

Minutes of the meeting of Council held on Tuesday 12th December 2023, 7.30pm at the Oldbrook Centre, Oldbrook Boulevard, Oldbrook

This meeting was open to the Public

127/23 Members Present

- Cllr T Baines Cllr B Barton Cllr O Cole Cllr T Fraser Cllr R Golding (Vice-Chair) Cllr B Greenwood (Chair) Cllr J Howard Cllr K Jones (7.36pm)
- Cllr K Kent Cllr C Odunewu Cllr Z Osman Cllr D Pafford Cllr M Petchey

Cllr K Kavarana

Cllr D Kendrick

In Attendance

D Warner, Clerk to Council P Sullivan, Deputy Clerk

128/23 Apologies for Absence Cllr V Dixon – unwell Cllr P Halton-Davis - unwell

129/23 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Osman, whilst having no interest to declare, updated Council on her work representing CPCC on outside bodies within the community.

- **130/23** Members of the Public Present None
- **131/23** Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on the 21st November 2023 The minutes of the meeting, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- **132/23 Public Involvement Deputations, Petitions and Questions** None

133/23 Council is invited to receive the recommendations of the Finance, Administration & Policy Committee in relation to the Community Council budget and Precept level 2024/2025 (Agenda items 6 & 7) – Report No. 04/C/23

Council received the recommendations of the committee, including the associated report.

134/23 Draft Minute FA/43/23 2024/2025 Annual Community Council Budget/Precept Consultation Report

Council is invited to receive the 2024/2025 Annual Community Council Budget/Precept Consultation Report and recommendation of acceptance from the Committee.

Council received and accepted the 2024/2025 Annual Community Council Budget/Precept Consultation Report. A recorded vote was taken; 15 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

135/23 Draft Minute FA/44/23 - Community Council Draft Budget 2024/25

The Committee reviewed the budget on a 'line by line' basis. Having assessed the impact of the proposed draft budget for 2024/25 on the Community Council financial reserves (balance sheet), the Committee then resolved to recommend the draft budget for consideration by Council.

Council resolved to accept the draft budget. A recorded vote was taken; 15 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Council asked to record a note of thanks to the Clerk and RFO for their work in producing an excellently presented and prepared budget.

136/23 Draft Minute FA/45/23 - Community Council Precept Level 2024/25

The Committee considered an appropriate Precept level for 2024/25, resolving to recommend to Council that the Precept level for 2024/25 be increased by 5%.

With a confirmed 2024/25 tax base of 4101.52, a 5% rise to the 2024/25 Precept will increase the amount payable by a Band D equivalent property from £207.58 to £217.96, this will result in an increase of income from the 2023/24 level of £846,133 to £893,963.

Following consideration, Council agreed to increase the precept level for 2024/25 by 5%, increasing the amount payable by a Band D equivalent property from £207.58 to £217.96. A recorded vote was taken; 15 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

137/23 Chair's Report

The Chair reported on his attendance at the recent MK Parishes Forum. Senior Finance Officers from Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) were present and reported that council tax collection rates were down and debts risen. The recently appointed Traffic & Transport Manager from MKCC gave a presentation on the development of a new Local Transport Plan for MK. Also present was a representative of SOFEA who operate food banks and community larders across MK 48 weeks of the year. The Chair has details of all locations.

The next meeting of the MK Parishes Forum will be held in March 2024.

138/23 Clerk's Report

i.,

The Clerk reported that CPCC have been allocated an extra £1,100 from MKCC as part of their Winter Programme which will be used to help fund our Warm Spaces.

Following discussions at the last meeting of Council the Clerk had been in contact with MK Healthwatch with regard to the Fishermead Surgery. It appears that a situation may emerge where non-clinical services may have to be delivered at other locations.

The introduction next year of 20mph zones in Fishermead and Woolstone have been announced by MKCC. CPCC Planning Committee noted the proposed 20mph zone in Fishermead, suggesting that a pedestrian relief island should be incorporated at the Redway crossing at the entrance to Pentewan Gate from H6 Childs Way. MKCC have confirmed that they are aware of the issue and are seeking sources of funding to develop any works.

139/23 Ward Members' Matters/Reports

Members are invited to raise a question with the Chair of Council, the Clerk of Council, or any Committee Chair, with Members allowed up to a minute to raise a question, with questionees allowed up to two minutes to respond. Any Member is limited to one question, with no further discussion on the given response. Any unanswered questions to receive a written response within seven days.

