

CASTLETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council General Meeting held Monday 6th October 2014 at 7.3p.m. in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors Markham, Hinds, Stacey, Presant-Collins, & Sweetland. The Clerk Mr S Bradbury, Ward Cllr Lynn Patey-Smith and one member of the public were also in attendance. There were no matters raised to be discussed in a public session.

| | | ACTION |
|--------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | |
| 1.1 | Cllr Ayles & Keane - reason holiday. | |
| 2 | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST by Councillors in any agenda items below | |
| 2.1 | Cllrs Stacey declared a personal interest in items 5.2, 6.3 & 7.1. Cllr Presant-Collins declared a pecuniary interest in item 6.2. | |
| 3 | APPROVE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING | |
| 3.1 | The minutes of the general meeting on the 1 st September were proposed by Cllr Sweetland, seconded Cllr Hinds and agreed unanimously. | |
| 4 | TO RECEIVE REPORTS | |
| 4.1. | Clerks Report & Review of Actions. (see Appendix A1). Matters arising: | |
| 4.1.1. | The matter of the additional valuation of the sports ground for business rating purposes was of concern. The clerk pointed out that not only would the sports ground rates increase significantly but the new rateable value of the sports ground would mean that the small business rate relief on the Village Hall would be lost. It was agreed that Cllr Stacey and Clerk examine avenues of appeal. | Clerk/Cllr Stacey |
| 4.1.2. | The clerk to put an item on the agenda to agree where to plant the 30 trees/shrubs that are being donated by the Woodland Trust. Cllr Presant-Collins to produce proposals. | Clerk/Cllr Presant-Collins |
| 4.1.3. | It was unanimously agreed that the parish council were not happy with the response by MKC to the complaint about their failing to pick up comments about a planning application. Clerk to determine how to escalate within MKC. | Clerk |
| 4.1.4. | Cllr Sweetland would investigate what more can be done about caravans parked in Thrupp Close | Cllr Sweetland |
| 4.1.5. | Clerk to put an item on next agenda about the continuing bad state of the drains at Bullington End Road/47 North Street and to ask Cllr Geary whether he had made any progress on the matter with Anglian Water | Clerk |
| 4.1.6. | Clerk to continue to try and get a response from MKC on the matter of the developers resolving the drainage issues at Paddock Close before exiting the site. Cllr Markham would like a site meeting with MKC Planning. | Clerk |
| 4.2. | Neighbourhood Plan report (see appendix A2). | |
| 4.2.1. | No matters arising | |
| 4.3. | Village centre update | |
| 4.3.1. | Cllr Presant-Collins reported that things were still progressing although they are unable to give any date. He and Cllr Ayles had talked to someone at MKC about the legal agreement for the parking spaces. Cllr Presant-Collins to forward details to the clerk. | Cllr Presant-Collins |
| 4.4. | FILE NOTE – Dips project update (see Appendix A3) | |
| 4.4.1. | No matters arising | |
| 4.5. | FILE NOTE - PARISHES FORUM 18th September 2014 (See Appendix A4) | |
| | No matters arising | |
| 4.6. | FILE NOTE: Report by Cllr Ayles on Site Allocation Plan and Plan:MK arising from Parishes Forum (See Appendix A5) | |
| | To be considered at 7.9 & 7.10 | |
| 4.7. | FILE NOTE - Meeting with Steve Lain, MKC Highways 22 September 2014 (See Appendix A6) | |
| | No further comment | |
| 5 | TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS (previously viewed on line by Cllrs) | |
| 5.1. | 14/01775/FUL Application for 15 x static holiday caravans to remain | |

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on site throughout the year Cosgrove Lodge Park – it was agreed unanimously that the clerk write to MKC raising no objection to the application but making strong reservations about the use of Fox Covert Lane and from then the farm track to deliver the caravans. He should raise the matter that there is a 5 ton weight limit on a bridge that would have to be crossed.

Clerk

- 5.2. **14/01341/FUL** First floor rear extension and change of use of agricultural land to garden land (part retrospective) 20 Lodge Farm Court Castlethorpe
Cllr Stacey withdrew to the public gallery. Cllr Sweetland proposed that Cllr Presant-Collins take over as Chair, seconded Cllr Markham and agreed unanimously.

