

**Minutes of the meeting of the Full Town Council, held at the Town Hall, Creed Street  
Wolverton, MK12 5LY at 7.30pm on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**



**Present:** Councillors: Campbell, Forbes, Hussain, Lewis, Moss (Chair), Orimogunje, Robertson, Saunders, Andrea Vincent (Town Clerk) 5 members of the public

*The Chair provided a brief introduction and welcomed everyone to the meeting requesting that the housekeeping rules were observed.*

TC22/369	<p><b>1. Apologies for absence:</b> received from: Cllr Bamisilie – Family commitment Cllr Riaz – Work commitment <b>No apologies received from the following who were absent:</b> Cllr T Rollason Cllr Khumbula</p>
TC22/370	<p><b>2. To receive Councillor declarations of interest on any matter on the agenda:</b> <i>Under the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, made under s30 (3) of the Localism Act, members must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting</i> None <b>noted</b>.</p>
TC22/371	<p><b>3. Minutes:</b> It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Moss and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Hussain A vote was taken by councillors present. 1 abstention. Vote carried It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to agree the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 as a true and correct record, save for a small amendment to minute ref TC22/338</p>
TC22/372	<p><b>4. Governance (Decision to be made)</b> <b>a. Co-option:</b> To consider Ms Kiran Kanwar for co-option to Wolverton West Ward. A vote was taken. 1 abstention 7 to appoint. Vote carried It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to co-opt Kiran Kanwar as councillor for Wolverton West Ward</p>
TC22/373	<p><b>b. Annual Town Council meeting (ATCM):</b> To approve the request to change the original scheduled meeting from 16<sup>th</sup> May and hold on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7.30pm It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Moss and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Hussain A vote was taken. unanimous. Vote carried It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to amend the date of the Annual Town Council Meeting and hold it on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm</p>
TC22/374	<p><b>c. Annual Town Meeting (ATM):</b> To approve the request to bring forward original scheduled meeting date from 23<sup>rd</sup> May and hold on 16<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Moss and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Saunders A vote was taken. unanimous. Vote carried It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to amend the Annual Town Meeting date and hold it on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 6pm</p>
TC22/375	<p><b>10.c Bus Services:</b> To note the removal of hail and ride service. It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Moss and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Hussain and agreed unanimously to vary the order of the agenda and bring forward item 10c and receive the following update from the town clerk which was <b>noted</b>: <i>“The removal of the Hail and Ride service by Arriva was drawn to our attention. We have spoken with MKCC who are now looking into this as it is a great disadvantage to the frail and elderly who are regular bus users. An update suggests this was removed in 2021 – in the middle of Covid! The response from MKCC was as follows: “I can confirm Hail and Ride areas were removed in 2021 and replaced with temporary stops while fixed stops were assessed, as H&amp;R has a number of associated safety issues. There have been no recent changes to routes through the estates however the message that these areas are not hail and ride has been restated to drivers for safety reasons. All changes to routes and timetables are part of the public information we provide so yes there would have been notification. If your residents have been hailing buses outside of this and drivers have been pulling up they have been doing so illegally and at risk.</i></p>

