



# Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council

## Minutes of a meeting of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council held at Bletchley Library, Westfield Road MK2 2RA on Tuesday 6 November 2018 beginning at 7.30 pm

- Present:** Cllrs Samantha Browne, Keith Ely, Ron Haine, William Hewitt, Ed Hume, Angela Kennedy (Chairman), Ethaniel Kelly-Wilson, Michael McDonald, E'amonn O'Rourke, and Shirley Rolfe
- Absent** Cllrs Mohammed Arshad, Richard Graham (Vice-chairman), Wajeeha Khan, Peter Kuling, Sean Porter, Mohamed Rohim and Lewis Webster.  
(One casual vacancy)
- In attendance:** Three members of the public.  
Gill Long, Support Services Manager and Delia Shephard, Town Clerk.

### Min Ref

- FC18/19-214 **Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Arshad, Graham, Porter and Webster. Apologies for absence had not been received from Cllrs Khan, Kuling and Rohim.
- FC18/19-215 **Declarations of Members' Interests**  
i Pecuniary interests – None  
ii Other interests – None
- FC18/19-216 **Public Speaking Time**  
No representations were made at this time.
- FC18/19-217 **Minutes of Previous Meetings**  
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of a meeting of an extra-ordinary meeting of Full Council held on Tuesday 18 October 2018 as a correct record of proceedings with one amendment to remove Cllr Hewitt's name from the list of those present.
- FC18/19-218 **Minutes of Previous Committee Meetings**  
It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of a meeting of the Newton Leys Pavilion Committee held on 23 October 2018. Draft minutes of a meeting of the Newton Leys Pavilion Committee held on 30 October 2018 were not available.
- Planning Matters**  
The following planning applications submitted to the Local Planning Authority were reviewed and discussed.
- FC18/19-219 **Application No. 18/02601/FUL UK Power Reserve, Lyon Road Bletchley MK1 1EX**  
Retrospective planning application for the demolition of a vacant, derelict building and installation of a small-scale gas-fired standby electricity generation facility and ancillary infrastructure including generators, HV/LV switch room, control room, DNO substation, transformer compound and lubrication oil tanks.  
It was **RESOLVED** to make no comments on the proposed development



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- FC18/19-220      **Application No.18/02509/FUL Red Lion, 11 Lock View Lane, Bletchley MK1 1BY**  
Removal of existing glazed section and brick columns; new covered pergola with polycarbonate roof; new poseur height fixed seating bay; new rope and post barrier; new 150 x 150 timber posts to allow for new festoon lighting; new fixed drinks shelf and new painted render and site name  
It was **RESOLVED** to support the proposed development
- FC18/19-221      **Application No. 18/02522/FUL Flat 2, 114 Queensway, Bletchley MK2 2RU** change of use from a first floor 2 bedroom dwelling (C3) to shop (A1) to form part of the retail unit currently occupying the ground floor.  
It was **RESOLVED** to make no comments on the proposed development.
- FC18/19-222      **Application No. 18/02560/PANB1C First floor 161-163 Queensway, Bletchley MK2 2DZ**  
Prior notification for a proposed change of use from office (B1) to two two-bedroom residential units (C3)  
It was **RESOLVED** to object to the proposed development on the grounds that it does not meet the criteria in the Milton Keynes Parking SPD.
- FC18/19-223      **Grant Applications**  
A request for further funding from Better Futures Forever in the sum of £14, 841 had been considered by Council in September 2018. An initial grant of £3,000 had been agreed whilst additional information was obtained from BFF. This information had been circulated to members before the meeting and representatives of BFF addressed the committee about their project.  
  
Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** to contribute a further £5,000 to the project to sustain it until the end of the current financial year (ie until 31 March 2018). BFF was invited to liaise with the clerk and submit further feedback and, if necessary, a further request for funding in 2019 (if BFF was not able to obtain additional funds from other sources to take the pilot project through to the end of its 12 month period).
- FC18/19-224      **Christmas 2018**  
The clerk gave a brief report on arrangements for the Christmas illuminations and confirmed that MK Council had approved the council's application for erection of festive decorations on the public highway.  
  
The chair of the Christmas Event Working Group gave a report on plans for the event noting that the original site had been reduced in size. Ten stalls had been booked to date; there would be three fairground rides, an ice-skating rink, Father Christmas in his grotto and entertainment on the stage in Stanier Square. The grotto visits would be free and a small gift provided eg glow stick. Cllr Hume would represent the group and the council by giving radio station interviews to publicise the event. A gazebo would be used on the High Street as the Town Council's base and arrangements would be made for radio mikes to be used on the day. The FB event page was generating some community interest as were the wooden star decorations for the tree. Members were asked to volunteer to work at the event and to encourage their connections to do likewise.



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### Allotments

FC18/19-226

A member of the public addressed the council stating that it was his understanding that the council wanted allotment income to cover expenditure. He asserted that tenants on all three council managed allotment sites had offered to cut the grass but he had been advised this was not feasible and he felt this was unhelpful because the tenants could save the council money. The chairman thanked the member of the public for attending and confirmed that a response would be sent to his comments in writing. The member of the public then left the meeting.

