

Minutes of the MEETING OF MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on WEDNESDAY  
23 JANUARY 2019 at 7.30 pm

- Present:** Councillor Petchey (Mayor)  
Councillors Akter, Alexander, Baines, Bint, Brackenbury,  
M Bradburn, R Bradburn, Brown, Brunning, Buckley, Cannon, Carr,  
Clancy, Crooks, Darlington, Dransfield, Ferrans, Ganatra, Geaney,  
A Geary, Gilbert, Gowans, Green, D Hopkins, Hosking, Jenkins,  
Khan, Legg, Long, Marklew, Marland, McCall, McDonald, McLean,  
McPake, Middleton, Miles, Minns, Morris, Nolan, O'Neill, Patey-  
Smith, Rankine, Reilly, Small, Wales, Walker, Wallis, Williams,  
C Wilson and K Wilson  
Alderman McKenzie and Alderwoman Saunders
- Apologies:** Councillors Exon, P Geary, V Hopkins, Jenkins and Morla and  
Aldermen Bartlett, Beeley, Bristow, Coventry, E Henderson and  
Howell and Alderwomen I Henderson, Irons and Lloyd
- Also Present:** 33 members of the public

**CL101 MINUTES**

The Council noted the response from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union to the Chief Executive's letter asking that the Secretary of State supports a People's Vote as requested by the Council at its meeting on 24 October 2018.

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28 November 2018 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

**CL102 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

None disclosed.

**CL103 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a) Daniel Bingley

The Mayor welcomed Daniel Bingley, an Army veteran, who while serving in Afghanistan was seriously injured. Daniel was selected to represent the British Army at the Invictus Games in 2018 in Sydney, competing in Athletics, Sailing, Sitting Volleyball, Swimming, Jaguar Land Rover Driving Challenge, Wheelchair Basketball, and Wheelchair Rugby. He received a bronze medal in the Driving Challenge, a silver

medal in the Sitting Volleyball, a silver medal, in the Wheelchair Rugby and a bronze medal in the Wheelchair Basketball.

The Council heard from Daniel Bingley and the Mayor presented Daniel Bingley with a memento of his visit.

(b) Denbigh School

The Mayor congratulated Denbigh School which had recently been named as 'Secondary School of the Year' for encouraging its students, particularly girls, to engage and participate in school sport at the annual Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Sports Awards and had also been awarded the status of being a Centre of Excellence for Financial Education.

(c) New Year Honours

The Mayor congratulated Professor Lynette Ryals, Pro Vice Chancellor, Cranfield University, who had been awarded an OBE in the New Year Honours for services to Higher Education and Wain McIntosh who has been awarded an MBE for services to the Afro-Caribbean community in the UK and abroad.

The Mayor indicated that he would be inviting them both to join him before the Council's March meeting, when the Council would have the opportunity to pass on its congratulations.

(d) Former Councillors Alderman Fred Smith and Alderman Bruce Hardwick

The Mayor announced with great sadness the deaths of two former councillors:

Alderman Fred Smith who died on 23 December 2018 and was a Milton Keynes Borough councillor from 1978 to 1982 and 1984 to 1996, representing the Wolverton and Greenleys area. Alderman Smith was Mayor during 1992/93.

Alderman Bruce Hardwick, who died on 30 December 2018 and was a Milton Keynes Borough councillor from 1987 to 2004, representing the Newport Pagnell North Ward. Alderman Hardwick was Mayor during 1995/96.

Alderman Hardwick's funeral would be held at Crownhill Crematorium on Friday 8 February at 1.45pm.

The Council heard from councillors before standing in silence as a mark of respect.

**CL104                    PETITION - PARKING ENFORCEMENT IN OLNEY**

The Council received a petition, which was presented by Councillor Hosking and which requested enhanced parking enforcement in Olney.

