Central Milton Keynes Town Council

Meeting held on 8th June 2023

at Centrecom, North Row, Central Milton Keynes

Present:
David Stabler (Chair)
Rebecca Kurth
Peter Lightfoot
Philip Murphy
Andrew Thomas
Paul Cranfield (Clerk)

Apologies: Anurag Jain

Absent: Andre Brady

In attendance: 1 member of the public to item 23/071

23/066 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Jain

23/067 – Declarations of Interest

None

23/068 - Ratification of Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th May 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed as such by the Chair.

23/069 - Ratification of Minutes of the May Town Council meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th May 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed as such by the Chair.

23/070- Clerk's Report on Outstanding Items

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

Updates to the action sheet were agreed, as follows:

Item 23/03- Mark on to August
Item 23/12- Closed. However, Planning Committee to be mindful of concerns when 'high rise' planning applications are received.
Item 23/13- Closed
Item 23/14- Closed
Item 23/15- Closed. Instructions to be provided for the commencement of the initial phone calls in August. Councillors present agreed to the provision of contact numbers for use by the consultant.

ACTION:- Clerk to liaise with consultant, monitor progress and arrange for a full day face to face session.

23/071 - Representations from the Public

The member of the public present raised concerns with regard to the quadrants at North 10th Street. She stated that granite blocks had been moved, the planters were 'full of weeds' and people were gathering there to smoke and drink alcohol.

A request that the planters be removed was not supported by councillors, but they have confirmed that they will make contact with MKCCouncil and the Police to progress the issues raised.

ACTION:- Clerk to contact MKCCouncil and Police re: North 10th Street.

The member of the public left the meeting at this juncture.

23/072- Finance Paper

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

23/073 - Forward Plan Monitoring Sheet

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

23/074 – Campbell Park Events Parking

The papers, as previously circulated, were noted.

Councillor Lightfoot outlined the outcomes of a discussion with The Parks Trust.

It was unanimously agreed that the sum of £250 be provided to source 4 temporary signs advising attendees at events where to park. These signs would be developed in conjunction with The Parks Trust and retained and used by them.

ACTION: Councillor Lightfoot to work with the clerk to progress.

23/075- Investment Strategy

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

At the request of the Internal Auditor an investment strategy was developed.

The paper was unanimously adopted as part of the Town Council's Policies and Procedures.

23/076- Grant Application

The papers, as previously circulated, were noted.

The grant application from Action Speaks was considered.

Councillors expressed the view that the sum requested was out of proportion to the potential benefit to CMK residents.

After some discussion a proposal was made by Councillor Kurth, seconded by Councillor Lightfoot that the sum of £250 be made available to the group. This proposal was unanimously supported.

23/077- Social Media Audit

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

Councillors commended Samantha Carmichael on her paper.

It was agreed that, building on the paper, the mechanics of how to progress the use of social media should now be developed. This would include metrics to measure the growth of usage over the next 12 months.

ACTION:- Clerk to liaise with Ms.Carmichael and Councillor Lightfoot to take the audit to the next stage.

23/078- Response to the Press Release regarding the Theatre MSCP

The papers, as previously circulated, were noted.

Councillors discussed the paper generated by the Planning & Consultations Officer.

It was accepted that, whilst there are a number of questions to be asked regarding the process whereby a contract has been released in respect of the land, a full analysis of the proposals would only be possible when a planning application is brought forward on the scheme.

However, it was agreed that the decision to progress a scheme that is contrary to the Development Brief needed to be challenged at this early stage.

The Development Brief at 4.2.2. states:-

'CMK has seen and is currently receiving a significant number of applications for Build to Rent (or PRS - Private Rental Schemes). The Council would welcome proposals that would widen the offer in CMK. It is believed that this site with its highly advantageous location is suitable to contribute to expand the mix of use. The Council intends that any residential provision on this site be for long-term residents that will be invested in their local community. As such A PRS-led scheme is not appropriate for this location. Where housing is proposed as part of the development, It is expected that at least 31% of the total housing will be provided as affordable housing, as outlined in the Council's Affordable Housing SPD adopted in January 2020.'

It was agreed that the Clerk write to Councillor Middleton challenging the current plans on this specific point.

Additionally, residents to be asked their views of the plans via an article in the forthcoming newsletter and social media.

ACTION- The Clerk to write to Councillor Middleton on behalf of the Chair.

23/078 b)- Website

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

It was noted that the sum payable for the Security Service was mis-stated as £122.99 + VAT per month. The Clerk confirmed that this was the annual cost, and this was ratified by councillors.

The proposal regarding the future of the website was amended as follows:-

'The Town Council agrees that investigations should begin in respect of the upgrading of the website and relocation on a more secure platform, which will be fully supported.'

The above proposal was agreed. Councillor Kurth noted that the website working party will need to be consulted going forward.

23/079- Community Infrastructure Fund 2024/2025

The papers, as previously circulated, were noted.

It was noted that the closing date for applications is 25 August 2023.

In a related comment, Councillor Lightfoot suggested that a SID be explored for use along Avebury Boulevard in Campbell Park, given the speeds achieved by some vehicles along that stretch of road.

ACTION: Clerk to enquire regarding the use of SIDs or alternative speed measurement systems available.

23/080 - Items for Information

i) Licensing application- Christ the Cornerstone
ii) Licensing application- Marco Pierre White, Holiday Inn
iii) Licensing application-Fabrice Restaurant, The Hub
iv) Licensing application- Crispy Dosa, Lloyds Court
v) Licensing application- Sankalp Restaurant, North tenth Street
vi) Licensing application- All Good Café, Station House

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

The next scheduled monthly meeting will be held on Thursday 6 July 2023 at Centrecom Meeting Place

Appendix to Minutes of Meeting of CMK Town Council on 8 June 2023

Cheques:-

HMDesign	£	125.00
Warners	£	76.44
Friends of Conniburrow Children's Centre	£	280.00

Debit card items :-

NEST	£	82.44 x 2
Google	£	151.80
Google	£	1.59 x 2
Tsohost	£	5.99
Royal Mail	£	17.70
Vonage	£	10.25 x 2
Currys Care	£	10.35
ICO	£	40.00

Monthly Standing Orders:-

Salaries	£	2,100.00
MK Community Properties	£	606.90
Samantha Carmichael	£	500.00

Chair's Signature…….. **Date……..**