

Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th December 2017 at Holmwood School, Kensington Drive, Great Holm, Milton Keynes at 7:30pm

Present: Councillors Peter Todd (Chair), Zoe Nolan (Vice-Chair), Peter Ballantyne, Sandra Boland, Andy Dransfield, Hilary Dyer, Thomas Gray, John Howe, Claire Jones

Also present: Bev Field (Parish Clerk)

FC 130/17 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Andy Sargent

FC 131/17 Minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th November 2017 were approved and signed as an accurate record, subject to the following amendments:

- Following agenda item FC115/17 add "Councillor Dransfield left the meeting"
- Agenda item FC120/17 replace "attend" with "hosted" and add "October".
- Agenda item FC121/17 replace "bronze casting" with "steel sculpture".

FC 132/17 Matters arising from the previous minutes that are not on the agenda:

- FC118/17 The presentation by Joanna Fay from Ride High included information that 50 parking spaces for customers were planned at the front of the building, with no current intention to provide further parking. Any plan to extend the car park would require a planning application.
- FC123/17 The refurbishment of the Loughton Sports ground play area is a one-off cost, and Milton Keynes Council own the land.

FC 133/17 17 Declarations of interest:

None received

FC 134/17 Public participation:

Councillor Gray withdrew from the meeting and sat in the public gallery. He asked the council to express concern that he reported an incident to the police, who were slow to respond and then stated that the case had been downgraded. He was then promised a visit from a PCSO within 2 days, but this did not happen.

There were concerns with crime in Great Holm with an attempted burglary that was repeated 2 weeks later at the same property. The police had not checked the CCTV in that time. The Thames Valley Police forum was poorly publicised and attended and closed early.

Resolved:

1. That the Parish Clerk writes to Sergeant Lavery to raise concern that Loughton and Great Holm residents are reporting crime but are not being responded to, and that the reported behaviour may escalate if it is ignored.

2. To request that if officers from Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Team cannot attend the council meeting, that the crime statistics report is sent on a monthly basis to the Parish Council.

FC135/17 To receive a verbal report from Thames Valley Police

None present

FC 136/17 Presentation:

This item was deferred to the next full council meeting, due to illness.

FC 137/17 Planning and licensing applications:

- 17/03115/FUL 82 Petworth, Great Holm, Milton Keynes MK8 9DH

Resolved:

The Parish Council does not object to the application, but requests that close attention is given to whether it provides sufficient parking spaces.

FC138/17 To receive verbal reports from members attending external meetings:

(a) Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group: no formal meetings reported.

(b) Milton Keynes Council: Councillor Nolan reported that the consultation for the Milton Keynes Council budget 2018/19 is now live. Councillor Nolan attended a meeting with the Parks Trust about the graffiti, and the graffiti has been painted over. Councillor Nolan attended presentations to Loughton Manor First School and Loughton School for Inclusion Awards.

(c) Members to report back on any other meetings that they may have attended: Councillor Nolan arrived for the Thames Valley Police forum, but it had closed early due to poor attendance. Councillor Todd was the only attendee.

Councillor Dyer attended a training called “Demystifying Planning”.

Councillor Nolan met with the new manager of the Approved Premises, with a concerned resident. She raised concern that the rules established with the previous manager and not being followed. Previously, the garden was banned after 7pm, but now the neighbour reports that noise, swearing and smoking in the garden are going on until 11.00pm. He has also smelled cannabis in the garden. An agreement was given to limit the garden use to no later than 9.00pm. The manager further commented that there was no contact with community police, no smoking is allowed indoors and that at the front the residents were seen chatting to passing cars and needles had been found. This has resulted in increasing the use of the garden space

Resolved:

1. That the Parish Clerk writes to the management team for the Approved Premises to raise concern about the relaxing of the rules and to request rigorous risk assessments around the behaviour of the residents. The Parish Council is concerned about the risks to residents of the parish and the increasing perception of crime being associated with the Approved Premises.
2. That the Parish Clerk writes to the Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Police team to request that the liaison with the approved Premises is re-established, now that there is a new manager.

FC139/17 Finance report

The finance report was received and noted.

FC140/17 Draft minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee 11/12/17

The draft minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee were received and noted.

FC141/17 Business plan for 2018/19

The draft business plan for 2018/19 was considered.

Resolved:

To agree the draft with the following additions:

1. To consult residents on the use of the Specklands play area.
2. To consult residents about the allotment provision in the parish, and possible alternatives.
3. To renew the interpretation board on the Green in Loughton.
4. To maintain sub-accounts of revenue and capital for the Loughton Sports ground premises, the Great Holm Community centre premises (post completion) and the allotments.

FC142/17 Budget and parish precept for 2018/19

Motion: proposed by Councillor Howe and seconded by Councillor Boland:

To approve the proposed budget for 2018/19 at 0% increase in the precept.

Recorded vote:

For: Councillors Howe, Nolan, Jones, Dransfield, Boland, Gray (6)

Against: Councillors Dyer, Ballantyne (2)

Abstain: Councillor Todd (1)

The motion was carried.

FC 143/17 Milton Keynes Play Association Summer Open Access Play Scheme sessions for 2018

The association is now a unique provider; therefore, the council is unable to seek comparative tenders. The scheme is open access, and children can just turn up and participate.

Resolved:

To book the silver package at a cost of £325 per session, for 18 sessions. These will include 9 sessions each for Great Holm and Loughton comprising of 2 in the Easter holiday, 1 in the Spring half term and 6 in the summer holiday.

FC144/17 Additional expense of £700 for an asbestos report for Loughton Sports and Social Club in accordance with the financial regulations paragraph 4.6

The additional expense of £700 for an asbestos report for Loughton Sports and Social Club was **noted**.

FC 145/17 Progress report of the Parish Clerk

The quote for repairs to the pathway in the Millennium meadow is information to be considered by the full council.

FC 146/17 Cheques for Payment:

The cheques for payment were authorised.

FC147/17 Items for the next agenda

1. To consider accepting the extra land proposed by Milton Keynes in the asset transfer of the Great Holm Community Centre.
2. Financial planning for the Loughton Sports and Social Club and Great Holm Community Centre.

Date and time of Next Meeting:

Monday 15th January, 7:30pm at Holmwood School, Kensington Drive, Great Holm, Milton Keynes.

The meeting ended at 10.13pm

Signed

Date