The petition was referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

**CL105                    QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

- (a)    Question from Mike Daly to Councillor Marland (Leader of the council)

Mike Daly, referring to his understanding that the Council allocated funds to Bedford Estates to support access and conservation at Aspley Woods in Woburn Sands and that Bedford Estates had banned off-lead dogs throughout their 800 acres last September, without any consultation with dog walkers, asked Councillor Marland:

- (i)     whether the commitment of public funds to Bedford Estates represented value for public money;
- (ii)    whether the access agreement should be renegotiated or abandoned; and
- (iii)   what representations would be made to the landowner, to reinstate adherence to its own 2011 agreement that dogs should simply be "under control".

Councillor Marland indicated that both Milton Keynes Council and Central Bedfordshire Council contributed on an annual basis towards the upkeep of the land which was on the boundary between the two councils. Milton Keynes Council contributed approximately £20,000 annually. The agreement with Bedford Estates was due to be renegotiated next year and the issue of access for dog walking would be raised as part of those negotiations, subject to agreement with Central Bedfordshire Council as the two councils worked in partnership.

- (b)    Question from Amanda Marlow to Councillor Gowans (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Amanda Marlow asked Councillor Gowans what action the Council was taking to rectify the state of the grass verges in parts of Loughton and what measures would the Council be taking to stop SERCO lorries from driving over the grass verges and further damaging them.

Councillor Gowans indicated that negotiating some of the junctions was often difficult for drivers and on occasions they did get it wrong, but SERCO did meet the cost of any repairs.

Councillor Gowans undertook to ask officer colleagues to raise the issue of the refuse vehicles damaging grass highway verges in Loughton, specifically Sumner Court,

Cavendish Court and Higgs Court, with the contractor and seek restoration of any damage as soon as possible.

Amanda Marlow as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Gowans if he would set a deadline for the repairs to be carried out.

Councillor Gowans indicated that he did not think the contract with SERCO included such specific deadlines, but generally SERCO carried out such repairs quite quickly.

**CL106                    SCRUTINY OF THE COUNCIL'S REGENERATION PROGRAMME**

Councillor Brackenbury (Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee) moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Scrutiny Management Committee held on 21 November 2018, which was seconded by Councillor D Hopkins:

"That the Council be recommended to appoint an additional scrutiny committee from May 2019 to scrutinise the Council's Regeneration Programme."

The Council heard from one member of the public during consideration of the recommendation.

On being put to the vote the recommendation was declared carried with 51 councillors voting in favour, 0 councillors voting against and 1 councillor abstaining from voting.

**RESOLVED -**

That an additional scrutiny committee be appointed from May 2019 to scrutinise the Council's Regeneration Programme.

**CL107                    LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME**

Councillor Middleton moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6 November 2018, which was seconded by the Councillor Marland:

"That the Council be recommended to continue the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, as adopted by the Council on 17 January 2018, for 2019/20, with amendments that reflect changes to related benefits and to the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) Regulations and retaining the delegation to the Corporate Director Resources to make technical legislative changes."

On being put to the vote the recommendation was declared carried with 41 councillors voting in favour, 0 councillors voting against and 11 councillors abstaining from voting.

**RESOLVED -**

That the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, as adopted by the Council on 17 January 2018, be continued for 2019/20, with amendments that reflect changes to related benefits and to the

Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) Regulations and retaining the delegation to the Corporate Director Resources to make technical legislative changes.

**CL108**

**MK SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2019 - 2050**

The Mayor indicated that he would hold the debate on the Cabinet's recommendation on the MK Sustainability Strategy 2019 – 2050 as part of the Council's consideration of the motion entitled 'Making Milton Keynes the Greenest City in the World' later on the Agenda.

**CL109**

**COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS**

- (a) Question from Councillor McPake to Councillor Gowans (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Councillor McPake, referring to the number of shopping trollies left at bus stops and on housing estates, asked Councillor Gowans if he would undertake a review of the Council's policy on removing dumped shopping trolleys as they were still creating quite a problem.