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	<p>The standard is 400m where achievable which unfortunately it is not always for safety reasons, however if someone is more than 400m from a bus stop they should have access to MK Connect” Any further enquiries are to be reported through the MKC “Report It” form so they can be picked up by a member of the team”</p> <p>Members of the public are encouraged to speak to their local Ward Cllrs, Cllr Hussain will in the meantime request more information and bring back to the next meeting in May.</p>
TC22/376	<p><b>4. Governance (Decision to be made)</b> continued</p> <p>d. <b>Planning Application:</b> To approve and agree comments for the amended Agora application 23/00206/FULM to be submitted to MKCC for the DCC to approve It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Moss and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Campbell A vote was taken. unanimous. Vote carried It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to respond back to the planning officer with the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification to be sought from the developer that the casement windows will open inwards and not outwards in order to prevent injury to pedestrians,</li> <li>• The brickwork proposed in the amendment is an improvement from the former render material.</li> <li>• Block C’s stone cladding below the windows is a big concern, does not conform with Conservation Area and the Article 4 Directive</li> </ul>
TC22/377	<p>e. <b>Armed Forces Covenant:</b> To consider the proposal It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Moss and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Hussain A vote was taken. unanimous. Vote carried It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the proposal to sign up to the armed forces covenant, which is an agreement between public bodies and gives particular preference to those who have served in the armed forces on their return to civilian life and acknowledge and support those in the reserve forces.</p>
TC22/378	<p><b>5. Governance (to note):</b></p> <p>a. <b>Committee and Working Groups updates:</b> The reports were received and <b>noted</b> from councillors and officer staff on internal and external meetings attended. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the traffic and working group report and the verbal update on the Agora Working Group</p>
TC22/379	<p>b. <b>Council Decision Master List:</b> The latest council decisions report was <b>received</b> and <b>noted</b>.</p>
TC22/380	<p>c. <b>Civility and Respect Pledge:</b> To inform council of training attended by councillors as part of the agreed pledge It was <b>noted</b> that there were no further updates on Cllr attendance at this training</p>
TC22/381 TC22/382	<p><b>6. Finance: (Decision to be made)</b></p> <p><b>Grant Application:</b> To consider the grant application for the Secret Garden Society for £1,000 (NB. received after previous cut off deadline) It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Saunders and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Lewis A vote was taken. 2 abstentions. Vote carried It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the grant of £1000 to the secret garden It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to provide figures of the unspent funds to Cllrs.</p>
TC22/383	<p><b>7. Finance: (to note)</b></p> <p>a. <b>March Council Expenditure:</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to <b>note</b> the expenditure over £500</p>
TC22/384	<p>b. <b>Online Banking:</b></p> <p>i. To receive an update from Cllr Bamisilie on the progress of the setup of online banking It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to <b>note</b> Cllr Bamisilie had sent apologies for non-attendance and that there was no further update</p>
TC22/385	<p>ii. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr Campbell be a further authorised signatory for banking</p>
TC22/386	<p><b>8. Town Council Assets: (Decision to be made) Town Hall:</b> To agree and approve quotations for signage at the town hall (documents enclosed) It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to defer this until the next meeting so that Cllrs could look at what or if signage replacement was required</p>

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<p>TC22/387</p> <p>TC22/388</p>	<p><b>b. Stacey Bushes Meeting Place:</b> The following update from the town clerk was <b>received</b> and <b>noted</b></p> <p><i>The transfer took place of Stacey Bushes Meeting Place to the Council from MKCC on 1st February 23. Anglia Water have now found the source of the leak and rectified it. The water bill is astronomical, and we are claiming a refund, but this is in the gift of Anglia Water and may not be paid in full as the previous owners had failed to notify them of the leak.</i></p> <p><i>There are two electric meters, one apparently serving the adjoining building, this is being rectified by the electricity provider. Though there is little hope of a refund on this.</i></p> <p><i>The security system has been brought in line with our other properties. All locks to front doors have been changed, and we are in the process of changing the internal locks to the doors. Quotes for insulation are the next item on the agenda. A Nest device to control the heating has been installed so the heating will no longer be on 24/7. The caretakers and other contractors have painted throughout (with just toilets to do) and removed significant (and curiously growing) amounts of rubbish from the garden. The waste contract is now with Serco. Gymnastics began on Tuesday 18th April and looks to be successful. All residents want more activities in the building so we are looking at what can be</i></p> <p><b>c. Roof insulation:</b> To agree and approve the quotes to insulate all council owned assets as recommended by the town clerk</p> <p>It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Saunders and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Moss</p> <p>A vote was taken. 1 abstention. Vote carried</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the quotes to insulate the roofs of all council owned assets</p>
<p>TC22/389</p> <p>TC22/390</p> <p>TC22/391</p> <p>TC22/392</p>	<p><b>9. Community (Decision to be made)</b></p> <p><b>a. Fireworks Display 2023:</b> Consider MK Biergartens request to attend with a sales stall</p> <p>It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Robertson and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Hussain</p> <p>A vote was taken. 6 for rejecting, 1 against, 12 abstentions. unanimous. Vote carried</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to <b>reject</b> this application but to invite them to attend other council events to build that relationship and rapport</p> <p><b>b. Wolverton Sports Club:</b> To decide if the Council wishes to hold a pitch at their summer event on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July. WSC has offered WGTC a free stall</p> <p>It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Saunders and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Moss</p> <p>A vote was taken. 1 abstention unanimous. Vote carried</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to decline their offer and agree with clerks recommendation as it directly clashes with the planned Belgian Twinning visit</p> <p><b>c. Twinning Weekend 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023:</b> Request that the new Mayor formally attends meeting the Belgians and also request other councillors to be in attendance.</p> <p>It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Moss and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Hussain</p> <p>A vote was taken. unanimous. Vote carried</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Mayor would formally attend the weekend along with other councillors</p> <p><b>d. Tree Nursery:</b> To agree whether to pursue the establishment of a 'Coronation Meadow' at the tree nursery</p> <p>It was <b>proposed</b> by Cllr Hussain and <b>seconded</b> by Cllr Moss</p> <p>A vote was taken. unanimous. Vote carried</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the clerks proposal as follows:</p> <p><i>"The King, to mark the upcoming coronation has asked that wildflower meadows be established. The tree nursery would be an ideal place for this, it already has primroses, bluebells, and wild geranium. It needs a rubbish tidy and clear out and seems to be a dumping ground for trades people. The tree works have cleared much of the central area and there are organisations we can apply to for funding, to assist in establishing a meadow. If done properly it will become a wildlife haven. In time it could become open to the public with seating options. The coronation allows us to get funding for this work. The staff team would very much like to move this forward"</i></p>
<p>TC22/393</p>	<p><b>10. Community (to note)</b></p> <p><b>a. Mayor's diary:</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the update on the events attended and upcoming events.</p>

