

**Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on
Tuesday 19th October 2021
at the Oldbrook Centre, Oldbrook,
commencing at 7.30pm**

The meeting was open to the Public

107/21 Members Present

Cllr T Baines (Chair)
Cllr P Dunn
Cllr V Dixon
Cllr T Fraser
Cllr R Golding
Cllr B Greenwood

Cllr P Halton-Davis
Cllr K Kavarana
Cllr K Kent
Cllr N Oguntola
Cllr D Pafford
Cllr M Petchey

In Attendance

D Warner, Clerk to Council

108/21 Apologies for Absence

Cllr J Howard - unwell
Cllr K Jones – work commitment
Cllr F Mensah – personal commitment
Cllr C Odunewu – work commitment
Cllr D Reynolds - unwell

109/21 Declarations of Interest

None

110/21 Members of the Public Present

None

111/21 Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on the 21st September 2021 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Council on 6th October 2021.

The Minutes of both meetings, having previously been circulated, were approved as correct records, and signed by the Chair.

112/21 Chair's Report

Council received a verbal update from the Chair, initially thanking Cllr Ray Golding for volunteering with the Parish landscape service, he continued by

reporting on ●A Civic event he had attended in Newport Pagnell ●His attendance at the RBL Centenary Service ●Being made the Chair of Trustees of the Veterans Community Network

113/21 Clerk's Report

The Clerk had no further items to report following the publication of the agenda.

114/21 Correspondence

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

115/21 Ward Members' Matters (i)/Reports (ii)

- i. ●Cllr Kent sought and received reassurance from the Chair on the potential of future projects promoting and increasing biodiversity in all Parish Wards, continuing by asking the Clerk of any further news (of which there was none) about Police CCTV initiatives in Oldbrook.
●Commenting on the poor condition of the environment in Fishermead, Cllr Oguntola questioned the Chair about the possibility of the Parish Council having plans to address some of the issues and what potential there was for the Parish Council to influence future Milton Keynes Council contracts on the estate. Both the Chair and the Clerk responded, confirming their recent attendance at a workshop relating to the contract and specification for the devolved landscape service from 2023 onwards, with the Chair going on to confirm that there were plans to address the 'non-contract' hedges on the estate.
●Cllr Pafford raised his concerns about staff security and Covid security at the Parish Office, with both the Chair and Clerk confirming that there were proper measures in place. The Chair continued by reconfirming to Council that the Parish Office remained closed to the general public and that Members needed to follow the correct protocol when visiting the Office.
●Cllr Fraser raised his concern about the condition of the Red Way in Fishermead (parallel to the H6) and the potential of the issue becoming a project. The Clerk responded, reminding Council of the use of the Milton Keynes Council 'Report it' system to address such issues.
- ii. Council noted the report from Cllr Petchey regarding MK Connect.

116/21 To Receive Draft Minutes (including recommendations) from Committees.

116a Minutes of the Community & Social Wellbeing Committee

Chair: Cllr K Kavarana

Council received the minutes with 2 items to ratify [i & ii] and 1 item to note [iii]

- i. **Draft Minute No. 08i/21 – Grants**
Committee considered a grant application from Starting Point (part of The Mustard Tree Foundation) for £1000.00 (Grant Application 009/21-22/Sect 137) and resolved to recommend to Council that the grant be awarded in full – **Council resolved to award the grant in full.**
- ii. **Draft Minute No. 11/21 – Community Larder**
Committee received a verbal report from Cllr Petchey about the Community Larder service, which can provide families with a supply of

groceries each week, worth approximately £15, for a weekly subscription cost of approximately £3.50. The Community Larder service is backed by MK Council and some charities.

The Committee resolved to recommend to Council that the principle of having a Community Larder in the Parish should be pursued further – **Council resolved to pursue further the principle of having a Community Larder in the Parish, referring the matter back to the Committee for progression.**

iii. **Draft Minute No. 13i/21 – Halloween Tea Party – Saturday 30th October 2-4pm at Springfield Centre**

Committee resolved that the Committee Clerk should email all Councillors to request their help with the running event and should the required level of support not be possible, the Halloween Tea Party would not go ahead this year.

Council noted that the event will not be taking place due to lack of Members to support its delivery on the day.

116b Minutes of the Communications Committee

Chair: Cllr D Priest

Council received the minutes.

116c Minutes of the Planning, Infrastructure & Transport Committee

Chair: Cllr B Greenwood

Council received the minutes.

117/21 Budget Project Proposal Update (2022/23 – 2026/27)

Council noted that no Councillor led proposals had been submitted to date, with one proposal received from the Environment Officer – refurbishment of Oldbrook Pavilion timber gable ends and associated redecoration.

All proposals to be presented to Council in November.

118/21 Coronavirus Pandemic– Parish Council Response, Further Measures and Contingency Planning

Council noted the Christian Centre has been booked as the venue for in-person Full Council meetings to December 2021.