Councillor Gowans indicated that the Council had a statutory obligation to collect dumped shopping trolleys and then either store them or return them to their owner who had an obligation to meet any costs incurred by the Council. He was not aware that dumped shopping trolleys were causing a particular problem, but he would ask officer colleagues to investigate.

Councillor McPake, as a supplementary question, suggested the some of the larger supermarkets could help the situation by better policing their car parks to prevent trollies being removed and asked that any review consider this.

Councillor Gowans noted the suggestion from Councillor McPake.

- (b) Question from Councillor Dransfield to Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council)

Councillor Dransfield, referring to the traffic congestion around Denbigh School and the £20,000 allocated by the Council to help alleviate some of the congestion, asked Councillor Marland if similar sums would be available to all schools experiencing traffic congestion problems.

Councillor Marland indicated that efforts were being made with all schools to ensure that traffic management plans were in place. Finance had been included in the draft Council Budget 2019/20 to support the implementation of any essential measures identified by the traffic management plans.

Councillor Dransfield, referring to Councillor Nolan's Facebook page which showed the faces of Denbigh School Students outside the School, which he thought was potentially

dangerous and allowed perpetrators of abuse against children to more easily identify the children, asked Councillor Marland, as a supplementary question whether he:

- (i) would be referring Councillor Nolan to the Safeguarding Board;
- (ii) would be sacking Councillor Nolan from her position of Cabinet member for Children and Families before or after a referral to the Safeguarding Board; and
- (iii) thought it right that the Cabinet member for Children and Families who was ultimately responsible for safeguarding children to be using photographs of children without making every effort to anonymise them.

Councillor Marland indicated that in his view Councillor Nolan, went to great lengths to safeguard children, but he would look into the matter to ensure all councillors followed strict guidelines.

- (c) Question from Councillor Mclean to Councillor Gowans (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Councillor Mclean, referring to his question asked at the Council meeting on 28 November 2018 in relation to problems with the online ordering system for recycling sacks and the number of complaints he was receiving from residents, asked Councillor Gowans if he was still comfortable with his answer to the supplementary question which seemed to imply that it was residents making errors that contributed to the problems, despite statistics showing it was most likely the Council's operators were the ones making errors.

Councillor Gowans indicated that he thought that Councillor McLean had chosen to misrepresent his words.

Councillor McLean stated that he did not agree that he had misrepresented Councillor Gowans.

Councillor Gowans stated that his answer given in November clearly referred to the deliveries being undertaken by the Council, not residents being able to order them.

- (d) Question from Councillor Rankine to Councillor Gowans (Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Councillor Rankine, stated that the Council had been singled out for criticism by the Fair Telecoms campaign for using a premium rate 0845 telephone number for enquiries regarding Blue Badges or parking fines and this was contrary to Government advice which stated that it was inappropriate for callers to pay substantial charges for accessing core public services, particularly vulnerable and low-income groups.

Councillor Rankine asked Councillor Gowans what justification did the Council have for using premium rate call numbers for services used by vulnerable groups, particularly when it was against Government advice.

Councillor Gowans clarified that the 0845 telephone number only applied to first stage parking fine enquires and not to Blue Badge enquiries.

Councillor Gowans further indicated that he did not support the use of a 0845 telephone number by the Council's parking contractors, but the Council was not currently able to change the practice as it was established in a contract awarded in 2013. However the Administration planned to do so as soon as possible.

Councillor Rankine referred to the Government's guidance which stated that if a 0845 telephone number was used the authority should ensure that it received any revenue share available and that it was not retained by the contractor. As a supplementary question, Councillor Rankine asked Councillor Gowans who received the revenue from 0845 telephone numbers.

Councillor Gowans indicated that the revenue was kept by the contractor, but the contractor would have taken account of this in its tender submission.

