



Loughton and Great Holm Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17/09/18 at 7.30pm at the Moot Hall, MacIntyre, 54 Haddon, Great Holm MK8 9HP

Present: Councillors Todd (Chairman), Nolan (Vice-Chair), Ballantyne, Boland, Sargent, Dyer, Dransfield (left early) and Jones (left early)

Staff present: Parish Clerk

Members of the public present: 2

2 officers from Thames Valley Police

1 Station Commander from the Fire and Rescue Service

FC83/18 Apologies: apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Howe and Gray

FC84/18 Declarations of interest: Councillor Ballantyne declared a personal interest in agenda item FC91/18. He is a neighbour and friend of the applicant.

FC85/18 Report from Thames Valley Police: PCSO Capstick will be seconded to another post on 15/10/18, and she introduced PCSO Harrison who will be taking over her role. The Chairman thanked PCSO Capstick for all her hard work over 12 years in the Parish; she has been greatly appreciated and will be missed.

PCSO Harrison gave the crime statistics report for August:

154 Reported crimes for the area, although 1 was incorrectly signed, SCE
6 x Theft (not paying for food, fraud and possible misplacing of a phone) 4 SCE 1 Loughton
1 x Serious ASB; a neighbour on neighbour problem
3 x Burglary, 2 SCE 1 Loughton
8 x Theft from vehicle 5 SCE (at the Premier Lodge) 3 Loughton
1 x Theft of motor vehicle - this occurred from another area but was stopped on the H5. Several arrested for this theft and other offences across MK
1x Theft of bike SCE
5 x Harassment by/or malicious communication
1 x Bilking (theft of fuel)
3 x Public Order offences (sisters fighting in the street after a night out)
2 x Drug offences, 1 in SCE 1 Loughton.
2 x Hate crime; ASB related 1 SCE 1 Loughton
14 x Criminal damage 13 SCE 1 Loughton
105 x CRI's
1 x Traveller encampment

SCE = Shenley Church End

Loughton = Loughton and Great Holm combined

FC86/18 Presentation by Station Commander Freer from the Great Holm Fire and Rescue Service:

There are currently no fixed plans for the Great Holm site. The Authority has a duty to achieve the best return for its capital assets when placed on the open market. It will be for the new owners how the site used, subject to the relevant planning process

The new station is being funded by a mix of Transformation Funding from Central Government, contributions from Thames Valley Police and South-Central Ambulance Service, section 106 funding from developers, BMKFA Capital Reserves and BMKFA Capital Receipts. There will be no additional borrowing and no impact on the current level of Council Tax.

The original concept has changed and now includes a major facility for South Central Ambulance Service within Milton Keynes, allowing them to vacate their sites at both Milton Keynes Hospital and Bletchley and relocate into one all-purpose site including Patient Transport Services at West Ashland. There will be a 3-storey facility with space for other public sector bodies or community use.

On a day-to-day basis, duty crews carry out protection visits to commercial properties (SSRA's), community safety commitments including HFRC's, safe and well-being visits, fetes and open days within our community.

An emergency access road will be constructed that will allow emergency access directly onto Groveway H9 to avoid any risk of being blocked in. The risk of high levels of traffic within Milton Keynes is no different to now when attending incidents in the vicinity, as both Bletchley and Great Holm use the main arterial roads, as they will from the Blue Light Hub. From experience, those who use the road networks within Milton Keynes are very good at reacting appropriately to the movement of response vehicles when responding to emergency calls.

The space on the towers is rented to communication data providers. They will be de-commissioned shortly before the site is vacated. There are options being looked into the relocation of them; however, this is for the data provider to decide.

The meeting of response time targets was covered in a report and considered by the Fire Authority in February 2016 at the public meeting held in Milton Keynes. This demonstrated there would not be any detrimental impact overall. The full report is available on our website:

https://bucksfire.gov.uk/files/4214/5459/7407/ITEM_9_MK_Station_Merger_Consultation_Feedback_and_Recommendations_and_Appendices.pdf

The new building is on schedule and working towards opening in October 2019. It will have new equipment with the latest technology. The training facility at Great Holm has been used for the initial training of apprentices. Since 2016, we have recruited through apprenticeship schemes; the first group qualified recently and were offered and accepted full time employment in BFRS. We have two further groups working towards their qualification and it is anticipated a position will be offered once qualified.

Councillor Dransfield left the meeting at 8.07pm

Councillor Ballantyne left the meeting at 8.07pm and returned at 8.10pm

FC87/18 Public participation: Three questions were raised by the public:

- a) The streetlights on the footbridge to the rail station near Kirkham Court are on all day and night, what can be done about this?

The Chairman advised that this is the responsibility of Milton Keynes Council. The Parish Clerk will raise it when she follows up progress with changing the lights.

- b) Can the park off Redland Drive and Kirkham Court be named?

The Chairman explained that as the play parks are being renovated by Milton Keynes Council, they tend to become named after the park theme e.g. the "Pirate" play park in Loughton.

- c) What is the situation with the Pavilion in Loughton?