Clerk

The clerk had previously established that there were no rights-of-way or planning constraints to dis-allow a gate opening on to the public footpath. It was agreed that the clerk write to the applicant informing them that they do not have right of access to the path. It was then proposed that the clerk write to MKC stating that the parish council has no objection to the application but would like a condition that the current stock fencing is retained and that suitable hedgerow is put in place at the north boundary. Agreed by all barring one abstention.

Clerk
Clerk

Cllr Stacey returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

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TO RECEIVE REPORT BACK ON PREVIOUS PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 6.1. **13/01925/FUL** Installation of a single wind turbine with a maximum tip height of 67m at Malt Mill Farm Castlethorpe Road Hanslope – still pending consideration.

- 6.2. **14/01843/EIASCR** Screening opinion request for proposed development of ground mounted photovoltaic solar park installation for the production of electricity that exceeds 0.5Ha Land Adj To Lodge Farm House Wolverton Road Castlethorpe – still pending consideration

- 6.3. **14/01277/FUL**: Variation of condition 7 (boundary treatment) attached to application 97/01282/MK 21 Lodge Farm Court Castlethorpe AND **14/01199/FUL**: Change of use from agricultural land to garden land and erection of fencing to enclose (retrospective) 21 Lodge Farm Court Castlethorpe – applications permitted. Comments received from MKC Planning Enforcement Officer and circulated to Cllrs.

Cllr Stacey withdrew to public gallery.

Cllr Sweetland proposed that Cllr Presant-Collins take over as Chair, seconded Cllr Markham and agreed unanimously.

The Planning Enforcement Officer had commented that the first application had overturned the conditions laid down for the original development. It was agreed that whilst nothing could now be done, the parish council would like to know why conditions placed for good reasons had now been overturned so easily. Clerk to write to MKC.

Clerk

Cllrs Stacey returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

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TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS

- 7.1. It was agreed that consideration of quotes to repair the fence at the cricket pavilion be deferred for one month to allow the cricket club to submit a quote. Agenda items 12 and 13 are therefore withdrawn

Clerk

- 7.2. It was unanimously agreed not to comment on the MK Hackney Carriage (taxi) Demand Survey

- 7.3. It was unanimously agreed to make applications for the 2015/16 round of MKC Highways projects giving the following priority order:
- Tarmac path from South Street to Railway Bridge
 - Create laybys at The Chequers old peoples' bungalows
 - Upgrade the remaining stretch of footpath between Paddock Close and Maltings Field to a tarmac footway
 - Paint 'dragon's teeth' markings along Bullington End Road on entry to the village

Clerk

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- Tarmac the surface of the Station Road parking area
- 7.4. It was unanimously agreed to approve the purchase of a wreath to the sum of £25 and to hire a bugler also to the sum of £25 for the forthcoming Remembrance Day service. Clerk to attend. Clerk
- 7.5. An email from Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council to MKC requesting the removal from office of three councillors following the recent problems regarding the granting of taxi licenses was noted.
- 7.6. It was unanimously agreed to approve a request for a donation of £250 towards senior citizens Village Christmas Party. Clerk to attend. Clerk
- 7.7. Cllr Hinds proposed the approval of £400 for the purchase of new bulbs for the Christmas lights and for Christmas trees. Agreed unanimously.
- 7.8. It was agreed unanimously that new benches be bought for The Chequers and by the war memorial up to a cost of £150 per bench plus fitting plus disposal of the old benches. Cllr Sweetland suggested that a further bench be provided for North Street. Clerk to put a resolution on the next agenda. Clerk
- 7.9. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Stacey will liaise with Cllr Geary and formulate a proposal in response to the MKC Site Allocation Plan to be circulated and agreed with the other Cllrs Cllr Stacey
- 7.10. The matter of whether to respond to Plan:MK and if so how was discussed. It was agreed that the clerk should write to Cllr Ayles and ask him to draft a response for consideration at the next meeting. Clerk
- 7.11. Cllr Stacey withdrew to the public gallery. Cllr Sweetland proposed that Cllr Presant-Collins take over as Chair, seconded Cllr Markham and agreed unanimously.
It was agreed that the gate between the Village Hall and Castle Field should be replaced rather than repaired. Cllr Sweetland had been in touch with the Rights of Way (ROW) Officer at MKC and he had advised that the gate does not need to be a 'kissing gate' as is there now. All agreed that they would want the replacement gate to be of that same type. The Officer had also said that MKC have bought gates in bulk and could sell them on at a reasonable price. The Chair suspended the meeting for a contribution from the public gallery: an offer was made to fit the gate if the parish council purchased it and any posts that need replacing. The Chair put this proposal to the vote and it was agreed unanimously to purchase the gate from MKC and any posts that needed to be replaced. Cllr Sweetland to contact MKC accordingly. Cllr Sweetland
- 7.12. Cllr Stacey returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair. Cllr Sweetland proposed that a notice board be erected at the corner of Fox Covert Lane. It was thought that the name of the manufacturer of the other boards in the village should be detailed somewhere on them. It was agreed that the clerk attempt to find the manufacturer's details and get a quote to consider at the next meeting. In the meantime Cllr Sweetland to propose a specific location. Clerk
Cllr Sweetland
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- 8.1 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
The RFO Payments Schedule was proposed by Cllr Sweetland, seconded by Cllr Hinds and agreed unanimously:

