

Loughton and Great Holm Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15/10/18 at 7.30pm at the Moot Hall,
MacIntyre, 54 Haddon, Great Holm MK8 9HP

Present: Councillors Todd (Chairman), Howe, Boland, Sargent, Gray, Dyer (late), Nolan (Vice-Chair, late due to Borough Council commitment)

Staff present: Parish Clerk

Members of the public present: 1 person
1 officer from Thames Valley Police

FC106/18 Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Jones, Ballantyne and Dransfield.

FC107/18 Declarations of interest: Councillor Howe declared a personal interest in agenda item FC110/18a. Councillor Howe is a personal friend of the architect for the application.

7.34pm Councillor Dyer arrived.

FC108/18 Crime statistics report: PCSO Harrison gave the crime statistics report for Loughton combined with Shenley Church End for September 2018:

Total incidents 142

Burglary 2

Criminal Damage 6

Drugs 2

Shoplifting 6

Theft 8

Theft from vehicle 6

Theft of vehicle 2

Crime related incidents 110 (these include domestic situations, prison incidents and use of the Mental Health Act.

FC109/18 Public participation: 3 questions were raised by the member of the public:

- a) **Concern about illegal activity:** Residents of Lucy Lane, Loughton have seen parking on the grass area and also scooters coming to drop-off goods. The residents are worried about reporting this to the police, in case there are repercussions.

The Chairman invited PCSO Harrison to respond.

PCSO Harrison encourage the residents concerned to report their concerns, as Thames Valley Police can keep the caller's identity anonymous while making investigations. Noting the vehicle registration number would be very helpful. There is effectively only 1 PCSO for the Parish and Shenley Church End, so a regular patrol is unlikely.

- b) **Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ):** The Loughton Residents Association (LRA) are working on identifying the subzones of the CPZ. The responsibility has been moved to the parking enforcement team at Milton Keynes Council. The LRA will ask for the parking zone to be enforced, rather than changing the scheme, and will keep the Parish Council informed through the Chairman.

- c) **Wood burning stoves:** a neighbour's stove is giving off a considerable amount of smoke, which is causing concern again. The member of the public has contacted one ward Councillor and may try and speak to another.
Councillor Sargent advised that Milton Keynes Council Environmental Health team is the department to contact and to consider requesting a loan of monitoring equipment for air pollution.

FC110/18 Planning applications: Representations to be made to Milton Keynes Council were considered for the following planning applications:

- a) Councillor Howe did not vote on this item.

18/02393/FUL 1 Gatcombe, Great Holm MK8 9EA change of use from C3 to C2

Resolved: to object to the application on the grounds that there would be a loss of a residential dwelling to the area. The parking plan for 7 vehicles is unrealistic, and some customers will park on the road and create a risk to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

- b) 18/02333/TCA 2 &3 All Saints View Loughton MK5 8BB notification of intention to remove a Honey Locust (T1) and a Maple (T2)

Resolved: No objection

- c) 18/2423/FUL 47 Holyrood, Great Holm MK8 9DR front, rear and side extensions to a 4 bedroomed house

Resolved: To object to the application on the grounds that it is an overdevelopment of the site and will affect the amenity of the neighbouring property. The bulk of the development over the garage is out of character with the street scene.

FC111/18 Planning applications recently validated: None

FC112/18 Street trading licensing: An exclusion clause around schools for food mobile units across Milton Keynes was requested by the Milton Keynes Council licensing team.

Resolved: to support the exclusion clause for all food mobile units across Milton Keynes around schools.

FC113/18 Minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the meeting held on 17/09/18 were approved and signed as an accurate record.

FC114/18 Matters arising:

- a) FC99/18 The Parish Clean-up Fund could include areas which need a deep clean and litter picking kits. However, it was noted that the Neighbourhood Action Group have unused kits and there would be a storage issue. There are no current plans for a litter picking date.
- b) FC89/18 quotes for re-pointing the Obelisk in Great Holm will be obtained for the Parish Council to consider, as stated in the Parish Clerk's report

FC115/18 Minutes of Committees: The minutes of the following meetings were received and noted:

- a) Finance and Staffing Committee 10/09/18
b) Planning Committee 01/10/18

FC116/18 Finance: The finance report was received, and it was noted that there were no payments authorised in August. General reserves of £80,434.70 were available.