The Chairman replied that possession has reverted to the Parish Council. Community suggestions and applications for the future use of the facility are welcome and the Parish Council is open to consider all ideas.

FC88/18 Minutes of previous meetings: The minutes of the following meetings were approved and signed as an accurate record, with the addition to FC 63b of "Hazeley, Loughton and Loughton Manor Schools" and "Denbigh School" deleted:

- a) 16/07/18

- b) 06/08/18 (extra-ordinary meeting)

FC89/18 Matters arising: FC73/18 Cleaning the Obelisk in Great Holm has been a success with 90% of the efflorescence removed. Councillor Dyer requested the pointing at the base is reviewed. The Parish Clerk arranged for the surveyor from Aitchison and Raffety to check the pointing. His advice was that it is cosmetic only and does not affect the structure; the Obelisk will not need re-pointing for at least a couple of years.

The Parish Clerk was requested for information on a quote for re-pointing and to request the weeds are sprayed.

FC90/18 Minutes of Committee meetings: The draft minutes of the Loughton Sports Ground Committee of 06/09/18 were received. It was clarified that to be quorate this Committee must have a minimum of 2 members present. **Noted**

Councillor Ballantyne left the meeting and joined the public gallery for the next item.

FC91/18 Planning and Licensing applications: Representations to be made to Milton Keynes Council were considered for:

- a) 18/02095/FUL 38 Gatcombe Great Holm Milton Keynes MK8 9ET - Retrospective planning permission for oak built car port

Resolved: To object to the retrospective application on the grounds that it is in close proximity to the pathway, to the extent that the guttering is cut around the lamppost. It is at odds with the character of the street scene, for example, the roof does not match the house roof tiles, it is not enclosed, and no other property has a garage in this position.

Councillor Ballantyne returned to the meeting

FC92/18 Planning and Licensing applications validated since the publication of the agenda: None

FC93/18 Finance report: The finance report was received and noted. It was clarified that the report on income and expenditure for the Loughton sports ground and Pavilion from 2013-19 (see agenda item FC90/18 above) was written in response to a specific request and will not be part of the ongoing financial reporting. The monthly finance report shows all the income and expenditure for all nominal codes each month (see Financial Regulations paragraph 4.9)

Signatories have been unable to register with Lloyds for electronic payments. The Parish Clerk will contact Lloyds for further support.

Noted

FC94/18 Cheques for payment: The cheques were authorised for payment.

Approved

FC95/18 MK50 Sculpture information plaque: The wording on the plaque has been developed by the artist in consultation with the Parks Trust and the Parish Clerk. The draft will be circulated for members to see before commissioning. It may be possible to obtain a discount of the plaque is included in a batch, but this is not guaranteed. The plaque is a vandalism-resistant etched zinc graphic panel. A maximum of 50 words is required and it will be one of 25 plaques the Parks Trust are commissioning for art works.

Resolved:

- a) To circulate the draft design of the plaque.
b) To fund an information plaque provided by The Parks Trust for the MK50 sculpture in Lodge Lake at £504.40+VAT

FC96/18 Fire detection system: The quote for installing a fire detection system at The Pavilion, Loughton by Tickford Security for £1560.00+VAT to include 14 base units and smoke/heat detectors was considered. This is an extension of the contract in place for the intruder alarm (Financial Regulations 11.i.4).

Resolved: To approve payment of £1560.00+VAT for the fire detection system including 14 base and detector units from Tickford Security Systems Ltd.

FC97/18 Allotments: The allotments have been regularly reviewed by the Parish Clerk with the Allotment Representative. Two plots have been re-allocated and then split to make them more manageable. Further plots will become vacant in October.

Due to the requirements for storing personal details under the General Data Protection Regulations a review of the agreements was undertaken. New agreements with personal data consent were written for all plots. Residents on the waiting list were contacted 3 times for permission to store their details. Many did not respond, consequently the waiting list was reduced from 29 people to 12.

An election for the voluntary role of Allotment Representative at Greenhill Close has not taken place since 2015. The current representative and Parish Clerk will plan to undertake an election in 2019.

The plots off Pitcher Lane were not all being charged rent nor had agreements in place. Following meetings with the plot holders, new agreements were written and signed alongside consent to store personal details and rent has been collected. One plot is divided into 5 small sections by consensus with plot holders who did not want a full plot, and these now have an allotment representative.

- a) **Rent review:** The scale of charges for the allotments at Greenhill Close, Loughton and off Pitcher Lane, Loughton for 2018/19 was reviewed. The fees have remained the same for a number of years.

Resolved: To increase the rent to residents to £22.00 per year per whole plot (£11.00 half-plot), non-residents £44.00 per year per whole plot (£22.00 half-plot)

- b) **Landscaping quote:** The borders of the Greenhill Close site are overgrown and encroaching over the plots. It is 4-5 years since the previous pruning. The Parks Trust trimmed their borders 2 years ago and these are satisfactory.

Resolved: To approve payment of £890.00+VAT quoted by Serco to cut back the brambles and laurel, lift the branches and cut back the hedge at the Greenhill Close site along the border with Rushley Close and Watling St.

