

**MINUTES of the MEETING held on Monday, 9 March 2015 at 7.30pm
at St. Mary's Church, Woughton on the Green**

2015/03/006

Present: Cllrs. A. Humphries (Chair), S. Bennett, M. Blomley, R. Grindley, P. McDonald, J. Howson, P. Nash + 10 members of the public.

Welcome and Apologies – Cllrs. R. Kenyon, R. Brown (Vice Chair)

1. Public Open Forum

There was general agreement amongst residents that SERCO should be thanked for the good job of landscaping pruning that had been carried out around the parish. Clerk

Philip Strangeway (Woughton Pk.) – enquired after news of the canal towpath improvements. He was already aware of the meeting being held tomorrow 10 March at the Canal and Rivers Trust Offices where the next steps would be agreed. He declared himself a member of the Inland Waterways Association. *Fred Weyler (WotGN)* – asked whether the re-surfacing programme would be continuing as it was unfinished. The programme is awaiting completion of drainage works and then will be resumed.

2. Procedural

- a. **Declarations of interest by councillors** – None
- b. **To agree the minutes** of the January meeting & review of actions not covered below – Approved. Proposer: Cllr. Grindley, Seconder: Cllr. Howson. Unanimous. No items not covered below.
- c. **To adopt the reviewed Policies** – Disciplinary, Employment, Environmental, Equality, Freedom of Information & Publication, Grievance, Health & Safety, and Volunteer Policies. These policies were adopted unanimously. Proposer: Cllr. Blomley, Seconder: Cllr. Howson.

3. Finance – a. Current position -

Main Current Account	59,946.12
Allotments Current Account	4,691.92
Business Reserve Account Rental deposits	2,256.30
Deposit Account	
	66,894.34

b. To consider & approve the payments schedule –

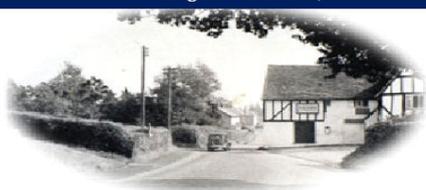
Main a/c	date	name	amount
chq			
172	09 February 2015	J.Vischer (salary)	260.06
173	27 February 2015	Buidbase (allot stakes 1)	297.00
174	27 February 2015	AH Contracts 7825,7878	348.60
175	27 February 2015	R Kenyon (printing)	120.00
176	27 February 2015	Peter Howard Architect	375.00
		Royal Mail (PO Box,	
177	27 February 2015	annual)	251.77
178	09 March 2015	J.Vischer (salary)	260.06
179	09 March 2015	J.Vischer (expenses)	61.97
180	09 March 2015	Peter Howard Architect	<u>375.00</u>
Sub Total			2,349.46

Old Woughton Parish Council

Woughton Park

Woughton-on-the-Green

Passmore



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Allotments a/c				2015/03/007
45	13 January 2015	R Kenyon (printing)	12.95	
46	13 January 2015	Ray Brown (rubbish)	70.40	
47	27 February 2015	Anglian Water (Nov-Feb)	291.70	
48	27 February 2015	PAA (Mowing, annual)	<u>250.00</u>	
Sub Total			<u>625.05</u>	
TOTAL			2,974.51	

The above payments were approved. Proposer: Cllr. Grindley, Seconder: Cllr. Nash.