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| Payee | Description | Invoice | Amount | VAT | Sub-Total |
|------------------------------|---|---|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| S Bradbury | Salary September 2014 | per pay slip | £522.08 | £0.00 | £522.08 |
| S Bradbury | Re-claim purchase of keys June & October | per att. Receipts | £155.05 | £32.05 | £187.10 |
| S Bradbury | Re-claim purchase of hot water boiler | Per attached invoice | £340.00 | £68.00 | £408.00 |
| S Bradbury | Re-claim purchase of stamps/postage | per att. Receipt | £15.83 | £0.00 | £15.83 |
| F.Price | Sept 2014 invoice | per attached invoice 023 | £184.00 | £0.00 | £184.00 |
| L.Harris | Sports Ground Maintenance September | per attached invoice 010 | £36.00 | £0.00 | £36.00 |
| NBR Printing | Newsletter | per attached invoice 00507 | £228.00 | £0.00 | £228.00 |
| Resurrection Stonework | Repair/restore/clean war memorial | per attached quotation (invoice awaited) | £690.00 | £0.00 | £690.00 |
| AH Contracts | Dog bins August + supply & fit new bin | per attached invoice 7523 | £155.00 | £31.00 | £186.00 |
| AH Contracts | Dog bins Sept | per attached invoice 7574 | £52.50 | £10.50 | £63.00 |
| BT | Clerk's phone | per attached invoice | £80.49 | £16.10 | £96.59 |
| Mazars | External audit | per attached invoice | £325.00 | £65.00 | £390.00 |
| Pollards | VH consumables | per attached invoice 79053 | £45.00 | £9.00 | £54.00 |
| Castlethorpe Village Show | OAP Xmas dinner | per resolution 7.6. | £250.00 | £0.00 | £250.00 |
| Bradwell Brass Band | Remembrance service bugler | per resolution 7.4. | £25.00 | £0.00 | £25.00 |
| British Legion | Wreath | per resolution 7.4. | £25.00 | £0.00 | £25.00 |
| | | | | | |
| Grand Total | | | £3,128.95 | £231.65 | £3,360.60 |
| | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--|--|
| HMRC VAT repay | VAT RECLAIM (RECEIPT) | | - +£3,818.84 | | |
| Bucks Playing Fields | Annual membership | | £20.00 | | |
| E.ON | | 89208742670 | £160.00 | | |
| E.ON | | 415172577000 | £41.06 | | |

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CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- 9.1. A phone call received from the cricket club about the broken fence and grass cutting was noted.
- 9.2. Comments had been received from a resident saying that the hedge alongside the footway at the entrance to Thrupp Close is overgrowing again and that the cycleway path from Wolverton Road is similarly overgrown. It was agreed that Cllr Sweetland contact the Housing Association responsible for the hedge and that the clerk write to MKC about the cycleway.

Cllr Sweetland
Clerk

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- 10 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for noting, or for inclusion on a future agenda)**
- 10.1. Cllr Presant-Collins raised the matter of dog waste on the cycle track from Wolverton Road up towards the railway lines. Cllr Hinds will provide some suitable signs for Cllr Presant-Collins to put up.
- 10.2. Cllr Markham raised the matter of speeding along Bullington End Road especially at peak times for Hanslope Park traffic. It was agreed that the clerk write to Hanslope Park and ask that employees be requested to mind their speed through the village.
- 11 **TO AGREE DATE AND ATTENDANCE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**
- 11.1 The next meeting will be held on Monday 3rd November at 7.30 p.m.

