



Minutes of the MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER 2013 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillor White (Mayor)
Councillors Alexander, Bald, Barney, Bint, Brackenbury, Bradburn, Bramall, Brock, Brunning, M Burke, S Burke, Coventry, Dransfield, Eastman, Edwards, Exon, Ferrans, A Geary, P Geary, Hopkins, Hoyle, Jury, Kennedy, Khan, Klein, Legg, Long, Marland, D McCall, McDonald, McKenzie, McLean, Middleton, Miles, Morris, O'Neill, Richards, Shafiq, Small, Tallack, Wales, Wallis, Wharton, C Williams, P Williams and Zealley

Apologies: Councillors Hawthorn, Maric, I McCall and Webb, and Alderpersons Bristow, Connor, Ellis, E Henderson, I Henderson, Howell, Irons, Lloyd and Saunders

Also Present: 43 members of the public

CL60 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 September 2013 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

CL61 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillors Marland and McDonald declared personal interests in Item 4 (Late Night Levy) as members of the Campaign for Real Ale.

Councillor Tallack declared a personal interest in Item 4 (Late Night Levy) as a volunteer at the 'After 8' Safe Hut.

The Chief Executive declared that in relation to Item 4 (Late Night Levy) he was the Council's voting representative on Safer MK.

Councillor White declared a personal interest in Item 5(b)(ii) (Small Business Day and supporting Small and Medium Size Enterprises in Milton Keynes) as the Secretary of the Federation of Small Businesses.

Councillor Brock declared a personal interest in Item 5(b)(iii) (University of Buckingham and Milton Keynes Foundation Trust Hospital Medical School) as the Council appointed trustee to Milton Keynes Foundation Trust Hospital)

Councillor S Burke declared a personal interest as an employee of the Open University.

CL62

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Britain in Bloom Awards

The Mayor congratulated Council staff who, in partnership with its cleansing contractor Serco, The Parks Trust and Open University, together with the support of numerous community groups, businesses and individuals had again had great success in the Thames and Chilterns region of the Britain in Bloom Awards.

(b) Council's Revenues and Benefits Team

The Mayor congratulated the Council's Revenues and Benefits Team, which had, in Partnership with MK Service Partnership, been awarded silver in the Revenues Team of the Year category of the Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation Awards, adding to their previous win for Most Improved Team of the Year.

(c) MK:Smart Project

The Mayor announced that on Friday 11 October 2013 The Open University had launched MK:SMART following confirmation by the Higher Education Funding Council of a grant of £8m to the project, which would realise matched funding from partners to make a total project value of £16m.

The Mayor informed the Council that MK:Smart was a consortium led by the Open University of local and national partners, including the Council, in a major Smart City, Big Data initiative that would help place Milton Keynes at the forefront of the UK's smart city agenda.

(d) Henry Allen

The Mayor announced, with regret, the death of four-year-old Henry Allen, who had been fighting Stage 4 neuroblastoma, a rare form of child cancer and informed the Council that he had sent condolences to the family.

The Mayor reminded the Council that The Henry Allen Appeal charity had recently won the Citizen Pride in MK People's.

(e) Alderman Howell

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, wished Alderman Howell a happy eightieth birthday.

(f) Councillor Alexander

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Alexander back to the Chamber, after a recent period of illness.

- (g) Article in the Citizen Newspaper

The Mayor referred to his recent comments in the Citizen Newspaper which, as he was now aware, some Members believed to have been inappropriate. The Mayor apologised to the Council for any offence caused.

CL63

DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

- (a) Petition - Spare Room Subsidy

The Council received a petition, presented by Mr E Bobey, on behalf of Milton Keynes Defend Council Housing Campaign for Benefits Justice, which had the following objective:

“We call on the Council not to adopt, or implement a flexible tenancy policy, we believe only secure tenancies can offer security, stability and protection to tenants. We ask those democratically elected to Milton Keynes Council to act on the will of the of the people of Milton Keynes.”

