel with the WCSP to agree the distribution of the funds. The Council discussed revisiting the WCC Emergency Planning document. It was noted that if the MKCC Emergency Response documents include the use of community facilities and these facilities come under the control of WCC this would have to be discussed with MKCC and WCC would have to be involved.

**Resolved unanimously:**

1. To revisit the WCC Emergency Plan.
2. To Create a Working Group to carry out the task.
3. To report to Full Council with a recommended Emergency Plan that dovetails with the MKCC Emergency Response Documents.

**FC080 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND 2023 / 2024**

The Council received a report on potential projects for a Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF) bid for 2023-2024. There were 3 options, cricket nets at Walnut Tree Sports Ground, solar panels for Walnut Tree Pavilion and additional benches for Walnut Tree Sports Ground. All projects would require matched funding by WCC. The outcome of any bids should be known in October to feed in to WCC's budget setting process.

**Resolved unanimously:**

- 1) That the CIF bid be submitted for cricket nets, at an indicative cost of £46k, of which £26k would be committed by WCC to the project. The specifications and exact cost would be agreed in the event of a successful CIF bid.
- 2) That the project to install solar panels at Walnut Tree pavilion be taken forward, with the quote process followed and 3 quotes obtained. The monies for the project will come from the S106 Walnut Tree Pavilion funds, with any shortfall coming from the Walnut Tree Pavilion refurbishment budget.

**FC081 REPLACEMENT HEATING SYSTEM AT WALNUT TREE – SPECIFICATION**

The Council discussed the specification for a replacement heating system in the changing rooms at Walnut Tree Pavilion.

**Resolved unanimously:** That the specification be set out as follows:

To remove supplies to the existing hot water system in four changing rooms and one official's changing room. To wire, fit and connect 13 showers and 5 hand wash units, including both hot and cold water to the handwash units, with the aim of maintaining pressure and temperature even if all the taps are open and showers are on.

**FC082 S137 GRANT – WALTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROJECT**

The Council considered a recommendation from the Regulatory Committee to award an S137 grant to the Walton Community Support Project. The Regulatory Committee had agreed to raise the amount of the grant, from £3800 up to £5000, to allow the charity to purchase better equipment, that would also allow the space in Walnut Tree Pavilion to be more easily returned to its original state, should the charity move out. This would include shelving and a floor standing sink unit. The Council also discussed the installation of the infrastructure, extending pipework and supplying hot and cold water to the storage area.

**Resolved unanimously:**

- 1) That the Council awards an S137 grant of £5000 to the Walton Community Support Project for set up funds to cover the purchase of a sink, shelves and other required items.
- 2) That the costs of the works to install the required infrastructure, to supply hot and cold water to the storage area, be covered by the Walnut Tree Pavilion S106 monies.

**FC083 URGENT ITEM – TRAVELLERS IN WALTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA**

The Council discussed the situation with travellers in the WCC area. The summer had been very busy, with travellers on multiple sites in the parish, including the H10 verges at both Old Farm Park and Caldecotte, and on the V10 in Tilbrook. The Council had taken a decision to close the Council's car parks at Walnut Tree Sports Field and Browns Wood Sports Ground and put security on site to protect the sites. The security had cost a total of £806, which can be covered by the security budget, but anymore costs will need to come from reserves. The Council agreed that, due to the fast-moving nature of the issue, any extra security needed can be agreed under the Scheme of Delegated Authority. The installation of CCTV cameras and WIFI at Walnut Tree Pavilion, recently completed, would allow the Council's staff to better monitor the area and act quickly if needed. The Council stressed the need to keep up to date with the potential movement of the travellers, based on the orders that would be issued by MKCC to move them on, so action can be taken quickly to defend the Council's land. The Committee also discussed the installation of bunding, to be done by MKCC. Conversations by Councillors with MKCC had resulted in the site survey being brought forward, and the survey was due to be completed by the end of W/C 22<sup>nd</sup> August. It was requested that MKCC are contacted regarding adding the Tilbrook site to the areas to be bunded, and that MK Community Foundation, owners of the land next to the Herons schools and Morrisco shop, be contacted to see if they would increase their protection on the land, as it would become the easiest land for the travellers to access.

**THE MEETING ENDED AT 8:36PM**