



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

**Present:** Rebecca Kurth (Chair)  
Ken Baker  
Andre Brady  
Hilarie Bowman  
Linda Inoki  
Andrew Thomas

Paul Cranfield (Clerk)  
Lee Mooney (Projects Officer)  
Thomas Walker (Communications Officer)

**Absent:** Ramo Erdogan

**In attendance:** 2 members of the public

	<b>Minutes</b>	<b>Actions</b>
	<p>The Chair welcomed the members of the public and asked if they wished to speak to the meeting. Both indicated that they would wish to speak. Charles Ashbury raised his concerns about the manner in which the repairs to a section of Avebury Boulevard had been undertaken by contractors Ringway on behalf of MKCouncil. He noted the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short notice to bus providers of the roadworks</li> <li>• Recommended bus diversions were unusable.</li> <li>• Tarmac used is not in accordance with CMK Handbook, being black but without chippings.</li> <li>• Kerbstones which have become unseated were not resealed, instead they were left at odd angles and the tarmac was laid on top of the kerbstones in places.</li> </ul> <p>The Town Council expressed its concerns at the information provided and requested the Clerk to write to Rachel Kingsley as a matter of urgency and also to seek to convene an informal meeting with her.</p> <p>Bob Stones then spoke, noting the lack of policing in CMK and the poor response to 999 calls made in respect of the play park. He noted that the office at the North 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Street flats, which has been fitted out to accommodate the police, had not been used since June. He also noted the recent news of police reductions and the removal of a number of mini offices in the MK area.</p> <p>The Chair noted that there remain NAGs elsewhere within MK, but that within CMK this role has been taken by the MKCCM Ops group.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PC</p>

	After some discussion it was agreed that the Projects Officer undertakes a factfinding exercise on the current arrangements within the MKCCM Ops group and the effectiveness of other NAGs within MK.	LM
1	<p><b>Apologies &amp; Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>Councillor Thomas noted that, whilst remaining as a member of MK Forum, he had stepped down from the role of Secretary of the group.</p> <p>Councillor Kurth, noting that there are a number of items relating to Campbell Park reminded councillors that she has a property there.</p>	
2	<p><b>Ratification of Minutes of the Town Council meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council on 11 September 2014 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed as such by the Chair.</p>	
3	<p><b>Matters Arising &amp; Outstanding Items</b></p> <p>The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the actions log needed to be kept up to date.</p> <p>Updates to the action sheet were agreed, as follows:-  Items 020- completed.  Item 041 to be referred to Jon Muncaster to pursue.  Item 042- completed  Item 043- closed- the Clerk to liaise with Standing Orders working group in respect of prospective track changes.  Item 044- office risk assessment to be undertaken December  Item 045- completed  Item 046- Clerk to pursue response  Item 047- Email to be chased by Clerk. Diarise for November meeting</p>	PC       PC PC
4	<p><b>Projects Update</b></p> <p>The paper, as previously circulated and presented by the Projects Officer, was noted.</p> <p>In response to a query the Projects Officer advised that he had been in touch with neighbouring parishes with regard to allotment availability. He was requested to widen his enquiries to selected other councils.</p>	LM
5	<p><b>Finance Paper</b></p> <p>The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p>	
6	<p><b>Mid Year Budget</b></p> <p>The papers, as previously circulated, were noted.</p> <p>Councillor Baker raised concerns that with the conversion of domiciles to aparthotels the Town Council's ability to levy precept to those properties would cease. The comment was noted and would be considered when examining precept arrangements for 2015-16.</p> <p>The current budget forecast of £45,000 and the projected underspend of £5,000 were noted.</p> <p>One member of the public left at this juncture.</p>	
7	<p><b>Proposed projects/tasks for the CMK Warden</b></p> <p>The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The Clerk recommended that liaison responsibility for the Warden should sit in the first instance with the Clerk and Chair to ensure that the functionality of</p>	PC/RK