The Mayor thanked Mr Bobey and indicated that the petition would be referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

- (b) Petition - Request for New School Bus Service to Aylesbury Grammar Schools

The Council received a petition, presented by Ms Geetha Morla, which had the following objective:

“Request to start a new Bus from Milton Keynes to Aylesbury Grammar Schools.”

The Mayor thanked Ms Morla and indicated that the petition would be referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

CL64

LATE NIGHT LEVY

In order to facilitate debate the Mayor moved the following motion, which was seconded by the Deputy Mayor, on which a recorded vote was requested:

- “1. That the Late Night Levy be introduced on the following basis:

- (a) A late night supply period of 1.01am to 6am;
(b) The permitted exemption categories including the following, as defined in the Late Night Levy (Expenses, Exemptions and Reductions) Regulations 2012:

Premises with overnight accommodation

Theatres and Cinemas

Bingo Halls

Community Amateur Sports Clubs

Community Premises

Country Village Public Houses

News Years Eve

Business Improvement District.

- (c) The permitted reduction categories including the following as defined in the Late Night Levy (Expenses, Exemptions and Reductions) Regulations 2012:

Premises in receipt of Small Business Rate Relief;

Membership of the Safer Socialising Award best practice scheme;

- (d) The specified proportional split of funds between the Police and Local Authority being 70/30 in favour of the Police; and

- (e) The late night levy having effect from the 1 May 2014

2. That a review of the effectiveness of the Late Night Levy be undertaken after 18 months of operation.”

The Council heard from nine members of the public during consideration of this matter.

The voting was as follows:

FOR: Councillors Brock, Brunning, M Burke, S Burke, Coventry, Dransfield, Edwards, P Geary, Khan, Legg, Long, Marland, D McCall, McKenzie, McLean, Middleton, Miles, O'Neill, Wales, Wallis and P Williams (21)

AGAINST: Councillors Alexander, Bald, Barney, Bint, Brackenbury, Bradburn, Bramall, Eastman, Exon, Ferrans, A Geary, Hopkins, Hoyle, Jury, Kennedy, Klein, McDonald, Morris, Richards, Small, Tallack, Wharton and Zealley (23)

ABSTENTIONS: Councillors Shafiq, White and C Williams (3)

The motion was declared lost.

CL65

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

- (a) Question from Councillor Long to Councillor Brock (Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing)

Councillor Long asked Councillor Brock, in light of a recent study by the Leonard Cheshire Charity, about the use by the Council of 15 minutes care visits to elderly clients, particularly noting that 47% of the Council's clients received either 15 minute care visits, or a combination of 15 minute visits and longer visits.

Councillor Brock indicated that care packages were agreed with clients to ensure that they met their individual needs and therefore the length of visits depended on what was required at a particular time.

Councillor Long asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor Brock.

- (b) Question from Councillor Barney to Councillor P Geary (Cabinet member for Communities and Public Realm)

Councillor Barney asked Councillor P Geary, in light of recent press stories about the false widow spider, to confirm whether or not they were a protected species and ensure that the Council's pest control contractors were aware.

Councillor P Geary indicated that he would find out and provide a written answer.

- (c) Question from Councillor Alexander to Councillor Bint (Cabinet member responsible for Transport and Highways)

Councillor Alexander asked Councillor Bint if drivers of cars damaged as a result of potholes in the road could make a claim against the Council.

Councillor Bint indicated that the Council was responsible for ensuring that the roads were in good order by ensuring that they were inspected and maintained, which fulfilled the Council's duty of care. However, if the Council did not fulfil its duty it could be liable for any damage which would be handled by the Council's insurers. However, as a result of recent initiative to undertake repairs the standard of the Borough's roads were improving and the number of claims against the Council was reducing.

Councillor Bint offered to look into any specific matter if Councillor Alexander provided details.

Councillor Alexander asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor Bint.