TC22/394

**b. Community Events and Projects update:** It was **RESOLVED** to thank the CEPO for the following comprehensive report which was **received** and **noted:**

**What the Community Youth Council are currently working on:**

Currently our Community Youth Council (CYC) are working on putting together four outdoor cinema events for this summer.

**Pop Up Cinema Brief:**

To host multiple pop-up cinema events in each of the four areas of the parish. This will be a free of charge event that is open to all the residents of the parish. The concept is to invite residents to bring along their picnic rugs and lunch and sit back and enjoy an open-air cinema event.

The cost these events will be covered by MKCC, subject to our Community Youth Council (CYC) promoting the Wolverton high street.

Our CYC will promote our high street businesses in the form of a short film which will be shown prior each movie.

**Parish Engagement / Movie choices:**

To engage with our community the CYC have put together a movie survey giving residents the opportunity to vote for the film they would most like to watch at each location. The film with the most votes will be shown.

We will be showing two films at each location starting in the afternoons.

**Dates & Locations:**

Saturday 29th July 2023: Barnyard Park, Greenleys Saturday 5th August 2023: The Square, Wolverton

Saturday 12th August 2023: Buckthorn Park, Stacey Bushes

Saturday 19th August 2023: Hodge Lea Sports Pavilion, Hodge Lea

Further details to follow.

**Easter Treasure Hunt 2023**

Recently our CYC managed our Easter Treasure Hunt on Thursday 6th April – Please refer to the CEPO Youth Provision update report.

**Coronation – Civic Service**

Our CYC will also be supporting the Coronation Civic service by doing a reading Greenleys Community Centre

The CEPO along with 6 volunteers from John Lewis will be going to the Greenleys Community Centre to clear out all the rubbish and paint the walls a bright white. This is a much need mini makeover that will hopefully start enticing the community to start using this venue. As council will know W&GTC are using this venue on a weekly basis to host our boxing sessions. The work will commence from Monday 24th April until Wednesday 26th April.

**Warm Hubs**

Milton Keynes Council awarded our parish to fund multiple warm hubs throughout the parish. The warm hub project was to run from January – March 2023.

Our warm hubs offered a safe place where residents could expect a friendly and inclusive welcome. Residents came together to make friends over a hot drink and a hot meal. Before the end of March, residents from Hodge Lea asked if we could continue to keep the doors open at the HLMP. They have enjoyed coming together each Thursday and are starting to build a little community of their own. The CEPO is delighted to advise council that we have managed to secure the left-over warm hub funds from MKCC to keep the doors open at HLMP every Thursday for the next twelve months. Local residents can still pop along to our new re-branded Community Lunch Club where they can still receive light refreshments free of charge

**Act of Remembrance - Sunday 11th November 2023** Councillors, please can you make a note in your diaries to attend this year's Act of Remembrance. After a successful turn out at last year's event at The Square, Wolverton, preparations for this year's event are already underway Twinning Update

**Twinning Update**

Our Belgium friends are due to visit Wolverton on Saturday July 1st and return to Belgium on Sunday 2nd July 2023.

We held our first Twinning working group meeting on 11th April to discuss our planned agenda for the Belgians, high on the list is performing with the Wolverton Town Band and a trip to Bletchley Park. We are yet to receive the number of Belgians coming over, but we are expecting around 50 people or so. We will have an official welcoming ceremony so we will require the new mayor to be in attendance. All councillors



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are of course welcome to join us. Further details to follow We held our first Twinning working group meeting on 11th April to discuss our planned agenda for the Belgians, high on the list is performing with the Wolverton Town Band and a trip to Bletchley Park. We are yet to receive the number of Belgians coming over, but we are expecting around 50 people or so. We will have an official welcoming ceremony so we will require the new mayor to be in attendance. All councillors are of course welcome to join us. Further details to follow

On Friday 24th March we hosted a re-launch event at the Stacey Bushes Meeting Place where we invited all the local residents to attend. The idea was to let residents know that the council has taken over the management of the building and to engage with residents to see what they would like to use the building for.