Due to the ongoing nature and impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, Council then considered whether it wished to cease in-person Committee meetings, replacing them instead with online Working Group meetings and that doing so would require a suitable delegation arrangement (incorporated into Standing Orders) to ensure that views expressed at Working Group meetings were regarded by the Clerk to Council when making associated decisions -

Council resolved that, with the exception of the Planning and Buildings and Property Portfolio Committees, the remaining Committees of Council be made Working Group and hold their meetings online.

Council further resolved that Standing Orders be suspended until the November meeting of Council, at which point clause 3d of Standing Orders be amended to read:

Meetings shall be open to the public unless their presence is prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons *such as the safety of members, staff and the public during pandemics. Government Guidance updated in March 2021 states that Meetings where local authorities deem that in-person attendance is not required should continue to be held virtually. During the period where Coronavirus is impacting movement or social and other contact Council will endeavour to continue to hold meetings of Full Council as normal but may, at the discretion of the Chair, be convened as a dial-in telephone conference of the relevant members or by other 'virtual' means. Working Group meetings will be held online with unfettered online attendance by members of the public, until it is safe to revert to meetings in person. The Chair may not exercise the above discretion where decisions must be made which cannot lawfully be delegated.*

Council recognises that virtual meetings do not constitute legal meetings of Council but nevertheless are a practical way of establishing member views in the extraordinary circumstances currently extant. Council therefore delegates any decisions which would, in normal circumstances, have been made at meetings which are held virtually, to the Town Clerk, in accordance with Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, who will have regard to the views expressed by members at the meeting.

The Council will publish agendas and minutes of virtual meetings in a form and detail and with the same timing as that which applies to physical meetings and Standing Orders which apply to physical meetings will apply to the extent that this is practical.

The quorum for virtual meetings will remain the same as the quorum for physical meetings.

The Council will endeavour to make arrangements for members of the press and public to witness or participate in virtual meetings to the same or a similar extent that the press and public can witness or participate in meetings in normal circumstances, but cannot guarantee that this will be possible in all circumstances owing to technological failings.

119/21 HAF Funding – Winter Activities and Food 2021 Programme

In partnership with MK Play Association and MK Melting Pot, CPPC have the opportunity to be involved in the delivery of indoor craft, art and play sessions with a hot lunch for each child attending from 20th-24th December. MK Council HAF funding is aimed at creating provision for children during the school holiday that would normally receive Free School Meals. MK Play Association's proposal to MK Council seeks to provide morning and afternoon sessions for up to 30 children in each session at both the Oldbrook and Springfield Centres.

Council resolved to partner in the project, providing MK Play Association with the use of both the Oldbrook and Springfield Centres free of charge.

120/21 Member's Items

Council considered the following Motions as proposed by:

- i. Cllr Halton Davis – That Council, and Councillors, make a commitment to ensure the delivery of community events, recognising that events will not go ahead without the involvement of Councillors at all stages – Council resolved to support the Motion, at the same time noting that the dates of the 2022 Easter and Halloween events – 09.04.22 and 29.10.22
- ii. Cllr Oguntola – That further to the decision at September Council that an additional temporary Landscape Operative be employed to assist with the winter maintenance programme until April 2022, an additional (6th) member of the team also be recruited – Cllr Oguntola confirmed that Council had listened and responded to her concerns and that there was no requirement to pursue her Motion.

Confidential Item

In view of the terms of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, the following item will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and Council is therefore invited to resolve that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 1(2) the public and press be excluded.**

****Item 13**

121/21 Parish Council Community Hub

Council received a verbal report from the Clerk, confirming the imminent determination of the Community Hub (hybrid) planning application and the most recent developments associated with the tender for the demolition of the existing building, including the intention to interview shortlisted contractors.

Further to the Council decision made at the last meeting, the Clerk confirmed that a fee proposal had been received from Stenton Obhi. The fee proposal to be reviewed and scrutinised by the Community Hub Working Group and presented to a future meeting of Council.

122/21 Training Courses and Conferences

Council noted the following training and conferences, nominating the following delegates*.

Event	Date	Location	Cost £P/P
Creating a Council	26.10.21	Online	30.00
Social Media Strategy	11.00am	*TJ,TF,NO	
Building 2-way	4.11.21	Online	30.00
Community Conversations	11.00am	*TF,NO,TJ,BG	

Event	Date	Location	Cost £P/P
Embracing equality, diversity and inclusion in your Council	07.12.21	Online	30.00
	6.30pm	*TF,NO	

Under this item the Chair discussed the potential of directly commissioning Demystifying Planning (Milton Keynes) training. The Vice

Chair reminded Council of the previous resolution to provide Councillors with basic First Aid training.

123/21 Committee (and Working Group*) Meeting Dates

Community & Social Wellbeing* – Monday 25th October 2021, 7pm

Communications* – Tuesday 26th October 2021, 6.30pm

Planning, Infrastructure & Transport – Monday 1st November 2021, 6.30pm

Personnel* – Tuesday 2nd November 2021, 11.00am

Finance, Administration & Policy* – Tuesday 2nd November 2021, 6.30pm

124/21 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 16th November 2021, 7.30pm

Under this item, Council discussed and agreed that the December meeting of Council be held on 14.12.21