

**Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on
Tuesday 19th January 2016
at the Oldbrook Centre, Oldbrook Boulevard
commencing at 7.30pm**

179/15 Members Present

Cllr T Baines (Vice chair)	Cllr K Kent
Cllr C Brown	Cllr A Oguntola
Cllr I Fraser (Chair)	Cllr D Pafford
Cllr T Fraser	Cllr M Petchey
Cllr B Greenwood	Cllr D Priest
Cllr P Halton-Davis	Cllr D Taylor
Cllr L Harris	Cllr T Uranta
Cllr D Kendrick	

In attendance

D Warner, Clerk to Council
E Webb, Deputy Clerk

**180/15 Apologies for Absence
Council noted apologies from:**

Cllr A Kahin – work commitment Cllr P Shrimpton - family commitment

181/15 Declarations of Interest

None

182/15 Members of the Public Present

Thames Valley Police – 2 officers
Cllr J Bint, Cllr P Williams, MKC Ward Councillors
Cllr D Fuller, Cllr S Smith, Woughton Community Council
Fishermead resident

The Chair suspended Standing Orders to receive a report from Thames Valley Police on Oldbrook Policing issues, including a serious incident in Hutton Avenue Oldbrook

Thames Valley Police

An officer advised that the incident in Hutton Avenue was no longer being investigated as a result of a false allegation, he went on to give an overview of crime trends on the estate.

The following issues were raised by Councillors:

Residents perception of increase in violent crime on Oldbrook

Loss of Neighbourhood police officers in the Parish

Cost of house and car insurance in the Parish as opposed to other areas in Milton Keynes

Thames Valley Police to submit a report on crime figures for February/
March Council

Standing Orders were resumed

183/15 Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on the 15th December 2015

The Minutes of the meeting of Council having been circulated to Members were taken as read and approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair

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184/15 Chair's Report

The Chair apologised for not submitting a report due to ill health.

185/15 Clerk to Council's Report

The Clerk advised that he had been informed of a personal injury incident on Oldbrook Green, but currently had no further details.

A grant of £5,000 (Parish Partnership Fund) towards Oldbrook Centre improvements had been received from Milton Keynes Council

186/15 Correspondence

Council noted the schedule of correspondence received during the last month.

All of the correspondence had previously been forwarded to Councillors as and when received.

187/15 Ward Members' Reports

Council noted that no written reports had been submitted by Members. Council received the following verbal reports from Members

Cllr Pafford advised

that Woolstone Community Centre Management Committee had made the decision to invite the Parish Council to nominate a representative to the join the Management Committee;

faulty street lighting, Woolstone underpass – reported in November 2015, repair still to be carried out

Recycling bins: SERCO do not always return the bins to the correct property, concerned that the situation could escalate with the proposed introduction of canvas bags for recycling materials.

Cllr Harris advised that

a resident, who had attended the Councillors surgery at Oldbrook on the 16th January, raised the issue of renewing the residents parking permit as the office had now closed down. He had been advised to renew on line or by post.

Issue with bicycle barriers – to be taken up with the Parish Clerk.

Cllr T Fraser advised that it had been brought to his attention that a member of staff had been supplying clothes and hot drinks to the homeless on Fishermead. Action needed to address the issue of the homeless.

188/15 Public Involvement – Deputations, Petitions and Questions

No deputations, petitions or questions had been received.

i. MKC Ward Councillors

Cllr J Bint updated Council on a number of issues which he and/or his colleagues were involved with, including concrete planning application for Willen, due to be heard by MKC Development Control Committee in March, the overthrow of the implementation of "skinny" parking spaces, the reinstatement of Willen surgery due to open mid-year, proposed site allocations plan identifying "infill" sites throughout the city, defence of housing wardens, and the growing concern on the trial scheme to introduce canvas recycling bags.

He drew members' attention to the MKC Ward Councillors budget and invited Council to apply for projects which met the criteria. He invited Council to bring to his attention any issues which were not being speedily dealt with by Milton Keynes Council.

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ii. Cllr P Williams touched briefly on the proposal to scrap the housing warden at Dexter House and the lack of consultation with the residents; the proposal has now been abandoned. Encouraged members, especially the Planning & Policy Committee to engage with Plan MK and the emerging Site Allocations Plan.

iii. **Woughton Carnival**
Cllr Fuller (Woughton Community Council) gave a brief overview of the Carnival and invited the Parish Council to take part, possibly by having a stand at the 2016 Carnival, to be held on the 18th June.

