



Central Milton Keynes Town Council
Meeting held on 9th January 2014
At Centrecom, 602 North Row, Central Milton Keynes

Present: Rebecca Kurth (Chair)
 Ken Baker (from item 5)
 Andre Brady
 Linda Inoki
 Andrew Thomas
 Paul Cranfield (Clerk)

Apologies: Charles Ashbury

Absent: Ramo Erdogan

Members of the public: None

	Minutes	Actions
1	Welcome & Apologies. Councillor Kurth welcomed councillors to the meeting and noted apologies from Councillor Ashbury.	
2	Ratification of Minutes of the Town Council meeting The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council on 5 December 2013 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed as such by Councillor Thomas.	
3	Matters Arising Chain of Office- Councillor Inoki will report at a later date on alternatives. JCC Media- Councillor Brady reported that the project was taking shape and that councillors had been invited to meet with the young people on 16 th January to discuss their initial vision of what the film should address. Councillors Inoki and Brady agreed to attend, the Chair to be present if possible. It was agreed to pay an invoice for £350, being one third of the sum agreed to support the project. Hi Vis Vests- The Clerk advised that the vests had been ordered and he awaited information re: delivery. Adelphi Street- The Clerk advised that parking restriction options are being pursued for the area and that a further meeting had been offered with specific reference to Adelphi Street. It was agreed that Councillors Inoki and Ashbury would meet again with Steve Lain, involving Hilarie Bowman if possible. Oak Trees- The Clerk confirmed that he had sent a letter to MKDP as requested, but had not received a response.	LI AB PC
4	Finance Paper The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.	

	<p>The Clerk gave an update on the sum remaining on the account and also sought agreement to purchase a copy of 'The 2013 Clerk's Manual'. At this juncture the Chair requested that the Council purchase a copy of 'Human Transit' and a request was made for a copy of 'Local Council Explained'.</p> <p>The purchase of all three publications was agreed.</p>	
5	<p>Business Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>The Chair provided a brief summary of the position with regard to the Examination, noting that the day went very well and that the BNPlan is now in the hands of the Examiner, who is yet to report.</p> <p>The Chair made reference to Item 5 on the previous minutes, seeking financial support for the previously in principle agreement to the proposed charrette in respect of Midsummer Boulevard East. It was noted that the area in question was similar to that of the Inset Area Action Plan, identified by the CMK Alliance as requiring separate study. It was further noted that the event, which will last 3 days, is being jointly sponsored by CMK Town Council and MK Council and that letters have been sent inviting people and organisations to attend co-signed by the Chair and MK Council Chief Executive. The level of recognition afforded the Town Council by this partnership was noted.</p> <p>The Chair advised that between 80 and 100 attendees were expected and requested a contribution of £1500 towards the logistics of the event from the Town Council. After some discussion about the request a vote was taken on a motion to approve the sum of £1500, which was agreed.</p> <p>Councillor Baker arrived at this juncture.</p> <p>The issue of a newsletter to publicise the charette was considered. It was agreed that the timescale would not enable this to be done, but posters could be inserted into our noticeboards, with a possibility of local Press articles.</p> <p>The Chair's proposal that, subject to available places, the Chairs of the North 9th and 10th Street flats and Eaton Mews residents' associations be invited, together with all town councillors, was approved.</p> <p>On a related matter, Councillor Brady invited councillors to a workshop at Vitasigns MK next Monday.</p>	
o6	<p>Draft statement of Community involvement</p> <p>The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>Issues of concern were identified, and the Clerk was requested to circulate the bullet points to councillors prior to making a submission. The items were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objectives need to be 'SMART'. • Restricting the number of speakers to three on significant planning applications is not good practice. The number of speakers which should be recommended was debated and following two proposals being considered, and a vote determined by the Chair's casting vote, the sum of 10 speakers was determined to be a realistic number. • Any pre-application discussions should be made public when an application is put out to consultation. • As a pre-application is considered 'behind closed doors' it is felt that immediately after each of any sequence of more than three meetings with Council officers the outcome shall be made public 	