- (d) Question from Councillor Edwards to Councillor Bald (Cabinet member for Strategic Finance, Housing and Regeneration)

Councillor Edwards asked Councillor Bald how many of the Council's tenants were subject to the 'bedroom tax' room subsidy and as a result were in arrears, and those facing court proceedings.

Councillor Bald indicated that in Milton Keynes 1462 properties were affected by the size criteria, of which 865 were Council properties. 217 of the 1462 properties were subject to liability orders, of which 138 were in respect of Council properties. In 88 cases from the 217 properties arrangements to pay had been entered into.

Councillor Edwards asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor Bald.

- (e) Question from Councillor Klein to Councillor Legg (Chair of the Development Control Committee)

Councillor Klein, noting that as part of a recent planning application a developer had been permitted to reduce the allocation of affordable homes by 64 for the 'Bletchley Leisure Centre' site, asked Councillor Legg what negotiations had been carried out with the developer over the number of affordable homes to be built.

Councillor Legg indicated that he understood that officers had been in discussions with the developers for some time prior to consideration by the Development Control Committee and the outcome of the discussions had been factored into the Committee's decision, which included the development as a whole and the community facilities which the developer had provided.

Councillor Legg reminded the Council that it had a duty to take viability into account when considering such applications.

Councillor Klein asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor Legg.

- (f) Question from Councillor Legg to Councillor P Geary (Cabinet member for Communities and Public Realm)

Councillor Legg asked Councillor P Geary when promised drainage works at Bletchley Cemetery in Bletchley would be taking place.

Councillor P Geary apologised for the delay in undertaking works and indicated that he would look into the situation and he would also respond to Councillor Legg's constituent who had raised the issue.

Councillor P Geary also indicated that the Council would learn from the problems encountered with this cemetery and ensure similar problems were thought about in the planning of future cemetery provision.

Councillor Legg asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor P Geary concerning a community organisation which was willing to help maintain the garden of remembrance at Crownhill Cemetery.

- (g) Question from Councillor Ferrans to Councillor Hopkins (Cabinet member for Economic Development and Enterprise)

Councillor Ferrans asked Councillor Hopkins if he thought it economic to clear rubbish deposited around a full litter bin, but not empty the bin.

Councillor Hopkins asked that he be notified of the particular instance so that he could investigate, as it did not appear to be up to the standards the Council would expect.

Councillor Ferrans asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor P Geary and related to when weed killing was carried out, which he undertook to investigate.

- (h) Question from Councillor O'Neill to Councillor Bint (Cabinet member responsible for Transport and Highways)

Councillor O'Neill asked Councillor Bint why she had not yet received a response to her question, asked at the last meeting of the Council, about why the road humps in Newport Road, Woughton had not been resurfaced

Councillor Bint indicated that he would consult with officers and supply a written response to the original question.

- (i) Question from Councillor Bradburn to Councillor Bald (Cabinet member for Strategic Finance, Housing and Regeneration)

Councillor Bradburn asked Councillor Bald if she shared his concerns that 92 homeless households remained in bed and breakfast accommodation and what was her strategy to deal with the matter.

Councillor Bald indicated that she did share the concern and indicated that the Council was undertaking a number of initiatives to help increase the supply of accommodation which included trying to understand what could be done to encourage greater availability from the private sector and providing support for tenants, with such schemes as providing bonds to private sector landlords. It was also recognised that it was important that the Council optimised the use of its housing stock.

Councillor Bald also indicated that it was very disappointing and hard to understand why the Council's recent bid for Government assistance had been unsuccessful.

Councillor Bradburn asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor Bald.

- (j) Question from Councillor M Burke to Councillor Bint (Cabinet member responsible for Transport and Highways)

Councillor M Burke asked Councillor Bint if he was aware of legislation which allowed the Council to post notices of pavement parking bans and also asked for details of results of a recent pilot scheme which she understood had been undertaken by the Council.

