

Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th January 2017, 7:30pm at Holmwood School, Kensington Drive, Great Holm, Milton Keynes

Present: Cllrs Peter Todd (Chair), Zoe Nolan (Vice-Chair), Sandra Boland, Andy Dransfield (until 9:28pm), Hilary Dyer (from 7:34pm), Thomas Gray, Claire Jones, Andy Sargent

Also present: Brian Barton (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Sargent Nigel Jordan (Thames Valley Police), two (2) members of the public

FC 147/17 Apologies:

Received from Cllrs Peter Ballantyne, John Howe

NOTED

FC 148/17 Minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th December 2016 were **AGREED** and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

FC 149/17 Matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda:

FC 121/16 To discuss issues of anti-social behaviour problems on Loughton:

Cllr Zoe Nolan informed the meeting that the graffiti on the parapet at Lodge Lake is the responsibility of Milton Keynes Council to remove as it is on their land.

NOTED

FC 140/16 Loughton Sports & Social Club:

Cllr Andy Dransfield questioned whether the asset is a benefit to the community, and that the Parish Council should obtain additional information covering the finances, bookings, and how many members there are and where they live, to be able to consider properly what options are available to improve community use of the facilities.

The Chair replied that all options are being considered as to how to maximise the full use of the building, but felt it was not worth pursuing the information, as it was doubtful that it would be available.

The Parish Clerk was asked to arrange another meeting of the Loughton Sports Ground Committee to discuss with the Management Committee a way forward to tackle the rent arrears and the outstanding insurance premium payment.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to arrange a meeting of the Loughton Sports Ground Committee

FC 150/17 Questions from Members of the Public:

A member of the public enquired why the bench had still not been removed at Kirkham Court on Loughton.

Has there been any progress on getting additional lighting for the area?

The member of the public also mentioned that brickwork was missing from where the steps lead down to the redway and that there was a lot of rubbish accumulating in the area too.

The Chair replied that he was concerned to learn that the bench has still not been removed, and will ask the Parish Clerk to chase up Milton Keynes Council as the bench should have been removed by now.

The Parish Clerk was also asked to report the rubbish to be removed to Milton Keynes Council.

The Chair advised the member of the public to report the missing brickwork to Milton Keynes Council.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to chase up Milton Keynes Council to find out why the bench at Kirkham Court on Loughton has still not been removed.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk to report the rubbish to be removed next to the steps on Kirkham Court, Loughton, to Milton Keynes Council.**

FC 151/17 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

NOTED

FC 152/17 To receive a Crime Statistics and Report from Thames Valley Police:

Sargent Nigel Jordan presented the crime statistics report for December 2016 which was as follows:

Loughton

Burglary in a Dwelling	Three (3)
Criminal damage - Other/Arson	Two (2)
Harassment	One (1)
Robbery	One (1)
Theft from Vehicle	Four (4)
Theft of a Vehicle	One (1)
Theft in a Dwelling	One (1)
Theft Other	One (1)
Vehicle Interference	One (1)
Total December 2016	Sixteen (16)
Total December 2015	Eleven (11)

Great Holm

Burglary in a Dwelling	One (1)
Total December 2016	One (1)
Total December 2015	Four (4)

Knowlhill

Burglary other than in a Dwelling (attempt only)	One (1)
Criminal damage to vehicle	One (1)
Theft from Vehicle	One (1)
Theft of Pedal Cycle	One (1)
Total December 2016	Four (4)
Total December 2015	Three (3)

There then followed questions by Members.

Sergeant Jordan advised that any incidents of graffiti should be photographed and emailed to PC Tony Deeble, as offenders can often be identified by their tags.

Cllr Dransfield said that he was concerned about the increase in crime on Loughton and asked what preventative measures will be put in place to ensure that the crime rate is lowered in the future.

Sergeant Jordan suggested that the Parish Council writes to him so that a more detailed response can be given.

The Chair thanked Sargent Jordan for attending the meeting and presenting the crime statistics.

Cllr Zoe Nolan suggested that Inspector Lee Brace is invited to the next Parish Council meeting, to present to Members details of the proposed changes to neighbourhood policing.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk writes to Sargent Nigel Jordan to ask what preventative measures will be put in place to ensure that the crime rate is lowered in the future as the crime statistics indicated that there were an increase of incidences in the Loughton area.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk invites Inspector Lee Brace to the next Parish Council meeting, to present to Members details of the proposed changes to neighbourhood policing.**

FC 153/17 To report on Members attending external meetings:

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

Cllr Dyer reported to the meeting that eight (8) members had attended the meeting, which was changed to another date, as it would have clashed with the Loughton Residents Association meeting.

PC Tony Deeble presented the crime statistics and informed the meeting that an arrest had been made at an address on Specklands, Loughton after a search had taken place and drugs were found.