	as part of the overall consultation process	
7	<p>Suggested criteria for Town Council recognition awards The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>Councillors spent some time discussing the value of such an award, and how and to whom it should be made. It was agreed that the current guidance is too broad and needs to be tightened to more clearly define the prospective beneficiaries. It was agreed that the Chair and Clerk redraft the criteria and if the document when presented to the Town Council is not felt to address the concerns raised, the proposal to establish recognition awards will be withdrawn.</p>	PC/RK
8	<p>Grace Academy Councillor Brady explained that a location was being sought for a new school, but that a number of options are being considered, including CMK. It was agreed to wait for further information indicating an interest in a CMK location before discussing further.</p>	
9	<p>Station Square Toilets The Chair noted that her discussions with Andrew Geary in respect of possible options for toilets in Station Square were explicitly in a personal capacity, and did not reflect the views of the Town Council. She noted that her observations were being considered and she awaited a response for MKCouncil.</p>	
10	<p>Any Other Business (part 1) Standing Orders- Councillor Thomas proposed that the Town Council's Standing Orders be revisited, given that new model standing orders were now available and the Town Council's current guidance has been in place for a number of years. It was agreed that he and Councillor Brady work with the Clerk to bring back a proposed set of Standing Orders in two months' time.</p> <p>Press Engagement Strategy- Following a discussion in respect of a recent Press article relating to 'Platinum Parking', which had not been formally considered by the Town Council policy, it was agreed that a Press Engagement Policy is required. The Clerk and Councillor Thomas to develop a draft and bring back to the Town Council for approval.</p> <p>In the interim, clarity was provided that the Town Council should not be proactive in placing articles in the Press (except in extreme circumstances approved by the Town Council), but that it was entirely appropriate for the Chair to respond to Press enquiries on matters where a policy or strategy has been agreed, or where the matter concerned that of information.</p>	PC/AT/AB PC/AT
11	<p>Clive Faine- Abbeygate Developments Clive Faine arrived at his juncture, and it was agreed to defer further items of AOB until after his presentation. Papers were tabled to support the presentation.</p> <p>Clive Faine presented an initial proposal for development of the Wyevale site (D4.4), noting that the proposals were very early thoughts, but that he was keen to get the views of the Town Council on the development.</p> <p>He noted the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mixed use proposal would stimulate growth and jobs. • Heads of agreement have been drafted with MKDP for the acquisition of the head lease. • Pre application stage discussions have been held with MKCouncil 	

	<p>officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site sits within the highway boundary. • The site occupies 80,000 sq ft. • The aim will be to house a hotel, conference facilities, leisure facilities, bar, restaurant and cafe on the site. • Proposal meets current parking standards and will add 93 dedicated parking spaces. • The building will be stepped to reflect the site and will expand the full width. <p>The following responses were provided to questions posed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The buildings are set back from the building line to accommodate a colonnade. • It is not felt that there will be significant objections from nearby housing due to the staggered nature of the build. The majority of the side aspect of the site will be 2 storey only. • Noise from the service yard was noted as a challenge, but noise abatement guidelines will be adhered to. <p>At this juncture Clive Faine was thanked for his presentation and let the meeting. Councillor Brady also left.</p> <p>It was agreed that at the next full meeting the Town Council should agree a response to the presentation.</p>	
10	<p>Any Other Business (Part 2) Parking strategy- Councillor Inoki asked whether the Town Council should seek to develop its own strategy on parking.</p> <p>After some discussion it was accepted that whilst it was proper for the Town Council to exert its influence, formulation of detailed policy on parking is not the function of the Town Council. With specific reference to parking, the Alliance Plan has a policy within it and it was not felt that any further detail was required for the moment.</p> <p>The Chair expressed the view that the Town Council should be proactive on the issue of scratch cards should there be a change in provision proposed, which was noted and agreed.</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 7.10pm</p> <p>There will be an extraordinary meeting held on Thursday 23rd January 2014 at Centrecom commencing at 5pm for consideration of the 2014-15 budget and subsequent precept request only.</p> <p>(The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday 6th February at Centrecom commencing at 6pm.)</p>	