



**Central Milton Keynes Town Council**  
**Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013**  
**At Centrecom, 602 North Row, Central Milton Keynes**

**Present:** Linda Inoki (Chair)  
 Charles Ashbury  
 Ken Baker  
 Andre Brady  
 Paul Cranfield (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Rebecca Kurth, Andrew Thomas

**Absent :** Ramo Erdogan

**Members of the public:** None

	<b>Minutes</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1	<b>Welcome &amp; Apologies.</b> Councillor Inoki agreed to take the Chair in the absence of Councillor Kurth.	
2	<b>Ratification of Minutes of the Town Council meeting</b> The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council on 8 August 2013 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed as such by Councillor Inoki.	
3	<b>Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The response to the Elder Gate paper remained outstanding. It was agreed that the response should still be prepared at the earliest opportunity.</li> <li>- Councillor Ashbury advised of a contact at MKCouncil who may provide details of the steps to be followed prior to the flying of flags in Station square. He noted that he had access to a number of flags, including the Netherlands, and that approaches had been made to acquire a German flag. The Clerk to pursue with MKCouncil.</li> <li>- The Clerk reported that the following responses had been received in respect of the landscaping maintenance services discussion:-</li> </ul> <p><i>What has the historic spend on the parish been in the past five years?</i>            Given the austerity measures, the budget has remained relatively static over the past few years, and the sum per parish or town council area is based upon the current year's budget, which forms the basis of any discussions with each parish and town council.</p> <p><i>What would the length of any contract be?</i> The contract will be for 5 years with an option to extend (depending upon good performance and alike) for up to a further 5 years.</p> <p><i>What quality standards are built in at present?</i> There will be provisions for the contractor to report their performance to the Council which the Council will audit. There will be a requirement to undertake customer satisfaction</p>	AT  PC

	<p>surveys which will be triangulated with feedback from others (such as parish and town councils, complaints/compliments and the Council's own annual survey). Additionally some horticultural operations will be performance based – such as keeping beds free of weeds (within practical limits) and grass cutting will be performance based (to a set maximum length) but there will be a cap and collar (or a floor and ceiling) to prevent the contractor having to price in excessive risk – to help keep the costs reasonable</p> <p><i>What is the regularity of works to be undertaken?</i> Please see above.</p> <p>General grass cutting is based upon an average of 10 cuts a year with most shrub maintenance (pruning) being an annual operation + reactive work for safety issues such as visibility splays. Weed control is performance based. There are also specialist specifications for things like football pitches or cricket greens and for arboricultural works.</p>	
4	<p><b>Finance Paper</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>A number of cheques were signed, including a payment to MKCouncil in sum of £2722.50, representing the Town Council's contribution to the Play Park.</p>	
5	<p><b>Grant application- MKCMS</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>After some discussion it was agreed that the sum of £300 be awarded to the MK Community Mediation Service to fund a pilot Good Neighbour parish seminar focussing on the residents of CMK. The funds would not be released until the project is in course of development.</p>	
6	<p><b>MKCouncil Licensing Policy</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>Concerns were expressed that the Sexual Entertainment Licensing policy was in need of review, with consideration being given to decline being the default position, as adopted by some other councils, rather the MKCouncil's current position which is that a licence would be granted as default. The Clerk to write to the Chair of the Licensing Committee seeking an indication of when the review would take place and requesting that the Town Council be involved at an early stage in the scoping of any proposed review of the current licensing guidelines.</p> <p>A councillor spoke in objection to the planning application for the sexual entertainment Venue in CBX on 22 August, but despite reluctance from the Chari the permission was granted.</p> <p>Additionally, a councillor made reference to a report in a local paper that the premises had been licensed for a sex shop and cinema use in addition to the sexual entertainment license which formed the licensing application. The Clerk to seek confirmation that this is not the case.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>
7	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Councillor Baker noted that a number of the large glass panels on the south elevation of Midsummer Arcade within the shopping building had been removed, ostensibly to check for corrosion of the supports. It was noted that no request appeared to have been made for the wholesale removal of the glass panels, and the conservation officer had no knowledge of this. The Clerk to enquire of Andrew Horner the rationale behind the action, noting the apparent lack of any planning application.</li> </ul>	PC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Councillor Ashbury noted that he has written to Highways with regard to concerns over loose paving edges at the toucan crossing on Silbury Boulevard.</li> <li>- Councillor Ashbury noted that parking on both sides of Adelphi Street is causing concern for residents and presenting challenges for emergency service vehicles. The Clerk to write to Sara Bailey noting this and asking whether there is to be a mini review of parking in the near future.</li> <li>- The Clerk was requested to enquire whether work has progressed in respect of the grant provided to MK Scouts.</li> <li>- The Clerk was requested to write to John Prior enquiring whether any progress has been made with regard to the trial free bike scheme and the cycle hub, for which funding has been made available for use during the current financial year.</li> <li>- Councillor Inoki referred to issues surrounding two TPO oak trees between David Lock Associates and the adjacent property which have been granted a removal order. It was noted that, due to the large volume of other activity at the time, the original request was not objected to by the Town Council. However, she noted that there may not be a need to remove the trees and that the issue was still a live one.</li> <li>- Councillor Inoki thanked those involved with the Market Celebration, which was agreed to have been a great success. The Town Council extended their thanks to her for the work undertaken in making the project a reality. It was agreed that photos and a poem written for the celebration be inserted into the Town Council's noticeboards.</li> <li>- The sum of £82.50 was donated to Carers' Trust from the face painting stand at the MK Market Fun day sponsored by the Town Council.</li> </ul>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>PC</p>
	<p><b>The meeting closed at 7.45pm</b></p> <p><b>The next meeting to be held on Thursday 10 October at Centrecom commencing at 6pm.</b></p>	