

Loughton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21st October 2013 8:00pm at the Great Holm Community Centre, 87, Kensington Drive, Great Holm

Present: Cllrs Peter Todd (Chair), Andy Sargent (Vice-Chair), Peter Ballantyne, Barry Barrington (until 10:30pm), Andy Dransfield (until 10:00pm), Hilary Dyer, Ray Harrison

Also present: Brian Barton (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Seven (7) members of the public

FC 108/13 Apologies:

Received from Cllrs Don Hoyle and Zoe Nolan

NOTED

FC 109/13 Declarations of interest:

Cllr Peter Ballantyne declared a Pecuniary interest in agenda item FC 111/13 13/02030/FUL Stratfield Park Leisure Centre 53 Gatcombe Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9EA.

NOTED

FC 110/13 Minutes of previous meetings:

Full Council Meeting held on Monday 16th September 2013

To amend under agenda item FC 91/13 Questions from Members of the Public paragraph 3 to delete "Cllr Dransfield had also spoken with the Environmental Health Officer at Milton Keynes Council who says that he is satisfied with the hours when training is being undertaken".

With that amendment the minutes were **AGREED** and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2013 were

NOTED

FC 111/13 Matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda:

13/02030/FUL Stratfield Park Leisure Centre 53 Gatcombe Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9EA

Cllr Andy Sargent had concerns regarding the floor heights and the impact on the views from the lakeside, he had received drawings from the architects, but it was not clear what the aspect would be like from the redway.

Cllr Andy Dransfield felt that the proposed ridge height should be similar as other properties nearby to the lake; he said that he would speak against the application at a meeting of the Development Control Committee.

Mr Graham Sutherland Chairman of the Stratfield Leisure Centre said the bungalows nearby were built much later than the present Leisure Centre building, and that he had met with the Case Officer Debbie Kirk, to discuss the proposal with her who indicated that the proposed properties should not exceed the ridge height of properties nearby on Gatcombe, none of the proposed properties will exceed the present building on the site.

Mr Sutherland also said the planning application would have to be withdrawn if there can only be single storey buildings.

Cllr Peter Todd moved that the submission as tabled by Cllr Hilary Dyer is submitted to Milton Keynes Council with the following addition "That the ridge heights are the same as existing properties at a similar distance to the lakeside edge".

RESOLVED

To send the submission to Milton Keynes Council as tabled by Cllr Hilary Dyer with the following addition "That the ridge heights are the same as existing properties at a similar distance to the lakeside edge".

FC 91/13 Questions from Members of the Public:

The Parish Clerk has still yet to arrange a public meeting with the Station Manager at the Great Holm Fire Station.

FC 96/13 To discuss concerns regarding possible Development Brief Sites on Great Holm:

Cllr Hilary Dyer informed the meeting that the Parish Clerk had circulated an email from Charles McDonald Chief Executive Officer of the Milton Keynes Development Partnership (MKDP), which indicated that the Little Meadow site on Loughton was still part of a Development Brief, and that if this was still the case then Cllr Dyer would hope that the Parish Council is consulted on any proposals.

Cllr Andy Dransfield said that he will take the matter up as he was previously assured that this was not the case, the Parish Clerk was asked to forward the email on to Cllr Dransfield.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to forward the email from Charles MacDonald CEO of the Milton Keynes Development Partnership regarding the Little Meadow site on Loughton on to Cllr Dransfield.

FC 103/13 Ward Items:

To consider the principle of the printing and issuing of business cards to Councillors

a) To agree to the issuing of an identification badge for Councillors when undertaking community work and dealing with members of the public

Cllrs Andy Sargent and Peter Ballantyne enquired on the progress of issuing him with an identification badge, the Parish Clerk will deal with the matter.

RESOLVED

The Parish Clerk to issue Cllr Andy Sargent with an identification badge.

d) The impact of the proposed development on the site of the National Badminton Centre on bats on Lodge Lake

Cllr Andy Sargent reported that he along with Cllr Zoe Nolan had a meeting with Debbie Kirk (Planning Officer) and Diane Evans (Countryside Officer) at Milton Keynes Council, to discuss how the local bat population will be affected by the proposed planning application at the Badminton Centre on Loughton and the Stratfield Park Leisure Centre on Great Holm, further meetings will be held and the Parish Clerk will be informed of the dates and times.

e) Great Holm Community Centre external decoration

The Parish Clerk has not heard back and will chase the matter up.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to chase the matter up regarding the external decoration at the Great Holm Meeting Place

f) Increasing problems with litter around the small car park at the bottom of Attingham Hill and also by the dog bins near Lodge Lake

Cllr Andy Sargent informed the meeting that since the letter was sent from the Parish Council to the Chair of the angling Association this problem seems to have been resolved.

