

Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th February 2016, 7:30pm at Holmwood School, Kensington Drive, Great Holm, Milton Keynes

Present: Cllrs Zoe Nolan (Vice-Chair), Peter Ballantyne, Sandra Boland, Andy Dransfield (until 9:32pm), Hilary Dyer, Thomas Gray, Claire Jones, Andy Sargent

Also present: Brian Barton (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Two (2) members of the public, PC Tony Deeble (Neighbourhood Specialist Officer - Thames Valley Police), PC John Hayle (Thames Valley Police)

FC 129/16 Apologies:

Received from **Cllrs Peter Todd (Chair)** and John Howe

NOTED

FC 130/16 Declarations of interest:

Cllrs Hilary Dyer and Andy Sargent declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item: FC 136/16 as both are members of All Saints Church, Loughton.

NOTED

FC 131/16 Minutes of previous meetings:

To agree the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th January 2016.

FC 106/15 To report on Members attending external meetings:

(b) Any Ward Councillors present to report on Milton Keynes Council meetings

To delete "bus route number 28" in the main paragraph and in recommendation two (2)

FC 122/16 To report on Members attending external meetings:

(b) Any Ward Councillors present to report on Milton Keynes Council meetings

To add under paragraph two (2) "that Milton Keynes is up 3% compared to 7% nationally"

FC 128/16 Cheques for Payment:

To delete recommendation one (1)

With the above amendments the Vice-Chair signed the minutes as a true and correct record.

AGREED

To note the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on:

Monday 11th January 2016

Monday 1st February 2016

In attendance: To delete “Two (2) representatives from the Hilltops Medical Centre on Great Holm” and replace with “Two (2) members of the Patient Participation Group”

NOTED

To note the minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee held on:

Thursday 14th January 2016

FS 11/16 Draft Budget for the year commencing 01/04/2016:

Delete “expects” and replace with “aspects”

NOTED

FC 132/16 Matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda:

PL 25/15 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

c) 15/02762/ADV Fountain Harvester London Road Loughton Milton Keynes MK5 8AF Advertisement consent for 1 x externally illuminated post sign (01) 1 x externally illuminated set of letters and logo (02), 1 x non illuminated set of letters (03) and 1 x internally illuminated post sign (04)

Cllr Andy Dransfield informed the meeting that he had called in both planning applications and will be speaking at the next Development Control Committee meeting.

Cllr Dransfield said that he will take along to the meeting a painting of the Fountain Harvester that is in his possession, set in the last century that will show how commercialised the building has become.

Cllr Dransfield was particularly against the illuminated signs and proposed structure to the front of the building.

FC 120/16 Questions from Members of the Public:

Cllr Hilary Dyer informed the meeting that she had reported to Milton Keynes Council on the 8th January the potholes on Highgrove Hill on Great Holm, and had chased the matter up and was informed that no further action would be taken as it was classed as a non safety repair issue.

The Vice - Chair said that she had also reported the matter and had approached Cllr Mick Legg the Cabinet Member whose remit covers road repairs.

The Parish Clerk had raised the matter with Milton Keynes Council and was also told that the pot holes were a non safety repair issue, but did not get a response about traffic calming measures, and the frequency of lorry deliveries to the Coop causing damage to the road and kerbside.

The Parish Clerk was asked to write again to Milton Keynes Councils Transport and Traffic Directorate and say that a response is still awaited from Officers for a request

that a survey is undertaken, and for range of possible solutions to tackle traffic speeds, and delivery vehicles to the Coop Store damaging the kerbs and corners, which have been raised by residents on Highgrove Hill, Great Holm.

FC 123/16 To consider making an application to the British Heart Foundation for a grant for the cost of installation of a defibrillator(s):

The Vice-Chair reported to the meeting that due to the demand for grants with the British Heart Foundation for a defibrillator, further applications are not being accepted.

The Parish Clerk was asked to obtain from the British Heart Foundation the cost to supply and fit a defibrillator, and to ask where the best location would be in the Parish that can easily be accessible to the public.

The Parish Clerk has written to the Loughton Memorial Hall and the Great Holm Community Centre to find out if they already have defibrillators and is awaiting a reply.

FC 126/16 Planning Applications:

15/03188/TNOT Telecommunications Site East of Loughton Roundabout Portway V4 To A5 Milton Keynes Installation of 15m Elara column with 2 ground based cabinets and ancillary development

Cllr Dransfield said that he had called in this planning application and will be objecting to it, the mast he believed would be better placed either in the Crownhill industrial area or on the roundabout between the allotment site and fire station.