Spending and Budget -

<u>All figures exclusive of VAT</u>	<u>2014/2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL Y.T.D</u>	<u>Variance</u>
RECEIPTS - OPERATIONAL			
Precept	9,000.00	9,103.72	103.72
Interest		0.74	0.74
Total Receipts	9,000.00	9,104.46	104.46
PAYMENTS - OPERATIONAL			
Administration costs	690.00	1,442.23	(752.23)
Allotment expenses	5,625.00	6,818.40	(1,193.40)
Allotment rental	(4,495.00)	(4,595.70)	100.70
Audit Fees	400.00	200.00	200.00
Chair's Expenses	100.00		100.00
Community fund	400.00	792.60	(392.60)
Dog bin clearance	1,702.10	1,693.85	8.25
Environment			
WCC refund		(558.44)	558.44
Grants			
Insurance	306.26	299.67	6.59
Reserves			
Staff Costs	3,000.00	2,914.62	85.38
S137 - community		213.28	(213.28)
Training - Clerk/Councillors	500.00	32.00	468.00
VAT refund		(2,069.32)	2,069.32
Sub-total (Operations)	8,228.36	7,183.19	1,045.17
PAYMENTS - CAPITAL PROJECTS			
Projects	6,600.00	3,986.00	2,614.00
Total Payments	14,828.36	11,169.19	3,659.17
Surplus	<u>(5,828.36)</u>	<u>(2,064.73)</u>	<u>3,763.63</u>

Changing banks from Nat West to Metro – update – All the forms had been accepted by the bank but belatedly the bank had issued a request that all signatories sign the draft minutes adopting the switch to Metro Bank. The clerk had objected to this request on the grounds that several forms with linked details and signatures had already been completed, that it was not normal practice for parish councils to have anyone other than the Chair sign the minutes, and as these minutes were only to be approved at this meeting it



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would hold the whole process up. The clerk had not received a reply. He had been phoned a week ago where it was apparent that the clerk's email had not been received. It was sent again immediately but there still had been no reply since.

Further to the agreement in the January minutes to change banks to Metro Bank at Oakgrove, Milton Keynes, the bank had asked that all signatories be named in the same minutes as well as have all signatories sign those minutes; this was agreed. The authorised signatories are Andrew Humphries, Ray Brown, Roy Kenyon, Peter McDonald and the clerk Julian Vischer; of which any two may sign.

4. Allotments

The Patch Report – The report had been circulated last week and copies had been printed for the public at this meeting. In summary:

The lengthy process of plot re-staking was about to begin following a successful deal with a local supplier so that stakes could be purchased in tranches.

Another quotation had been sought and received for the palisading and gate strengthening, and accepted. It was intended to discontinue the Pyracantha planting scheme, as it had had mixed results, and to amalgamate the remaining Pyracantha budget with the Palisade budget.

Young people from the Community Service program under the supervision of G4S were assisting the P.A.A. in laying the road planings around the ridings.

5. Environment

a. **Environment log and consideration of actions** – An abbreviated version had been printed for this meeting for the first time (abbreviation of issue 15). In summary:

Item 13/001 - new bridge signage – it had been suggested by the Bridge team that the Cycling Network (Redway) team might take this on board and it was also pointed out that Passmore was not a classified grid square name and this might be why nothing has happened for so long. Awaiting Cycling response.

Item 14/006 - Pigeon spikes had at last been completed on February 2nd with the replacement of the existing spikes with a weld mesh along the top of the abutment.

Item 14/020 – request for new rubbish bin. No more supportive views.

New Item 15/023 – Request for new Dog Bin at Newport road just past the dog agility paddock. Passed to Parks Trust.

NEW – It was agreed to add the speeding item (Woughton Park) reported at the previous meeting to keep track of progress. The clerk had requested a formal speed-check.

Re– item 13/001 - It was agreed to request the removal of the old Tinkers Bridge sign even if no replacement was fitted.

Re- Item 14/020 – new rubbish bin. It was agreed to abandon this project through lack of support.

Passmore road sign vanished at entrance off V8 Marlborough St.

Parking on the verge at Adams Court had been reported by email – enquiries and photographs to be obtained – vehicles causing obstruction.



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Newport Rd by Goodman Gardens the footpath to the paddocks is extremely soggy - reported by Cllr. McDonald to the Parks Trust who are already aware and have found cracked pipes under the path. Repair is scheduled.

b. Planning comment

- i. 14/01169/FUL, 13 Adams Court, Woughton On The Green, Construction of an ancillary granny annexe. (*Objected to*) Still Pending.
- ii. **NEW** – 15/00003/FUL 2 Pinkard Court Woughton On The Green Single storey side and single storey rear extension, enlargement of balcony, replacement existing pitched roof with flat balcony roof, insertion of rear dormer window, enlargement of existing rear dormer window, insertion of three roof lights to rear elevation and alterations to windows and doors to side and rear elevations.
- iii. 15/00019/FUL 1 Pinkard Court Woughton On The Green Ground floor infill extension
- iv. 15/00131/FUL 3 Odell Close Woughton On The Green First floor side and single storey rear extension forming link to Annex and internal alterations.