Councillor Bint, recognising that pavement parking was unlawful, indicated that some pavement parking was as a result of the design of roads and housing estates, and reported that a review of parking standards was underway. He would be reporting on that in due course. Councillor Bint also agreed to look into the issue of the pilot scheme and the various pieces of legislation raised by Councillor M Burke, and reply direct.

Councillor M Burke asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor Bint.

- (k) Question from Councillor Hoyle to Councillor Marland (Leader of the Labour Group)

Councillor Hoyle, referring to the proposed increase in the precept by Loughton and Great Holm Parish Council which would result in an increase of £50 a year, which he said Councillor Marland had said was trivial, asked Councillor Marland if he and each of his colleagues would hand him £50, so he could spend it more wisely than they would.

Councillor Marland indicated the level of precept set by Loughton and Great Holm Parish Council was a matter for the Parish Council.

Councillor Hoyle asked a supplementary question which related to encouraging Labour held parish councils to reduce their precepts. Councillor Marland indicated that he had noted Councillor Hoyle's comments.

CL66

SMALL BUSINESS DAY AND SUPPORTING SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZE ENTERPRISES IN MILTON KEYNES

Councillor Middleton moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Khan:

- “1. That this Council welcomes the inaugural Small Business Day of Saturday 7 December 2013.
2. That this Council notes the fundamental importance of small business to the economy of Milton Keynes, and its unique role in delivering prosperity and regeneration to the local communities of this city.
3. That this Council notes the pivotal role of this Council in nurturing, promoting and facilitating the expansion of the small business community in Milton Keynes.
4. That this Council therefore resolves:
 - (a) To invite the Cabinet to consider how this Council may support the establishment of an annual Small Business Day in Milton Keynes.

- (b) To invite the Cabinet to consider how this Council may expand its partnership work with local small business organisations, such as the Federation of Small Business and the Chamber of Commerce, to nurture, promote and facilitate the expansion of the small business community in Milton Keynes.,
- (c) To invite the Cabinet to consider how this Council may expand its collaboration with local educational providers, such as Milton Keynes College, to promote the provision of high quality apprenticeships by the small business community.”

Councillor Hopkins moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor Jury and accepted by the mover of the motion:

- “1. That a new Clause 3 be inserted as follows, and the existing Clauses renumbered accordingly:
 - ‘3. That this Council recognises that the recent growth in earnings and fall in unemployment in Milton Keynes will generate benefits for all businesses, large and small, through increasing the demand for services and products.’
- 2. That the words ‘together with its partners in business organisations’ be added to new Clause 4 (old Clause 3) after the second ‘Council’ in the first line and the following words added at the end of the Clause:
 - ‘and the practical assistance that is already in place or planned, including:
 - (a) the direct support provided by the Invest MK team on a daily basis on issues such as funding streams, commercial space and how to link to other councils services and connect to the wider business community and partners;
 - (b) the introduction by the end of this year of new content for the Invest MK website targeted at start-up and small businesses requiring support;
 - (c) the provision by MK College, University Campus MK and the Community Foundation of high quality start-up and small businesses office space and associated amenities and support within central MK; and
 - (d) the pending provision through the MK:Smart project of innovation and incubation space for start-up and small businesses within the digital technology sector at University Campus MK.

3. That the words 'and other similar events' be added to Sub-Clause 5(a) (old Clause 4[a]).
4. That the word 'invite' be replaced by the word 'commend' and the words 'to nurture, promote and facilitate' be replaced by the words 'in supporting through both practical and supportive measures the nurturing, promotion and facilitation of' in Sub-Clause 5(b) (old Sub-Clause 4[b]).
5. That the words 'all political groups to work with' be added after the word 'invite', the word 'further' be added after the word 'may' and the words 'and University MK added after the word 'College' in Sub-Clause 5(c) (old Sub-Clause 4[c])."

