



Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment and Planning Committee of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council held at on Tuesday, 14th March, 2023 commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs S Clark, R Graham, Hussein, E Kelly-Wilson and A Segebrecht (Vice-chair in the chair)

Absent:

Apologies: Cllrs R Haine, E O'Rourke, Palmer and S Porter

In attendance: Delia Shephard, Town Clerk

Min Ref

- EPC22/23-33 Councillors' apologies for absence**
It was RESOLVED that the apologies listed above be noted.
- EPC22/23-34 Councillor's declarations of interest in matters on the agenda**
No declarations of interests were made.
(Cllr Hussein joined the meeting during this item and apologised for lateness.)
- EPC22/23-35 Minutes of the last meeting of the committee**
It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2023 be approved as a correct record of proceedings.
- EPC22/23-36 Public Speaking Time**
There were no representations from members of the public.
- EPC22/23-37 To note activities of working groups and to consider any appropriate actions**
No meetings of working groups had been held since the last meeting.
- EPC22/23-38 Response to MK City Council New City Plan consultation**
Members discussed the initial consultation documentation provided by Milton Keynes City Council and noted the comments of the Finance and Governance Committee of the town council.

It was RESOLVED that the clerk be delegated to respond to the consultation on behalf of the town council in consultation with Cllrs Segebrecht, Clark and Hussein and that the key points to be made included reinforcement of the importance of infrastructure before expansion, the importance of the mass rapid transport link connecting to Bletchley and East West Rail and the importance of neighbourhood planning, and the inclusion of the "old" towns not just CMK in developing the new city plan.
- EPC22/23-39 Pre-Order Consultation on Application for Diversion of Bletchley Public Footpath 28**
It was unanimously RESOLVED that the proposed route be approved.

The clerk was asked to write to MKCC to ask for clarification on the funding of the footpath and for information on signage and communications with the community.
- EPC22/23-40 Proposed 20 mph speed limit zone in Bletchley - various streets (Ref: TRO-346)**
It was RESOLVED unanimously that the introduction of this 20 mph zone be



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supported. Members noted that Hazel Grove had been omitted from the coloured map (though it was on the list of streets included in the proposed order) and that Westfield Road, Birchfield Grove and Ashfield Grove had been excluded from the proposed order. The clerk was asked to query the justification for leaving these roads out of the scheme.

EPC22/23-41 Proposed 7.5 tonne weight restriction on Duncombe Street and Water Eaton Road in Bletchley (Ref: TRO-353)

It was RESOLVED that the introduction of this weight restriction be supported by the Town Council and that a suggestion be made that automated enforcement (by camera) should be introduced.

EPC22/23-42 Review of quotations for a carbon footprint and energy audit of the town council's activity and to approve appointment of a contractor to undertake this work

Following discussion and review of documents it was RESOLVED that an order be placed with Ibeccs Ltd for an energy and carbon footprint report and action plan for the town council, the initial fee to be £1,912.00.

EPC22/23-43 Draft biodiversity statement for recommendation to full council

A draft biodiversity policy statement was discussed and it was RESOLVED to recommend that the draft statement be adopted by full council at its meeting on 28 March 2023. It was noted that the document complemented the council's environmental policy and both could be amended further in the future as progress was made with developing the council's response to the climate emergency.

EPC22/23-44 Report on allotment site occupancy

It was RESOLVED note the most recent allotment site occupancy report and officers especially the administrator responsible for managing tenancies were congratulated on the high level of occupancy at all sites. Members noted the introduction of mini plots at Newton Leys following the previous decision to subdivide the large community plot.

EPC22/23-45 Application for S106 funds to make improvements to allotments at Manor Fields

The clerk advised that £12,718.32 in S106 funding from 06/00488/FUL former Reckitt and Coleman site remained to be spent at Manor Fields. Officers proposed that the funding should be spent on improvements to the gate and fencing at Orchardside and that the front fence should be extended up to the Irish Centre/Rugby Club building (if agreed by the Club as was anticipated). Remaining funds could then be spent on improvements to the fence between the allotment site and the community orchard as this was only stock fencing and insecure.

It was RESOLVED to authorise the clerk to submit a S106 funding request to MK City Council based on this proposal.

EPC22/23-46 Approval of interim allotment maintenance arrangements and associated spending

Members discussed a written report with recommendations and quotations from the Environment and Premises Manager concerning arrangements for maintenance of the council's allotments and community orchard sites during the period April to September 2023.

It was RESOLVED that



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- i the previously agreed lease of one Grillo ride-on diesel mower due to start in July 2023 be brought forward to start as soon as possible before that date
- ii a tow bar be purchased and fitted to the existing Vauxhall vehicle using officers' delegated spending powers
- iii a PF8 Ifor Williams trailer with Jockey wheel, Lashing Points (Pair) and prop stands be purchased for transportation of the Grillo mower at a sum not to exceed £1,616.00 excl VAT

in order to permit town council staff to undertake maintenance of the allotments and orchard at the end of the current contract with Serco for maintenance of these sites which would end on 31 March 2023.

Members also scrutinized a series of quotes for additional vehicles and it was further RESOLVED a white Vauxhall Combo Cargo L2h1 2300 1.5 Cdti 110s Edn first registration date 28.8.2019 with mileage of 35,832 at a cost of £13,582.50 excluding VAT be purchased from Thurlow Nunn if still available.

The meeting closed at 8.46 pm

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