Cllr Hinds/
Presant-Collins

Clerk

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.52.

Appendix A – Schedule of Reports & File Notes

APPENDIX A1 – CLERK'S REPORT 6/10/2014

- Rating Officer has been out to assess remainder of sports ground for business rates – apparently the last assessor did not include tennis courts and football area. Heard today that rateable value of sports ground has now increased from £1175 to £2750. Assume this will mean an additional cost of over £800 – unable to contact MKC to confirm.
- Clerk has successfully completed the Working With Your Council (WWYC) course
- War memorial has been restored and cleaned with bits of repair carried out.
- Hot water boiler as agreed by VH committee and approved by CPC has been ordered
- Clerk has informed Pre-School that a 25% reduction in hire charge has been agreed for the autumn term
- Brian Barton at MKALC has been informed that Cllrs Presant-Collins and Sweetland have been nominated to represent CPC on the proposed Serco Landscape Contract management group
- The Clerk wrote to MKC noting the parish council's continued objections to the planning application for a wind turbine at the Hanslope Equestrian Centre. Hanslope Parish Council have also responded.
- Some Cllrs met with the applicant to review the planning application for solar panels at the Lodge Farm business park
- We have been successful in our application for the 'copse pack' of 30 trees and shrubs and they will be with us in early November
- Still not received any response from MKC to my email about whether the drainage at Paddock Close is fit for purpose before the developers exit the site.
- MKC have replied to the objections raised by the parish council to planning application 14/01199 for change of use of land at 21 Lodge Farm Court were sent to MKC Planning Enquiries mailbox that were not been taken forward (copy sent to Cllrs).
- MKC have further replied that there are no restrictions on gates opening out onto public footpaths nor to fencing adjacent to agricultural land
- The cricket club were good enough to cut the sports pitches on one occasion whilst the groundsman was on holiday
- Will Fowler at Chargemaster (the MKC partners), Cllr Presant-Collins and the Clerk met to assess the position of an electric charging point in the village. A preferred site was identified outside the Carrington Arms.

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- Applications have been invited for the next round of highway projects – to be discussed at tonight’s meeting.
- Rachel Sorensen at MKC has said that she will get someone to meet us about the agreement to use public land at the back of the village green for parking spaces. An email from the Property Services team had been circulated to Cllrs and it was agreed that a meeting is the best way forward.
- Grant applications for both the Village Hall bell tower and for the tennis court lights have been approved.
- Cllr Stacey is looking into how best to provide floor covering for the football pavillion
- I am told that our request for two of the newly acquired grit bins will be decided on by the start of November. MKC surveyors are about to assess all of the sites where requests have been made.
- One quote has been received to re-route the Village Hall front drain. It was hoped that further quotes will be obtained this month but unfortunately time did not allow.
- MKC should have applied weed killer to the pavements at Thrupp Close on 10th September (email from Kevin Wilson MKC 21st July refers)
- An answer has now been received from MKC about parking of caravans in Thrupp Close. There are no planning restrictions on people parking their own caravans. In the meantime Guinness Housing Association have sent an email to Cllr Stacey saying that they have not given any residents permission to park caravans.
- Cllr Geary said that he would speak again to Environmental Health about the drains in Bullington End Road
- The SID kit is back with us again. The groundsman has agreed to move the device between the posts in the village, caretaker still to be approached. Risk Assessment still to be circulated for approval.
- Mirror has been erected opposite Thrupp Close and is proving very effective apart from condensation early mornings
- Clerk still to give Cllr Sweetland details to open two further Lloyds bank accounts to have the s.106 Planning Gain transferred into
- No progress on outstanding actions:
 - o No progress on creating a new account for MKC fault logging
 - o Still no progress on getting quotes for the cricket pavillion fence, the gate between the village hall and Castle Field.
 - o Erection of Hanslope Road street signs to be put on fault list
 - o Village walkabout to be written up and rationalised against previous fault list.
 - o Cllr Stacey to erect the basketball backboards & hoops (frames need to be re-rendered).
 - o State of footpath between South Street and railway bridge – request to me made to have it re-tarmaced.
 - o Purchase of Sage accounting software awaiting clerk to establish a ‘clean point’ with finances
 - o Review MKC fault list inc. state of Sustrans cycle track
 - o Elicit quotes for additional safety equipment required at village hall and sports pavillions.