The Chair with Council's agreement brought forward Agenda Item Nos 9 - Draft Minute No. 100/15 - Council Precept 2016/17 and 10 - Financial Reserves 2016/17

189/15 Draft Minute No. 100/15 - Council Precept 2016/17

Cllr Kendrick spoke to the item and proposed that Council accept the Committee's recommendation to increase the Precept for 2016/17 by 7% based on the approved 2016/17 tax base of £3,797.41 – the increase equates to a Precept level of £502,215.07 (£132.25 Band D equivalent). Cllr Baines seconded the motion.

Council debated the proposal. Having received confirmation from the Clerk that the combined 2016/2017 budget and Earmarked Reserves would create an overall shortfall of approximately £200 based on a 5% Precept increase, Cllr Petchey proposed an amendment, seconded by Cllr Oguntola that Council approve an increase to the precept for 2016/17 of 5%.

A recorded vote being requested Councillors voted as follows:

For: Cllrs Brown, Halton-Davis, Oguntola, Pafford, Petchey, Taylor
Against: Cllrs Baines, Fraser [T], Greenwood, Harris, Kendrick, Kent, Priest, Uranta

Abstained: Cllr Fraser [I]

The amendment was not carried

The debate continued, with both Cllr Oguntola and Cllr Brown leaving the meeting prior the subsequent vote taking place.

Council was invited to vote on the original proposal made and seconded to increase the precept for 2016/17 by 7%.

A recorded vote being requested, councillors voted as follows:

For: Cllrs Baines, Fraser [T], Greenwood, Harris, Kendrick, Kent, Priest
Against: Cllrs Halton-Davis, Pafford, Petchey, Taylor

Abstained: Cllr Fraser [I]

The proposal was carried.

190/15 Financial Reserves 2016/17

Council resolved to accept the Committee's recommendation of the projected Parish Council's income and expenditure level for 2016/2017 based on the draft budget, agreed earmarked reserves and precept recommendation.

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191/15 To Receive Reports from Committees

**191a. Minutes of the Planning & Policy Committee
Chair: Cllr T Baines**

Council noted and accepted the minutes.

i. **Draft Minute No. 118/15 – Site Allocations Plan: Emerging Preferred Options - Neighbourhood Plan**

Council noted that the Committee resolved to allocate the site on Gurnards Avenue for housing for the elderly and to amend the Neighbourhood Plan accordingly.

**191b. Minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee
Chair: Cllr I Fraser**

Council noted and accepted the minutes.

i. **Draft Minute No. 100/15 - Council Precept 2016/17**

The item was taken under Minute No. 189/15

ii. **Draft Minute No. 103/15 - Santander 12 Month Business Bond – Renewal Option**

Council resolved to approve the Committee's recommendation that the matured funds of the previous Business Bond are re-invested for a further 12 months in a Santander Business Bond.

**191c. Minutes of the Personnel Committee
Chair: Cllr T Fraser**

Council noted and accepted the minutes.

i. **Draft Minute No. 74/15 - AFRUCA Child Protection Training Session**

Council noted that the Committee resolved to accept the opportunity for the Parish Council to host an AFRUCA Child Protection Training Session. The session to be held on a Saturday before the end of March 2016, with representatives of community groups working within the Parish area and representatives from neighbouring Parishes also invited to attend the training session.

191d. Emergency Plan Committee

Cllr I Fraser updated Council on the meeting with Milton Keynes Council's Emergency Plan officer. The Parish Council's plan has been accorded Gold Standard status by MKC.

Cllr Fraser proposed and Council resolved to hold a Spotlight on Emergency Plans, Cllr T Fraser to lead the project, invited guests to include representatives from MKC, TVP, Bucks Fire and Rescue Service, Ambulance Service, Milton Keynes Hospital and Stadium MK. It was anticipated that the project would need 26 hours of staff time.

Council resolved to rename the Committee the Emergency Response Committee to reflect its evolving ability to deliver a response to an emergency within the Parish area.