Noted

FC117/18 Cheques for payment: The cheques were authorised for payment, with the exception of cheque 0019 for the business rates charge to Milton Keynes for the Pavilion, Loughton.

Resolved: payment to Milton Keynes Council for the business rates is deferred, for the Parish Clerk to query whether the Parish Council should be exempted as a not-for-profit organisation from business rates for the Pavilion and the Great Holm Community Centre.

FC118/18 Section 137 grant: A section137 grant of £500.00 to “Christmas Day Party for the Elderly” was considered.

Resolved: Not to award a section 137 grant to “Christmas Day Party for the Elderly”, because the request of £500.00 was excessive for 5 Parish residents and it is not an organisation local to the Parish.

FC119/18 Dog bin emptying service review: Following a review of the increased collections during the summer period, Marcus Young Landscapes recommended a reduction for the winter period.

Resolved: To thank Marcus Young Landscapes for their responsiveness to damage and the increased service this summer. To reduce the current level of service by Marcus Young Landscapes Ltd for emptying the dog bins during the winter period and review the service before the summer 2019.

FC120/18 Street encampment: The encampment outside Milton Keynes railway station gives a poor impression to people arriving at a main gateway to the city. There is anti-social behaviour over the bridge and into Loughton Park and Milton Keynes Council are working positively to help homeless people to move off the streets. It is unsanitary and unsafe to sleep there overnight, and people are safer in a shelter or alternative accommodation. Residents are concerned about the growing pile of belongings at the station, despite the fact that underpasses have been cleared.

Resolved: To resolve that the Parish Clerk writes to the Leader and Chief Executive of Milton Keynes Council to request a sensitive removal of the encampment outside Milton Keynes Central Railway station.

FC121/18 Parish Clerk: The report from the Parish Clerk was noted.

Councillor Nolan arrived at 9.45pm

FC122/18 Great Holm Community Centre: It was noted that the refurbishment of the Great Holm Community Centre delivered by RPL Construction was successfully completed on 03/10/18 at a final cost of £20,035.00 which was close to the budget. The Centre has been positively transformed, and there are some minor additions that will improve the look of the hall that will be considered at the Premises Committee. The Parish Clerk was thanked for all the work this project entailed.

FC123/18 Milton Keynes Play Association (MKPA): The report from MKPA on the summer play sessions delivered in the Parish was received and it was noted that the sessions are popular for local residents as well as visitors, although no specific numbers are provided for this outcome.

FC124/18 Reports from Councillors: Verbal reports were received from the following members attending external meetings:

- a) **Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group:** no meetings
- b) **Milton Keynes Council:** Ward Councillor Nolan reported that she has been working with the Youth Council on a mental health project led by a pupil from Denbigh school. A SEND inspection (of the support provided for children with special educational needs and disabilities) is imminent. The contract to build the new school in Whitehouse has been awarded to Grahams. The Health Centre is planned for 2019/20.

Councillor Todd commented that the closure of Watling Street for 5 weeks to build a pedestrian crossing and underpass is part of the infrastructure that should have been paid for and implemented by the developers, is not the correct approach to a grid road and is years late in delivery.

Councillor Howe confirmed that the new school will accommodate 1800 pupils and will be named "Watling Academy".

There are currently 3 illegal encampments across Milton Keynes. The budget pressures and cuts are still under consideration, and the move out of Saxon Court for employees is complete. Interviews for the new CEO take place next week.

c) Councillors attending other meetings:

Councillor Nolan reported that the Thames Valley Police community forum was well attended with approximately 20 people including residents from both parishes, school representatives and Councillors. 3 priorities were agreed for the area which were illegal encampments, tackling anti-social behaviour and parking.

The Parish Clerk reported that Barry Connell (residents' representative at Shenley Leisure Trust) gave a verbal update that the section 106 contribution from the Sainsbury's development in 2014 has still not been allocated. This is due to concerns about whether the project can be exempt from VAT. A decision should be made at the next meeting to either pursue the badminton and squash courts or seek an alternative option.

Councillor Howe reported that the land belongs to the school, which needs Skills Funding Agency (SFA) permission and that without the VAT exemption the project would be too costly.

FC125/18 Items for the next agenda: To review the Parish Council's role in the Neighbourhood Action Group (requested by Councillor Gray).

Date and time of Next Meeting: Monday 19/11/18 at 7.30pm at the Moot Hall, MacIntyre, 54 Haddon, Great Holm MK8 9HP

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.16pm

Signed

Date