



Minutes of the Meeting of Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council held at the Community Centre in Great Holm on Monday 17 January 2022 at 7.30pm

Councillors present: Councillors Nayee (in the Chair), Altieri-Douglas, Dyer, Feeney, Howe, Hoyle (from 9:10pm), Nolan, Sargent and Todd.

Staff : Philip Farquharson (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public present: 9

FC145/22 Apologies: Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Bailey and apologies for late arrival had been received from Cllr Hoyle, and these were approved.

FC146/22 Declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest.

FC147/22 Public participation: There were nine members of the public present, and they raised the following concerns:

Lighting on the footbridge over the railway from Loughton to the Train Station. The residents requested of the Parish Council to ask MKC and the police about security measures that could be instigated there. It was noted that there were previously brighter lights, but these were replaced with bollard-type lights which were far less bright, and which were being vandalised resulting in the bridge being dark and insecure.

Councillors noted the concern of the residents and updated them on correspondence with MKC officials – who reported that there was a proposal to place newer and brighter lights there. Also Councillors informed the residents they had been pushing the police for more of a presence in the area, and at the footbridge in particular. There had been work done at the train station to try and improve the safety and security of the area.

The potential to install CCTV was discussed. It was noted an issue with installation of CCTV would be monitoring the cameras. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the relevant MKC official in charge of Highways or the bridge, Cllr Nolan would provide the contact details.

Another matter raised by members of the public was the demolition of 129 London Road in Loughton. The resident considered the building was characterful and was sad it had been knocked down. Councillors informed the member of the public they had considered the application at a meeting but had found no material grounds to object to the planning application.

FC148/22 Minutes: Minutes of the last meeting held on 15 November 2021 were approved as an accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

FC149/22 Payments:

Action: Monthly payments for January were approved, and December's payments and current bank balance of £113k were noted.

The Chair moved to discuss item FC157/22 prior to FC150/22 in order to consider whether the football posts would be a appropriate for the funding application.

Three members of the public left the meeting at this time (8:08pm).

FC157/22 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Fund:

Discussion focussed around what the conditions for application might be, and what Parish Council assets could be suitable for the funding application, which included the football posts and the astroturf in Great Holm.

The Clerk informed those present he had obtained a quote for replacing the astroturf at the basketball pitch in Great Holm, which was around £10,000. A vote was held as to whether to apply for the cost of replacing the in Great Holm:

Those in favour: 5

Against: 3

Action: It was agreed to apply for the cost of replacing the astroturf of the basketball pitch in Great Holm.

FC150/22 Permanent football posts: It was on the agenda to consider whether to install football posts at the pitches in Loughton.

A vote was held, as to whether to install permanent football posts at the pitches in Loughton.

Those in favour of one set of posts: 5

Against: 2

Abstain: 1

Action: It was resolved therefore to install one set of posts, and that they should be good quality (as vandalproof as possible) and therefore those of soccertackle were chosen, and upon the condition that they were removable, and TYFC would be asked which pitch they would go on.

FC151/22 Defibrillator box:

A vote was taken as to whether to pursue purchasing of a box with a 999 call number on it to access:

Those in favour: 4

Against: 2

Abstain: 2

Action: It was agreed therefore to purchase a box to house the defibrillators in, and option 2 was chosen, from 'defibpad'.

FC152/22 EV Charging Points update: it was on the agenda to receive a report on progress of EV charging points at locations across the Parish, which was duly noted.

Action: Noted, and Cllr Nolan would ask the school if they were in favour of an EV charging point at the car park outside the school.

FC153/22 Finance Update: A report had been provided by the Clerk, for Councillors to note Parish Council finances for the year to date, considering income and expenditure against budget, and any significant variations.

Action: Noted.

FC154/22 Calorifier and showers work at Pavilion:

Action: This item was taken at the end of the meeting, by which time all members of the public had left.

FC155/22 Landscaping Delivery 2023: It was on the agenda to consider 'Information for Parish and Town Councils interested in delivering Landscaping Services from 2023'.

Action: The item was deferred.

FC156/22 Newsletter:

Action: A vote was held as to whether to proceed, with an aim to do this before the end of March 2022.

Those in favour: 6

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

Action: It was resolved to proceed therefore with the newsletter, with an editorial board consisting of Cllrs: Dyer, Feeney, Nolan and Todd.

The Clerk cautioned that the timeframe was ambitious, and might have the effect of delaying other Parish Council business as there were many projects in process and only one full-time staff member to manage them.

FC158/22 Planning applications: To consider any representations to be made to Milton Keynes Council on the planning applications (pages 83-84):

- a) Application no: 22/00022/FUL Proposal: Single storey rear extension with a flat roof and roof lantern, new bi-fold doors partially within existing rear elevation and new door and window to existing side elevation At: 40B Bradwell Road, Loughton, Milton Keynes, MK5 8AJ

Action: It was resolved not to object to this planning application.

FC159/22 Agency cleaning staff pay:

Action: The increase of £1/hour effective 01 December 2021 was noted.

FC160/22 Hugh Parke Trust membership:

Action: Cllr Nolan was nominated to the trustee board.

FC161/22 Health and Social Care Levy:

Action: Councillors noted employer National Insurance increase from 13.8% to 15% and employees' increase from 12% to 13.25% for 2022-23. The Clerk explained that the Parish Council as employer was exempt from paying National Insurance due to the low amount of staffing pay, but that staff members would have to pay this increased contribution.

FC162/22 Reports from members: It was on the agenda to receive verbal reports from members attending external meetings. No reports were given.

FC163/22 Items for the next agenda: All members were reminded to notify the Clerk of any items for the agenda in accordance with the Parish Council's standing orders, in particular standing order 9b, which was confirmed as being 7 clear days prior to the publication of the agenda, not including the day of the notice nor the day of the meeting.

Cllr Hoyle joined the meeting at this time (9:10pm).

FC154/22 Calorifier and showers work at Pavilion: Quotes had been provided and a report of the Clerk recommending renewal of the calorifiers and have on-demand showers at the Pavilion, to reduce electricity consumption at the premises.

Action: Councillors noted the high cost of replacing the calorifiers and the item was deferred.

Date and time of Next Meeting: Monday 21 February 2022 at 7.30pm, at the Loughton Memorial Hall.

The meeting was declared **closed** at 9:35pm.