SHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES - Sherington Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 19:30 in Sherington Pavilion.

Attendees: Cllrs Palmer, Nokes, Kitchingham, Axford, Hartley, Jacqueline Galloway. Ward Cllr Geary

15 Members of the public.

	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	OWNER/ACTION
1	RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Ward Cllr Whitworth, Ward Cllr McLean & Cllr Brittin	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	None	
3	APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING	Approved.	Chair
4	RECEIVE WARD COUNCILORS REPORT	Emailed report from Cllr Whitworth: Extension of 'use it or lose it' campaign. I have been regularly speaking to residents about the use it or lose it campaign, and believe that it hasn't yet had a real chance to bed in. That's why I'm pleased to say that the City Council will be extending the campaign until the end of the academic year, which takes us to July 2024. Since the launch of the campaign earlier this year, I've been listening to residents' concerns across the ward One of the major concerns raised has been around reliability of buses and how some fail to turn up. While this is outside the City Council's control, it has been doing all it can in response. The City Council put on a shuttle bus in Turvey, but unfortunately there were roadworks in neighbouring Bedfordshire which made matters even more difficult. I will continue to voice any feedback or concerns that you may have, so please do keep me informed. It's great news that the campaign has been extended, as it will give residents a real chance to show their support for the bus network. Unfortunately, the buses are privately owned and therefore must be commercially viable in order to run. We must all use them, and show our support, wherever we can. I'm asking all of our neighbouring village residents to please keep informing me of your individual issues regarding transport .. I'm gathering as much data as I can between the next 6 month period (please also send me any concerns / issues you may have with MK Connect) To let Sherington know. OTC in collaboration with the social prescribers ... are launching a drop in session at the Olney Centre for anyone across the ward to come and connect. I was able to allocate some funds from my ward budget for this and it is for the benefit of the "whole ward". Third Tuesday of each month 10-Midday.	Cllr Geary

		Cllr Geary informed the meeting regarding the changes to the bus services coming in January. The 41 service, Bedford to Northampton will be funded until July but no further unless it can be make viable. There will be changes to MK Connect in mid-January. Update on Ousedale, our Ward Councillors are in constant communication with the school and hopefully last year's situation will not be repeated. Roads – The degradation of the roads needs constant reporting, for pot holes please report on MKCC website reporting system and also please let the Ward Cllrs know.	
5	ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	Shop site has been vacated.	Chair
6	PROJECT GROUP UPDATES	6.1 Shop to be cleared, waiting for electricity supply to be disconnected. Close project group once unit cleared. 6.2 No report. 6.3 Updates to be sent to MKCC 6.4 Please do report any problems to MKCC 6.5 Christmas Fayre, great success, thank you to Giles for all his work. All the inward investment part of S106 has now been used. Still a significant amount can be claimed in various sections, the biggest being Public Art, what's the best way to go forward with this, maybe the old shop space? Voluntry Sector, Community Facilities & Parks an effort needs to be made to claim as much as we can.. 6.6 Neighbourhood Plan – in process of forming Sub-Committee, Plan needs reviewing.	Cllr Kitchingham
7	FINANCE	7.1 REVIEW MONTHLY BALANCES – Balances on account at 30/10/23: Current Account £21696 Savings Account £ 2830 Payments £ 6867 Total **£17659** Balances on account at 31/11/23: Current Account £ 23793 Savings Account £ 2830 Payments £10533 Total **£16090** 7.2 APPROVE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT – Approved.	Approved Approved
8	PLANNING APPLICATIONS	23/01971/FUL 43 Water Lane. Cllr Nokes to make request that the item goes to committee as a road safety issue, intensity of traffic, parking and the additional dwelling. Agreed to object.	Cllr Nokes
9	CORRESPONDENCE AND NEW CONSULTATIONS	Hustings – SPC has agreed, as in the past, to pay the costs for the Village Hall hire. Paul Crook has offered to help with the Neighbourhood Plan Sub-Committee.	Chair
10	EXTERNAL MEETINGS	Cllrs Palmer & Kitchingham attended MKALC's conference regarding what MKCC has planned for the future, it appears that growth is the keyword. We need to make sure our Neighbourhood Plan meets our needs and is presented to MKCC for them to take our views into account.	Sub-Committee
11	CONSTITUTION – STANDING ORDERS	The new meeting schedule is to be added to the Constitution and Standing Orders. Meeting Schedule will be, Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sept/Nov, with extra meetings to be called as necessary when items arise which need urgent decision.	Agreed
12	COUNCILLORS ITEMS	Cllr Palmer asked about a Mobile Library visiting the village, Clerk will check to see if this is possible.	Clerk

		Telephone box, suggestions for use? Hedges, we are in touch with MKCC and are waiting response. We received an email regarding the footpath to Newport Pagnell and how dangerous it is as it is overgrown with vegetation and hasn't been maintained in places. See below.	
13	RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT	Crofts End hedgerow height complaints, Rob Johnson assured the PC that he was dealing with Ward Councillor McClean and MKCC direct about it the complaints and the PC's approach to MKCC's request for help with it. He promised he would ensure that whatever MKCC request/recommend should happen to the hedges, it would be done without delay. A discussion about the footpath to NP was had, Mr Kennedy is forwarding his reports to the Clerk, and she will make sure this will go to MKCC Highways and that they are made aware of the seriousness of the situation. Apologies made by Chair for any constitutional errors that have been made without public being present. The only letters that have been sent from the Parish Council to MKCC regarding hedges have been requests for information. There is to be a 'Tidy Up' of Stonepits Copse on Saturday 20th January, more information to follow via Facebook and Website. Conservation area review – agreed to look at and, review and report back. Neighbourhood plan needs to be robust. We need to say we are meeting on 9/1/24 and we will give a more detailed reply after that, do we want to say are these policies right? Do we want them strengthening to protect certain parts of the village do want them weakening because we think it will constrain things. Drainage issues still current, culvert blockage opposite Gun Lane, High Street - Alban Hill to Gun Lane. Report to be attached to minutes on the Website. All reports to be sent to MKCC Highways. Hedges are very important to protect especially with the prospect of more houses and the growth to come.	Clerk Chair
14	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS	Next Parish council meeting will be 9th January 2024.	

Clerk – Jacqueline Galloway