



Minutes of the meeting of Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council held on Monday 17/02/20 at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, 87 Kensington Drive, Great Holm MK8 9AY.

Councillors present: Councillors Todd (in the Chair), Altieri-Douglas, Bailey, Dyer, Feeney, Howe, Nayee, Nolan and Sargent

Staff present: Philip Compton (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public present: 11

FC186/20 Apologies: An apology for absence was received from Cllr Hoyle

FC187/20 Declarations of interest: None were given.

FC188/20 Public participation: Members of the public were present to comment on three separate matters; disability access at the Pavilion, which was agenda item FC199/20, the Station Square development, and the informal gate on the boundary of Ride High Equestrian Centre. In order to facilitate these discussions, and with consent of the Council, item FC199/20 was brought forward for discussion. Members of the public all left the meeting by 8:20pm.

- 1) FC199/20 Disabled access at the Pavilion: Ward Cllr Amanda Marlow and two members of the public put forward to the Council the matter of gaining access via wheelchair to the Grumpy Cook Café. All present noted the difficulties of people in wheelchairs gaining access, noting however, that the building was let to the Grumpy Cook café, and as such this was the tenant's responsibility. However the Council wished to help facilitate wheelchair access to the Grumpy Cook, and meetings had been held with the tenant to request better wheelchair access. The tenant had confirmed to the Clerk, and to Cllr Nolan, that he was in process of purchasing a ramp. One member of the public, who was Chair of the Milton Keynes Centre for Integrated Living (MKCIL), provided his contact details and offered his service as a surveyor for disability matters at premises. Councillors agreed that if the tenant requested financial assistance in the matter of improving disability access, the Council would be receptive to requests. **The Clerk agreed to pass on the offer of a survey and of financial assistance to the tenant.**
- 2) Former Cllr of the Parish, Mark Eaton, brought the matter of the Station Square development in Central MK to the Council, alongside other concerned residents and Ward Cllr Dan Gilbert, who helped to explain the options available to the Parish Council and to residents who were present as members of the public. After discussion, where it was noted both residents and Councillors considered the development would likely resemble the development at Harlow, and where concern was expressed over a lack of parking facility for such a large number of new residents to Station Square, it was agreed the Parish Council would; **write to both MK MPs to express concern over the development and request action to be taken over the relaxation of Permitted Development Rights, and to write to MKC Planning to request to be kept abreast of matters concerning Station Square Development.**
- 3) The third topic for discussion brought to the Council was on the informal gate that had been constructed in the place of a fence and which was being used to transport horses and other equestrian equipment to the fields, on Whitworth Lane in Loughton. Several Councillors had noted at the Landscape Review on 4 February 2020 that the fence had been tampered with, but that at that time there was no galvanised metal gate, which had since been constructed. It was noted the landowner was the Parks Trust, and that the

Parish Council wished to encourage the Equestrian Centre's activities, as they were charitable in nature. **Councillors noted the Chair had written to Ride High about the informal gate, and the Chair agreed to communicate any response received to Full Council.**

FC189/20 Thames Valley Police: The December crime statistics report for Loughton Park had been received from PCSO Capstick as follows:

Offence	Shenley Church End	Loughton
Action Fraud	1	1
Arson	1	0
ASB	1	0
Assault with injury	1	1
Assault without injury	3	2
Bilking	0	0
Burglary	2	0
Attempted Burglary	0	0
Business Burglary	2	1
Criminal Damage to cars	2	8
Criminal Damage to Property	1	4
Dangerous dog	0	0
Drink/drug driving	1	1
Drug offences	2	0
Fire Arms Offences	0	0
Garage Break in/attempt	0	0
Malicious Communications	2	0
Offensive weapons	1	0
Public Order	1	4
Road Traffic Incident	0	3
Robbery	0	2
Shoplifting	4	0
Suspicious Circumstances	0	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	12	3
Theft of Bicycle	0	0
Theft of Property	2	1
Theft of Vehicle	1	0
Unauthorised Encampment.	0	0
Total	40	31

There were a total of 140 Reported Crimes in Loughton Park Policing area which included the parishes of Shenley Church End and Loughton & Great Holm, 15 less than the previous month. 82 crimes recorded for these purposes were crime related incidents which included; Domestic, Domestic Assaults, Reported incidents in the prison and the young Offender Unit, missing people reports, adult and child protection reports etc. These reports were of no interest to the members of the public so were not discussed.

