

## Minutes

of the **Meeting of the Parish Council** held on 26 October 2009

**Present:** D Livingstone (Chair) T Wylie  
J Nicholas C Williams  
D Edmonds C Osler  
K Perkins K Thomas

**Visitors:** 16 Residents and 2 prospective Councillors

**Clerk:** C. McMillan in the absence of the Clerk

	Action
<p><b>1. Apologies and declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from C DeMyers-Robinson, I Stewart and G Small.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p> <p><b>2. Public Time</b></p> <p>A number of residents raised issues at Tattenhoe allotment site where some tenants had and have been previously allowed to keep cockerels and had since received warnings and termination letters if they are not removed. These residents have asked for clarification. The Chairman confirmed that cockerels are not permitted and advised that the Parish Council as a Body make the policy and no individual member can make the rules. It was suggested that residents make a request in writing to keep chickens on site.</p> <p>A resident raised the issue with bonfires checking if they are allowed and what times. It was agreed they are permitted with restrictions and agreed that a notice relating to bonfires would be placed on the notice board for future reference.</p> <p>It was raised that toilet facilities are needed at Windmill Hill Allotments and it was agreed to do a feasibility study.</p> <p>A resident asked for an update regarding the overgrown pond area at Pickering Drive. It was confirmed that progress has been made. An onsite meeting is to be arranged to decide what action should be taken.</p> <p>Neil Warden Chair of the Howe Park Neighbourhood Action Group informed the meeting that they had resolved that part of their funding should be used to purchase/service litter bins for their area and they would want to work with the Council on this. It was agreed that this be put to the next Community Committee meeting. Neil also confirmed that he was willing to put himself forward for co-option, when a vacancy occurs.</p> <p><b>3. Minutes</b></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting on 28 September 2009 were agreed and signed as true a record of the</p>	

meeting.

The meeting noted that training in the Power of Wellbeing has been arranged for Monday 23 November 2009 at 6.30pm, with the request of full council attendance.

The chairman also advised that the operational plan needs to be discussed and put back to a later parish council meeting.

Members were asked, if they had not already, to complete the online version of the IDEA Working Together Questionnaire.

#### **4. Reports**

In the absence of the Clerk JN gave a brief report updating the Council on the Fire Risk Assessments carried out at EVCC and the parish office including additional fire extinguishers. It was confirmed that the risk assessment has been arranged this month for the office.

The Police were not in attendance.

The Council were told of the hard work carried out during the litter picking at Furzton and Shenley Lodge. A total of 83 bags of rubbish were cleared, a good result for the people involved including our Warden.

#### Planning & Environment Committee

It was agreed the cost of purchasing new notice boards was expensive and was agreed to look at other alternatives. K Thomas to speak to Morrison's regarding having a notice board within the store.

#### Community Committee

C Williams confirmed he was proposed as Chairman of the Community Committee and had accepted the Chair.

Minutes of the meeting of 12 October 2009 were presented unsigned as a report and accepted.

It was proposed to set aside the decision to grant money to Tattenhoe Youth Football Club until further enquiries had been made. This was put to the vote and agreed (J Nicholas abstained).

It was agreed to approve the grant to MK Lions for £1,000.

It was resolved that K Perkins will talk to a supplier to look into cost saving on the purchasing of kits for football clubs.

#### Newsletter

The meeting noted that the editor will be meeting distributors shortly to discuss some problems with delivery on the last issue. Generally, this had gone well, however, and the contract for delivery of the next issue would probably be placed with this organisation. It was noted that we have received 65 competition replies and the draw will be held shortly. It was also noted that we are fast approaching the deadline for the Christmas edition and councillors were asked for

contributions. It was agreed to add articles on keeping cockerels on allotments and new recycling arrangements.

#### **5. Co-option of Councillors**

The two prospective councillors both presented to Council following which they were both unanimously co-opted to join the PC. Maggie Geaney will join Furzton Ward and Natasha Leonards will join Emerson Valley Ward. Both new councillors were given the Declaration of Interest, Acceptance of Office and Code of Conduct paperwork and requested they return the completed documents to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

#### **6. Allotments**

It was agreed not to take tenants from outside the Parish but confirmed that current tenants who live out of the parish would keep their plots as they had originally been MKC allotment tenants.

It was agreed to write to tenants of multiple allotments (over 5 plots) asking them to consider relinquishing some plots to help reduce the waiting lists for our parishioners.

It was agreed to change some of the wording on the Terms & Conditions ensuring it states the Parish Council make the decisions and not any one person and ensure the document is gender neutral.

#### **7. Finance**

a) The report of expenditure against budget to end September was noted and approved.

b) The monthly finance report was circulated and the meeting adjourned while members considered this. The retrospective approval list was approved and the finance report was then approved and signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. It was resolved to authorise the payments listed on the appendix to these minutes.

#### **8. Correspondence**

The correspondence list had been circulated for information and no issues were raised. The meeting noted:

It was unanimously decided to vote J Nicholas as the preferred candidate for election for both the Urban Parish to serve on the Local Strategic Partnership and Parish representative for the Local Strategic Partnership Executive.

The committee were advised that D Livingstone and K Thomas would attend the Whaddon Chase Green Infrastructure presentation to be held at the Parish Office on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm. It would be appropriate if there was attendance from as many members as possible.

All members were asked to consider becoming involved with Howe Park School as a vacancy exists on the governing body for a Community Governor. D Edmonds expressed an interest and it was agreed to respond to the Chair of Governors.

#### **9. Meeting dates**

Meeting dates were agreed/noted as:

Planning & Environment Committee	2 November 2009
Community Committee	9 November 2009
Parish Council	23 November 2009

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 22h10.

SIGNED.....Chair