

**Minutes of the Community & Communications Committee
held on Tuesday 22 October 2024
commencing at 6.30pm
at the Springfield Centre, Springfield Boulevard, Springfield**

This meeting was open to the Public

Members Present

Cllr L Adura	Cllr B Barton (arrived at 18:33)
Cllr O Cole	Cllr P Halton-Davis
Cllr J Howard	Cllr K Kavarana (Chair)
Cllr D Kendrick (arrived at 18:33)	Cllr M Petchey

In attendance

T Jones, Community Officer/Committee Clerk

25/24 Apologies for Absence

Cllr V Dixon - unwell

26/24 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Cole declared an interest in two grant applications being considered - Agenda Items 4iii and 4iv.

27/24 Members of the Public Present

Representatives of Willen Residents Association x 2 (Agenda Item 4i)
Representatives of The Free and the For x 2 (Agenda Item 4iv)
Representative of Action Speaks (Agenda Item 4iii)

The members of the public left on the conclusion of Agenda Item 4.

28/24 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

29/24 Public Involvement – Deputations, Petitions and Questions

Members of the public spoke in relation to their respective grant applications.

30/24

Grants

Cllrs Barton and Kendrick arrived at the start of this item.

Cllr Cole spoke in relation to the grant application from Action Speaks CIC and The Free and the For and then left the meeting during the Committees deliberations and did not participate in the vote.

- i. **Willen Residents Association** (Grant Application 006/24-25/Sect 137)
Committee considered an application from Willen Residents Association for a Start Up Grant of £1500.00 for their start-up costs, newsletters and pond project. Committee resolved that the grant be awarded in full and paid in 2 instalments. The first instalment being for £600, and the second instalment of £900 being released on receipt of a pond project plan, developed by Willen Residents Association having consulted with the CPCC Estates Manager. The project plan to be received by Monday 17 February 2025.

This recommendation to be considered at the November meeting of Council.

- ii. **Grace Church MK** (Grant Application 007/24-25/Sect 137)
Committee considered an application from Grace Church MK for £1000.00 towards the cost of providing a 'Warm Place' session in Fishermead from November 2024 to March 2025. Committee resolved to award the grant in full.

This recommendation to be considered at the November meeting of Council.

- iii. **Action Speaks CIC** (Grant Application 008/24-25/Sect 137)
Committee considered an application from Action Speaks CIC for £1000.00 towards the cost of delivering community activities and a community Christmas party in Fishermead.

Committee resolved to award the grant in full.

- iv. **The Free and the For CIC – Table Project** (Grant Application 009/24-25/Sect 137)
Committee considered an application from The Free and the For, for a Start Up Grant of £1000.00 towards the cost of 'The Table' project launch in Fishermead. The project encompasses eating together, learning about healthy eating, teaching cooking with a 'from the ground to the table' ethos whilst building community spirit and tackling loneliness.

Committee resolved that the grant be awarded in full and paid in 2 instalments. The profile of the payments and criteria for the release of the second payment to be determined with the Committee Clerk liaising with the applicant. The applicant to provide a project update by Monday 17 February 2025, for Committee consider approving the release of the second payment.

This recommendation to be considered at the November meeting of Council.

Members of the public left the meeting.

- v. Committee noted the Grant Evaluation received from YMCA MK following the grant award of £500 in February 2024 towards their Access to Employment Fund which helps removes barriers to employment faced by young people.
- vi. Committee noted the Grant Evaluation received from MK Neighbourhood Watch Association following the grant award of £890.00 in April 2023 towards the costs of building neighbourhood watch in Fishermead, Willen & Woolstone

31/24 Communications - Programme & Priorities 2024/25

- i. **Communications Strategy**
Committee noted that actions, as set out in the Communications Strategy, are on track except for the publishing of the CPCC Hub construction time lapse camera footage, which requires some additional work.
- ii. **Annual Consultation**
Committee noted that the annual consultation is available online for the first time, in addition to the hard copy posted to each home, and is being promoted on the socials. We have used Survey Monkey as the platform for the consultation and this will provide tools for detailed analysis of the responses.
Committee resolved that consideration should be given to future developments of the online consultation system to implement access restrictions.
- iii. **White Ribbon Day – 25 November 2024**
Committee noted that we are promoting White Ribbon Day and the MK vigil on socials and in Homeground with a news piece about the vigil to be included on the website. CPCC will be acknowledged as a supporter on the MK vigil website.

32/24 Community Projects - Programme & Priorities 2024/25

- i. **Seated Exercise** (min. C&C 116i/23, 105i/23)
Committee noted that MK Community Foundation have awarded a grant of £2760.00 towards the cost of delivering the weekly seated exercise sessions. This funding covers the cost of the instructor and hall hire from 7th May 2024 until 29th April 2025, with all funding to be spent by 31.03.2025.

Committee are invited to note that the sessions continue to be very popular with 10-23 participants every week.
- ii. **Fancy Dress Tea Party – Saturday 26 October**
Cllrs Petchey, Adura, Kavarana, Barton confirmed their commitment to support Cllrs Dixon and Halton-Davis with the running of the autumn themed Fancy Dress Tea Party event at the Springfield Centre on Saturday 26 October.
- iii. **Childrens Christmas Party – Saturday 7 December**
Committee receive an update on the plans for the event with Cllr Barton confirming his availability to support the event as Father Christmas. Cllr Howard to organise the loan of a costume.
It was noted that Cllrs Howard and Cole have other commitments on this date.

33/24 Homeground

- i. Committee noted the feedback received following the publication of the August edition of the magazine. The Committee Clerk to investigate the distribution issue, noted by Cllr Barton.
- ii. Committee considered, and with some amendments including a change to the front cover, approved the proof of the November edition of Homeground magazine.
Consent requirements in relation to the use of photographs taken at events to be confirmed.

Cllr Petchey requested that the February edition of Homeground include a large (double-page) item relating to the need for foster carers in Milton Keynes. This was supported by the Committee, with content for the February edition to be considered further at the next meeting.

34/24 Projects – Committee Budget 2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28, 2028/29 & 2029/30**

Committee reviewed the submitted project proposal, recommending it to Council for progression and inclusion in the future budget**, the proposal was for the following:

- CPMC Youth Provision

** All Committee project proposals to be considered at November Council, with a review of earmarked funding carried out at the same time.

35/24 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 26 November 2024.