**Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
on Monday 11th January 2021**held virtually using MS Teams under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

**Present: Cllrs Nigel Cox (NC) – Chair,** Jenni Ferrans, Paul Grindley, Glen Dersley, Sharon Smith, Vikas Chandra, Lou Fisher  
**Absent:** Cllr Taimyr Boungou-Pouaty  
**Attending:** Abi Bassett (Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer)

1. **Public Open Session** – There were no members of the public present.
2. **Ward Councillor Report** - MK Council is consulting about its budget so please respond and have your say. On COVID, rates continue to be very high indeed, but recent data suggests that they might be plateauing locally. The Director of Public Health has said that the new variant is transmitting extra fast between people who are near to each other, particularly indoors. Basically, if you are in an enclosed room with someone who is infected without masks, you will almost certainly catch it. 2m is not sufficient distance. The infected person wearing a mask will considerably reduce the risk - and we have to assume that any of us might be infected. Please be very careful to wear masks AND keep your distance in shops, offices, etc. and stay at home if you possibly can. MK's GP surgeries are organised in groups, and by early next week every group will have a vaccination centre operating. MK also has a mass vaccination centre ready to start work, at Saxon Court on Avebury Boulevard, but it may be another fortnight before we get the vaccination. Until then, a few people are being directed to centres in other towns. If you are registered with a GP then you will be sent an invite. Please do not bombard the switchboard. But if you are not registered, you should register as soon as possible so that you are assessed and categorised properly. If they get to the category you believe you are in without your being registered, then you should contact the hospital centre.

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| 120/2020 | **Apologies:** There were no apologies tendered. |
| 121/2020 | **Declarations of Interests:** There were no declarations of interest |
| 122/2020 | **Chair’s Announcements**   * The period for by-elections to be called in respect of the vacancies on Monkston and Monkston Park has elapsed. Council are free to commence with co-options. Clerk to advertise on the website and social media for applicants. No deadline for applications. NOTED |
| 123/2020 | **Decision Required: Minutes of previous meeting.** the meeting held on Monday 14th December 2020 were agreed and approved as a true and correct record. |
| 124/2020 | **Fixed item: Finance**  **a) Payments to note** NOTED  **b) Payments to approve** None to approve  **c) Appeals for funding** Grant Application from Secklow Sounds.   * RESOLVED to award Secklow Sounds £250   **d) Q3 Budget Monitoring Report** Council received the budget monitoring report from the RFO. The report shows a projected underspend for the financial year; members were advised that this was due largely to the impact of Covid19. |
| 125/2020 | **Fixed item: Planning Applications/Notifications**. None to consider. |
| 126/2020 | **Fixed Item: Decision Required: Licencing Applications** None to consider |
| 127/2020 | **Fixed Item: Decision Required: Consultations** To consider and agree a response, if any, to current consultations **a)** **Land to the rear of Frithwood Crescent, Kents Hill.** Development Brief. Deadline for comments 15th January 2021. RESOLVED to delegate authority to the Clerk to forward a response formulated by the Environment Working Group.  **b) Local Government Association Committee for Standards in Public Life** Consultation extended until 29th January 2021. Members agreed to respond as individuals. |
| 128/2020 | **Decision Required: Budget 2021-22** Council received the Draft Budget for 2021-2022 from the Responsible Financial Officer. RESOLVED to agree and approve the draft budget for 2021-2022, voting unanimously for option 2 (0% precept increase with no office). Within the discussion, Council agreed that the current office is not fit for purpose and agreed to vacate the space. |
| 129/2020 | **Decision Required: Precept Request** RESOLVED to formally agree the level of precept required from Milton Keynes Council for 2021-2022 at £111,700. |
| 130/2020 | **Decision Required: Bin Maintenance Tender** RESOLVED to award the Dog and Litter Bin Maintenance and Repair Contract to Marcus Young Ltd, commencing from 1st April 2021 |
| 131/2020 | **Decision Required: HR Committee Membership** RESOLVED to appoint Cllrs Lou Fisher and Sharon Smith to the HR Committee. |
| 132/2020 | **Website Report** Council received a verbal report from the clerk on the website Community page. The page has been updated with links to the Council’s social media page and other relevant community information, but ongoing issues with the website mean that the page isn’t visible to visitors. The Clerk will continue to work on the issues but recommends bringing in professional help to assist. |
| 133/2020 | **Councillor and Clerk Updates** To update the meeting on any activities/projects being carried out within the Council/Parish **a)** **Clerk update:** MKPA Craft Bags – 13 bags distributed before Christmas, Clerk to readvertise on Facebook  Monkston Park Allotments – Still waiting for a response from Paul Newman Homes re contribution Allotment management Training – Clerk to attend BALC training on 13th, 20th and 27th January  **b) Round Robin of Cllr updates**  JF – Trees. EWG to discuss locations for trees asap, MKC to decide species  JF – 20 is Plenty signs. Only MKC contractor can instal signs. Posts cost £250.  JF – Sweetlands Corner Litter Bin. Colour and size still to be decided  NC – Sweetlands Corner Decking repair programmed for later this month  PG – Has been litter picking with his children. Can we advertise litter picking equipment again on social media to promote? |
| 134/2020 | **Items for future agendas** Banking Arrangements Co-options  VC - Policy Review |

**Date of next meeting: Monday 8th February 2021, 7.30pm.**