

Present:

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

Officers: Lesley Sung (Council Manager)

Members of the public: 1

FC084 WELCOME AND PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There was one member of the public present at the meeting and her comments are attached as an addendum to the minutes.

FC085 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Malik and Tamagnini-Barbosa

FC086 URGENT ITEM

The Chair had agreed that an urgent item be added to the agenda, as item 5, on appointing Cllr Tate Chapman-Ballard to the Operations Committee.

FC087 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

FC088 URGENT ITEM – APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEE

Resolved unanimously: That Cllr Tate Chapman-Ballard be appointed to the Operations Committee

FC089 COUNCIL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Council received the Council Manager's report. The need to contact the Walnut Tree Health Centre regarding an update on their new telephone system was reiterated. The situation with parking outside Walton High School was discussed with the need to extend the yellow lines across the bridge to Wavendon Gate. It was requested that a letter be sent to Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) reminding them of the parking issues outside the school and the need to extend the parking restrictions across the bridge. This was passed to the Operations Committee to action. An update on the implementation of Freshdesk ticketing was requested and this was agreed to be picked up at the next Operations Committee.

Resolved unanimously: That the report be accepted.

FC090 SCHEME OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Resolved unanimously: That the decisions taken under the Council's Scheme of Delegated Authority be accepted.

FC091 TRANSFER OF HINDHEAD KNOLL - TITLE DEED AND PRE-EMPTION AGREEMENT

The Council received information on the pre-emption agreement for the transfer of Hindhead Knoll. The Council had not yet received the paperwork for the transfer, the papers had been chased and it was noted that MKCC's focus was on transferring Community Centres. It was also noted that there

were no financial implications or risks to the Council if the transfer takes longer.

FC092 POTENTIAL COMMUNITY CENTRE TRANSFERS

The Council discussed the potential transfer of the remaining community facilities in the parish area. The remaining community assets were Wavendon Gate Pavilion (WGP), Britten Grove Community Centre (BG) and Heronsbrook Meeting Place (HMP). It was noted that WGP was in good condition and was the easiest asset to consider taking over. The Council discussed the need to consider the order and priority of any potential takeovers, and that it would be easiest to take over assets in good condition first. The Council also discussed the possibility of using a community centre as the Council's offices in the future. It was agreed that the Council needed to set up visits to the centres, action reports on the condition of the buildings and look at the publicly available financial information and discuss the transfer of the centres at future Full Council meetings.

FC093 WALTON COUNCIL PLAN

The Council received the draft Long-Term Council Plan, which had been to all the standing Committees for review. The draft plan would be used to formulate a long-term financial plan.

Resolved unanimously: That the Long-Term Council Plan, as presented, be accepted.

FC094 FINANCE – AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

Resolved Unanimously: That payments presented to the Council be authorised.

FC095 COUNCIL BUDGET 2022-2023

The Council received the Council budget 2022/2023 and details of the Council's financial position.

Resolved unanimously: That the Council Budget 2022-2023 be accepted.

FC096 FINANCE SUMMARY REPORT

The Council received a report from the Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) setting out any main variations in the budget.

Resolved unanimously: That the RFO report be accepted.

FC097 WALNUT TREE FIRE RELIEF

The Council received a report on the fire relief work carried out since the fire in Walnut Tree in July. The Council had raised close to £1.4k in donations and had agreed with the Walton Community Support Project (WCSP) to amalgamate the funds raised by them, around £10k, with the WCC funds and form a panel to distribute the funds. Application forms had been sent to all the affected residents for them to apply for funds. The information would then be confirmed with Places for People, the housing association who owned the demolished houses and WCSP and WCC would decide how to distribute the funds. The Council were told about discussions that had been ongoing with Ward Cllr. Jenni Ferrans about working with MIND to provide mental health

counselling to people affected by the fire. The sessions would cost £3k, of which £1.5k would be taken from the Ward Councillors' budget.

Resolved unanimously:

- 1) That the Council support the provision of counselling sessions, provide by MIND, with the initial £1.5k being provided from Ward Cllr. Ferrans' Ward Based Budget and funding required over and above the first £1.5k being funded by WCC from reserves.
- 2) That Walnut Tree Pavilion be offered as a venue to hold the sessions if the timing fits in with the Pavilion booking schedule.