Steve Bradbury
6/10/14

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APPENDIX A2 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT 6/10/2014

- Questionnaire has been distributed and return date extended to mid-October
- Need to agree with Community Impact Bucks (CIB) how to collate the returns electronic and manual
- Need to agree next steps with CIB
- Next Steering Group to be held 3.00 11th December (provisional)

Steve Bradbury
6/10/14

APPENDIX A3 – DIPS HIGHLIGHT REPORT SEPTEMBER



Project Highlight Report

| | |
|--|---|
| Project Name & Code | Milton Keynes Flood Alleviation Project |
| Project Sponsor | Andy Dickinson (Milton Keynes Council) |
| Project Manager | Kate Davidson (Milton Keynes Council) |
| Project objective in a sentence | To alleviate the damage caused by flooding in the rural areas of Milton Keynes by installing flood assets where required, that work in conjunction with the existing drainage network to appropriately distribute excess rain water from village areas. |
| Reporting Period | September 2014 |

Overall RAG Rating and supporting statement

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Overall Current RAG rating | Amber / Red |
| Previous RAG rating | Amber / Green |

RAG Definition

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Green | All key criteria (Time, Cost, Scope and Benefits) will be achieved. Risks are being managed |
| Amber / Green | One of the key criteria cannot be delivered within tolerance; project risks are being managed |
| Amber / Red | Two or Three of the key criteria cannot be delivered within tolerance. Risks need to be escalated |
| Red | All four key criteria cannot be delivered without further significant intervention (Consider whether the project should continue). Risks need to be escalated. |

RAG Supporting Statement:

Construction of the Ram Alley flood alleviation bund in Stoke Goldington is now complete. Whilst on site the contractors took the opportunity to clear the water course that runs through the new clay bund from excess vegetation. There was a week long delay during the middle of the construction period, due to the availability of clay of the required quality. This had minimal impact upon the works.

Construction of two flood alleviation bunds in Tathall End, scheduled to start on 15 September, have been rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances. Works will begin on Yew Tree Farm on 20 October 2014 and will run for two weeks. A revised start date for Littlewood Farm is still being negotiated between land agencies.

Further surveying in advance of the construction of the third bund in Tathall End (previously located on the bridleway) will take place this autumn / winter in preparation for

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a possible spring construction period.

The footbridge (no. 46) in Tathall End closed following a condition report, and a replacement bridge, or alternative option to the Right of Way is currently being considered by the Council.

Milestones & Schedule:

| Key Milestones | Baseline | Forecast | Actual |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Construction of flood attenuation bund at Ram Alley, Stoke Goldington | Sep 14 | Sep 14 | Sep 14 |
| Construction of a flood attenuation bund at Yew Tree Farm, Tathall End | Sep 14 | Oct 14 | |
| Construction of a flood attenuation bund at Littlewood Farm, Tathall End | Sep 14 | Mar 14 | |
| Construction of a flood alleviation measure on Bridleway, Tathall End | Sep 14 | TBC | |
| Installation of drop curb at Devils Dip to assist rain water drainage flow. | Apr 14 | Apr 14 | Apr 14 |
| Replacement of the footbridge over the watercourse in the Tathall End High Street | TBC | TBC | |

Activities achieved during last period

- The final flood alleviation bund planned for Stoke Goldington was constructed on Ram Alley during September 2014.
- Agreement was reached for construction of the first flood alleviation bund in Tathall End. Works have been scheduled for Yew Tree Farm and will start on 20 October 2014.
- A report for a Delegated Decision for the Council to implement the Tathall End Flood Alleviation works was prepared and the Project Manager attended call over with minimal changes to the report required. The Delegated Decision will take place on 7 October 2014.
- Further discussions with certain residents of Tathall End have taken place regarding the removal / replacement of footbridge 46.

Activities planned for next period

- The construction of Yew Tree Farm Flood Alleviation Bund is to take place between 20 October and 31 October 2014, marking the start of the flood risk works in the area.
- Access to construct flood alleviation measures on two other areas of land in the village is to be sought from the respective owners via agreement or by legal powers if required.
- Once access is confirmed for Littlewood Farm (one of the proposed sites), strimming can take place in preparation for the completion of a pre-start badger survey that forms part of the planning conditions for the site.
- A quote for replacement of footbridge 46 in Tathall End to be received from the Council's Highways Contractor. If like for like option is agreed, plans for the

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installation will be put in place, subject to consultation with local residents.