The planning regulations state that if Milton Keynes Councils planning department do not determine the matter within a certain time frame, then the application is automatically approved.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to write again to Milton Keynes Councils Transport and Traffic Directorate and say that a response is still awaited from Officers for a request that a survey is undertaken, and for range of possible solutions to tackle traffic speeds, and delivery vehicles to the Coop Store damaging the kerbs and corners, which have been raised by residents on Highgrove Hill, Great Holm.**
- 2. The Parish Clerk to obtain from the British Heart Foundation the cost to supply and fit a defibrillator, and to ask where the best location would be in the Parish that can easily be accessible to the public.**

FC 133/16 Questions from Members of the Public:

A resident from Great Holm who at the last Parish Council meeting had raised various matters to do with the potholes, delivery vehicles to the Coop store damaging the kerbsides, and traffic calming to Highgrove Hill on Great Holm, was disappointed to hear of the response from Milton Keynes Council.

He said that he has taken photographs which show how the delivery vehicles are parked, resulting in cars visiting the Coop store now having to park on the pathways.

The times and frequency of the delivery vehicles he said was of concern and inconvenience to local residents.

The Parish Clerk was asked to write to the Coop store highlighting the amount of deliveries, and to request that they are less frequent so as to minimise the annoyance and inconvenience to nearby residents.

A resident living in Loughton brought up the lack of lightening to the footpath from Redland Drive, Loughton that leads to Milton Keynes Central Rail Station; there is a lamp column that is covered by tree branches, which is situated near to no 5 Kirkham Court, she said ideally an additional lamp column should be installed at the corner of the foot bridge.

The Parish Clerk was asked to write to Milton Keynes Council to ask for the tree branches to be cut back that are covering the lamp column on the footpath near to 5, Kirkham Court, Loughton.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to write to the Coop store on Highgrove Hill, Great Holm highlighting the amount of deliveries, and to request that they are less frequent so as to minimise the annoyance and inconvenience to nearby residents.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk to write to Milton Keynes Council to ask for the tree branches to be cut back that are covering the lamp column on the footpath near to 5, Kirkham Court, Loughton.**

FC 134/16 To receive a Crime Statistics Report from Thames Valley Police:

PC Tony Deeble reported that it had been a quiet start to January with twelve (12) crimes in the Parish area, and is generally happy with the crime rate.

Cllr Dransfield asked for further details of the assault that took place on the redway at Crownhill, PC Deeble said that he would look into the matter and come back with further information to the Parish Clerk.

Various concerns were expressed about drug related incidents in the Parish area, which PC Deeble said were being dealt with, and monitoring operations have been taking place and arrests have been made.

PC Deeble was informed that tents have been erected in various locations; PC Deeble said that he was aware of this and had reported the matter back to the Highways Department at Milton Keynes Council, also dogs appeared to be roaming around which he will look into.

Cllr Dransfield said that he heard of drug dealing taking place in local licensed premises and asked if spot checks with sniffer dogs still take place.

PC Deeble said that this does not tend to happen as licensees use private companies to undertake surveillance operations, the Police do undertake random testing of premises, but there is only one (1) licensing officer for the whole of Milton Keynes.

Cllr Dransfield asked that the officer is encouraged to visit the Parish area.

The Vice-Chair said that residents are concerned about drug dealing incidents, PC Deeble said that patrols are undertaken as much as possible.

PC Deeble informed the meeting that a new PCSO has been appointed for the area Maria Tomiolo, who hopefully will be able to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

PC Deeble then presented the crime figures for January 2016 which were as follows:

Loughton

Assault without injury	One (1)
Criminal damage to vehicle	One (1)
Harassment	One (1)
Theft from Vehicle	Two (2)
Other Crime	One (1)

Great Holm

Burglary other than in a Dwelling	One (1)
Shoplifting	One (1)
Theft from Person	One (1)

Knowlhill

Criminal damage to vehicle	One (1)
Theft from Person	One (1)

The National Bowl

Theft from Person	One (1)
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Total Crime January 2016 Twelve (12)

Total Crime January 2015 Eight (8)

The Vice-Chair thanked PC Deeble for his presentation.

NOTED

FC 135/16 To report on Members attending external meetings:

(a) Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group – **Cllr Peter Ballantyne**

Cllr Ballantyne informed the meeting that he was unable to attend the meeting and asked Cllr Andy Sargent to present a report instead.

Cllr Sargent said that a meeting was held on the 4th February, there was a report from Thames Valley Police.

The meeting discussed a potential protocol to be presented to the Parish Council on the way the Neighbourhood Action Group spends the allocated £1,000 fund on projects.

The meeting then considered the process in setting up a protocol.

It was agreed that there can be no roll over of unspent funds from one year to the next. This is to avoid an accumulation of unspent funds when that public money could be put to other use.

A draft protocol will be produced by the Neighbourhood Action Group and presented to a meeting of the Finance & Staffing Committee for consideration.