Cllr Hilary Dyer requested that the meeting with the approved premises on Great Holm is put on the agenda for the next meeting.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to put on the next agenda the meeting with the approved premises on Great Holm

FC 112/13 Questions from Members of the Public:

A member of the public who lives in Porchester Court on Great Holm, said that the school run times were making their lives a misery, cars are parking on corners ignoring double yellow lines, and blocking the dropped kerbs for pedestrians to use, there have recently been two (2) near misses, he had also spoken to Thames Valley Police and the Head Teacher of the School and there has not been any progress in solving the issue, he wondered also whether residents living nearby would be consulted if the School ever applied to extend their pupil numbers.

Cllr Todd replied that any application would need to satisfy Milton Keynes Councils traffic and transport policies.

The Loughton & Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group had met with various agencies to resolve this matter, and been successful in getting additional parking for staff to use to free up existing spaces, Thames Valley Police no longer enforces parking regulations and this is now been devolved to Milton Keynes Council.

Cllr Todd proposed that the Parish Clerk writes to Milton Keynes Council's Highways Department and to the School and raise the concerns of nearby residents.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk writes to Milton Keynes Council's Highways Department and to the School to raise the concerns of nearby residents.

FC 113/13 Report from PCSO Christine Capstick of Thames Valley Police:

PCSO Capstick reported that in the Loughton Park ward for the September period there were sixty-eight (68) crimes, sixteen (16) were priority crimes such as burglary, assault and theft from vehicles,

There had been burglaries in Church Lane, Loughton and Holyrood in Great Holm.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Capstick for her presentation.

NOTED

FC 114/13 Presentations:

Steve Harrison Community Play Development Officer – Milton Keynes Play Association (MKPA)

Report on the summer play sessions in Loughton and Great Holm

Mr Harrison informed the meeting that the twelve (12) half term summer play sessions were a success, 650 children had attended altogether, activities ranged from sports, games, arts, crafts and a bouncy castle, there were family sessions attended by children aged five (5) – seven (7) eighty (80) in Great Holm and sixty (60) in Loughton.

There then followed questions by members.

The Chairman thanked Mr Harrison for his presentation.

NOTED

FC 115/13 Dispensations:

Cllr Peter Ballantyne made a request to the Parish Clerk for a dispensation for up to four (4) years relating to the following planning application:

13/02030/FUL Stratfield Park Leisure Centre 53 Gatcombe Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9EA Demolition of existing leisure centre and erection of 5 detached houses.

RESOLVED

Not to grant a dispensation to Cllr Peter Ballantyne for up to four (4) years relating to planning application 13/02030/FUL Stratfield Park Leisure Centre 53 Gatcombe Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9EA Demolition of existing leisure centre and erection of 5 detached houses.

FC 116/13 Finance matters:

To review and note the financial reports for financial year to 31st of September

NOTED

FC 117/13 Membership of Committees:

Cllr Peter Todd has resigned as a member of the Planning Committee, and nominations were sought for an additional member of the Committee.

RESOLVED

To defer this agenda item as there were no nominations

FC 118/13 To agree the Allotment rent rates for 2013/2014:

Notices are to be sent out to all allotment tenants in October, Members were asked to consider the rent rates for the 2013/2014 financial year.

The 2012/2013 allotment rent rates are as follows:

- Residents of the Parish area - £18 a plot and £9 half plot
- Non residents of the Parish area - £30 a plot and £15 half plot

Members felt that the rates for residents living in the Parish area should not be increased but the rates for non residents should be amended as follows:

- £36 a plot and £18 half plot

Concern was expressed that some plots appeared not to be worked on, and how the plots are allocated to those who are on the waiting list.

RESOLVED

1. **That the 2013/2014 allotment rent rates are £18 a plot and £9 half plot for residents living in the Parish area, and £36 a plot and £18 half plot for non residents of the Parish area.**
2. **That the Parish Clerk speaks to the Site Manager to find out which plots are being worked on, and how plots are being allocated to those that are on the waiting list.**

FC 119/13 Community Asset Transfer: Loughton sports ground, car park and pavilion to the Parish Council:

After some discussion it was felt by members that a structural survey should be undertaken before signing the transfer deed.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk instructs Kirby and Diamond as per the quote of £850 to undertake a structural survey of the Loughton Sports & Social Club building

Cllr Andy Dransfield then left the meeting at 10:00pm

FC 120/13 Landscape Maintenance and Associated Services:

Cllr Peter Todd moved and Cllr Ray Harrison seconded, that Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council will take forward discussions with Milton Keynes Council, with a view to finalising an agreement over devolution of landscape services to the Parish Council, with such agreement to be subject to the approval of the Parish Council once finalised.