- c) **Rules for allotment holders:** The rules have been reviewed and updated to include clarification, resolutions made in 2015 and the process for applying to swap plots.

Resolved: To approve the updated rules for allotment holders to include the following:

- (i) Rule no.1 has been clarified to emphasise that plots are regularly reviewed, and that plot-holders may be asked to improve their plot, and risk losing it if the plot remains untended.
- (ii) Rules 21-23 The resolutions made by the Parish Council in February and March 2015 (FC117/15 and FC127/15) are included.
- (iii) Rule 24 When a plot becomes vacant, existing plot-holders who have kept their plots in excellent order may request to swap plots by contacting the Parish Clerk who will consult the Allotment Representative. Should there be more than one applicant, the standard of their plot and the length of time the original plot has been held will be taken into account, with the longest length of tenancy having priority.

Councillor Jones left the meeting at 9.14pm

FC98/18 To receive verbal reports from members attending external meetings:

- a) **Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group:** The Picnic on the Green event was positive and took place on 21/07/18 with about 50 people attending. There were races, craft, bouncy castle, tug-of-war and police cycle security checks. The leaflet delivery service was poor. No meetings have been held since then.

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

- Councillor Nolan reported that she made a delegated decision last week to award the contract for the western expansion area secondary school to be run by Denbigh School and be built in Whitehouse. It will offer 1800 places for 12-16-year olds and have 4 feeder primary schools.
- MKC has made cuts of £144million since 2011 but there is a financial gap of £33million from 2019 to 2023. Budget reductions of £10m have been found so far.
- Milton Keynes Futures:2050 is looking at Milton Keynes as the hub of the Cambridge-Milton Keynes Oxford arc. Part of this is Renaissance:CMK which will encourage additional private sector development in central Milton Keynes (CMK). The report is available online.
- The cabinet had an update on traveller sites. Legal advice received is that the action should not be town-wide but focussed on vulnerable sites. Evidence is needed from all agencies to be co-ordinated by MKC. Sensitive sites will be identified, and barriers put in place.
- The MK Plan has been approved with no major changes. This is for next 15 years and will be helpful with challenges to unplanned developments or change of use applications.

The Parish Clerk has been advised that "sensitive" sites are areas that have been occupied 2-3 times, and the Parish has not been identified as having a sensitive site.

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

Councillor Sargent attended the Parishes Forum, which has a new Chairperson (Councillor Priestley). Nick Hannon (Head of Environment and Waste) spoke about a Parishes Clean-Up Fund of £100,000.00 for 2018/19 and asked for ideas about how it should be used e.g. litter-picking kits.

The Armed Forces Covenant is working on improving support for families of the Armed Forces personnel in Milton Keynes.

FC99/18 Parishes Clean Up Fund: Litter-picking kits would be welcome. Further information on this will be sent to the Parish Clerk.

Noted

Councillor Ballantyne left the meeting at 9.36pm and returned at 9.42pm

FC100/18 Parish Clerk report: The report on progress with Parish Council resolutions was received
Noted

FC101/18 Great Holm Community Centre:

- a) **Refurbishment:** The refurbishment is almost completed. The outdoor wall paint removal was successful. There have been some problems with communication with RPL Construction and there are a few outstanding tasks from the snag list to complete. These will be done after 3pm or at the weekends as term has started and the hall is in use. There are some further improvements to consider e.g. many of the blinds are broken, cutlery and crockery to replace, the radiator covers are scruffy and outdated, and the main walls would be improved by some artwork.

Resolved: A site visit will be organised once the works are completed

- b) **Additional expenditure.** The Parish Clerk authorised additional expenditure under the Financial Regulations (paragraph 4.6) in consultation with the Chairman and the Chair of the Finance and Staffing Committee of £480.00+VAT for the decoration of the office, as this was not included in the original quote by RPL.

Noted

FC102/18 Recommendation to change Committee remit: The Loughton Sports Ground Committee has recommended expanding the scope of the Committee to include the Great Holm Community Centre. This will be called the "Premises Committee" and the recommendation includes revised Terms of Reference.

Resolved:

- a) To approve expanding the remit of the Loughton Sports Ground Committee to include the Great Holm Community Centre, and to designate it the "Premises Committee".
b) To approve the new Terms of Reference with the addition in paragraph 3 of "The Council will endeavour to include balanced representation from both Loughton and Great Holm."

FC103/18 Calendar of meetings:

Resolved: To continue with the current meeting locations of the Moot Hall, Great Holm for full Council and the Memorial Hall, Loughton for all committee meetings for the remainder of the Council 2018-19 year.

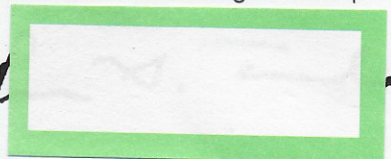
FC104/18 Dog bin hygiene service review: this item was deferred

FC105/18 Items for the next agenda: None received

Date and time of next meeting: Monday 15/10/18 at 7.30pm at the Moot Hall, MacIntyre, 54 Haddon, Great Holm MK8 9HP

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.08pm

Signed:



Date:

25.10.18