



Campbell Park Parish Council

1 Pencarrow Place

Fishermead

Milton Keynes

MK6 2AS

Tel 01908 608559

www.campbell-park.gov.uk

Dominic.warner@campbell-park.gov.uk

July 2018

**Milton Keynes Council
Devolved Services – Landscaping
Consultation**

Dear Resident

Milton Keynes Council is in the process of devolving some services which they currently provide, to Parish Councils that are prepared to take on the responsibility.

Over the years, the response to our annual Budget/Precept Consultation has highlighted resident dissatisfaction with the level of landscape maintenance throughout the Parish area.

Milton Keynes Council's landscaping contract with SERCO is due to end in 2020 and the Parish Council are now seeking resident views on whether the Parish Council should take over the maintenance of landscaping within the Parish.

There are three options to consider when taking over the landscaping – 1) employ a landscape contractor, 2) manage the contract in-house 3) top up contribution to Milton Keynes Council.

A number of Parish / Town Councils have already taken over this service. In the course of researching the feasibility of taking on landscaping, the Parish Council has spoken to, and met with various Parish / Town Councils to assess how they have implemented and managed the landscaping in their area, and the feedback from residents on the service they are now providing.

Most of the Parish / Town Councils have opted for the first option and employed a landscape contractor, only one Parish Council to date has gone for option 2 and managed the contract in-house - this involves procuring the necessary equipment and employing additional staff.

Regardless of which option has been taken, residents and Parish / Town Councils have seen a noticeable and positive improvement in their areas.

There is, of course, a cost to delivering the service and although those Parish Councils currently providing the service receive a grant from Milton Keynes Council, there is no guarantee as to what the situation is likely to be from 2020 onwards and it may be that the Parish Council has to cover the cost of delivering the service in its entirety at some point in the future.

If the Parish Council make the decision to take on the landscaping service, the costs must be factored into our 5-year budget, including the possibility of losing the grant from Milton Keynes Council and how it will impinge on the other services we provide.

Please let us know your views by completing the form overleaf and returning it to us by Monday 3rd September 2018 in the pre-paid envelope provided.

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Please tick the ward you live in:

Fishermead <input type="checkbox"/>	Oldbrook <input type="checkbox"/>	Springfield <input type="checkbox"/>	Willen <input type="checkbox"/>	Woolstone <input type="checkbox"/>
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Q1. Are you satisfied with the current level of landscaping provided by Milton Keynes Council in the Parish area?

Yes No

Q2. Do you think the Parish Council should take over the landscaping from Milton Keynes Council in the Parish area from 2020 onwards?

Yes No

Q3. If you answered YES to Question 2, would you be prepared to pay an increased Precept to cover the associated costs (*This could equate to an annual Precept increase of £30.00 for a Band D property*).

Yes No

Comments

About You - Please assist us by completing the following: (the information is optional)

Name:

Post code:

"All information supplied will be held by Campbell Park Parish Council and will remain secure and confidential. Your details will only be used for the purpose of this consultation and will not be passed on to any third parties or used for marketing purposes in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018"

**Please return this online form to admin@campbell-park.gov.uk
Thank you for taking the time to take part in this consultation**