Secondly it was further agreed that the Finance & Staffing Committee will consider and subject to any amendments agree a protocol that will be presented by the Neighbourhood Group to manage the projects fund, and bring back to a meeting of the Parish Council to be ratified.

Members suggested a maximum spend without prior approval by the Parish Council but with supporting receipts to be up to a maximum of £100.

Only one (or several individual) claims up to the maximum of £100 spend to be claimed at any one time, avoiding the possibility of an accumulation of amounts exceeding £100.

Cllr Sargent said that he will contact the Neighbourhood Action Group to progress.

The Neighbourhood Action Group Meeting received a report from a representative of the Milton Keynes Parks Trust, who said that the sign at Loughton Lodge Lake will not be repositioned unless the work is paid for.

The Neighbourhood Action Group is planning to set up a website.

A picnic on the village green event will be held and run by the Neighbourhood Action Group on the 3rd July.

The Neighbourhood Action Group discussed the MK50 celebrations, and venues for future meetings.

There are now a good number of volunteers, for such activities as regular litter picks which are planned to be held on a monthly basis.

(b) Any Ward Councillors present to report on Milton Keynes Council meetings

Cllr Andy Dransfield said that a meeting of the Children and Young Peoples Select Committee took place which discussed mental health, the waiting time for assessment from twenty six (26) down to eleven (11) weeks, was still not acceptable by the committee.

The Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority met on the 10th February which agreed to close the Great Holm and Bletchley Fire Stations, the Chief Fire Officer said that there will be no change to the response time of ten (10) minutes, and that the service needs to be more flexible for the future.

Milton Keynes Council will be holding its budget meeting on Wednesday 17th February.

Discussion then centred on alternative uses for the Great Holm Fire Station site, Cllr Dransfield said that the Parish Council should come up with ideas.

The Parish Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Chief Station Officer to discuss future plans for the Great Holm Fire Station site.

Cllr Zoe Nolan said that there will be a blue light hub built in Ashlands, and it is planned to have stand by areas but Milton Keynes Council does not know where they will be yet.

The Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority meeting allowed residents to address the meeting including the Chair of Stony Stratford Town Council, and other Councillors.

A petition was presented by Cllr Nolan with 3616 signatures. The consultation by the Fire Authority resulted in 89% of residents against the closure of the Great Holm Fire Station.

(c) Members to report back on any other meetings that they may have attended

Cllrs Andy Sargent and Hilary Dyer had met at Holmwood School with the Headteacher Claire Sharples and the Head of Projects at Milton Keynes Council to discuss the proposed nursery block which is subject to planning permission.

The travel plan and transport plan are on the planning portal, which mainly seems to concentrate on staff travel patterns, with a suggestion of the School Administrator to be given the role of Traffic Planning Officer.

Cllr Dyer still wanted to have a meeting to discuss possible parking solutions with Officers from Milton Keynes Council, Cllr Sargent suggested holding off arranging a meeting until a decision has been made on the planning application, Cllr Dransfield said that Milton Keynes Council has issued new parking standards which are much more stringent, and needs to be compared to the planning application to ensure that it complies.

Cllr Dyer suggested that a lollypop person could be employed which Loughton First School does, but it was felt by some members that this would put pressure on the Schools budget.

RESOLVED

- 1. That there can be no roll over of the unspent Neighbourhood Action Group project fund from one year to the next. This is to avoid an**

- accumulation of unspent funds when that public money could be put to other use.
2. That a draft protocol will be produced by the Neighbourhood Action Group and presented to the Finance & Staffing Committee for consideration.
 3. That the Finance & Staffing Committee will agree a protocol to manage the projects. fund, and bring back to a meeting of the Parish Council to be ratified.
 4. That a maximum spend without prior approval by the Parish Council but with supporting receipts to be up to a maximum of £100.
 5. That only one (or several individual) claims up to the maximum of £100 spend to be claimed at one time, avoiding the possibility of an accumulation of amounts exceeding £100.
 6. That Cllr Andy Sargent to contact the Neighbourhood Action Group to progress.
 7. That the Parish Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Chief Station Officer to discuss future plans for the Great Holm Fire Station site.

FC 136/16 Grant Aid Application:

Cllrs Hilary Dyer and Andy Sargent declared a non pecuniary interest in this agenda item as both are members of All Saints Church, Loughton.

The meeting considered a grant aid application from All Saints Church, Loughton, for £1,160.00p for repairs to the Clock Tower.

The meeting agreed to award the full grant, on the condition that the Parish Council is supporting improvement to the physical fabric of the building for the local community, and not a religious denomination.

RESOLVED

To award a grant from All Saints Church, Loughton, for £1,160.00p for repairs to the Clock Tower.

