

Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17th October 2016, 7:30pm at the Loughton Memorial Hall, Bradwell Road, Loughton, Milton Keynes

Present: Cllrs Peter Todd (Chair), Hilary Dyer, Thomas Gray, John Howe, Andy Sargent

Also present: Brian Barton (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Four (4) members of the public

Also in attendance: PC Tony Deeble (Thames Valley Police), PCSO Gemma Gibbs (Thames Valley Police), Cllr Paul Harvey (NALC), Rachel Medhill (CEO - Ride High).

FC 89/16 Apologies:

Received from Cllrs Peter Ballantyne, Sandra Boland, Andy Dransfield, Claire Jones, Zoe Nolan

NOTED

FC 90/16 Minutes of previous meetings:

FC 75/16 To report on Members attending external meetings:

To add "that all of the road was resurfaced on Highgrove Hill, Great Holm"

With that amendment the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 19th September 2016, were signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

AGREED

FC 91/16 Matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda:

Cllr Hilary Dyer was concerned about issues relating to service devolution from Milton Keynes Council, and the lack of consultation regarding the maintenance to play areas, the reduction to street cleansing, and personnel changes.

Cllr Dyer proposed that the Parish Clerk writes to the Chief Executive Officer about these concerns, the Chair suggested that in the first instance the Parish Clerk should write to Mr Rob Ward.

Cllr John Howe highlighted the lack of litter bins at Lodge Lake; the Chair replied that it is Milton Keynes Parks Trust policy not to provide litter bins.

Cllr Howe informed the meeting that Mr Richard Petty has issued a specification to contractors who have expressed an interest in providing a quotation to replace the Loughton Sports Pavilion roof, the quotes will be passed on to the Parish Clerk.

Mr Petty will shortly be submitting a planning application to Milton Keynes Council.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to write to Mr Rob Ward at Milton Keynes Council about the issues relating to the lack of consultation regarding the maintenance to play areas, the reduction to street cleansing, and personnel changes.

FC 92/16 Questions from Members of the Public:

A resident raised the lack of lighting at Kirkham Court on Loughton, that the bench has not been removed, which the Parish Council has paid for its removal, it was suggested that Milton Keynes Council could install solar lighting which would be cheaper, the Parish Clerk was asked to chase up the outstanding landscaping work and the removal of the bench and the suggestion of installing solar lighting with Milton Keynes Council.

The Chair of the Loughton Residents Association highlighted that the hedge on Pitcher Lane, Loughton has still not been trimmed back and is getting worse, also the nettles along the footpath from the green to Bradwell Road on Loughton has still not been cut back, the Parish Clerk said that he will chase the matter up.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to request solar lighting at Kirkham Court on Loughton, to chase up the removal of the bench and the other items of outstanding landscaping work with Milton Keynes Council.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk to chase up with Milton Keynes Council the hedge on Pitcher Lane, Loughton that needs cutting back along with the nettles along the footpath from the green to Bradwell Road on Loughton.**

FC 93/16 Declarations of interest:

Cllr Peter Todd declared a personal interest in **agenda item FC 95/16** as he has riding lessons and a pony livered at the Loughton Equestrian Centre.

NOTED

FC 94/16 To receive a Crime Statistics and Report from Thames Valley Police:

The September 2016 crime figures for the Parish area were as follows:

Loughton

Criminal damage to vehicle	Two (2)
Harassment	One (1)
Theft in a Dwelling	One (1)
Theft Other	Two (2)
Other Crime	Two (2)
Total September 2016	Eight (8)
Total September 2015	Eight (8)

Great Holm

Assault occasioning ABH/GBH	One (1)
Assault without injury	One (1)
Criminal damage - Other/Arson	Two (2)

Theft from Vehicle	Two (2)
Total September 2016	Six (6)
Total September 2015	Seven (7)

Knowhill

Criminal damage to vehicle	Two (2)
Total September 2016	Two (2)
Total September 2015	Two (2)

The National Bowl

Criminal damage - Other/Arson	One (1)
Drug Possession – Cannabis	One (1)
Theft from Person	One (1)
Other Crime	One (1)
Total September 2016	Four (4)
Total September 2015	Seventeen (17)

There then followed questions by members.

The Chair thanked PC Tony Deeble for presenting the September 2016 crime report and figures.

NOTED

FC 95/16 Presentations:

Cllr Peter Todd declared a personal interest in this agenda item.

Rachel Medill MBE Chief Executive of Ride High Limited on the possible acquisition of the lease for the Loughton Equestrian Centre.

Ride High was set up eight (8) years ago, which has so far given an opportunity for 600 disadvantaged children to work with horses for six (6) to nine (9) months

Ninety per cent of participants go onto further education, and Ride High believes it saves the local economy in care and health costs and pressure on social services.

Ride High is currently based at Bow Brickhill and is in the process of acquiring the Loughton Equestrian Centre, and has plans to turn it into a thriving centre for the whole of Milton Keynes.

Ride High plan to improve disabled access and improve the buildings on site, which will include moving the gated access closer to the centre for better access.

Ride High is a registered charity and can therefore bring in grant funding, and wants to be a part of the Loughton community.

There then followed questions by members.

The Chair thanked Rachel Medhill for her presentation.

NOTED

FC 96/16 To discuss renewing membership to the National Association of Local Councils:

The Chair of the B&MKALC Larger Councils committee Cllr Paul Harvey said the benefits of becoming a member include training opportunities for Parish and Town Councillors, and access to various publications such as the "Good Councillors Guide", "Good Employers Guide", the NALC LCR Magazine, and various legal advice notes, and free legal advice.

