



Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council held at the Methodist Hall, Queensway, Bletchley on Tuesday 6 February 2018 beginning at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Mohammed Arshad, Samantha Browne, Keith Ely, Ron Haine, William Hewitt, Ed Hume, Ethan Kelly-Wilson, Michael McDonald, E'Amonn O'Rourke, Mohammed Rohim, Shirley Rolfe and Lewis Webster.

Absent: Cllrs Richard Graham, Angela Kennedy (Chairman), Wajeeha Khan, Peter Kuling, Sean Porter and Linda Reeves

In attendance: Two members of the public
Delia Shephard, Town Clerk

Min Ref

FC2017/18-249 In the absence of the Chair and Vice-chair it was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Ely to take the chair for the meeting.

FC2017/18-250 **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Graham, Khan, Kennedy, Porter, and Reeves

FC2017/18-251 **Declarations of Interests**
Disclosable Pecuniary Interests –Cllr Hume declared that he was an employee of Network Rail (in connection with Item 8 on the agenda East/West Rail link consultation) employed by Network Rail.
Other Interests – none

FC2017/18-252 **Public Speaking Time**
There were no representations at this time.

FC2017/18-253 **Minutes of Previous Meetings**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of a meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday 16 January 2018 subject to the following corrections Cllr Arshad was present and Cllr Hewitt was absent. Cllr Rohim abstained from voting during the recorded vote on the precept (minute reference FC 2017/18-242).

FC2017/18-254 It was **RESOLVED** to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the HR Committee held on 11 January 2018

FC2017/18-255 It was **RESOLVED** to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Newton Leys Building committee held on Tuesday 23 January 2018 noting that the recommendation therein would be brought to Full Council at a later date (with a supporting report).

FC2017/18-256.i **Planning applications**
The following planning applications submitted to the Local Planning Authority for determination were reviewed.

- i 18/00161/FUL – 21 Staplehall Road, Bletchley MK1 1BQ – Two storey front first floor



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and single storey front extension

It was **RESOLVED** to make no comment on the proposed development.

FC2017/18-
256.ii

- ii **18/00136/FUL – 15 Leon Avenue, Bletchley MK2 2HL** – Change of use to a dog grooming salon

Neighbours of 15 Leon Avenue addressed the Council about their concerns about the proposed development. In particular these focussed on lack of adequate parking in Leon Avenue, the proposed hours of opening which were 7 days per week from 8 am to 7 pm Monday to Saturday and 9 am to 6 pm on Sundays and Bank Holidays. The proximity of the extension and the party wall meant that the neighbours had concerns about potential noise from dog barking and equipment use. Concerns were also expressed about ventilation and removal of rubbish.

Following discussion during which the Chairman explained that objections could only be made on material planning considerations it was **RESOLVED** to object on the grounds that this business use would add to the already inadequate parking and congestion in Leon Avenue which may present a hazard to residents.

FC2017/18-
257

Financial Matters

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify a list of payments due to be made which was tabled at the meeting. Following discussion the Clerk was instructed to hold back part payment to Acorn Asbestos until the work is completed.

The Clerk reported that on Thursday 1 February 2017 the boiler had Spotlight had broken down and two independent plumbers gave their professional opinion that it was beyond economic repair. Service delivery was due to re-start at Spotlight on Monday 4 February and the building was extremely cold. The Chair and Vice-chair were consulted and it was decided to use delegated powers to replace the boiler at a maximum cost of £2,650 including labour. The boiler was fitted on Saturday 3 February. It was **RESOLVED** to approve this action and take the funds from the repairs and maintenance reserve.

FC2017/18-
258

Dog Bin Replacement

The Clerk requested approval to replace an existing dog bin no 44 at Newton Leys (near Antigua Way) with a larger bin (cost to be drawn from the proceeds of a grant from Milton Keynes' Recycle and Reward Scheme 2017/18 held in council accounts which funds are designated for purchase of equipment to enhance appearance of the area and/or improve waste recycling eg litter bins, dog bins etc. If agreed the Council would use the existing bin to replace an older bin elsewhere in the parish and or to place an additional bin in Newton Leys which would need to be added to the collection round. An additional proposal for the introduction of more dog bins at Newton Leys was tabled and discussed.

Full report on provision of dog bins in Newton Leys with proper costs at next meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve replacement of the dog bin near Antigua Way and the Clerk was asked to provide a full report on the financial implications of adding additional dog bins to the emptying contract as soon as possible.

FC2017/18-
259

East West Rail Link Phase Three Consultation

Members considered making a formal response on behalf of the Council to the current round of the East West Rail Link Phase Three Consultation.

It was **RESOLVED** to resubmit the Town Council's former response to the consultation.

FC2017/18-
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Frogs Island

Members discussed a request from a member of the public to write to MK Council supporting



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the use of the historic name of Frogs Island on a designated housing site in Plan:MK on land near the canal and Simpson Road in Fenny Stratford. (Cllr Haine left the meeting.)

It was **RESOLVED** to write to the planning department of Milton Keynes Council and support the proposal to retain the name Frogs Island which was part of the local heritage.

(Cllr Haine returned to the meeting.)

FC2017/18-
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Town Council's Legal Advisors

Members noted changes to the business status of Austin Ray Solicitors and it was **RESOLVED** to approve continued working with the firm on current business provided that there were no conflicts of interest between the Council's business and any other business of the new firm.

FC2017/18-
262

Summer Play Sessions

Members noted the arrangements which had been made for open access play sessions provided by MK Play during the Easter and Summer holidays in 2018 at a cost of £7,680 and it was **RESOLVED** to approve these arrangements which would be funded from the 2018/19 budget.

FC2017/18-
263

TVP Bletchley Community Safety Forum

Councillors who had attended recent meetings of the Bletchley Community Safety Forum organised by Thames Valley Police gave oral reports about the meeting at which Thames Valley Police had updated the community on their policing priorities and listened to concerns from the community.

FC2017/18-
264

Market Working Group

Cllr Haine and Cllr O'Rourke gave a short oral report on a meeting held with individual market traders and the issues which the market traders had reported. Members noted that an evidence based written report from the working group with specific recommendations was needed before any further action could take place.

The Town Clerk reported that a new trader wished to use the layby on Queensway for a 24 ft trading vehicle (photographs were shown to members) and had requested a new trader discount. Members advised that the trader could be permitted to trade on a trial basis. No new trader discounts were to be offered until traders had attended regularly for at least 4 weeks.

FC2017/18-
265

Town Council Vision and Strategy Workshops

A report derived from work undertaken at the Town Council's second vision and strategy workshop which was held on Saturday 20 January had been circulated and it was **RESOLVED** to hold a third workshop and on 27th February 2018 (starting at 6.30 pm) at Spotlight, subject to the availability of the facilitator.

FC2017/18-
266

Library

Members noted the formal re-opening of Bletchley Library on Monday 12 March 2018 and discussed the partnership agreement and contribution towards the Library being made by West Bletchley Council.

FC2017/18-
267

Property Matters

It was **RESOLVED** that members of the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted which was commercially sensitive.

The Clerk gave a confidential oral report about information which had become available within the few days preceding the meeting and the actions which had been taken as a consequence. It was **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to continue to progress the work which had been



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started and to report back to the next council meeting. Cllrs Webster, Kelly-Wilson and Ely agreed to support the Clerk with the work to be undertaken.

FC2017/18-
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Staff Matters

In the absence of the Chair of the HR Committee Cllr McDonald confirmed that an employee had left the council's employment.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

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Approved by Chairman
20 February 2018