191e. WW1 Centenary Working Group

Cllr Baines updated Council on the meeting with the Parks Trust to discuss a potential project at the site of the former Motocross site in Pineham (Minute No. 101j/15). The Parks Trust advised that Milton Keynes Council have yet to sign off the enforcement notice for Pineham and there could be a potential difficulty as the site is outside the Parish boundary. The Parks Trust suggested two alternative sites, the island at Willen Lake North and the avenue of horse chestnuts in Newlands and the possibility of a

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contemporary land sculpture. Discussions also included a Milton Keynes Arboretum, the Parks Trust to speak to the National Arboretum and report their findings back to the Parish. Cllr Baines suggested that the Parish may wish to consider conducting their own investigation with a visit to the National Arboretum – no decision was made.

191f. New Parish Council Headquarters

Chair: Cllr I Fraser

Cllr I Fraser advised Council that the meeting had been totally inconclusive and she had resigned as a member of the Committee. Cllr I Fraser to e-mail the Working Group with all contact details for the current members. Cllr Kent to arrange the next meeting of the Committee. The Committee to produce a fully inclusive written report for February Council.

191g. Business Plan

Council noted that the previous Committee dates scheduled to discuss the progression of the Business Plan were cancelled due to the requirement to focus on the Parish Council Budget and Precept for 2016/2017 - New dates will have to be agreed.

192/15 Draft Minute No. 100/15 - Council Precept 2016/17

This item was taken under Minute No. 189/15

193/15 Financial Reserves 2016/17

This item was taken under Minute No. 190/15

194/15 Review of Parish Council Policies

Council resolved to submit the following policies without amendments to the Annual Meeting of Council on the 19th May 2015.

Standing Orders, The Code of Conduct, Member/Officer Protocol, Member Conduct, Comments, Compliments, Complaints.

Council noted that the Committees are currently reviewing policies as follows:

Finance & Administration: Terms of Reference, Annual Investment Strategy, Financial Regulations, Freedom of Information, Data Protection

Personnel: Terms of Reference, Training Strategy and Policy, Lone Working, Equality & Diversity, Staff handbook, Councillor Induction and Introduction, Safeguarding Policy

Communications: Terms of Reference, Information Technology, Media

Community & Environment: Terms of Reference, Small Events Policy, Community Engagement strategy

195/15 2016 Annual Meeting of Parish Electors

Council resolved that the Annual Meeting of Parish Electors would take place week beginning 23rd May 2016. Date, venue and programme to confirmed at a future meeting of Council.

196/15 Royal Garden Party – Thursday 19 May 2016

Council having noted the criteria for nominations to attend the Royal Garden Party agreed that no nominations should be submitted for this year.

197/15 Fishermead Medical Centre – Patients Participation Group**

Council nominated Cllr K Kent to represent the Parish Council on the Fishermead Medical Centre Patients participation Group subject to confirmation from Fishermead Medical Centre that they would be willing to

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accept the nomination of a Parish Councillor to sit on their Patient Participation Group.

198/15 Committee Appointments

Council resolved to appoint Cllr Uranta to the following Standing Committees of Council:
Planning & Policy, Finance & Administration, Personnel, Community & Environment and Communications

Confidential Item

In view of the terms of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters, Council resolved that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.**

199/15 Minutes of the Personnel Committee

- i. **Draft Minute No. 76/15 - Policies** (Minute No. 100/14, 136/14,149/14, 11/15, 19/15, 30/15, 41/15, 53/15 & 60/15)

Staff Handbook

Council resolved to approve the Committee's recommendation to adopt the Staff Handbook without amendment. Council noted that the Lead Members for Personnel are to check the legality of subscriptions to Unions.

200/15 Training Courses and Conferences

Council noted the following training and conferences and nominated the following Councillors/staff to attend the relevant events.

Provider	Date	Venue	Content	Cost £
Northants CALC	8.2.16 - 11.00am	Litchborough	Preparing for year-end Audit	£68.00 per delegate
Clerk to Council, Finance Officer to attend				
Northants CALC	27.2.16 - 10.30am	Litchborough	Off to a flying start	£78.00 per delegate
Cllrs T Fraser, Baines, Priest and Uranta to attend				

201/15 Committee Meeting Dates

Council noted the forthcoming Committee dates.
Community & Environment – Monday 25th January 2016, 6.30pm
Communications – Tuesday 26th January 2016, 6.30pm
Planning & Policy – Monday 1st February 2016, 7pm
Finance & Administration – Tuesday 2nd February 2016, 7pm
Personnel – Monday 8th February 2016, 6.30pm
New HQ Committee – Meeting dates to be confirmed

202/15 Date of Next Meetings

Tuesday 16th February 2016

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