- A revised project construction timetable for Littlewood Farm, the bridleway and footbridge 46 is to be devised.
- Flood risk management works proposed for the village of Lavendon are to be considered and taken forward by the Project Manager on the next month. Ecological and archaeological survey requirements are to be identified along with any access requirements, in advance of construction in 2015.

Risks and Issues

| Description of risk & consequence | Action required |
|---|--|
| High rainfall within the Borough of Milton Keynes could result in flooding that causes damage to homes and impacts farming. | Flood attenuation measures to be installed in high risk areas. |
| Construction of flood attenuation measures could be delayed by ecological issues such as presence of Great Crested Newts. | Ecological surveys carried out as and when necessary. English Nature Licence to be applied for if necessary. |
| Construction of flood attenuation measures could be delayed by access issues. | Council to serve notice on landowner if consent is not agreed. Council to seek formal decision from Leader / Cabinet to proceed. |
| Construction of flood attenuation measures could be delayed by archaeological issues. | The Council has appointed an Archaeologist to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and watching brief during construction of the bund at Littlewood Farm. |
| Flood attenuation measures recommended to the Council could prove ineffective at preventing flooding. | Reports received from WSP to be signed off by Council Drainage Officers and Head of Highways. |
| Construction of flood alleviation measures in the autumn / winter of 2014 could be affected by poor ground conditions or adverse weather. | Council to schedule the works for as soon as possible in an attempt to avoid poor winter conditions. Weather to be monitored. |

| Description of Issue & impact | Action required |
|---|--|
| One Great Crested Newt egg found at Westside Farm in Stoke Goldington. | Work at Ram Alley to proceed under 'watching brief' by ecologist. |
| Footbridge condition determined by engineer as poor. | Footbridge to be replaced or alternative Right of Way to be put in place. |
| Flood attenuation measure for bridleway in Tathall End to be re-designed by flood consultant WSP. After more detailed surveying it was determined that a bund on the bridleway may not be effective at holding water off the main road. | WSP require more time to carry out a detailed baseline assessment, procure topographical survey information, analyse the existing hydraulic restrictions and profile flows through Tathall End and downstream. |
| Access to Tathall End flood construction sites not yet agreed by all landowners. | Council to continue to pursue access in order to implement flood alleviation schemes in Tathall End. |
| Planning permission for Littlewood Farm ends on 18 April 2015. | The Council must ensure that the works are programmed to be complete before this |

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date.

Are Changes or Decisions required?

- A change to the Tathall End construction timetable is required.
- A formal decision to serve notice in Tathall End to ensure access is required – Delegated Decision taking place on 7 October 2014.

Benefits

| Target Benefit | Current Status (e.g. not achievable/ change to the target required/ on track) |
|---|--|
| To reduce the risk of flooding and the consequential damage to the homes of citizens of the Borough of Milton Keynes. | Achievable |
| To reduce the risk of flooding to the highways within the Borough of Milton Keynes that provides access for the emergency services. | Achievable |

APPENDIX A4 - FILE NOTE - PARISHES FORUM 18th September 2014

1. Ringway (new Highways contractor). Poor presentation - long on talk but not much walk so far. However, they have only just started. Mildly Interesting that they give all employees two days a year for volunteering so if we had some projects...
2. MK and Bedfordshire Healthcare Review. Not a great presentation. Started by showing a growing deficit on both the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) - up to £25m pa deficit by 2018/19 - and MK Hospital Trust - deficit of £31m pa. Review is about how to meet this. There were a few interesting points but my takeaway was an assurance that **neither Bedford nor MK A&E would be downgraded.**
3. Local Council Tax Reform. This presentation was about a consultation in progress on changes to the way Council Tax relief is applied to households in receipt of benefit. It seemed to me that the changes were very small and many of them were actually an improvement mostly driven by the need to remove inefficiencies or errors in the way the current system works. I personally don't think we need to comment in the consultation.
4. Local Investment Plan. **It is important that local infrastructure development needs are identified in Neighbourhood Plans and feed into the Investment Plan** (to be funded by Planning Obligations) via Paul van Geete. This is an annual process.
5. Site Allocation Plan and Plan:MK. See separate note as Plan:MK in particular is very important. **We should also engage MKC Planning in our Neighbourhood Plan process to make sure that Plan:MK and our Neighbourhood Plan remain consistent.**
6. Cllr Mick Legg is establishing a Parish Advisory Group. Cllrs Kevin Wilson and Veronica Belcher will join it. MKALC has been invited to submit two further nominations. I will put my name forward to represent small rural parishes but I know there are at least two other nominations for the two places.