(e) Question from Councillor Brackenbury to Councillor Walker (Leader of the Conservative Group)

Councillor Brackenbury, referring to the statement in the letter from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union (Agenda Item 1 refers) that a consensus had been reached on the terms of exit from the European Union, asked Councillor Walker, if on behalf of the Conservative Party he could advise the Council how the consensus was holding up.

Councillor Walker, recognising that Councillor Brackenbury supported a further referendum, indicated that the Referendum in 2016 had voted in favour of leaving the European Union and it was now time for the Government to deliver.

Councillor Walker also indicated that he thought the refusal of the Leader of the National Labour Party to engage in discussions was disgraceful.

As a supplementary question, Councillor Brackenbury asked Councillor Walker if he could outline his understanding of the impact on the businesses and residents of Milton Keynes, both if the United Kingdom left the European Union with the deal currently being offered, or if it left with no deal.

Councillor Walker indicated that he believed that accepting a deal was the best way forward as it would allow businesses to adapt and maintain the jobs and prosperity Milton Keynes benefited from. However, MPs from all Parties had voted the deal down.

Councillor Walker also indicated that the certainty businesses were looking for would not be provided by a second referendum and suggested that Councillor Brackenbury should encourage the National Liberal Democrat Party to drop the idea of a second referendum and support delivering the result of the 2016 referendum

(f) Question from Councillor Brown to Councillor Marland  
(Leader of the Council)

Councillor Brown, referring to the unauthorised Traveller Encampments and the measures that had been put in place, including physical barriers, since the Cabinet's decision in September 2018, asked Councillor Marland if there was any progress in obtaining an Injunction, or a Public Space Protection Order in respect of Pendeen Crescent in Tattenhoe, which had experienced a number of unauthorised encampments over the last number of weeks.

Councillor Marland indicated that he was aware of the unauthorised encampments in Pendeen Crescent and the huge problems unauthorised encampments had caused in the Ward. The Council was taking forward all possible measures including injunctions to combat unauthorised encampments. However, in order not to disrupt or prejudice any Court proceedings it was not possible to say whether an application for an injunction had been submitted, but the Council had a clear intention to do so and had been collecting the necessary evidence. Should a Court make a judgement then councillors would be informed of the outcome.

(g) Question from Councillor McCall to Councillor Gowans  
(Cabinet member for Public Realm)

Councillor McCall, referring to the issue raised earlier by a member of the public about SERCO Refuse Vehicles damaging highway verges, asked Councillor Gowans if he could arranged for the verge at the junction of Bekonscot Court and Broadway Avenue, Giffard Park to be repaired and the street name plate replaced as soon as possible, as both had been damaged by SERCO's vehicles.

Councillor McCall also asked if consideration could be given to parking restrictions being applied at the junction as it was often parked cars that forced the refuse vehicles to drive on the highway verge.

Councillor Gowans indicated that he would ask officer colleagues to raise the issue of refuse vehicles damaging the



grass highway verge in Giffard Park at the junction of Bekonscot Court and Broadway Avenue and request that the contractor restored any damage, including replacement of the street name sign, as soon as possible

Councillor Gowans indicated that he would ask officer colleagues to also investigate whether parking restrictions were required at the junction to ensure that access for refuse vehicles was not impeded by parked vehicles.

(h) Question from Councillor Walker to Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council)

Councillor Walker, referring to Jeremy Corbyn's planned visit to Bletchley and his statement at the 2011 Labour Party Conference condemning the voters of Milton Keynes for returning Iain Stewart as an MP, asked Councillor Marland if he would ask Jeremy Corbyn to apologise for his comments.

Councillor Marland indicated that he believed Jeremy Corbyn's words to have been misrepresented. In his view Jeremy Corbyn was referring to the strong and bold leadership Phyllis Starkey, the previous MP, gave on the issue of Palestinian Rights the loss to Parliament of her not being elected.