FC18/19-227

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note a report from the Allotment Tenants Meeting held on 9 October 2018. In response to questions from members the clerk confirmed that whilst some tenants were happy to cut the ridings themselves not all were and a "mix and match" service was not viable.

Cllr Kennedy remembered that she had a DPI by way of her allotment tenancy at Manor Fields and at this point declared this interest.

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note the quarterly Allotment Management Report.

FC18/19-228

### Dog Bins

The clerk asked for this item to be delegated to the Finance and Planning Committee on 20 November 2018 which was agreed.

FC18/19-229

### Serpentine Court Regeneration Ballot

Members noted the Town Council's eligibility to vote in the Serpentine Court Regeneration Ballot (by way of its status as a leaseholder within the designated red line area) and discussed whether and how to exercise the Town Council's vote. Members noted some residents' concerns about potential construction on the Warren field but on balance believed this loss would be mitigated by the benefits of the proposed regeneration. It was **RESOLVED** to use the Town Council's vote in favour of option 3 and the Clerk was instructed to cast the vote on behalf of the council.

### Council Property and Premises

#### Move to Bletchley Library

FC18/19-230

The clerk gave an oral report on the move from 74-76 Queensway and noted that from a budget of £20,000 the sum of £5,199 had been spent to date. Expenditure included purchase of tables, chairs and a chair trolley to furnish the community meeting room in the library which was available for all users of the room. Removal and relocation of furniture and IT amounted to £1,980. Legal fees were £1,463.00. A full report would be provided at the finance committee meeting. There had been teething problems with the power supply at the library and with IT installation but these issues were being resolved. Further development of the office space would be planned once the staff team had settled on site. The Council thanked the staff team for their hard work in recent weeks when there had been considerable change and demands on the staff team.

FC18/19-231



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- Fenny Chapel**
- FC18/19-232 A written report was awaited from BMO surveying but officers had recently undertaken a site visit and most internal work to the chapel had been completed as had the work to the bowing wall above the doorway, remaining work was scheduled to be finished within the next few weeks and the building should be available for storage from December 2018. Three quotations had been provided for provision of a security system at the chapel but one was unlikely to be suitable and it was not clear that the other two quotations were provided on the same specification as each other therefore further work was needed. It was proposed to obtain further information and report to the finance committee on 20 November 2018. A further quotation had been requested for metal gates to cover the side door and the inside of the porch in order to enhance security in a way that was in keeping with the building. It was recognised that the main double doors would also need to be repaired in order to provide safe access for storage.
- Newton Leys Pavilion**
- FC18/19-233 The clerk reported that a telephone call with Geoffrey Lever was arranged for the next day and there was no further update available at the meeting. However all parties were still working towards a transfer date of 16 November 2018 and it was agreed therefore an extraordinary meeting of the council would be convened before that date in order to formally to approve the transfer. The chair of the Newton Leys Pavilion Committee commented on the amount of work which the staff team had done in a short time to enable to the transfer to take place and council noted this.
- Landscaping**
- FC18/19-234 Cllr Ely reported on a meeting he had attended with Cllrs Graham, O'Rourke and Webster, the council's Environment and Premises Manager, the clerk and the council's current landscaping contractor earlier in the week. Based on the calculations undertaken by the contractor it was anticipated that delivery of landscaping services in the parish to the stated MKC specification would cost approximately £180,000 per annum (ie approximately £146,000 for all areas except woodland and between £30-40,000 for woodland). MK Council was prepared to offer £98,000 per annum towards this for a period of three years beginning in 2020/21. The main areas of land to be worked included highways (not grid roads), housing, public open space and other landscape and woodland. A requirement from MKC was that staff currently working on the landscaping (2.2 FTE) would be subject to TUPE. A range of options for provision of the service had been explored at the meeting and these were discussed. Members noted that the financial implications of taking on the direct provision were considerable and a written report was requested from the group for the next full council. Meanwhile members expressed their wish to continue with this piece of work and to make a final decision as soon as possible.
- Remembrance Service Arrangements**
- FC18/19-235 A report on arrangements made for the Remembrance Sunday wreath laying ceremony had been circulated in advance of the meeting and an order of service was tabled. The Chairman stressed the respectful nature of the planned silent walk from Elizabeth Square



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to the memorial and it was **RESOLVED** that the silhouettes provided by the “There but not there” campaign were unsuitable for use at the memorial and would not be used.

FC18/19-236

It was **RESOLVED** that 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 involved a legal dispute.

### **George Street Community Centre**

The clerk gave a confidential oral report on progress with matters connected with George Street Community Centre. A copy of a S106 application made by the tenant at George Street to Milton Keynes Council for funds to undertake improvements to the premises was tabled at the meeting and discussed. It was noted that the S106 funds concerned must be spent by early 2021 and that it was in the best interest of the community that necessary work should be undertaken using these funds.

FC18/19-237

It was **RESOLVED** to commission an updated dilapidations report on the George Street premises from Aitchison Raffety at a cost of £1,250 and to exercise the landlord’s right of access to the premises to allow this work to be undertaken as soon as possible.

FC18/19-237

It was **RESOLVED** to inform Milton Keynes Council that the Town Council could not respond to the S106 application with either its permission or its refusal of permission for the work to be done to its premises until it was in receipt of the dilapidations report.