



Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council  
held on  
Monday 18 July 2016 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr J Covington (Chair), Cllr M Covington, Cllr. R Gilbert, Cllr D Knight and the Clerks.

Also present: Ward Councillor K Maclean and 1 member of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Councillor J Reynolds and Ward Councillors P Geary and D Hosking
- 2. Declaration of Interests** – Cllr J Covington and Cllr M Covington declared an interest at Item 7, Update on Cowpers Alcove with reference to “Damage to Alcove Fence and Gate”
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting** – The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2015 were approved and signed by the Chair.

**4. Clerk’s Report**

The clerk reported on the outstanding issues below.

- Letter to Residents with reference to Broad Band interest and details Item 6 refers – completed.
- Item from Cllr M Covington re water on road (from a spring?) in the High Street reported to MKC again Ref FS4473871
- Chased Heather Baker and spoke to Rob Ward last week re Costing of Pavement project – Rob Ward said he should have the information for this meeting.
- Sundry Flag Pole items had been ordered.
- Alcove Floor and Terms and Conditions Item 7 on the agenda. Clerk has asked AON to advise on Indemnity Insurance conditions.

**5. Finance Report**

(a) Bank Balances at 30/06/2016

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Business Current (Community) Account | £17598.02 |
| Business Savings Account             | £21353.89 |

(b) Payments:

|                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Clerk Salary & Stationery      | £361.72 |
| HMRC (May and July)            | £ 82.00 |
| DH Blunt (Grounds Maintenance) | £447.00 |
| DH Blunt (Alcove)              | £ 84.00 |

|                                                |         |
|------------------------------------------------|---------|
| AH Contracts                                   | £ 48.42 |
| Milton Keynes Association of<br>Local Councils | £ 25.00 |
| Bucks Association of Local<br>Councils         | £ 48.45 |

## 6. Update on Broad Band Project

Cllr Gilbert reported that he had advertised the Broad Band Project on Facebook in addition to the Parish newsletter. Including those that had responded to the BroadBand letter that had been distributed after the previous meeting, there were 36 entries which was a 30% response rate. As this was thought to be too low a number to return to BT Openreach, Cllr Gilbert advised that he would door knock residents who had not yet responded and try and bring the number up to about 60% responses.

**Action: Cllr Gilbert**

Councillor M Covington asked the clerk for a PDF copy of the letter to put on the Parish Website.

**Action: Clerk**

Ward Councillor Maclean advised he had received no updates from Ward Councillors Geary and Hosking or Martyn Smith of MKC.

## 7. Update on Cowpers Alcove

The Clerk reported that she has contacted AON Insurance to check on the Indemnity Insurance Cover for events at the Alcove and when they had responded she would be able to include these in the Terms and Conditions of Hire.

**Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported that the MKC T&C's had been received from Cllr M Covington.

Cllr M Covington reported that the fence and gate surrounding the Alcove had been damaged presumably by a reversing car however it was thought that they rotten and were in need of replacement. Cllr M Covington provided a quote of £215 for repairs.

It was noted that the Council was not quorate due to the absence of Cllr Reynolds and the Declaration of Interest from Cllrs J and M Covington, however due to the Council's responsibilities under Health and Safety legislation and its insurance liability, the Council were required to maintain the fence and gate in good condition, therefore, the Councillors present accepted the quote.

Cllr M Covington reported that the repairs to floor were still on target to be carried out in September.

## 8. To report on Planning Applications

The Clerk reported that no new planning applications had been received since the previous meeting.

## 9. To report on Correspondence relating to the Council

- (a) The Clerk reported that a resident had asked if the Cowpers Oak Public House could be registered as an asset of Community value as the pub was for sale with a 2 year lease from Enterprise Inns. It was noted that a future buyer could apply for planning permission to convert the pub to residential use.

The Clerk had found various guidance on the MKC website and also in the NALC Good Councillors guide which were distributed..

The Council noted that the same issue could apply to the Village Hall and the Clerk was asked to investigate with Milton Keynes Council and CAMRA the procedure for making village community assets, Assets of Community Value and include the item on the Agenda for the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

Ward Councillor Maclean indicated that it was important to ensure that when any plans were submitted for the areas concerned, it was important that they were correct. Also the matter would be decided by a Delegated Decision by the relevant Cabinet member at MKC which Parish Councillors and Residents could attend..

- (b) It was noted the Sherington Village Neighbourhood Plan was being consulted from 4 July to 4 September 2016; hard copies were available in the Sherington Village Shop or from the Sherington Parish Council website.
- (c) The Council noted several events being run during the school summer holidays at Olney and Newport Pagnell libraries.

#### **10. To report on the Best kept Village Completion**

The Clerk reported that there were no further updates on this.

#### **11. Councillor Items**

- (a) Councillor M Covington reported that the hedge on the Weston Hill would be cut back by the farmer that owns the adjacent field.

The Clerk indicated that she would contact Olney Town Council re the Olney part of this road which was also overgrown. **Action: Clerk**

- (b) Ward Councillor Maclean indicated that Milton Keynes Council would be debating the report of the MK Futures 2050 Commission at its meeting on 20 July 2016 and all Parish Councillors and residents were invited to contribute to this. The MK Futures 2050 Commission would be looking at Transport, Education including the possibility of a University in Milton Keynes and Highways amongst other issues in Milton Keynes for the next 30 years.
- (c) Ward Councillor Maclean indicated that the Ward event with Tom Blackburn-Maze, the new MKC Service Director - Public Realm, would take place after all the parishes in Olney North Ward had responded with their issues.
- (c) Councillor J Covington reported that there was an issue with a water main on the High Street that Anglia Water was investigating.

#### **12. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is on Monday 15 August 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

#### **13. Open Forum –**

No items advised

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 8.45pm

Signed.....

Dated.....