Philip Ayles

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APPENDIX A5 - FILE NOTE: Report by Cllr Ayles on Site Allocation Plan and Plan:MK arising from Parishes Forum

5.1. Site Allocations Plan.

I have now read the SAP. The questions asked in the Rural section as responses to the consultation are:

- Do you agree that the focus of new allocations should mainly be on Newport Pagnell, Olney, and to a lesser extent Sherington, given the level of recent development, and ongoing development, in Woburn Sands?
- Alternatively, should further growth be considered in Woburn Sands? If so, what is the justification for this?
- Do you have any general views on the split of development across the rural settlements, particularly the potential approach of planning for 225-250 homes in Olney and 425-450 homes in Newport Pagnell?
- Do you think that splitting the rural housing requirement equally across the three Key Settlements, and the other approaches set out in paragraph 8.17 are would be reasonable approaches to take?
- Are there any pressures on services in the rural settlements that you feel should be taken into account in making new allocations? If so, what are these?
- Are there any opportunities for new development to support the continued viability of local services that you would like to be taken into account?

The timing of this consultation is unfortunate given that our Neighbourhood Plan Survey is currently taking place and it would be hard (but not impossible) for some feedback from the survey to inform the response of the parish council to the SAP.

I would suggest that the parish council should seek the advice of our ward councillors on what sort of response would be appropriate. Indeed, given that Castlethorpe is not currently being identified for new housing, a nil response might even be best. My recommendation would be that the parish council takes the advice of the ward councillors.

I suggest this goes on the agenda for 6th October. If the advice of the ward councillors is that some response should be made, depending on the detail of their advice, the parish council could ask the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to prepare a draft response for the Parish Council to consider adopting at its meeting on 3rd November which is just before the deadline.

5.2. Plan:MK

Plan:MK is a different kettle of fish. It questions whether the premise of targeting Key Settlements (Newport, Olney and Woburn Sands) and Selected Villages (Hanslope, Bow Brickhill and Sherington) for rural housing development is correct given demand within all villages. It also asks important questions such as extending settlement boundaries, local facilities (last pub and shop policies), renewable energy, local business centres, broadband, public transport.

CASTLETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council General Meeting held Monday 6th October 2014 at 7.3p.m. in the Village Hall

Fortunately, we have until 3rd December to respond and we should have our Neighbourhood survey in by November. I would appreciate the parish council considering how it should progress its response (I feel strongly that we should respond on this) and I would suggest that it creates a group consisting of all parish councillors who wish to participate, similarly ward councillors (at least 1 please!) and any interested member of the public for example from the Neighbourhood Plan group. I would suggest that the ToR must be that any response is consistent with the preliminary results of the village survey and that a recommendation should be brought back to the Parish Council Meeting of 1st December.

As you know, I am away for all of October but if the parish council could consider how it wishes to progress its response to Plan:MK at its October meeting, I would be happy to participate / lead a group in November but it is important that interested people are identified and ready to join a meeting and that some dates are set up for early November.

Regards

Phil

APPENDIX A6 - FILE NOTE - Meeting with Steve Lain, MKC Highways 22 September 2014

Ward Cllr Jeanette Green and I met with Steve Lain to discuss the state of the footways in Castlethorpe based on the note produced by Cllr Sweetland who unfortunately was indisposed.

We walked from the village hall upto Lodge Farm Court. Steve noted the footway and said he would pass the information on but did not think it would receive high priority. The concrete 'obelisk' incidentally is a vent for the sewers and is in use.

We returned and walked round South Street and then back along North Street to the village hall.

Steve noted the poor state of the footways particularly on North Street and the bad state of the granite sets along both South Street and North Street and the lack of weed control spraying. He will report these for action.

I don't have high hopes for action of the footways though the granite sets and spraying seemed more possible. However, Cllr Green said she would remain on the case with Highways on our behalf.

Philip Ayles