



Central Milton Keynes Town Council
Meeting held on 9th February 2012
At Centrecom Meeting Place

Present: Rebecca Kurth (Chair)
Ken Baker
Andre Brady
Ramo Erdogan
Linda Inoki
Andrew Thomas
Paul Cranfield (Clerk)

Apologies: Elizabeth Rowell-Tinsley

	Minutes	Actions
1	Welcome & Apologies The Chair noted apologies and welcomed Andre Brady and Ramo Erdogan to the meeting.	
2	Co-options Andre Brady and Ramo Erdogan were both co-opted to the Town Council and signed the declaration of acceptance of office of councillor. At this juncture the Chair expressed her gratitude to Tolu Wusu for his work whilst a councillor and wished him a full recovery.	
3	Ratification of Minutes of Previous Meetings The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council on 12 January 2012 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed as such by the Chair.	
4	Matters Arising - Guidelines for the Town Council to enable a consistent approach to licensing applications had yet to be completed. The Chair to circulate in due course. - The Clerk was requested to obtain further details in respect of the S106 monies agreed in respect of outlined planning permissions agreed for Campbell Park. -It was agreed that a response to the B4.4 plans be forwarded to the Clerk by Thursday 16 February. Councillors Inoki, Thomas and Baker to liaise.	RK PC PC, LI, AT, KB
5	Budget The papers, as previously circulated, were noted. A range of projects and activities were outlined with their projected costs. It was noted that there was no urgency to firm up on which of these would be pursued. -Councillors commented that consultation with residents should be pursued regarding their preferences. Whilst it was agreed that this was preferable, it was also noted that residents elect Town Councillors to make decisions in their best interests, including the types of projects and activities the Town Council will deliver to the residents -It was noted that in many instances the Town Council's traditional role of	

	providing local services is taken by MKCouncil as 'our' parish amenities are shared with tens of thousands of other users (visitors, employees etc) to CMK -A discussion ensued with regard to how the Town Council should balance business interests with those of residents. -Allowing funds as contingency without a direct application was considered appropriate. -The value of a multi-year approach to funding and budgeting was noted. The breadth of options available to the Town Council was acknowledged, but it was agreed that the item be considered further at the next meeting.	
6	Precept The letter being sent out with council tax bills was noted.	
7	Public meetings/consultations with residents The Clerk noted that the public meetings, as previously discussed, would not take place in the near future. It was accepted that there was a need to consult residents, but the means to do so was not agreed upon, given that the (voluntary) time of the Town Councillors is already stretched. The principle of a listening campaign was accepted as a way forward. With specific regard to the sports facility Councillors Kurth and Brady agreed to consider ways in which residents could be consulted in the next few weeks. It was agreed that enquiry be made of the official consultation model to ascertain whether there is a way in which the Town Council, having a seat on the Project Board, can be involved in that process.	
8	Consultations Residential Design Guide – Councillor Baker confirmed that he was still to provide input to the consultation. Housing Strategy- Councillor Brady agreed to look at the consultation on behalf of the Town Council and feed back to the Clerk as required. Transport Vision & Strategy- Councillors Thomas and Baker agreed to consider the consultation and feed back to the Clerk as required.	KB AB AT, KB
9	Business Neighbourhood Plan The Chair requested that the Town Council agree to the allocation of funds for the creation of a wiki website to support the work of the Steering Group. It was agreed that any decision for funding of work connected with the Steering Group would not be considered until the Steering Group had itself agreed what its requirements would be. The Clerk noted that an 'in principle' agreement to be actioned by Chair's Action would be an appropriate way forward, but the Town Council declined to do so, agreeing instead to await guidance from the Steering Group. A change in the proposed MKC representation on the Steering Group was discussed. It was agreed that any change to membership should not impact the fundamental structure of representation as it has been currently agreed, but that the existing Terms of Reference for the Steering Group allowed for co-option of additional non-voting members. A councillor noted that in the proposed procedures underpinning the Localism Act there is a requirement for a 6 week consultation period on boundaries for any BN Plan prior to work being able to commence. The Chair expressed the view that the frontrunner model did not require this to take place. It was agreed that Councillors Thomas and Kurth clarify the position with Diane Webber.	AT, RK

	The Clerk tabled the proposed declaration of interest form for completion by members of the Steering Group.	
10	Finance Update The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. An additional item of expenditure with regard to the printing of precept leaflets was agreed in sum of £633.60	
11	Grants The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. It was agreed that the issue of grants provision by the Town Council was one which required reconsideration, but that this discussion be deferred until the new council is in situ. In the interim, councillors were encouraged to email the Clerk with their suggestions of criteria which could be applied.	ALL
12	Planning requests The paper, as tabled, was noted. The Clerk to note that the Town Council would wish an EIA screening opinion to be the default position with regard to any substantial development within the parish. 00203- The Clerk to advise that whilst the Town Council supports the application, it would request that a condition be built into the agreement to require the temporary suite to be demolished within 3 months of the renovation of the current buildings having been completed.	PC PC
13	Planning Matters in Progress The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. John Lewis Application It was agreed that a letter would be sent by the Town Council to MKCouncil expressing its concerns that the application had been agreed against the weight of opinion. The draft to be circulated by Councillor Baker. Xscape It was agreed that Councillors Thomas and Inoki would work on transport issues and other related matters. It was noted that the application would be heard at DCC on Thursday 16 February and representation would be determined ahead of the meeting.	KB AT,LI
14	Secklow Gate Bridge The Chair noted that there was a substantial piece of work coming up in respect of the Secklow Gate Bridge proposals, and that legal opinion might be required. Councillor Brady noted the cost of engagement of lawyers. Councillor Baker noted that there were a number of different sets of criteria to be satisfied before the application could move forward. The Chair proposed that an external consultant be used to research and prepare a number of arguments against the plans, but expenditure on this was not supported at this time. However, it was accepted in principle that the workload required to shape a coherent case against the plans would be significant. It was agreed that the Clerk contact neighbouring parishes to ask if they would wish to be involved in opposing the proposed scheme. It was agreed that the Chair seek a meeting with Andrew Geary to flag the Town Council's position on this issue.	PC RK

15	Olympic Torch Route The Clerk referred to a meeting he had attended with Richard Davis where the route of the Olympic torch had been outlined. The Town Council welcomed the initiative, but declined to be directly involved with the event.	
16	Safer MK Strategic Assessment The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.	
17	Wind Turbine Supplementary Planning Document The Clerk noted the document, which was available for councillors.	
18	Any Other Business a) Listing of the Black Horse and October Reference was made to emails having been circulated by the MK Public Arts Trust seeking support for applications to list the two sculptures as above. The Town Council agreed to support any application in this regard.	
	Next meeting to be held on Thursday 1 March at Centrecom Meeting Place at 6.00pm	