On being put to the vote the motion, as amended, was declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED -

1. That this Council welcomes the inaugural Small Business Day of Saturday 7 December 2013.
2. That this Council notes the fundamental importance of small business to the economy of Milton Keynes, and its unique role in delivering prosperity and regeneration to the local communities of this city.
3. That this Council recognises that the recent growth in earnings and fall in unemployment in Milton Keynes will generate benefits for all businesses, large and small, through increasing the demand for services and products.
4. That this Council notes the pivotal role of this Council together with its partners in business organisations in nurturing, promoting and facilitating the expansion of the small business community in Milton Keynes and the practical assistance that is already in place or planned, including:
 - (a) the direct support provided by the Invest MK team on a daily basis on issues such as funding streams, commercial space and how to link to other councils services and connect to the wider business community and partners;
 - (b) the introduction by the end of this year of new content for the Invest MK website targeted at start-up and small businesses requiring support;
 - (c) the provision by MK College, University Campus MK and the Community Foundation of high quality start-up and small businesses office space and associated amenities and support within central MK;

- (d) the pending provision through the MK:Smart project of innovation and incubation space for start-up and small businesses within the digital technology sector at University Campus MK.
5. That this Council therefore resolves:
- (a) To invite the Cabinet to consider how this Council may support the establishment of an annual Small Business Day and other similar events in Milton Keynes.
 - (b) To commend the Cabinet on the success of its partnership work with local small business organisations, such as the Federation of Small Business and the Chamber of Commerce, in supporting through both practical and supportive measures the nurturing, promotion and facilitation of the expansion of the small business community in Milton Keynes.
 - (c) To invite all political groups to work with the Cabinet to consider how this Council may further expand its collaboration with local educational providers, such as Milton Keynes College and University MK, to promote the provision of high quality apprenticeships by the small business community.

CL67

BUSH AND HEDGE CUTTING

Councillor Brackenbury moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Ferrans:

“That the Council:

- (a) notes the high demands placed on the bush, hedge and tree cutting service over the past 3 months;
- (b) believes that the Administration’s budget cuts have adversely affected the standard of service;
- (c) notes that obstructed footpaths are creating serious hazards for residents walking or cycling to school, work, and local facilities;
- (d) believes further that unkempt bushes and blocked pathways lead to reduced pride in our neighbourhoods, and give a poor impression to visitors;
- (e) recognises that the volume of recent casework in this area shows the importance of this service to the residents we represent;
- (f) is concerned that even where the Council has agreed to schedule work, giving timescales such as ‘December’ indicates that the Council has a substantial and growing backlog of work well beyond seasonal variation; and

- (g) asks the Cabinet to urgently explore whether resource can be temporarily transferred, or temporary additional resource procured, to bush and tree cutting within environmental services in order to tackle the outstanding work identified.”

Councillor Legg moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Marland and accepted by the mover of the motion:

- “1. That clause (b) be deleted and replaced with the following new Clause (b):

- ‘(b) notes the reduction in funding available for services within Milton Keynes Council is, in part, because of reduced income received from the Coalition Government, which Liberal Democrats joined the Conservatives to form;’

- 2. The following new clause (g) be inserted and the remaining clauses be re-lettered accordingly:

- ‘(g) requests Cabinet to form an urgent short term improvement plan for the landscaping service which identifies any backlog and report this back to the Environment and Transport Select Committee;’

- 3. That the words ‘and ask the Cabinet Member for Finance to seek clarification from the Leader of the Liberal Democrats on which part of the budget his group believes the extra resource should be taken from and the impact it would have on that service area’ be added to new Clause (h) after the word ‘identified’ at the end of the Clause.

- 4. That the following new Clause be added to the end of the motion:

- ‘(i) agrees that any future landscaping service changes, tenders or contracts be subject to proper scrutiny and that every effort is made to find a cross party solution to establish a landscaping service that makes the required efficiencies, but places a responsive high quality service for residents at its heart and asks the Cabinet show how it has sought to build this cross party agreement.”