Another litter pick will take place on Saturday 4th February.

Concern was expressed about a lack of progress for the MK50 celebrations, so the Chair Pamela Tarshish proposed to set up an Entertainments subcommittee to discuss ideas and organise events, a suggestion was made to approach residents for photographs of early developments on Great Holm for instance, and to hold a picnic using the marquee to display items of memorabilia, a proposal for a sculpture by Lodge Lake was also discussed.

Fly tipping has been taking place on a regular basis at Kensington Drive, Great Holm by the entrance to the car park, Cllr Dyer reports regularly to Milton Keynes Council when incidents occur.

Cllr Dyer was concerned that the landscaping planted by the neighbourhood action group will be damaged by the amount of rubbish dumped in the bushes, the neighbourhood action group came up with the idea of putting signs up to try to deter further incidents of fly tipping.

Cllr Dransfield suggested that Milton Keynes Council is approached to see if they still have their mobile van and CCTV camera, and if they still do to request that the area is monitored to obtain details of the culprits who are flytipping, which can then be passed onto the Police to deal with.

The Parish Clerk was asked to write to Milton Keynes Council.

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

Cllr Zoe Nolan reported to the meeting that the 2017/2018 Milton Keynes Council budget will be discussed at the next Full Council meeting.

Cllr Nolan has met with Rachel Medhill Chief Executive Officer of the Ride High Charity, to discuss with her, her plans for the Loughton Equestrian Centre.

Cllr Nolan has been lobbying the Milton Keynes Parks Trust for improvements to the local centre on Shenley Church End, the Milton Keynes Parks Trust are now directly managing the site, and they have now started work to regenerate the area, Cllr Nolan has also been in regular contact with the businesses in the local centre to keep them updated on what is happening.

Schools in Milton Keynes are in the top third of the UK for Key stage two (2), following on from improvements on the early years and GCSE results.

Members then asked Cllr Nolan questions on her report.

Cllr Dransfield said that he had endorsed the Ride High application to the Milton Keynes Parks Trust, and has worked with Rachel Medhill for a few months.

Cllr Dransfield believes the charity will make good use of the facility which will benefit many young people.

Cllr Dransfield indicated that he will be attending the Development Control Committee meeting to speak to object to the planning application for 6, Weldon Rise, Loughton.

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

Cllr Andy Sargent reported that he had attended a meeting of the Loughton Residents Association which discussed the problem of Beckett House on Loughton being used by vehicles as a cut through.

A resident living nearby has observed that the situation is getting worse, as the gate is always left open, he has tried to meet with the proprietors to seek a solution, and has now managed to arrange a meeting with them, to discuss the possibility of planting some landscaping such as a row of bushes to restrict movement to deter vehicles from being able to use the area.

The planning application for 6, Weldon Rise, Loughton was also discussed at the meeting.

Cllr Sargent also reported that he had attended a meeting of the Patient Participation Group at the surgery on Great Holm.

Concerns had been expressed about the kebab business being run outside the surgery, Cllr Sargent will get some more information on this issue.

It was suggested that when the Parish Clerk is informed about the renewal of the street trading consent, then the surgery can be approached to see if the situation has been improved or not, and the Parish Council can make the appropriate comments when it is being consulted.

Cllr Sargent informed the meeting that the Surgery holds a community drop in called the tea pot club, which has recently moved as the room is too small, to the nearby church on Two Mile Ash, unfortunately for various reasons this arrangement is not satisfactory.

Cllr Sargent asked if their drop in could be merged with the Parish Council's, but members did not feel that it would be appropriate as the Surgery covers a wide area, and the cost of refreshments will rise and be spent on residents from outside the Parish.

RESOLVED

That Parish Clerk to write to Milton Keynes Council to see if they still have their mobile van and CCTV camera, and if they still do to request that the area

On Kensington Drive, Great Holm is monitored to obtain details of the culprits who are flytipping.

FC 154/17 To agree to the expenditure as part of a rolling programme to replace some of the dog bins in a bad state of repair:

Members considered all of the three (3) quotes as tabled and agreed to the quote provided by Marcus Young Landscapes LTD.

The cost price for like for like replacement for seven (7) dog bins plus fixings is £164.93p plus VAT per bin. (Bin £86.52p, Fixings £61.23p, banding kit £17.18p).

The labour charge is £320 plus VAT.

Members requested that Marcus Young should put on each replacement bin a sticker indicating that the service has been provided by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED

- 1. To agree the quote provided by Marcus Young Landscapes LTD.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk to contact Marcus Young to ask him to put a sticker on each replacement bin indicating that the service has been provided by the Parish Council.**

FC 155/17 To agree to the expenditure to replace the stolen notice board at Leys Road, Loughton:

Members considered the three (3) quotes as provided, and after some discussion agreed that Marcus Young Landscaping LTD is approached for a quote to provide the installation of the notice board.