Councillor Marland also indicated that he had no recollection of either Mark Lancaster MP, or Iain Stewart MP making a statement on the rights of Palestinians' in occupied lands.

Councillor Walker, as a supplementary question, asked Councillor Marland if he joined Jeremy Corbyn in condemning the voters of Milton Keynes in 2010.

Councillor Marland indicated that voters of Milton Keynes and voters in the United Kingdom were very silly thinking they had elected a Conservative Government in 2010, because they didn't elect a Conservative Government, despite there being the worst recession in living memory, despite the Labour Government supposedly having spent all of the money and despite the Conservative Party having a really popular Leader it could not quite get a majority.

Councillor Marland also stated that in his view the Country had paid for that election result and he was just waiting for a Labour MP to be elected for both the Milton Keynes South and the North Milton Keynes Constituencies because the people of Milton Keynes would then have a real voice in Parliament and MPs that stood up for Milton Keynes.

CL110

**MK SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2019 – 2050 / MAKING MILTON KEYNES THE GREENEST CITY IN THE WORLD**

Councillor Marland moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 8 January 2019, which was seconded by the Councillor Gowans:

**“That Council be recommended to adopt the MK Sustainability Strategy 2019/2050.”**

**Councillor Marklew moved the following motion which was seconded by Councillor Brown:**

- “1. That the Council notes:**
  - (a) climate change is real and the detrimental impact is being felt around the world;**
  - (b) carbon emissions result from both production and consumption;**
  - (c) the Paris Climate Agreement seeks to limit global temperature rises to 1.5°C before 2050;**
  - (d) that in the years 2017 and 2018 global carbon emissions have increased;**
  - (e) the IPCC’s Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published last month, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause compared to a 1.5°C rise, and told us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and local government, cities, civil society, the private sector, and local communities;**
  - (f) individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own, society needs to change to make low carbon living easier and the new norm;**
  - (g) Milton Keynes has a proud and pioneering record in environmental action; and**
  - (h) local government and cities around the world are responding by declaring a ‘Climate Emergency’ and committing resources to address this emergency.**
- 2. That the Council believes that:**
  - (a) all levels of governments must seek to limit the negative impacts of Climate Change, but that local government should not, and cannot, wait for national governments and international agreement before acting ambitiously to tackle the issue;**
  - (b) tackling climate change must seek to tackle wider sustainability issues such as the use of resources and emissions;**
  - (c) bold climate action can deliver economic benefits regarding new jobs, financial savings and market opportunities locally, as well as improved well-being for people worldwide;**
  - (d) clean air and biodiversity are key to a sustainable and liveable city;**

- (e) the ambitious targets set by cities such as Bristol seeking to become carbon neutral by 2030 show global leadership from cities;
  - (f) Milton Keynes can, and should, go further to become the "Greenest City in the World;" and
  - (g) the growth of Milton Keynes presents an opportunity to ensure we consider climate change and sustainability as development takes place.
3. That the Council welcomes:
- (a) the new Sustainability Strategy 2019- 2050 adopted by Cabinet in January;
  - (b) that Milton Keynes is committing to an ambitious target of being carbon neutral by 2030;
  - (c) that Milton Keynes is the first major world city to commit to becoming carbon negative by 2050;
  - (d) the leading role being played by Milton Keynes Council in Energy Cities and the European Covenant of Mayors in highlighting the leading role of cities in tackling Climate Change;
  - (e) the work already done by Milton Keynes in projects such as Horizon 2020, Intensify and UK100; and
  - (f) the UK Government's recent announcement that it will seek to host the UN Conference on Climate Change (COP26) which will be the direct successor to the Paris Climate Conference.
4. That the Council agrees to:
- (a) declare a 'Climate Emergency';
  - (b) fully support making Milton Keynes the World's Greenest City;
  - (c) support the pledge to make Milton Keynes carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon negative by 2050;
  - (d) call on Central Government to work with local authorities to provide the powers and resources to make the ambitious targets possible;
  - (e) sign the Oxford City Clean Air Charter [https://www.oxford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4867/charter\\_for\\_cleaner\\_air](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4867/charter_for_cleaner_air) (Item 5 attached [Page 51]);
  - (f) continue to work with partners across the city, region, nationally and internationally to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans;