	<p>the role dovetails with and does not conflict that of the Projects Officer.</p> <p>Further it was agreed that the Warden's focus would be on specific 'environment' issues. The written report provided by the Warden was noted.</p> <p>It was agreed that, as the SLA for the role was determined prior to the appointment of the Projects Officer, the terms of the SLA be revisited.</p> <p>Clarification was sought in respect of the process being adopted by MKCCM to feed into MKCouncil the results of the CMK Warden's audit and how these issues will be dealt with and fed back on.</p>	<p>PC/RK</p> <p>PC/RK</p>
8	<p><b>Project report- Residents' Questionnaire</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The Project Officer introduced the item, noting that the questionnaire is a work in progress and that any suggestions for changes be advised to him by 16 October latest.</p> <p>It was noted that the resource support identified from the Communications Officer related to the creation of an online version of the finished questionnaire.</p> <p>It was noted that the intention would be to collate the results via computer rather than by hand.</p> <p>Concerns were expressed that the questionnaire was too long and that one of the questions could trigger a requirement for the Town Council to actively pursue a solution, rather than merely providing guidance to the Town Council.</p> <p>Incentives for completion were discussed, including a draw for coffee and cake at a local café. No decision was reached on this matter, which was referred back to the Residents' Working Group.</p> <p>The Projects Officer noted that he hoped to get a 10% return rate, which prompted a discussion on how to encourage residents to get the hard copy back to us in as easy a way as possible. Freepost envelopes were discussed, but this was not seen as a practical solution.</p> <p>Concerns were expressed over the projected cost of return as included within the paper, but the resources were agreed as requested, printing costs of up to £300 and return facilities to a maximum of £500.</p> <p>It was noted that the questionnaire would not be multi-lingual, but that this would be a longer term aim.</p>	
9	<p><b>Project report- Campbell Park Parking Survey</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The Projects Officer presented the paper, noting that the survey results showed that, of those who responded, only two streets recorded results in excess of 70% in favour of a parking regime being established.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the recommendation to establish a parking regime throughout the streets within the Campbell Square area did not meet MKCouncil parking standards, requiring 70% in favour across the area to be considered.</p> <p>After some discussion it was agreed that with the substantive divergence in findings across the area and the low level of response it would not be</p>	

	<p>advisable to pursue the recommendation at this time.</p> <p>It was agreed that the results would be publicised in the newsletter, but that no further action would be taken at present, other than a follow up meeting with Sara Bailey to discuss the survey results.</p>	
10	<p><b>Proposed Projects</b></p> <p><b>i) Lantern Workshops</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>There ensued a discussion regarding whether it was within the remit of the Town Council to assist grant applicants in the development and delivery of the projects they applied for support for.</p> <p>The recommendation was supported by a vote of 4 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention, noting that by agreeing to support this proposal this would not set a precedent in respect of other such grant applications.</p> <p><b>ii) Notice Boards</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The reference of paragraph 13(e) in the recommendation should be 14(e).</p> <p>The first phase of the project was approved (5 votes in favour and 1 against), after which the Projects Officer was requested to bring back the facts and these would be considered further. It was noted that this project was low priority and need not report back in the short term</p> <p><b>iii) CMKTC Strategic Plan</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The Chair noted that most parish councils have a business plan stretching over a number of years, and it was important that a similar plan be developed by the Town Council.</p> <p>The project would be in a number of phases, with an end date of March 2015. Prior to that there would be a number of milestones to reach.</p> <p>It was noted that the Projects Officer would bring the project back to the Town Council at each step to ensure that the Town Council is fully engaged.</p> <p>A councillor noted that the questionnaire will inform the priorities when its findings are received, but it was not felt appropriate to ask residents to input directly into the strategic plan via the newsletter.</p> <p>It was also noted that any plan for the forthcoming year would need to fit with the precept request to be submitted early in 2015. To this end the Clerk was requested to schedule a mid January date for consideration of the budget for 2015-16.</p> <p>Concerns were expressed in respect of the time and priority pulls on the Projects Officer and the Clerk noted that he would be discussing this issue with him in the next week.</p> <p>The recommendations were supported by 5 votes in favour and 1 abstention.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC/LM</p>
11	<p><b>MBE Implementation Steering Group</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The recommendations were agreed. Councillors Kurth and Thomas would</p>	

	<p>represent the Town Council, with the Clerk providing secretariat support for the group.</p> <p>It was noted that the steering group will have no executive or decision making powers.</p>	
12	<p><b>Office Equipment</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p>The sum of £600 for a further desktop/laptop and ancillary costs was agreed.</p>	
13	<p><b>Alternative Newsletter Quotes</b> The paper, as previously circulated was noted.</p> <p>Councillor Inoki declared an interest in respect of this item.</p> <p>Following a discussion it was agreed that the Town Council would continue to use Eagle Graphics for production of newsletters.</p> <p>Councillor Brady and the Projects Officer left at this juncture.</p>	
14	<p><b>Items for Noting</b></p> <p><b>i) CMK Alliance Business Neighbourhood Plan Update</b> The papers, as previously circulated, were noted.</p> <p>Councillor Thomas expressed concerns about the manner in which MKCouncil has conducted itself with reference to the referendum discussions. It was felt that officers had led the examiner to a conclusion on the extent of the referendum.</p> <p>After some discussion it was agreed that Councillor Kurth exercise Chair's action to compile a form of words, following conversations with councillors, to be stated during the Cabinet's consideration of the matter on Monday 13 October. It was agreed, however, that it would not be appropriate to cause further delays to a process already having taken far too long.</p> <p><b>ii) Planet Ice- new licensing request</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p> <p><b>iii) MK Social- new licensing request</b> The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.</p>	
15	<p><b>The meeting closed at 8.27pm</b></p> <p><b>The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November at Centrecom commencing at <u>6.15pm</u>.</b></p>	