To entice residents to attend we offered free light refreshments and free Caribbean cuisine. This was a huge hit with those who attended as all the food went by the end of the evening.

We also hired in a face painter and a balloon artist to entertain the young people; we also opened the doors to the outside play area.

We were supported by four councillors: Cllr Moss, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Campbell & Cllr Hussain. Throughout the evening our councillors engaged with residents which went down well with the community.

During the re-launch we had the opportunity to let residents know about all the new projects we are running and especially those at Stacey Bushes, such as the gymnastics and the new crafts sessions.

We also encouraged residents to place post-it's on our notice boards and tell us what they want to use the community hall for.

TC22/395

c. **Bus Services:** the removal of hail and ride service this item was heard at TC22/375

TC22/396

d. **Youth Provision:** Receive an update

It was **RESOLVED** to **note** the following update:

**Youth Project Funding** - The CEPO is delighted to advise that the previous SBMP Committee has awarded the council £4,600 to support our youth provision programme

- Funded a monthly 2-hour craft session to be held at SBMP for the next 12 months.
- Funded a monthly 2-hour craft session to be held at HLMP for the next 12 months.
- Funded the purchasing of three free standing punch bags for our boxing club.
- Provided funds to purchase new equipment for our SBMP gymnastics club.

**John Lewis Partnership** - I am also delighted to advise that we have been building a strong relationship with John Lewis. They have gifted us £1,000 to purchase additional boxing equipment such as gloves, pads and other vital pieces of kit.

As part of this partnership John Lewis are providing six volunteers to join the CEPO to clear out the rubbish and paint the main hall walls in the Greenleys Community Centre. This mini project will commence from April 24th, tad will give the community hall a much-needed makeover.

**Stacey Bushes Gymnastic** – Our first free of charge gymnastics session started on Tuesday 18th April for 5 – 10year olds. The CEPO meet with many of the parents during this session who wanted to thank the council for starting this fantastic initiative and they are pleased the community centre is beginning to open up. All the sessions are fully booked, and we have already started up a reserve list.

**Easter Treasure Hunt** – Thursday 6th April WGTC together with the Community Youth Council held an Easter Treasure Hunt in The Square, Wolverton. Residents had to find the missing letters from 11 local high street business windows that would spell out the secret word so that they could claim their free Easter Egg. **Over 170 children participated.** A Special thanks to our Community Youth Council for handing out all the eggs.

**Wolverton Scouts** – As part of our warm hub initiative we were able to fund 33 Large free pizzas for our Wolverton Scouts. The CEPO can confirm the pizzas went down a treat for them. and **note** that the reading given by CYC at the coronation service was good

e. **The Lounge:** It was **RESOLVED** to **note** the following six-month report:

Over the last 6 months over 150 young people from our parish have walked through the doors at The Lounge. Each week we have attracted young people who have wanted to find a safe space to hang out with friends, socialise and be left to be young people. When each young person walks through the doors, they are greeted by our support worker who will offer free hot chocolate and sweet snacks

The Lounge has provided the young people with various games, board games, card games and quizzes. There is always a craft box with journal activities and puzzles that can be used by the young people. Our young people have jammed in the reading room with the guitar provided by Bar Bars. The Lounge has held

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	<p><i>regular craft workshops where the young people engaged with an arts practitioner making creative gifts for them to take away. To celebrate seasonal holidays such as Halloween the young people were given the opportunity to illustrate pumpkins that we used to decorate Bar Bar.</i></p> <p><i>Once the weather picks up over the summer months our Lounge will utilise The Square for further outdoor activities. We are also encouraging the young people to put on their own music event aimed at young people planned and put together by the young people themselves – Watch this Space!</i></p> <p><i>To ensure The Lounge continues to be a success we have conducted a survey among those who attend. The one thing that stands out is they now have somewhere to go, a place to meet or make friends and somewhere to have fun.</i></p> <p><i>Lastly, as council will know following last month's full town council meeting The National Lottery awarded us £5,000 to continue running our club which is fantastic news</i></p>
TC22/397	<b>11. Services: (to note)</b>
TC22/398	a. <b>Enforcement Officer:</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to <b>note</b> that, whilst there was no up to date report, that a good job was being undertaken by the Enforcement Officer
TC22/399	b. <b>CCTV update:</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to <b>note</b> the latest update and note that the contractor is helpfully remotely monitoring SBMP and the TH at no further costs.
	c. <b>Dog Bin Reports:</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to <b>note</b> the update

There being no further business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 20:33  
The next scheduled meeting is due to be held 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 at the Town Hall Wolverton.

Signed as a true and accurate record.

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Chair