Central Milton Keynes Town Council
Meeting held on 11th July 2013
At Centrecom, 602 North Row, Central Milton Keynes

Present: Rebecca Kurth (Chair to item 15)
Charles Ashbury
Ken Baker (from item 6)
Andre Brady
Andrew Thomas (Chair from item 15)
Paul Cranfield (Clerk)

Apologies: Ramo Erdogan, Linda Inoki

Members of the public: None

	Minutes	Actions
1	**Welcome & Apologies**. The Chair advised that she would have to leave the meeting earlier to attend a Development Control meeting at which she had requested to speak. In view of this, the items were dealt with in the following order.	
5	**Website** The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. The Chair noted that she and Councillor Brady had met with a local website developer who had created the site for a neighbouring parish. She proposed that the aim would be to source a simple website with the capacity for an online magazine, which could be advertised via postcard drops to residents. She also suggested that the site could have the facility for sub-domains to enable groups, such as the 9th and 10th Street flats committee, to have their own small site, hosted within the main site. It was agreed that a spend of £2000 be authorised, with the proviso that if a further small spend was necessary to really make the website work for councillors this could be considered.	
6	**Dropbox** The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. The Chair outlined the value of Dropbox to the Town Council and the flexibility the service provides. The cost of setting up space for a 'team' of up to 10 users with unlimited capacity is £1,000 per annum. After some discussion the spend was approved and the Chair was asked to proceed, noting the presence of a 30 day trial prior to committing funds to the project. Councillor Baker arrived at this juncture.	
16	**Petersfield Green Play Area** Councillor Brady outlined the current position with regard to the fence surrounding the Petersfield Green play area. He reminded councillors that	

	residents had raised the need for a more robust fence in the area. He reported that, following discussions with the owners of the land, the installation of a wooden fence had been agreed, subject to the cost of same being split 50/50 between the landowners and the Town Council. This would commit the Town Council to a cost of some £1500, and preparation and submission of planning permission. The project was debated at some length, the project cost of up to £1500 being agreed, subject to the landowners agreeing to take responsibility for the upkeep of the fence and plans being made available by the landowner of the proposals.	
4	**Business Neighbourhood Plan Update** The Chair updated the Town Council on the current position with regard to the BNPlan, noting:- • The Plan was submitted to MKCouncil last week. • It is to be considered under delegated powers next week, following which there is a call-in period. • Following this a 6 week publicity period will begin. • The schedule means that there remains a need to shave 3 weeks from the programme in order to maximise the optimum time of the year for the referendums. • Diane Webber has requested that an examiner be appointed.	
11	**Grant Applications** Two grant applications were considered, as follows:- • **Can Do** The Town Council approved the full amount requested, in sum of £600. The Chair noted that she visited the group on occasions. • **Market Traders' Federation** The Town Council approved the full amount requested, in sum of £300.	
15	**Market Festival** The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. It was agreed that the sum of £200 be set aside to enable the Town Council to have a stand at the Market Festival to be held on 31 August and to engage a face painter for the day. Councillor Kurth left the meeting at this juncture, and the Chair was taken for the remainder of the meeting by Councillor Thomas.	
2	**Ratification of Minutes of the Town Council meeting** The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council on 13 June 2013 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed as such by the Chair.	
3	**Matters Arising** -Councillor Ashbury noted that the poster board by Network Rail had returned. The Clerk to pursue. - The Clerk advised Councillors Baker and Brady that the next meeting of the Parishes Forum would be held on Thursday 12th September. - Councillor Thomas noted that he had yet to construct a response to David Hill in respect of the report on the Elder Gate footpath. - A meeting was held with Hammersons to discuss their plans for the Point, at which Jon Muncaster and Robert de Grey were present in addition to members of the Planning Committee. The Town Council's concerns were explained, but it was made clear that this informal discussion as part of a wider consultation would not be deemed to substitute for a formal response to any application submitted.	PC AT

	- Councillors Brady and Thomas attended the Grand Opening of Midsummer House, at which the Lord Lieutenant, the Mayor and a number of representatives from MKCouncil were present amongst the large gathering of guests.	
7	**Finance Paper** The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. The Clerk advised the Town Council that the Chair had requested that a Business Debit Card be explored for access to the Town Council's account. The proposal was agreed, the following item refers:- It was resolved that the organisation applies to Lloyds Bank PLC for the issue of Business Debit Cards to authorised users as determined by the Town Council from time to time on the basis of the Business Debit Card Terms and Conditions. That any two officers from time to time are authorised to request the bank to issue Business Debit Cards to certain authorised users and are authorised to sign the application form and any other relevant documentation on behalf of the Town Council. That the Bank is authorised to debit the Town Council's account specified on the application form with all transactions effected under such Business Debit Cards together with any interest thereon and with any fees for the issue and renewal of such Business Debit Cards and that the Town Council will be responsible for any overdraft so created with interest.	
8	**Renewal of Zurich Insurance Policy** The papers, as previously circulated, were noted. The Town Council confirmed that the policy was sufficient for their needs and that the policy be renewed on a three year agreement.	
9	**Review of Office Facility** Councillors confirmed that they had used the office more often than previously and noted that the availability of a phone line was of benefit. It was agreed that the experiment should continue to be monitored. It was agreed that Councillor Thomas would add Jon Muncaster to the access list.	
10	**Phoenix Gentlemens' Club licensing request** The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.	
12	**Parish Consultation on Alternative Schemes for Precept** The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. The Town Council agreed that it was ambivalent to the proposals and did not express a view.	
13	**Planning Committee** Councillor Thomas reported that the committee was looking at B4.4, and that a report will be submitted shortly, following input from Jon Muncaster. It was agreed that the regularly updated list of current applications sent to the committee by the Clerk should be used to identify exceptional applications, from which further action and information can stem. It was not felt that a regular meeting was necessary, as most of the applications advised are deemed inconsequential. However, a meeting would be called where large applications require detailed responses. Councillor Ashbury noted that the new owners of Midsummer Place had recently rebranded one of their other shopping centres.	

14	**Licensing** The paper, as previously circulated, was noted. The Clerk explained the current process with regard to licenses falling within the brief provided by the Town Council. After some discussion it was agreed that an outline of applications within the current policy be provided to councillors for noting.	
17	**Any Other Business** - Councillor Ashbury proposed that the Town Council consider purchasing a flag to sit on a flagpole in Station Square. The Clerk to investigate prices. - Councillors noted that the Theatre District was deteriorating, with dirty paving, lighting out and trees removed. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Phil Winsor at MKCCM, with a copy to Sara Mills at Theatre District expressing concerns at the current condition of the area. Additionally, Nick Fenwick to be copied in, as there are concerns by the social security building and other closeby with regard to weeds. - Concerns were expressed about the lack of adequate light by the cycle shelters in Station Square and other matters in the area. It was agreed that Councillor Ashbury list his concerns, which will be conveyed to John Pryor (MKC Assistant Director) seeking his response. - Councillor Brady showed councillors the business cards which can be collected from Staples. It was agreed that reference be made to Councillor Kurth and that arrangements be made for all councillors' cards to be collected together. - It was agreed that Councillor Ashbury contact Phil Winsor in respect of the secure cycle shelters and the impact these are having on the ability to let the units in their vicinity.	PC PC CA AB/RK/PC CA
	The meeting closed at 8.00pm **The next meeting to be held on Thursday 8 August at Centrecom commencing at 6pm.**	