FC 137/16 Appointments to Outside Bodies for the Council Year 2015/2016:

To agree the appointment of a representative for the Council Year 2015/2016 to the following outside body:

- a) Hugh Parke Charity

Cllr Hilary Dyer said that she no longer wished to be one of the Parish Council representatives to the Hugh Parke Charity.

Cllr Sandra Boland offered to replace Cllr Dyer as a Parish Council representative to the Hugh Parke Charity, which was moved by Cllr Peter Ballantyne and Seconded by Cllr Andy Sargent.

RESOLVED

That Cllr Sandra Boland is appointed as a Parish Council representative for the Council Year 2015/2016 to the Hugh Parke Charity.

FC 138/16 Notice Board Councillor Information:

Cllr Peter Ballantyne raised the quality of the photographs on the Parish Councillor contact details poster in each notice board.

Cllr Thomas Gray offered to take a photograph of each Councillor at the next Parish Council meeting, and will update the poster template.

The Parish Clerk will email Cllr Gray a copy of the poster template.

RESOLVED

- 1. That Cllr Thomas Gray to take a photograph of each Councillor at the next Parish Council meeting, and will update the poster template.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk will email Cllr Gray a copy of the poster template.**

FC 139/16 to consider the quotes for the roof replacement of the Loughton sports pavilion/and or other action in relation to that, including expenditure:

Cllr Dransfield questioned why the three (3) quotes for a slate roof had been presented, when the resolution at a previous meeting was for consideration of three (3) quotes for a metal roof.

The Parish Clerk replied that a quote had been received for a metal roof but was well over the allocated budget, and it was proving difficult getting a further two (2) quotes.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to obtain a further two (2) quotes for a metal replacement roof at the Loughton Sports & Social Club building

FC 140/16 To discuss the arrangements for the Parish Meeting:

The Vice-Chair informed the meeting that Carole Mills Chief Executive Officer at Milton Keynes Council had written to the Parish Clerk, to say that she could not attend the Parish Meeting as she was the Returning Officer for the local Council elections and needed to be seen as politically neutral.

The Parish Clerk said that the Badminton Centre had been booked, and that he had written to Iain Stewart MP inviting him to attend but is awaiting a reply.

The meeting agreed to invite all candidates standing in the forthcoming local Council elections for the Loughton & Shenley Ward.

To also invite a professional badminton couple to make a presentation to the Parish Meeting, Cllr Claire Jones said that she will send their contact details to the Parish Clerk.

It was further agreed to have a Chair's Report, and to invite a representative from the Loughton Sports & Social Club, Hugh Parke Charity Trustee, The Greenhill Close Allotments, the Approved Premises on Great Holm, Loughton & Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group, and Jubilee Graveyard.

Each organisation will be given up to five (5) minutes to present their reports, Cllr Thomas asked if he could make a short presentation on the planned MK50 Celebrations, which the meeting agreed to.

RESOLVED

1. That the Parish Clerk to invite all candidates standing in the forthcoming local Council elections for the Loughton & Shenley Ward to the Parish Meeting.
2. To have a Chairs Report, and the Parish Clerk to invite a representative from the Loughton Sports & Social Club, Hugh Parke Charity Trustee, The Greenhill Close Allotments, Approved Premises on Great Holm, Loughton & Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group, and Jubilee Graveyard, to attend the Parish Meeting.
3. That Cllr Claire Jones to send the contact details to the Parish Clerk of a professional badminton couple, who will be asked to make a presentation to the Parish Meeting.

FC 141/16 Planning Applications:

Cllr Sargent said that all validated planning applications from Milton Keynes Council, can be considered at the next meeting of the Planning Committee.

NOTED

Cllr Andy Dransfield left the meeting at 9:32PM

FC 142/16 To note the update list of projects and other work:

The Parish Clerk went through the list of projects and other works and updated the meeting.

It was agreed to hold the drop in at the MacIntyre Centre, Great Holm on the first Tuesday of each month 10:30am-12:30pm starting from May if possible, and to offer free tea and cake.

The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that Milton Keynes Council did not agree to the installation of rubber car parking stops at the Loughton First School car park, or the reconfiguration of the car park as it was felt that the School would not agree to the loss of parking spaces.

The Parish Clerk was asked to write to Milton Keynes Council requesting the installation of posts at the Loughton First School car park.

RESOLVED

1. That the Parish Clerk to write to Milton Keynes Council requesting the installation of posts at the Loughton First School car park.
2. To hold the drop in at the MacIntyre Centre, Great Holm on the first Tuesday of each month 10:30am-12:30pm starting from May if possible, and to offer free tea and cake.

FC 143/16 Cheques for Payment:

The cheques for payment as listed were authorised.

AGREED

Date and time of Next Meeting:

Monday 21st March 2016, 7:30pm at the Loughton Memorial Hall, Bradwell Road, Loughton, Milton Keynes

THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9:49PM

Signed _____ Chair Date _____