

Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council

Full Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 22nd December 2015 7:30pm at the Loughton Memorial Hall, Bradwell Road, Loughton, Milton Keynes

Present: Cllrs Peter Todd (Chair), Barry Barrington (Vice-Chair), Peter Ballantyne, Sandra Bolland, Hilary Dyer, Zoe Nolan (from 8:35pm), Andy Sargent

Also present:

Brian Barton (Parish Clerk)

FC 89/14 Apologies:

Received from Cllrs Andy Dransfield and Isobel Procter

NOTED

FC 90/14 Declarations of interest:

Cllr Peter Todd declared a personal interest in Agenda item FC 99/14 for a grant aid request from the Friends of Loughton School, as he is a School Governor at Loughton School.

NOTED

FC 91/14 Minutes of previous meetings:

To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17th November 2014.

FC 81/14 To report on Members attending external meetings:

(a) Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group – **Cllr Hilary Dyer**

To delete “locations” and replace with “volunteers”

With the above amendment the Chair signed the Minutes as a true and correct record.

AGREED

The Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Monday 1st December 2014 were

NOTED

FC 92/14 Matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda:

FC 69/14 To authorise the execution of the lease of the Loughton Sports ground, pavilion and car park in the terms of the draft:

Cllr Todd is still awaiting a response from Milton Keynes Council on a couple of matters before signing it.

NOTED

FC 73/14 Ward Matters:

a) To update members on issues regarding Horseshoe Walk in Great Holm – **Cllr Hilary Dyer**

Cllr Dyer is still pursuing the matter; the Officer concerned at Milton Keynes Council will in the New Year be working on this issue.

NOTED

FC 86/14 Ward Matters:

To discuss the Milton Keynes Parks Trust on planting on the side of the grid roads – **Cllr Hilary Dyer**

A letter to the Milton Keynes Parks Trust has been sent, after chasing the matter up a member of staff has since replied, to say they have looked at the site and said the grass will be cut twice a year, a site visit with Cllr Dyer has been arranged for February 2015, Cllr Dyer will continue to pursue the matter.

NOTED

To ask the Parish Clerk to seek three (3) quotes for the cost of repainting the metal railings of the bridge over the Loughton brook in Linceslade Grove, Loughton, and to agree to seek permission from Milton Keynes Council to carry out the works – **Cllr Peter Todd**

Milton Keynes Council has replied to the Parish Clerk that the work can only be undertaken by themselves with an approved contractor, the structure was originally constructed with a steel finish and should not have had any paint applied, there appears to be no record as to how this happened, the work is on their maintenance programme.

The Parish Clerk was asked to enquire from Milton Keynes Council as to when the works will take place.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to enquire from Milton Keynes Council as to when the works to repaint the metal railings of the bridge over the Loughton brook in Linceslade Grove, Loughton will take place.

FC 93/14 Questions from Members of the Public:

There were no questions from members of the public.

NOTED

FC 94/14 To receive a Crime Statistics Report from Thames Valley Police:

PC Tony Deeble was not present to report on the crime figures.

Cllr Todd said that three (3) burglaries had recently taken place on Loughton, where car keys had been taken to steal cars parked outside the properties.

The Parish Clerk was asked to write to PC Deeble to express the Parish Council's disappointment that he could not attend the meeting, and its concern regarding the three (3) burglaries and thefts of vehicles in Loughton, and a recent burglary that had taken place on Great Holm and requests further information on these burglaries.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to write to PC Deeble to express the Parish Council's disappointment that he could not attend the meeting, and its concern regarding the three (3) burglaries and thefts of vehicles in Loughton, and a

recent burglary that had taken place on Great Holm and requests further information on these burglaries.

FC 95/14 To report on Members attending external meetings:

(a) Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group – **Cllr Hilary Dyer**

There were no matters to report as the Neighbourhood Action Group had their Christmas Meal instead of their usual meeting.

Cllr Peter Ballantyne informed the meeting that the Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group have cleared the bramble bushes behind the goal posts outside the Great Holm Community Centre.

NOTED

Cllrs Barry Barrington and Hilary Dyer had attended a recent meeting of the Approved Premises, the minutes of which had recently been circulated to Members.

A Forensic Psychologist is working to support staff at the Approved Premises, there is funding for her placement for the next 18 months. The Operational Manager has met with MIND and they have agreed that he can refer residents that are felt to be in need of counselling.

NOTED

Cllr Hilary Dyer attended the Hugh Parke Charity Annual General Meeting when she receives the minutes they will be circulated to Members.

Grants of £2,466.99p have been allocated, half of which have gone to All Saints Church in Loughton, a grant has been given to a local University student for medical equipment, to Holmwood School on Great Holm for a camera and to a pupil to attend a field trip, nine (9) individual local residents, and to Willen Hospice.

NOTED

Cllr Barry Barrington attended a meeting of the Parishes Forum held at the Civic Offices, a new Director of the Public Realm Mick Haines has been appointed who gave a presentation on his vision for the role, and said he will be consulting with Parish & Town Councils, he has produced a Strategic Plan, the consultation is open for the next three (3) months for comments.

The Core Strategy Plan which will be implemented from Easter 2015 and will cover a three (3) year period, Section two (2) of the document says that Milton Keynes Council will protect the open spaces.

Gillian Smith made a presentation on the My MK Website and requested that any issues that Parish and Town Councillors come across then they should report them to Milton Keynes Council.

