

Agenda Item 5(b)

Notices of Motion

Notes:

1. Amendments to motions must be submitted by no later than 12 noon on Friday 14 January 2022.

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1.	Councillor Trendall – 20 December 2021 Asylum Seeker Accommodation in Milton Keynes	55
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1. Asylum Seeker Accommodation in Milton Keynes

Councillor Trendall (20 December 2021)

- “1. That this council notes:
- a) The United Kingdom has a responsibility to house those seeking asylum in the UK in accommodation, which is safe, and where those so housed are accorded dignity whilst a decision on their status is made.
 - b) That the Home Office has decided without consultation with the council or the local people, to place asylum seekers in accommodation in the former Woughton House Hotel, Woughton-on-the-Green, in Campbell Park & Old Woughton Ward.
2. That this council resolves that the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive, write to the Home Secretary and ask that they:
- a) explain why this location (Woughton House Hotel), further from the coast than almost anywhere else in the UK, was selected;
 - b) explain why the Home Office contractor, Clearsprings, is asking for community volunteers to help with local transport when their director was paid £3.6m last year, and additionally shared in a £1.4m dividend bonus;
 - c) explain why Milton Keynes residents who wish to volunteer are being asked by Clearsprings to sign Non-Disclosure Agreements, and are being told it is a requirement of the Official Secrets Act;
 - d) explain why it is the residents of Milton Keynes who are coming forward with clothing for the asylum seekers, and not the Home Offices’ contractor, who is paid out of public funds;
 - e) explain the Covid-19 vaccination status of the individuals, especially so as they will be allowed to ‘come and go’;
 - f) engage with local faith group leaders to ensure that the asylum seekers are able to properly take part in their religious observances; and
 - g) agree to allow unannounced visits by the three ward councillors and council officers, including but not limited to those working in Public Health, Environmental Health and Adult Social Care.”

2. Grid Roads

Councillor Taylor – 23 December 2021

- “1. That this Council notes that:
- a) Milton Keynes’ road system is unique in the United Kingdom for its innovative use of the grid road system;
 - b) the grid road system, together with the redway network and underpasses, were a central part of the original new town plan;
 - c) the grid road system is a network of national speed limit, fully landscaped routes that form the top layer of the street hierarchy for both private and public transport in Milton Keynes;

- d) the system is unique because the grid roads run in between districts, rather than through them, allowing the facilitation of higher speed limits due to the absence of persons and buildings close to roads;
 - e) a key principle of the grid road system includes grid junctions being linked by Milton Keynes' famous roundabouts, with over 130 in the borough;
 - f) grid roads discourage traffic from travelling through housing areas, thereby reducing noise and other pollution in pedestrian zones;
 - g) the success of the grid roads system has led to improved air quality as outlined in a 2019 report by researchers at the Birmingham Institute for Forest Research and Lancaster University's Environment Centre; and
 - h) grid roads were designed to be and have become one of the unique selling points of Milton Keynes and continue to be the city areas greatest assets in allowing relatively free flowing traffic.
2. That this Council recognises that:
- a) The grid road system and the original design principles of Milton Keynes are being eroded through developments such as:
 - i) Whitehouse
 - ii) V2 Extension Grange Farm
 - iii) SE MK
 - iv) MK:E
 - v) The city streets in Broughton & Brooklands
 - b) The future development of MK as documented in both Plan:MK and the MK 2050 plan are not fully considering the continuity of the grid road system, the redway network nor underpasses.
 - c) Due to the current development practises, we are at risk of losing the unique identity of MK and a design feature that is an asset to our economy and local way of life.
 - d) Infrastructure before expansion is a key principle in the growth and development of MK and grid roads play a crucial role in this.
3. That this Council resolves to:
- a) Reaffirm its commitment to the original design principles of Milton Keynes, in so far as to the importance of the grid road system as a means of transport and fast inter connections across our city.
 - b) Request the Cabinet to initiate the creation of a specific Planning Grid Roads SPD. The SPD will provide advice to developers on how to incorporate grid roads into their designs and applications in order to ensure the safety of the residents of Milton Keynes by providing appropriate bridges or underpasses, instead of road level pedestrian crossings; and to support our environmental ambitions by requiring that all grid roads should remain isolated from the housing areas."

3. Youth Mayor

Councillor Montague (5 January 2022)

- “1. That this Council:
- a) recognises the Milton Keynes Youth Cabinet and praises the work of the 36 members, who have most recently run excellent campaigns on public safety, votes at 16 and affordable activities in Milton Keynes; and
 - b) supports the principle of running elections as a way of engaging young people in democracy.
2. That this Council notes that over 14,000 local young people voted in the Youth Cabinet elections in 2019.
3. That this Council resolves to:
- a) encourage officers to support the development of the youth democracy agenda, for example by exploring with young people the possibility of creating the role of a Youth Mayor, who would be elected by the Youth Cabinet for a term of 1 year and would represent the young people of the city at civic events, including accompanying the Mayor of Milton Keynes to various engagements; and
 - b) explore the possibility of creating the role of Councillor Youth Democracy Champion.”