Discussion: Councillors commented that the spate of crimes in Loughton did not appear to be reflected in the crime statistics report (see above). Councillors discussed the possible relationship between reported crimes and the Denbigh School, however it was noted that the throwing of stones through resident's windows was likely not committed by Denbigh students, who could be accounted for during daytime hours as being in school.

Action: Councillors discussed what the Parish Council could do to help, and agreed the Clerk would communicate with PC Capstick on this matter.

FC190/20 Planning and licensing applications: To consider any representations to be made to Milton Keynes Council on the following planning applications:

- a) Application no: 20/00252/FUL, Proposal: Proposed Two Storey Side, with Internal and External Associated works. At: Pelham 15A Bradwell Road, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8AP

Action: It was resolved the Council held no objections to the application, and the Clerk would comment on the MKC portal to that effect.

FC191/20 Planning Applications since publication of the agenda: The following representations had been made to Milton Keynes Council since the publication of the agenda:

- a) Application no: 20/00292/FUL, Proposal: Erection of part first floor, part single storey and part two storey extensions to existing detached garage including pool room, games room and cinema room (Re-submission of 08/01300/FUL) 30 Redland Drive, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8FB.
- b) Application no: 20/00300/FUL, Proposal: Proposed single storey side and rear extensions, part garage conversion, replacement windows and doors, front porch & canopy over parking area, new cladding & internal alterations 22 Little Meadow, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8EH
- c) Street Trading Consent Renewal - Ozzies Kebab, trading at Kensington Drive, Great Holm ref 133878
- d) no: 20/00353/CLUP, Proposal: Loft conversion with dormer extension to rear roofslope and rooflights to front roofslope, at: 46 Ashpole Furlong, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8EF

Action: It was resolved the Council held no objections to the applications, and the Clerk would comment on the MKC portal to that effect.

FC192/20 Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2020 were **approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.**

FC193/20 Committee Minutes: Draft minutes of the Premises Committee meeting held on 10 February 2020 were **received and all actions were ratified.** It was noted the Committee was not quorate but that the meeting had been worthwhile and there were many useful actions that had arisen (which were discussed in more detail under item FC196/20 below). Minutes from the Premises Committee meeting held on 23 September 2019 were **approved as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.**

FC194/20 Payments: The Payment schedule had been drawn up prior to the meeting, Councillors approved payments, noting there was a one-off payment to the Clerk who had paid using his debit card in order to get a Landlord's Gas Safety Certificate for the GHCC, which was a mandatory requirement for landlords. Alongside notification to the Chairs of Full Council and of the Finance and Staffing Committee, the Clerk had used his delegated powers under Financial Regulation 4.2 to spend small sums of money for emergency repairs to get a gas company to provide a gas safety certificate and service the boiler at the same time and to commission the repair of the wired-in light in the Community Centre to avoid hall-hirers attempting to do the same. There was a £500 payment to RideHigh (a local charity in Loughton), made under s137 as authorized in December's Full Council meeting. There was also a bill for £5,586 for landscaping work during the year from Serco.