RESOLVED

To proceed with discussing with Milton Keynes Council to finalising an agreement over devolution of landscape services to the Parish Council, with such agreement to be subject to the approval of the Parish Council once finalised.

FC 121/13 Model Publication Scheme:

RESOLVED

To adopt the Freedom of Information Act Model Publication Scheme

FC 122/13 Complaints Procedure:

RESOLVED

To adopt a Complaints Procedure

FC 123/13 Grant Aid Application:

Received from Young People are our Future for project work.

RESOLVED

Not to award a grant

FC 124/13 To report on external meetings:

a) Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group

Cllr Hilary Dyer reported to the meeting that the group had driven around Loughton and Great Holm with Chris Carvell Environment Officer from Milton Keynes Council, and identified various matters that needed attention, a list was drawn up and prioritised, and some have managed to be resolved.

NOTED

b) To report on the Vital Signs Conference report launched by the Milton Keynes Community Foundation on Tuesday 1st October 2013 at the Open University

Cllr Peter Ballantyne reported that he had had attended the conference, the Community Foundation had undertaken surveys throughout Milton Keynes on residents perceptions concerning a range of issues, a report was then compiled and presented to the conference, Cllr Ballantyne has copies to be circulated to all members.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to circulate the Vital Signs MK report to all members

c) To report on attendance of the LCSA Town and Parish Network Club and Policy Lab

Cllr Peter Ballantyne reported that he had attended a few of the networking club meetings and found them very useful, which included one on Saturday 6th July on declaring interests, a policy lab on Saturday 21st September and there will be a discussion on contentious planning applications on Saturday 30th November.

NOTED

FC 125/13 Lakeview Green, Great Holm:

Cllr Ballantyne informed the meeting that the Milton Keynes Council Regulatory Committee will be meeting at the Badminton Centre, and will be calling witnesses to answer the panel's questions or to make a statement.

NOTED

Cllr Barry Barrington left the meeting at 10:30pm

FC 126/13 Purchase of a Roller banner:

It was proposed to purchase a roller banner for the Parish Council to use at meetings of the Council and external events at a cost of £130. To be branded with the name and logo of the Parish Council and a list of the areas covered by the parish etc.

RESOLVED

To purchase a roller banner for the Parish Council at a cost of £130

FC 127/13 Planning Applications:

To note the outcome on the following planning applications as decided by Milton Keynes Council:

a) 13/01690/FUL 32 Snaith Crescent Loughton Milton Keynes MK5 8HG Renewal of extant planning permission 07/01314/FUL for front and rear extensions to existing garage to create pool changing area - **Application Permitted**

b) 11/02835/DISCON 34 Snaith Crescent Loughton Milton Keynes MK5 8HG Details submitted pursuant to the discharge of Conditions 6 (landscaping) and 7 (chimney details) attached to planning permission (11/01859/FUL) – **Details approved**

c) 13/01663/CLUP 49 Holyrood Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9DR Two storey rear extension - **Lawful Use/Development s192**

d) 13/01613/FUL 29 Chatsworth Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9AS Insertion of replacement bay window to front elevation (retrospective) - **Application Permitted**

e) 13/01633/FUL 3 Kew Court Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9HH Two storey rear extension - **Application Permitted**

f) 13/01591/FUL 19 Whitworth Lane Loughton Milton Keynes MK5 8EB Front and rear single storey extensions - **Application Permitted**

g) 13/00623/FUL 46 Attingham Hill Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9BX Erection of detached double garage - **Application Permitted**

FC 128/13 Verbal Reports/Updates on the following Projects/Issues:

To consider what action is required including any expenditure on the following ongoing projects/matters:

a) The graveyard extension

The Chairman informed the meeting that the draft minutes of the last meeting had been circulated, the first burial had taken place, two (2) cremation plots have recently been sold, and £7,000 income has been achieved with an original outlay of £8,000.

b) Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Chairman also informed the meeting that there had been no progress to date but will try to move this matter on.

c) Parish Newsletter

The Chairman hoped to have a draft ready for next week.

d) Conservation Area Review

The Chairman said that he would progress the draft consultation statement following feedback from the replies received.

FC 129/13 Parish & Community Summer Fayre event in 2014:

Mr Simon Kirkman has proposed that a fete is held in 2014 at the Loughton Sports Ground and is hosted by the Parish Council but involves the whole community coming together including churches, schools, community organisations, businesses, the Social Club, NAG, Scouts, and Guides. Members felt although this was a good idea, at the moment it would not be possible to be involved due to the current workload and time constraints.

NOTED

FC 130/13 Cheques for Payment:

All cheques presented for payment were authorised and
AGREED

FC 131/13 Date and time of Next Meeting:

Monday 18th November 2013 7:30pm at the Loughton Memorial Hall, Bradwell Road, Loughton

THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 11:00PM

Signed _____ Chair Date _____