Cllr Baines asked that the Clerk clarify the work being done to address the fireworks on public land, particularly Oldbrook Green. The Clerk confirmed that a proactive approach had been taken with highly visible signage detailing the legality of unauthorised fireworks being erected around the area. There had been very few reports this year, and the Estates Committee considered this approach was effective and would be repeated in the future in conjunction with TVP.

Cllr Kent had previously agreed to attend the MK Forum but having read the papers and having spoken to the Chair, felt that another member may have more knowledge and expertise to offer. Cllr Pafford expressed his interest in attending, subject to dates.

Cllr Pafford thanked all those who attended the recent Christmas party which was very well attended. Special thanks to Cllr Halton-Davis and Cllr Dixon.

Cllr Petchey informed members that he had an amount of money available through his MKCC Ward Councillor allowance for community groups in Oldbrook and asked that this information be shared with any relevant bodies.

ii. Council is invited to note that no written reports have been received.

140/23 To Receive Draft Minutes (including recommendations) from Committees. Any Member questions arising from matters detailed in the Minutes to be raised under the relevant Committee.

a. Minutes of the Community & Communications Committee Chair: Cllr K Kavarana Council received the Minutes and agreed to ratify 1 item (i).

i. Draft Minute 77/23 ii Grants

MK Melting Pot (Grant Application 009/23-24/Sect 137) Committee considered an application from MK Melting Pot for £540.00 towards the cost of running lessons in Fishermead on using a slow cooker to create affordable meals.

Cllr Cole arrived during the course of this item and also declared an interest.

Committee resolved to recommend to Council that the grant be awarded in full

- b. Minutes of the Planning, Infrastructure & Transport Committee Chair: Cllr B Greenwood Council received the Minutes.
- C. Minutes of the Finance, Administration & Policy Committee
 Chair: Cllr B Barton
 Council received the Minutes, and agreed to ratify 5 (i,ii,iii,iv,v) items and noted 1 item (vi).
 - i. Draft Minute FA/43/23 2024/2025 Annual Community Council Budget/Precept Consultation Report See minute no. 133/23
 - Draft Minute FA/44/23 Community Council Draft Budget 2024/25 Report See minute no. 134/23
 - Draft Minute FA/45/23 Community Council Precept Level 2024/25
 See minute no. 135/23
- iv. Draft Minute FA/46/23 Community Council Risk Assessment Review 2024-25
 Committee reviewed the updated Risk Assessment for 23-24 – completed assessment to be forwarded to Council for ratification.
- v. Draft Minute FA/47/23 Action Plan for signing of Annual Return To avoid any 'except for matters' in future Annual Returns an action plan for signing the return needs to be put in place. This should take the form of the following:-

The Responsible Financial Officer sign and date section 2 of the original copy of the return at the same time as the auditor. The Clerk will then

confirm that this has been done prior to the point where the redated copy of circulated to committee/council, and then again before the return is considered and signed at the Council meeting.

vi. Draft Minute FA/48/23 - Internal Audit Outcome

Committee received and noted the outcome of the Interim Internal Audit. Committee further noted that the report did not identify any issues requiring note or action.

141/23 Licensing & Planning Applications

Due to submission deadlines, Council is invited to consider and comment on the proposed licensing and planning applications including any applications or consultations received after the publication of the Agenda that must be considered before the date of the next meeting of the Planning Committee. Any additional items that will be considered will be published on the day of the meeting on the Campbell Park Community Council website.

Council noted that no applications had been received.

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 142/23

142/23 Community Hub, Room-by-Room Requirement Review – Working Group Update and Recommendation

The Clerk reported that the tender deadline had passed (8th December) and all 5 contractors invited to participate had submitted tenders. These are currently being assessed by Currie & Brown for cost, quality and completeness and initial analysis suggests that there may be some savings available. All tenders were within the PTE agreed in October. Currie & Brown are hopeful that we may be able to bring forward the assessment process which may allow for a decision to put before Council at the January meeting rather than the ECM currently scheduled for February as part of the agreed project programme.

Cllrs Kendrick and Kavarana proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded to the Officers and Members of the Community Hub Working Group for their hard work in bringing the project forward.

143/23 Dates of Future Committee & Working Group Meetings

Planning – Monday 8th January 2024 at 6.30pm Personnel – Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 1.00pm Estates – Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 6.30pm

144/23 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 7.30pm