- (g) ask Cabinet to ensure that the resources are in place locally to ensure the ambitious targets in the Sustainability Strategy can be met;
- (h) ask Cabinet to ensure the Sustainability Strategy Action Plan for the period 2019 – 2023, with clear and implementable actions, is brought forward as quickly as possible;
- (i) arrange a Climate Emergency Conference in Milton Keynes this year to bring together local, regional, national and international agencies, business and stakeholders to help develop actions to ensure Milton Keynes can become the world's greenest city; and
- (j) ask Cabinet to report to Council annually on the progress made in this area."

Councillor Walker moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor Morris, which was accepted by Councillor Marklew:

1. That a new clause 1(i) be added as follows 'the recent protests in France against the proposed eco-tax demonstrated the need to consider the effects of environmental policies on the whole of society and how essential it is to engage with populations.'
2. That a new clause 4(i) be added as follows 'to push recycling rates up to 70% by 2025' and the remaining clauses relettered.
3. That a new clause 4(l) be added as follows 'adopt a consult first approach when proposing new environmental policies, understanding the need for wide ranging input and support from residents to tackle climate change.'

Councillor McPake moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Reilly, which was accepted by Councillor Marklew:

"That clause 4(e) of the motion be removed and replaced with 'develop with partners a unique Milton Keynes Clean Air Charter.'"

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

On being put to the vote the Cabinet's recommendation relating to the MK Sustainability Strategy 2019/2050 was declared carried with 51 councillors voting in favour, 1 councillor voting against and 0 councillors abstaining from voting.

On being put to the vote the substantive motion was declared carried with 51 councillors voting in favour, 1 councillor voting against and 0 councillors abstaining from voting.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That the MK Sustainability Strategy 2019/2050 Council be adopted.
2. That the Council notes:
  - (a) climate change is real and the detrimental impact is being felt around the world;
  - (b) carbon emissions result from both production and consumption;
  - (c) the Paris Climate Agreement seeks to limit global temperature rises to 1.5°C before 2050;
  - (d) that in the years 2017 and 2018 global carbon emissions have increased;
  - (e) the IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published last month, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause compared to a 1.5°C rise, and told us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and local government, cities, civil society, the private sector, and local communities;
  - (f) individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own, society needs to change to make low carbon living easier and the new norm;
  - (g) Milton Keynes has a proud and pioneering record in environmental action;
  - (h) local government and cities around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing resources to address this emergency; and
  - (i) the recent protests in France against the proposed eco-tax demonstrated the need to consider the effects of environmental policies on the whole of society and how essential it is to engage with populations.
3. That the Council believes that:
  - (a) all levels of governments must seek to limit the negative impacts of Climate Change, but that local government should not, and cannot, wait for national governments and international agreement before acting ambitiously to tackle the issue;
  - (b) tackling climate change must seek to tackle wider sustainability issues such as the use of resources and emissions;