FC098 SAAA (SMALLER AUTHORITIES AUDIT APPOINTMENT) ARRANGEMENTS 2022/2023 TO 2026/2027

The Council received a report on the option to opt out of the SAAA appointment of external auditors over the period 2022-23 to 2026-27. SAAA had undertaken a procurement exercise to appoint auditors to each County area from 1 April 2022. Now that the submission deadline for the 2021-22 Annual Governance and Accountability Returns has passed, the Council could consider opting-out of the next round of 5-year audit appointments.

Resolved unanimously: That the Council does not opt out of the SAAA appointment of external auditors 2022-23 to 2026-27.

FC099 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved unanimously:

- 1) That the Council makes no comments on applications listed as (a), (c) or (d)
- 2) That an objection be submitted for application 22/02020/HOU, stating that The Council feels that the proposal would be an overdevelopment of the plot, that the Council feels that the proposed addition of extra living area could lead to parking issues due to the shared driveway between number 8 and number 10 Chase Avenue and that the Council also feels that the proposals are not in keeping with the other houses in the California Collection, of which this house forms a part.

FC100 MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL CONSULTATION – PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF A 20MPH SPEED LIMIT ON WALTON DRIVE

Resolved unanimously: That the Council make a comment on the consultation that the proposal for a 20mph limit on Walton Drive is superfluous, will not have any effect on the traffic and is not worth spending money on.

FC101 STANDING ITEM – REPORTS FROM CHAIRS OF THE COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The Chair of Community Engagement Committee reported on decisions made and discussions that took place at the last meeting:

- Bringing back the Events Working Group
- Previous events in 2022, Jubilee Beacon Lighting
- Cinema Night – chose Mamma Mia as the film

- MK7 Community market – plans for September market, which had now taken place and was a big success.
- Walton Fest – plans for event, which had now taken place.

The Chair of Operations Committee reported on decisions made and discussions that took place at the last meeting:

- Walnut Tree Football pitches – new goals purchased. Potential for 2 new smaller pitches
- Walnut Tree Pavilion – moving forward with replacing windows and putting a window to block off the serving hatch. Working on replacing the heaters and installing new lighting to the outside of the pavilion and getting the changes required for the WCSP to set up in the pavilion.

The Chair of Regulatory Committee reported on decisions made and discussions that took place at the last meeting:

- July meeting was cancelled due the extreme heat, held a short online meeting discussing the WCSP grant funding request, which went to the Special Full Council meeting in August.
- Planning – made a comment on the application at 4 Sandbrier Close, which the Committee considered an over development of the plot.
- At the August meeting discussed planning, felt that the Committee couldn't comment on the application for 131 Pettingrew Close as there was not enough information provided.

FC102 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

- Green bins and blue boxes not being collected
- Lighting at Walnut Tree local centre not working properly making the area feel unsafe
- Lack of response from the property management company at the Walnut Tree Local Centre.
- Milton Keynes given £3M as part of the Prosperity Fund.
- BALC fees to rise by 3%.
- Residents meeting with MKCC organised for 28 September to discuss new home wheelie bins.
- Complaints from residents about noise from lorries at night on Tilbrook.
- DGAA has now become Walton Allotment Association and taken on Holst Crescent, now has 53 plots from 29 and is holding a barbeque on Saturday 10 September.

FC103 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

Resolved unanimously: To exclude members of the press and public so that the Council may consider agenda item 18 (Potential Transfer of Heronsbrook Meeting Place). The item is confidential as information on all costs and contracts either relates to an individual or is commercially sensitive.

- FC104 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - HERONSBROOK MEETING PLACE – POTENTIAL FOR TRANSFER**
The Council discussed the potential for taking on Heronsbrook Meeting Place under the MKC Asset Transfer scheme, and received a building survey on the condition of the building.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 9:25PM

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ADDENDUM TO MINUTES OF 7 SEPTEMBER 2022

PUBLIC FORUM

Ward Councillor Vanessa McPake was present at the meeting and raised the following issues:

- Had attended a meeting of the MK Flood Management Group and undertaken site visits to Caldecotte Brook and Caldecotte Lake with the MK Wildlife Officer.
- The water levels were very low in the brook.
- No signs of any fish in the brook.
- The wildlife will come back if the commitment to wildlife meadows continues.

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