Councillor P Geary moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Hopkins:

“That the Council:

- (a) notes the high demands placed on the bush, hedge and tree cutting service over the past 3 months and that these are as follows:

Year	Hedge reports	Shrub reports	Overhanging Vegetation	Total
2013	516	171	350	1037
2012	465	245	384	1094

(figures for July, August & September 2012 and 2013)

- (b) further notes that no routine tree cutting has been done for many years by this Council and that tree cutting is done on a needs basis, after inspection by an arboriculture specialist, when the tree needs work for management, or for health and safety reasons;
- (c) believes that the Administration's budget cuts have adversely affected the standard of service and further notes that the budget changes as notified by the finance department and the party in administration at the time are as follows:

Year	Budget change £000	Administration who proposed the budget
2010/11	-758	Lib Dem
2011/12	-386*	Lib Dem
2012/13	-200	Conservative
2013/14	+64	Conservative

(*Notes that the cut to front line services was £74k higher due to increased public liability insurance)

- (d) notes that obstructed footpaths are creating serious hazards for residents walking or cycling to school, work, and local facilities 'further noting that in Linford South ward since April 2013 the reports of issues and those remaining to be dealt with as of 15 October are as follows:

Issue	Reported	Remaining to be resolved as of 15 October
Hedges	47	14
Shrubs	12	2
Overhanging Vegetation	39	12

- (e) believes further that unkempt bushes and blocked pathways lead to reduced pride in our neighbourhoods, and give a poor impression to visitors;
- (f) recognises that the volume of recent casework in this area shows the importance of this service to the residents we represent;
- (g) is concerned that even where the Council has agreed to schedule work, giving timescales such as December indicates that the Council has a substantial and growing backlog of work well beyond seasonal variation and further notes that

hedge and shrub maintenance is always scheduled for the winter months, that this is both best practice for the plants and common sense and allows for wildlife to thrive noting that cutting back bushes and hedges during the nesting season would adversely affect wildlife, that disturbing a nesting bird is illegal and that all areas of the borough will receive works during this time to address growth that has occurred during the previous year, as has been the case for many years; and

- (h) asks the Cabinet to urgently explore whether resource can be temporarily transferred, or temporary additional resource procured, to bush and tree cutting within environmental services in order to tackle the outstanding work identified and further notes that Circa £50k of extra resources was provided in early September to the landscaping department to allow for urgent works to be completed both from those reported to the environmental services helpline and those reported by staff and that no request was forthcoming to either management or Cabinet members by councillors and this was done as part of normal management.”

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared lost, with 18 Members voting in favour, 27 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

Councillor A Geary moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor McLean:

- “1. That clause (b) be deleted and replaced with:

‘(b) notes that in the past 2 years of the last Lib Dem Administration that over £1.2m was removed from frontline landscaping services, £0.75m of this was before the governments austerity measures were announced and that the Conservative administration added £64k to the front line landscaping budget last year, a measure that was opposed by the Lib Dem group on Milton Keynes Council and acknowledges that any shortcomings in the current service date back to the savage cuts made by the previous administration;’

2. That the words ‘are creating serious, be deleted from clause (c) and replaced with the words ‘may create’ and the following words be added to the end of the clause:

‘and that these obstructions are cleared when they are notified to the Council and extra resources are provided for this when needed’

3 That clause (d) be replaced by the following:

‘agrees that pointing to overgrown bushes or potholes in pictures in focus leaflets is more a practice of self promotion than reporting an issue to the environmental Services Helpline and asking for it to be rectified.’

