

OLD WUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the general Council meeting held on 19th November 2012 at 7.30pm
in St Mary's Church Woughton on the Green.

PRESENT: Councillors King (Chair), Bennett, Blomley, Brown, Howson, Humphries, Kenyon, McDonald & O'Neill. The Clerk, Mrs K Hill was in attendance. There were 12 members of the public present. The Chair welcomed those present & outlined the running order of the meeting. Public Forum (7.34pm): A member of the public asked the Council to consider supporting other cycletracks that crisscross the parish & not just place emphasis on redways in the Council's comments on the cycling strategy. Chair asked that all interested parties could comment on the strategy via the MK Council website and strongly urged them to do so to lend weight to the Parish Council's comments. Another asked if there was any update on the pigeon problem/mess under bridges. Comment to be made when environment log discussed. There being no further business, the Council meeting started at 7.36pm

| Item | | Action |
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| 2012/132 | Apologies: None | |
| 2012/133 | Declarations of pecuniary interest by councillors: 2012/137: Cllr Brown on planning application 12/02191/TPO 2012/143: Cllr McDonald in Parishes Forum 2012/149: Cllrs Kenyon & King (both beneficiaries on expense schedule) | |
| 2012/134 | Agree Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of meeting of the 15 th October 2012 were accepted as a true & accurate record & signed by the Chair. | |
| 2012/135 | Communications update: Website: allotments folder added, draft budget agreed at meeting to go up on website for comments. Newsletters: printed and delivered. Noticeboards: 2 new ones installed. Thanks to Councillor Blomley for all his help & assistance with storage & on day of installation. It was unanimously agreed that as the 2 new noticeboards were now installed the existing one in Woughton Park will have locks fitted at a cost of £105.00 per notice board. New keys to be cut and issued to 2 councillors per ward. Public to contact ward/area councillor to put up a notice. Cllrs Blomley & Howson to draw up a policy for notice board use for discussion at next meeting. | JH/MB |
| 2012/136 | Receive an Environment log update: Item from Cllr O'Neill: path way alongside Church (Parks Trust land) litter strewn. Clerk to inform Parks Trust. Environmental log on website. Matters actioned/completed noted. Additions made as well as note on pigeons. Clerk to take forward | Clerk Clerk |
| 2012/137 | Planning: No objections to: 12/02189/TPO: 6 willow trees (West of Newport Road WOTG) Parks Trust 12/02191/TPO: 1 pollard 1 x willow tree: 10 The Green, WOTG [Cllr Brown took no part in the discussion, decision or vote] 12/02242/FUL: Single storey side extension, 13 Goodman Gdns, WOTG 12/02323/FUL: First floor side extension (over existing lounge) and single storey side extension, Lavenders 9 Newport Road WOTG: request that sensitivity is paid to using materials to match existing. Planning report back: 12/01888/TCA: Permitted | Clerk |
| 2012/138 | Public excluded Part 2: It was unanimously agreed to hold a public excluded part 2 of the meeting in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act on the grounds that the discussion on staffing matters has publicly exempt information. | |
| 2012/139 | Consider power to Clerk for awarding dispensations: It was | |

