

SHENLEY BROOK END & TATTENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

6 Wimborne Crescent
Westcroft District Centre
Milton Keynes
MK4 4DE



Minutes of a meeting of the Community Committee held at the Parish Office, 6 Wimborne Crescent, Westcroft, on Monday 11th July 2011.

CC/23/11 Present: Cllr. M Geaney – Chair

Cllr M Chapman
D Livingstone,
D Sanders
R Verman
N Vidamour
C Williams

Cllr K Geaney
W Dawson – Clerk to Council

Mr M Khan, Mr R Blows, Ms D Wolfe – prospective Councillors
Mrs J Elsdon – resident
Mr P Hughes – MK Credit Union

CC/24/11 Apologies

D Edmonds,
J Nicholas,

CC/25/11 Declarations of Interest

Cllr D Sanders declared a personal interest in item.

CC/26/11 Public Involvement

A resident raised concerns about parking bays on Porthmellin Close and whether they were public highway or private parking. She referred to information from Cllr Edmonds but advised that there was confusion with different residents expressing different views.

The Clerk to Council stated that he had thought that this matter had been clarified. However, in view of the concerns raised **it was agreed that** the Clerk would make enquiries of Milton Keynes Council, would establish the facts, advise the resident, and report to the next meeting of the Committee.

CC/27/11 Minutes of the meeting on Monday 13th June 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th June, having already been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

With regard to minute CC/21/11, the grant to Courtneys Lodge, Cllr Williams reported that he had made contact with Dobbies and arranged to meet them. He will report back after the meeting.

CC/28/11

Secklow Sounds

Members discussed the presentation to Council. There were concerns at the proposed broadcasting arrangements with 28 days on air followed by four months only on the internet. The Committee was not convinced that residents of the Parish would be interested in this approach. To most, apart perhaps the younger population, a radio was listened to via one medium not swapping from radio to internet and back. There were concerns also about the amount of air time that would be available to this Parish when the station was to be Borough wide.

After discussion **it was resolved that** this is not an initiative in which the Council should become involved.

CC/29/11

Youth Team Staffing - Report No CC/13/11

The Committee received the report outlining proposed changes to the Youth Team staffing hours and as a result of the resignation of one of the part-time Youth Workers. The report proposed some changes to the contractual hours of the remaining part-time Officers, the employment of a new person for 8 hours a week and the re-employment of the officer who has resigned but for only 3 hours a week. The overall establishment of the Youth Team would not be increased.

It was noted that the Policy and Finance Committee also would consider this matter because it concerns staffing.

It was resolved to recommend the proposal to Council.

CC/30/11.

Youth Team Leader's Report – Report No CC/14/11

The Committee received and commended the report of the Youth Team and noted, particularly, the steadily increasing numbers attending youth sessions.

CC/31/11.

Statement of Community Engagement – Report No CC/12/11

The draft "Statement of Community Engagement", which had been received earlier in the year, before the elections, was discussed. The following changes were recommended:-

Aims and objectives – delete the words "everyone in"

The community - change inhabitants to 24000

Community Involvement – replace the word "surgeries" with "available"
- delete the last paragraph

Formal Representation – correct the office opening hours.

Other means of engagement were discussed including social media and **it was agreed that:-**

Cllr Verman would speak to the Stables theatre about their experience with twitter and facebook

The Clerk would speak to Woughton Community Council about their experience with facebook and any other local Council who use this media.

The Clerk will collate information for a future report to the Committee.

The Committee noted that the Government's localism bill will certainly have an impact upon community engagement as powers and functions are devolved to local councils. The draft will need to be revised when the Bill is enacted which is now expected to be in late autumn.

It was agreed that the Clerk would edit the draft in the light of comments received and present the amended document to a future meeting.

CC/32/11

Pride in the Parish

The Chair of Council spoke about his initiative to develop a "Pride in the Parish" scheme. It arose from a clean up of a part of Cropton Rise in which the Council, MKC, the Police and local residents were involved. It was a great success and everyone took pride in the outcome.

The proposal is that the Council should launch a scheme which encourages individuals and/or groups to become involved in community projects. There should be a "brand" which the Council could promote; which all would become familiar with; and which residents would get behind. The Council could offer awards for the best, whether that is best result, best effort, greatest improvement, etc.

A framework for such a scheme is needed in order to progress the concept.

It was agreed that Cllrs M Geaney, and D Sanders, with the Clerk, would meet to begin to develop the framework.

CC/33/11

Grant applications

MK Credit Union - the application was for a contribution to the costs of training board members and volunteers and of publicity.

The Committee **resolved to award** £600.

The Committee also **resolved to** recommend to Council that space be made available in the parish office to enable the Credit Union to have a collection point on Westcroft for a couple of hours a week, subject to Parish staff being consulted and the room being acceptable to the Credit Union.

CC/34/11

Date of next meeting - Monday, 8th August 2011

SIGNED.....Chair