The draft Milton Keynes Council budget was discussed Government funding has been reduced and there will be additional pressures.

NOTED

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

Cllr Zoe Nolan reported that she is working on her ongoing casework, a lot of which is on housing issues, has met recently with the Chief Executive Officer of the Milton Keynes Parks Trust Mr David Foster, on matters relating to Howe Park Wood and the Badminton Centre, Milton Keynes Council has still not transferred the management of Emberton Park to the Milton Keynes Parks Trust, further discussions are taking place.

Cllr Nolan has had meetings with residents on Great Holm on parking matters including the damage to grass verges, and issues around Holmwood School, she is looking into prevention measures with Milton Keynes Council, the Parish Council may want to consider applying for the Council's Parking Bay Fund.

Has written to residents on Great Holm regarding football being played in the streets, and has good feedback on ways to tackle this matter.

The Westbury Arts Centre would like to undertake Community Engagement events in partnership with the Parish Council.

Swimming lessons in some Schools are not taking place and there maybe a way the Parish Council could be involved in ensuring young people are able to learn to swim.

Presents can be given by residents to looked after Children in the care of Milton Keynes Council.

NOTED

FC 96/14 Finance:

(a) The Finance report for the month of November 2014 was received.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to chase up the outstanding invoice with Prestige Homes for the advert in the newsletter.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk to review the present banking arrangements.**

(b) To agree a draft budget for the financial year commencing 01/04/15 and to determine the precept

Members after some discussion agreed to set a budget of £76,770 and a precept of £71,127

RESOLVED

To set a budget of £76,770 with a precept of £71,127 for the financial year 2015/2016

FC 97/14 Membership of Outside Bodies for the Council Year 2014/2015:

To agree the appointment of an additional representative for the Council Year 2014/2015 to the Shenley Leisure Trust.

Cllr Peter Ballantyne said that he will speak to Mr Mike Jones a resident of Loughton to see if he would be interested in being appointed to the Shenley Leisure Trust.

RESOLVED

That Cllr Peter Ballantyne to speak to Mr Mike Jones a resident of Loughton to see if he would be interested in being appointed to the Shenley Leisure Trust.

FC 98/14 Planning Applications:

(a) 14/02451/FUL 19 Whitworth Lane Loughton Milton Keynes MK5 8EB Erection of timber cabin in rear garden (retrospective) - **Pending Consideration**

RESOLVED

Not to object to this planning application.

(b) 14/02529/DISCON 29 Goodwood Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9AZ Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 4, (Landscaping scheme), 5 (Parking spaces) attached to planning permission 14/00858/FUL (12/01267/DISCON) -

Pending Consideration

RESOLVED

Not to object to this planning application.

FC 99/14 To consider any Grants that have been submitted:

Cllr Peter Todd had declared a personal interest in this Agenda item as he is a Governor at Loughton School.

A Grant Aid application had been received from the Friends of Loughton School for £790 towards the markings for a playground chess set.

Cllr Andy Sargent moved and Cllr Peter Ballantyne seconded that a grant of £500 is awarded towards the markings for a playground chess set.

RESOLVED

To award a grant of £500 to the Friends of Loughton School towards the markings for a playground chess set.

FC 100/14 Ward Matters:

There were no ward matters.

NOTED

FC 101/14 To discuss a proposal to hold a regular social event for elderly people in the Parish to drop in for tea/coffee/biscuits as a way of countering isolation and loneliness in elderly people in the community:

After some discussion Members agreed that a proposal should be written up to hold a regular social event for elderly people in the Parish to drop in for tea/coffee/biscuits, and to circulate to local agencies such as the MacIntyre Coffee Shop on Great Holm, the Badminton Centre on Loughton Lodge, the Guides and Scouts to ask if they would like to be involved.

Cllr Peter Ballantyne said that he will contact Luke Cox at Petworth House on Great Holm.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to write up a proposal to hold a regular social event for elderly people in the Parish to drop in for tea/coffee/biscuits, and to circulate to local agencies such as the MacIntyre Coffee Shop on**

Great Holm the Badminton Centre on Loughton Lodge, the Guides, and Scouts to ask if they would like to be involved.

- 2. That Cllr Peter Ballantyne to contact Luke Cox at Petworth House on Great Holm.**

FC 102/14 To agree to hold a Hustings for the April Parish Meeting and to invite the following to attend:

- Parliamentary Candidates for the Milton Keynes South Constituency
- Milton Keynes Council Candidates for the Loughton & Shenley Ward

Cllr Peter Todd moved and Cllr Barry Barrington seconded that a hustings meeting is held on Monday 20th April 2015 as part of the Annual Parish Meeting, and to book the Badminton Centre, with tea and biscuits to be provided, also that the hustings meeting should be publicised to ensure a good turnout.

RESOLVED

- 1. That a hustings meeting is held on Monday 20th April 2015 as part of the Annual Parish Meeting**
- 2. To book the Badminton Centre for the hustings meeting, with tea and biscuits to be provided**
- 3. To publicise the hustings meeting**

FC 103/14 To note the update list of projects and other work:

The Parish Clerk updated Members on the list of outstanding work and projects.

NOTED

FC 104/14 Cheques for Payment:

All cheques as presented were authorised.

AGREED

Date and time of Next Meeting:

Monday 19th January 2015 7:30pm at Holmwood School, Kensington Drive, Great Holm, Milton Keynes

Signed _____ Chair Date _____