4. That the remaining clauses (e) to (g) be deleted.”

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared lost, with 18 Members voting in favour, 27 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

On being put to the vote the motion, as amended, was declared carried with 26 Members voting in favour, 19 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

RESOLVED -

“That the Council:

- (a) notes the high demands placed on the bush, hedge and tree cutting service over the past 3 months;
- (b) notes the reduction in funding available for services in Milton Keynes Council is because of reduced income from the Coalition Government, in which Liberal Democrats joined the Conservatives to form;
- (c) notes that obstructed footpaths are creating serious hazards for residents walking or cycling to school, work, and local facilities;
- (d) believes further that unkempt bushes and blocked pathways lead to reduced pride in our neighbourhoods, and give a poor impression to visitors;
- (e) recognises that the volume of recent casework in this area shows the importance of this service to the residents we represent;
- (f) is concerned that even where the Council has agreed to schedule work, giving timescales such as December indicates that the Council has a substantial and growing backlog of work well beyond seasonal variation;
- (g) requests Cabinet to form an urgent short term improvement plan for the landscaping service which identifies any backlog and report this back to the Environment and Transport Select Committee;
- (h) asks the Cabinet to urgently explore whether resource can be temporarily transferred, or temporary additional resource procured, to bush and tree cutting within environmental services in order to tackle the outstanding work identified and ask the Cabinet Member for Finance to seek clarification from the Leader of the Liberal Democrats on which part of the

budget his group believes the extra resource should be taken from and the impact it would have on that service area; and

- (i) agrees that any future landscaping service changes, tenders or contracts be subject to proper scrutiny and that every effort is made to find a cross party solution to establish a landscaping service that makes the required efficiencies, but places a responsive high quality service for residents at its heart and asks the Cabinet show how it has sought to build this cross party agreement.”

CL68

**UNIVERSITY OF BUCKINGHAM AND MILTON KEYNES
FOUNDATION TRUST HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL**

Councillor Brock moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor A Geary:

“That the Council:

- (a) welcomes the news that the General Medical Council has given permission for the University of Buckingham and Milton Keynes Foundation Trust Hospital to proceed with a Medical School;
- (b) acknowledges that a Teaching Hospital is a feature of a growing and increasingly influential city that will offer the opportunities of a progressive learning environment helping to both attract and retain medical staff;
- (c) notes that:
 - (i) there will be a focus on teaching medical students the highest level of safety and care to patients;
 - (ii) the unit will pioneer research to a world class level;
 - (iii) an academic medical education facility, funded by Buckingham University, is being proposed for the Milton Keynes Hospital site;
 - (iv) the first students will start their courses in Buckingham in January 2015 and be on site in Milton Keynes in 2017;
- (d) recognises that a Teaching Hospital advances the Corporate Plan priority “to expand university education and research in Milton Keynes”; and
- (e) urges the Administration, Members and officers of this Council to work with the Milton Keynes Foundation Trust Hospital and the University of Buckingham and support them in making this a success.”

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED –

That the Council:

- (a) welcomes the news that the General Medical Council has given permission for the University of Buckingham and Milton Keynes Foundation Trust Hospital to proceed with a Medical School;
- (b) acknowledges that a Teaching Hospital is a feature of a growing and increasingly influential city that will offer the opportunities of a progressive learning environment helping to both attract and retain medical staff;
- (c) notes that:
 - (i) there will be a focus on teaching medical students the highest level of safety and care to patients;
 - (ii) the unit will pioneer research to a world class level;
 - (iii) an academic medical education facility, funded by Buckingham University, is being proposed for the Milton Keynes Hospital site;
 - (iv) the first students will start their courses in Buckingham in January 2015 and be on site in Milton Keynes in 2017;
- (d) recognises that a Teaching Hospital advances the Corporate Plan priority “to expand university education and research in Milton Keynes”; and
- (e) urges the Administration, Members and officers of this Council to work with the Milton Keynes Foundation Trust Hospital and the University of Buckingham and support them in making this a success.”

CL69

WARD BASED BUDGETS

The Council noted that for the period 1 April 2013 to 30 September 2013, applications totalling £4,119.50 had been approved.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 10:57 PM