Members also agreed that three (3) quotes should be sought for a notice board of a plastic type of material that gives the appearance that it is made of wood.

The Parish Clerk was asked to obtain three (3) quotes and to bring back to the next Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to approach Marcus Young Landscaping LTD for a quote to provide the installation of the notice board.**
- 2. That three (3) quotes should be sought for a notice board of a plastic type of material that gives the appearance that it is made of wood.**
- 3. That the Parish Clerk to obtain three (3) quotes and to bring back to the next Parish Council meeting.**

FC 156/17 To agree the expenditure for trimming back the laurel bushes around the Green Hill Close, Loughton allotment site boundary and to crown a couple of ash trees:

Members discussed the quote as provided by Prune & Plant.

It was agreed that another quote should be sought, and that if that quote was more expensive then to go with Prune & Plant.

If the additional quote is cheaper then the company should be appointed to undertake to do the work.

It was suggested that the Parish Clerk approaches RTM Landscaping LTD for the additional quote.

The Chair said that the work should be paid from the rent surplus instead of paying for the skip which the fund is normally used for.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Parish Clerk to obtain an additional quote, if the quote is more expensive then Prune & Plant should be appointed.**
- 2. If the additional quote is cheaper, then that company should be appointed to undertake to do the work.**
- 3. That the Parish Clerk to approach RTM Landscaping LTD for the additional quote.**

FC 157/17 To agree to the funding of the interpretation panel for Lodge Lake at a cost of £837 for the lectern and panel and £700 for the graphic design work. The Milton Keynes Parks Trust would cover the installation cost:

Members agreed to the quote provided by the Milton Keynes Parks Trust.

Cllr Dransfield requested that the refurbishment of the information panel at the Loughton Equestrian Centre is discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED

- 1. To agree to the funding of the interpretation panel for Lodge Lake at a cost of £837 for the lectern and panel and £700 for the graphic design work.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk to inform James Cairncross that the Parish Council agrees to the costs as provided by the Milton Keynes Parks Trust.**
- 3. That the refurbishment of the information panel at the Loughton Equestrian Centre is discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.**

Cllr Dransfield left the meeting at 9:28pm.

FC 158/17 Loughton Sports & Social Club:

The Chair informed the meeting that the planning application for the replacement roof has since been approved by Milton Keynes Council.

Only one (1) quote has been received by the Parish Clerk.

Mr Richard Petty was going to chase up the two (2) other contractors that had been approached to provide quotes, and if they did not wish to proceed then he would approach other providers.

The Chair said he had emailed Mr Petty several times and had not got a reply, until he had received a letter from Mr Petty saying that his email account was not working.

The Chair had raised his concerns with Cllr John Howe who said that he will chase up Mr Petty.

NOTED

FC 159/17 To determine what action to take (if any) to alleviate problems for access of emergency vehicles in Waddesdon Close, Great Holm:

The Chair informed the meeting that a resident had approached him concerned about the problems of access for emergency vehicles into Waddesdon Close, Great Holm.

The close is a cul-de-sac which consists of six (6) houses, which were originally built around ten years ago and were designed for disabled people to live in.

There are currently three (3) wheelchair bound residents living there.

The access road is quite narrow and recently an incident had occurred where one resident called the fire service as they were stuck on their chair lift, when the fire appliance arrived they could not get down the street due to parked cars on one side of the close.

Members discussed the issue, and agreed that the Parish Clerk should write to the Station Commander, to seek his opinion, on how to ensure that parked cars in the close do not impede access to a fire appliance in the future should there ever be another incident.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Clerk to write to the Station Commander, to seek his opinion, on how to ensure that parked cars in Waddesdon Close, Great Holm do not impede access to a fire appliance in the future should there ever be another incident.

FC 160/17 To note the update list of projects and other work:

Cllrs Claire Jones and Andy Sargent agreed to become bank signatories; Cllr John Howe has previously indicated that is happy to be a bank signatory also.

The Parish Clerk will obtain the forms from the bank.

RESOLVED

- 1. That Cllrs Claire Jones, Andy Sargent and John Howe to become bank signatories.**
- 2. That the Parish Clerk to obtain the forms from the bank.**

FC 161/16 Cheques for Payment:

All cheques as presented were authorised for payment.

AGREED

Date and time of Next Meeting:

Monday 20th February 2017 at the Loughton Memorial Hall, Bradwell Road, Loughton, Milton Keynes

Monday 24th April 2017 (Parish Meeting) at the Badminton Centre, Loughton, Milton Keynes

AGREED

THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9:40PM

Signed _____ Chair Date _____