FC195/20 RFO update: Clerk informed Council of the current bank balance (£66,296 as at 12 February 2020), and provided a detailed income and expenditure report. The Clerk informed Council he had been working on an excel document which would show actual spend

against budgeted spend, actual income versus budgeted income, for the last financial year and the current financial year (to February). This identifying variance and helped clarify where the spend had been which had reduced the Council's balance from £136k to £66k in two years. Councillors noted this was largely on account of the two significant refurbishments that had happened over the past 24 months. Councillors noted the excel worksheet would help Councillors in financial decision-making going forwards. Councillors requested to view the document, and **the Clerk agreed to distribute it electronically.**

FC196/20 Premises update: The Clerk provided verbal update on premises matters (Pavilion, GHCC, bins, allotments, football pitches). Many Premises-related matters had been discussed at the Premises Meeting on 10 February, and Minutes of that Meeting were referred to. The following points were noted by Council:

- Communication had been ongoing with the Grumpy Cook and was in reference to the following; rent in arrears (the Grumpy Cook was still one month in arrears), signage (Councillors wished to offer help in improving advertising of the business to the front of the building), removing the 'no ball games' signs (the Clerk had sought and received permission from the Grumpy Cook to remove these), and disabled access (item FC199/20 refers).
- At the GHCC the Brownies had ceased as a regular hall-hirer, rent in arrears was for the Autumn and Spring terms (£500), the clerk was still chasing this but communication from the District Brownie Commissioner had indicated funds may not be sufficient to pay the Council (see email correspondence as provided), and when confirmation of this was received it would be written off as a bad debt. The Brownies as an organisation had been unable to retrieve either the indoor cupboard key or the front door key, and so the indoor cupboard key had been replaced by the caretaker and the front door lock to the GHCC had also been replaced (cost was borne by the Brownies for this), and new keys had been distributed to all regular hall-hirers. A new regular group had been found to fill the Tuesday evening slot, a local yoga group.
- The Clerk had held an election at the Greenhill Close Allotment for a site agent. There had been a high number of respondents and ballots received, and Ken Vaughan had won the election and so remained Site Agent.
- A large structure had been built on allotment 12b, photographs of this had been distributed and Councillors considered it was a Health and Safety risk and **agreed the structure must be cut down to a maximum height of 6 feet before the end of February.**

FC197/20 Landscape Serco costs to be approved:

Discussion: Councillors noted the email that had been sent to all Councillors from MKC informing them the pathway around the sports pitches was to be re-tarmacked. Councillors approved of the project in principle and noted they would likely contribute to repair the patch belonging to the Parish Council, noting it was a particularly muddy patch. Councillors thanked Cllr Nolan for her efforts in this project to date.

Action: Council agreed to defer to the next Full Council Meeting decision-making into which costs to approve of Serco work in Loughton until after the Great Holm Landscape Review, which was scheduled for 26 February. Council resolved to authorise removal of the bench in Millennium Meadow, which was attracting youths conducting bad behaviour.

FC198/20 Air ambulance bin in Pavilion car park:

Action: Council resolved to remove the Air Ambulance clothes bin, which was unsightly, had been placed there without Council's permission, and which attracted fly-tipping around it.

FC199/20 Disabled Access at the Pavilion: This agenda item had been discussed at the beginning of the Meeting (see item FC188/20 above).

FC200/20 Memorial Hall:

Action: After discussion it was resolved to insert small posters advertising the Memorial Hall on Parish noticeboards in Loughton only.

FC184/20 Reports from members: The following reports were received from members attending external meetings:

- a) Cllr Dyer provided a summary of the recent Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) Meeting which had happened at Cavendish House. Cllr Dyer informed the Board the NAG would participate in the Great British Spring Clean and there would be a litter-pick on 4 April. Vouchers had been received from city fibre, and planning had begun for the 2020 Picnic on the Green. Members of the NAG had requested to attend the Great Holm Landscape Review on 26 February and the Council agreed to welcome local participation from members of the NAG.

FC202/20 Items for the next agenda: The Chair reminded Councillors to inform the Clerk of any items they wished to be discussed at the next meeting.

Date and time of Next Meeting: Monday 16/03/20 at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, 87 Kensington Drive, Great Holm MK8 9AY

The Meeting was declared closed at 9:30pm.