



**Central Milton Keynes Town Council
Meeting held on 9th January 2025
at Margaret Powell House,
Midsummer Boulevard,
Central Milton Keynes**

Present:

David Stabler (Chair)
Andre Brady (from item 25/005)
Anurag Jain
Rebecca Kurth
Peter Lightfoot
Andrew Thomas
Paul Cranfield (Clerk)

Apologies: Philip Murphy

Members of the public: Two members of the public were present.

25/001 – Apologies

Councillor Murphy extended his apologies for the January, February and March meetings.

25/002 – Declarations of Interest

None

25/003 - Ratification of Minutes of the December Town Council meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2024 were agreed as a true record and signed as such by the Chair.

25/004 - Clerk's Report on Outstanding Items

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

Updates to the action sheet were agreed, as follows:

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Item 24/35- Closed
Item 24/36- Closed
Item 24/37- Closed
Item 24/38- Closed

Councillor Brady arrived at this juncture

25/005 - Representations from the Public

A member of the public present noted that graffiti had been cleared from a number of the outlying underpasses. Lighting remains an issue in some underpasses and various runs of lights within CMK. The Chair requested that details of the streetlight numbers be provided to enable this to be passed on to MKCCouncil.

25/006 - Finance Paper

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

25/007 – MKCCouncil Forward Plan Monitoring Sheet

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

Councillor Thomas agreed to attend the meeting as an observer. Clerk to circulate documents when these are available.

ACTION- Clerk to circulate documents re: Saxon Court/MK Gateway when available.

25/008 – 3rd Quarter accounts

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

The 3rd quarter accounts and year end projections were noted.

25/009 – ‘Together We Can’

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

It was agreed that the draft document was suitable for adoption.

25/010- Gambling Act-Statement of Gambling Principles- Statutory Revision

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

Councillors confirmed that they had no issues with the revised Statement of Gambling Principles.

25/011 – Landscape Contributions Options

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

Councillors discussed at some length the 3 options articulated in the paper from MKCCouncil.

Councillors thanked the Strategic Landscape and Countryside Manager for the speed with which the outline options document was produced following their meeting with him prior to the year end.

It was felt that councillors would need a far greater understanding of what could be achieved in respect of the landscaping of CMK with an annual contribution. It was agreed that Officers should be advised that the Town Council is minded to provide an annual sum of up to £35,000 for 4 years subject to a more detailed planting and maintenance schedule with targeted interventions in identifiable residential areas (such as Secklow Mound) reflecting the contribution.

Councillor Kurth reminded councillors of the cost of works on a few quadrants some years ago, and cautioned against having too high expectations of what the sum could achieve.

Councillor Thomas mentioned a conversation he had recently with the Strategic Landscape and Countryside Manager regarding tree pits, noting that he had offered to accompany him on a walkabout to explore the issues that are evident in a number of the trees within CMK.

It was agreed to insert £35,000 expenditure into the budget for 2025/26 and to continue discussions with Officers.

ACTION: Clerk to respond to Officers accordingly.

25/012 – Social Media Update

The paper, as previously circulated, was noted.

Councillors expressed their thanks to Samantha Carmichael for the work she has undertaken in building the social media presence across platforms in the last year.

Councillor Lightfoot suggested that ways needed to be explored to further extend views and to enable cascading of more content, citing as an example linking to a number of local content providers (such as Unity Place, The Almere etc). Additionally, it was acknowledged that councillors would need to consider how they can generate additional material for circulation.

It was agreed that a meeting be set up with Councillor Lightfoot, the Clerk and Samantha to explore what further could be done, whether she has the

capacity to expand the support and whether that would incur additional cost for the Town Council.

ACTION- Clerk to arrange meeting

25/013i) – Items for Information

- i) Graffiti Update

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

The Budget meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd January, and the next monthly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday 6th February. Both meetings will be at Centrecom Meeting Place

Appendix to Minutes of Meeting of CMK Town Council on 9 January 2025

Debit card items:-

Google	£	180.00
Adobe	£	19.97
Vonage	£	10.25
NEST	£	130.71+ £95.11
McAfee	£	109.99
Microsoft	£	79.99
Browns	£	437.40

Online payments:-

Warners	£	114.40
Helen Mortimer	£	524.50
Eagle Graphics	£	332.00
MK Community Properties	£	108.00

Monthly Standing Orders:-

Salary	£	2,575.05
MK Community Properties	£	606.90
Samantha Carmichael	£	500.00

Chair's Signature.....

Date.....