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| | unanimously agreed that the Clerk be the proper officer for the purpose of requests for dispensations under section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011, and, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council (or Vice-Chairman in the event of a conflict of interest), to decide whether to grant a dispensation to enable the member concerned to participate. | |
| 2012/140 | Consider general dispensation: It was unanimously agreed to grant a general dispensation to all Councillors under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011, on matters that may affect so many Councillors that the Council or Committee would be inquorate: specifically budget setting, precept, planning & matters concerning any stakeholder groups as may arise. | |
| 2012/141 | Allotments management agreement proposal: It was proposed that the Council agree with the management proposal in principal as outlined by Cllrs Bennett and Kenyon and that both Cllrs were now to "flesh out" the proposal for consideration at December meeting. Vote taken: 6 for 3 against. Majority carried. | SB/RK |
| 2012/142 | Consider draft 1 of proposed 2013/2014 budget: Approved in principal as basis for determining expenditure for 2013/2014 year. Cllr Kenyon felt a larger amount should be set aside for security fencing. To be considered at next round of discussions. Cllr King to post onto website for public consultation. | ALL |
| 2012/143 | Consider Councillors for nomination for the Parishes Forum working group & comments on proposed changes to protocol: [Cllr McDonald took no part in the discussion, decision or vote] It was agreed that no nomination for Parishes Forum working group would be lodged. Comments on proposed changes to Parishes Protocol: 5. Reduce consultation period to 6-8 weeks: Council believes that the consultation period should be 8 weeks minimum 10 weeks preferred 12. Remove responsibility of MKC to produce contact list and up to date staff contacts for councils. Council believes this is not acceptable. It is imperative that all councils should have up to date information at all times to be able to maintain effective communication with MK Council for their residents. Appendix 1 (3): Removal of Vice Chair of Forum to be elected every 2 years from PC/TC councillors. The Council feel this is unacceptable. The Forum is as much for MK Council as Parish/Town Councils & as such to give the forum validity, a Vice chair from Parish/Town councils is a must to remain. | Clerk |
| 2012/144 | Consider the Council's grant and donations policy (draft): It was unanimously agreed to adopt the policy as circulated. Milton Keynes Mediation Services grant request was considered and declined. | Clerk |
| 2012/145 | Consider alternate meeting places: Clerk circulated costs from other venues and had weighted the venues on cost, availability, location and facilities. It was agreed that the 2 places that provided the best facilities were St Mary's Church and the village hall. It was unanimously agreed that the March meeting be held in the village hall. | Clerk |
| 2012/146 | Consider a comment on the draft cycling strategy: It was agreed (with one abstention) that the Council should support the draft cycling strategy. Cllr Bennett would draft an appropriate response which, after Councillors had had the opportunity to comment, would be transmitted to MK Council. | SB |
| 2012/147 | Consider and discuss road safety issues: It was unanimously agreed that there is a road safety issue with the road convergence at the junction of The Green/Newport Road as well as with traffic priority perception in the | |

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| | area. It was therefore unanimously agreed that the Council would like to see the installation of priority ROW at the traffic calming outside the Church and yield signage/lines at The Green/Newport Road junctions. Clerk to contact Road Safety at MK Council to progress. | |
| 2012/148 | MK Council's Annual Satisfaction survey: It was agreed that the Clerk would complete the survey and circulate to all Councillors for their comments before sending to MK Council. | Clerk ALL |
| 2012/149 | Consider & approve the payments schedule: [Cllrs King & Kenyon took no part in the discussion, decision or vote] The payments schedule was circulated in advance. Total payments of £3668.18 was requested. Clerk had made an error of 4p overpayment to herself for expenses incurred on behalf of the Council. To be reimbursed on next expenses schedule. Payments unanimously approved. Proposed Cllr McDonald seconded by Cllr O Neill. | |
| | 149/1/1 Salaries to staff | 476.69 |
| | 149/1/2 Allotment expenses reimbursed | 54.50 |
| | 149/1/3 Newsletter expenses reimbursed | 80.00 |
| | 149/1/5 Administrative costs reimbursed | 97.99 |
| | 149/1/6 A H Contracts (dog/litter bin collection) | 201.00 |
| | 149/1/7 R Gazeley - noticeboards | 2688.00 |
| | 149/1/8 Repairs and maintenance allotments | 70.00 |
| 149/2 | Receive any statements of the current financial position: Bank Reconciliations handed to all Councillors prior to meeting. Noted | |
| 2012/150 | Correspondence: No response from Parks Trust regarding meeting to discuss ROW through allotments. Ongoing. | Clerk |
| 2012/151 | Dates of future meetings: 17/12; 2013: 21/1; 18/02; 18/03 (in village hall) | |

There being no further business to discuss, this part of the meeting closed at 9.32pm

Part 2 – public excluded.

Confidential

There being no further business to discuss, this part of the meeting closed at 10.05pm

Accepted as a true and accurate record