The NEW items (*above*) had been circulated/scrutinised between meetings and no objections made.

c. Village Green status –

- i. The Playing Fields – (Chairman) This application, which had been submitted a year ago, had recently been objected to (*see previous minutes*). The objection had now crystallised around the point that ‘operators would no longer be able to charge for activities’. It was felt that this was an over-zealous interpretation of the law because it is also the case that ‘there should be no change in use’ and clearly village greens across the country may be charging for activities that take place on them. It was recalled that the Queen Elizabeth status did not mean that the ‘Green’ could not be transferred elsewhere – an alternative site could be insisted upon and the status transferred with it. Ongoing.
 - ii. The Paddocks – (Peter McDonald) – currently still with MK Council.
 - iii. Passmore – (Mike Blomley) – Passmore green spaces – currently still with MK Council
 - iv. Woughton Park – (Stuart Bennett) – submitted last week.
 - v. The Green – (Phil Nash) – the patch of land along Bellis Grove, bounded by the ditch; just getting under way.
 - vi. The Orchard – (Rob Grindley) – designated for ‘community use’ by the Parks Trust and open to the public; the fenced-in section is not part of the application - just getting under way.
- d. **Community Right to Bid** - Ye Olde Swan pub – this had been approved by MK Council and was now on the national register – the Parish Council will have 6 months to put up a bid should the property go on sale.
- e. **Sports Field Right of Way** – pending Playing Fields status. [*to be kept on the agenda*]

6. Communications

- a. **Newsletter** – Cllr. Howson stated that in order to advertise the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting the copy date would be very soon [*post-meeting note: deadline set for 21st March*]. Contributions are still



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needed – there would be a report on tomorrow's Canal & Rivers Trust meeting. Cllr. Howson asked that contributions be sent in MSWord and not simply email format.

Cllr. Blomley pointed out that residents on Passmore were still receiving Woughton Community Council newsletters – clerk to write.

- b. **Volunteer Driver Transport Scheme Pilot Proposal** – Cllr. Bennett reported that as predicted the scheme was a slow-moving process and there was nothing to report at present.
 - c. **Reports to note on any outside meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk** – the clerk reported that he attended the regular quarterly meeting of the Society for Local Council Clerks, which often invited a guest speaker. This was the new planning chief Anna Rose who gave a candid account of the state of the Planning arm of MK council upon her arrival and the changes she was proposing to make. Much of the session was question-and-answer, which she answered informatively. He had also attended a training update on the procedures for the upcoming MK council and Parish elections (does not apply to Old Woughton PC).
The Chair, Cllr. Blomley and Cllr. Howson had attended the Land Allocation meeting organised by MK Council, which was well-attended by residents objecting to the proposal to sequester all sorts of green spaces in the city for building, contrary to the ethos that makes MK unique and a true 'garden city'; arguments against were well presented. The proposal will go to full Council in a fortnight's time (25 March at 7.30pm) and promises to be a lively occasion.
 - d. **Correspondence** – In addition to that circulated by email: a letter of change of address had been received from the external auditors Mazars. Milton Keynes City Cricket Club had sent a letter of thanks for the grant of £200 which would go towards the repair and replacement of the twin-bay bowling and batting carpets used for net practice – this facility would also be used by pupils of local schools for coaching sessions organised by the Club.
7. **Date and Time of Next Meeting** – 11 May 2015 AGM at St. Mary's Church, Woughton-on-the-Green at 7.30pm but this is preceded by the **Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 13 April 2015** at St. Mary's Church, at 7.30pm.

subsequently: 13 July 2015; 14 September 2015; 9 November 2015

Meeting closed at 8.25pm