Various training courses are free to members some sessions will involve a small fee if it is a specialist subject and requires a qualified trainer.

Cllr Harvey will let the Parish Clerk know the membership fee for the Parish Council.

RESOLVED

To bring this agenda item back to a future meeting of the Parish Council once the Parish Clerk receives from the B&MKALC the membership fee for the Parish Council.

FC 97/16 To report on Members attending external meetings:

(a) Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group - **Cllr Andy Sargent**

The meeting held on the 4th October was well attended; a representative from Thames Valley Police was also in attendance, the speed camera to be placed in Great Holm to monitor speed will take place shortly.

Dawn Morland a ranger with the Milton Keynes Parks Trust has now left and so a representative was not able to attend the meeting.

The Horticultural Committee has met, and discussed the maintenance of the Bradwell Road, Loughton planters.

The recent litter pick was very successful.

Pamela Tarshish is considering standing down from her role as Chair due to work commitments, although members of the Neighbourhood Action Group are looking at ways of trying to reduce the workload in her role as Chair.

Cllr Thomas Gray said he has planned a meeting inviting Neighbourhood Action Group and Parish Council members to discuss ideas for future MK50 celebrations, which will be held on Saturday 22nd October, 11:00am at All Saints Church, Loughton, and will present all suggestions to a future meeting of the Parish Council for consideration.

The Neighbourhood Action Group is considering a theme for the Scarecrow Trail.

Cllr Sargent has put together a paper and circulated to the Neighbourhood Action Group on the Milton Keynes Council Open Spaces consultation, a meeting is being held by the Council on the 31st October.

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

A report was not given due to there being no ward Councillors in attendance.

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

Cllr Sargent had attended a meeting at the Civic Offices which discussed new working practises that the Planning Directorate is considering; a consultation is taking place following on from discussions, a paper will shortly be circulated.

NOTED

FC 98/16 Ward matters:

To discuss the response from Thames Valley Police following the Loughton & Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group weekend litter pick and the discovery of discarded needles, found next to the Loughton Manor underpass linking Great Holm and Loughton. – **Cllr Thomas Gray**

Cllr Gray informed the meeting that following on from the recent litter pick twenty (20) needles were found at an underpass on Great Holm, Cllr Gray rang the Thames Valley Police non-emergency helpline number, and was advised to contact Milton Keynes Council.

PC Deeble said that if Cllr Gray was not happy with the service received, then he should ask to speak to the operator's supervisor to make a complaint.

Cllr Gray said that Milton Keynes Council did come out quick quickly to remove the needles.

NOTED

FC 99/16 To consider expenditure and the quote supplied by Milton Keynes Councils Landscaping Directorate for the Great Holm Kick About Area:

RESOLVED

To defer this agenda item to the next Parish Council meeting

FC 100/16 Community Drop In:

To discuss arrangements for cover such as a rota or other suggestions – **Cllr Peter Ballantyne**

Cllr Hilary Dyer informed the meeting that the community drop in sessions are becoming very popular with an increasing amount of residents in attendance.

Cllr Dyer also said that it would be helpful if other members could attend and help out.

NOTED

FC 101/16 To consider the expenditure for the additional Fidelity Insurance Cover as recommended by the Internal Auditor and quote supplied by Zurich Insurance:

RESOLVED

To increase the fidelity guarantee up to £160,000, as per the Zurich Insurance quote of an additional annual premium of £15.31p plus insurance premium tax.

FC 102/16 To review and agree the level of rents for the Greenhill Close & Pitcher Lane Loughton Allotment Sites:

RESOLVED

1. To increase the level of rents for the Greenhill Close, Loughton allotment site to residents living in the Parish area at £20 a plot and £10 half plot and for residents living outside of the Parish at £40 a plot and £20 half plot.
2. To increase the level of the rent for the Pitcher Lane, Loughton allotment site to £10.00p.

FC 103/16 Grant aid application:

Received from the Petworth House, Great Holm sheltered housing tenant's social fund, for the purchase of two (2) air conditioning units to be used in the corridor on the top floor at a cost of £600.

RESOLVED

1. To defer this agenda item to the next meeting of the Parish Council.
2. To invite the applicant to attend the next Parish Council meeting.
3. To ask the applicant to bring along a copy of the specification for the air conditioning units.
4. To ask the applicant to produce written confirmation of the landlords permission for the installation of the air conditioning units.

FC 104/16 To note the update list of projects and other work:

RESOLVED

1. That the Parish Clerk to ask Marcus Young Landscapes LTD to supply the Parish Council with monthly dog and litter bin emptying reports as they have not been produced in a while.
2. That the Parish Clerk to email Cllr Hilary Dyer a copy of the dog and litter bin location map.

FC 105/16 Cheques for Payment:

RESOLVED

1. That the cheques as presented for payment were approved.
2. That future invoices from Sports Ground Services for the grass cutting of the Loughton Sports Ground should now be paid by the management committee and not by the Parish Council.

FC 106/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) 16/02733/FUL 115, London Road, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8AG Two storey side and single storey rear extensions (resubmission of 16/00456/FUL)

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council has no objection to this planning application

b) 16/02760/FUL Elm House, School Lane, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8AT Replacement of existing wooden field access gates and posts with wrought iron gates and posts, and the erection of 2 Victorian style lamp posts (resubmission 16/01286/FUL)

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council has no objection to this planning application

c) 16/02756/FUL Elm House, School Lane, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8AT
Erection of wooden garden pergola/car port

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council has no objection to this planning application

Date and time of Next Meeting:

Monday 21st November 2016, 7:30pm at Holmwood School, Kensington Drive,
Great Holm, Milton Keynes

THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9:44PM

Signed _____ Chair Date _____