- (c) bold climate action can deliver economic benefits regarding new jobs, financial savings and market opportunities locally, as well as improved well-being for people worldwide;
  - (d) clean air and biodiversity are key to a sustainable and liveable city;
  - (e) the ambitious targets set by cities such as Bristol seeking to become carbon neutral by 2030 show global leadership from cities;
  - (f) Milton Keynes can, and should, go further to become the "Greenest City in the World;" and
  - (g) the growth of Milton Keynes presents an opportunity to ensure we consider climate change and sustainability as development takes place.
4. That the Council welcomes:
- (a) the new Sustainability Strategy 2019- 2050 adopted by Cabinet in January;
  - (b) that Milton Keynes is committing to an ambitious target of being carbon neutral by 2030;
  - (c) that Milton Keynes is the first major world city to commit to becoming carbon negative by 2050;
  - (d) the leading role being played by Milton Keynes Council in Energy Cities and the European Covenant of Mayors in highlighting the leading role of cities in tackling Climate Change;
  - (e) the work already done by Milton Keynes in projects such as Horizon 2020, Intensify and UK100; and
  - (f) the UK Government's recent announcement that it will seek to host the UN Conference on Climate Change (COP26) which will be the direct successor to the Paris Climate Conference.
5. That the Council agrees to:
- (a) declare a 'Climate Emergency';
  - (b) fully support making Milton Keynes the World's Greenest City;
  - (c) support the pledge to make Milton Keynes carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon negative by 2050;
  - (d) call on Central Government to work with local authorities to provide the powers and resources to make the ambitious targets possible;

- (e) develop with partners a unique Milton Keynes Clean Air Charter;
- (f) continue to work with partners across the city, region, nationally and internationally to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans;
- (g) ask Cabinet to ensure that the resources are in place locally to ensure the ambitious targets in the Sustainability Strategy can be met;
- (h) ask Cabinet to ensure the Sustainability Strategy Action Plan for the period 2019 – 2023, with clear and implementable actions, is brought forward as quickly as possible;
- (i) ask Cabinet to push recycling rates up to 70% by 2025;
- (j) arrange a Climate Emergency Conference in Milton Keynes this year to bring together local, regional, national and international agencies, business and stakeholders to help develop actions to ensure Milton Keynes can become the world's greenest city;
- (k) ask Cabinet to report to Council annually on the progress made in this area; and
- (l) adopt a consult first approach when proposing new environmental policies, understanding the need for wide ranging input and support from residents to tackle climate change.

(Councillor Dransfield requested that his vote against both adopting the MK Sustainability Strategy 2019 – 2050 and the motion Making Milton Keynes the Greenest City in the World be recorded.)

**CL111**

**PROVISION OF RECYCLING BAGS**

Councillor Walker moved the following motion which was seconded by Councillor Morris:

“That this Council

1. acknowledges the:
  - (a) abject failure of recent changes to the provision of recycle bags in Milton Keynes;
  - (b) significant backlog that has been caused in deliveries of the recycle bags;
  - (c) increase in pressures put on the customer service team as a result of the backlog;
  - (d) cost of bringing down the backlog will have impacted the estimated savings of the changes; and

- (e) wider concerns regarding the potential drop in recycle rates which would be unacceptable.
- 2. calls on the Cabinet Member to reverse the changes and return to providing recycle bags in public buildings and regular deliveries to homes."

Councillor Brackenbury moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor Ferrans, which was accepted by Councillor Walker:

- "1. That a new clause 2 be added as follows:
- '2. Welcomes:
  - (a) the improvements made by the Cabinet to the ordering of replacement recycling bags, but believes that they do not go far enough; and
  - (b) the commitment of the Cabinet to investigate future improvements such as:
    - (i) reducing the maximum ten working day delivery period to five working days on a permanent basis;
    - (ii) investigating allowing residents to choose between deliveries through a letter box, doorstep, safe place, or a click and collect service from agreed outlets; and
    - (iii) issuing confirmation dispatch and delivery emails to inform households on the status of their orders.'
- 2. That a new clause 3 be added as follows:
  - '3. urges the Cabinet to analyse which of the above, or suitable alternative measures will have the greatest impact on performance, and implement as soon as possible.
- 3. That the original clause 2 be renumbered as clause 4 and the following words be added at the beginning of the clause:  
'If the measures already taken and the above improvements are unable to bring the performance up to an acceptable level,'."

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

RESOLVED –

That this Council

- 1. acknowledges the:
  - (a) abject failure of recent changes to the provision of recycle bags in Milton Keynes;



- (b) significant backlog that has been caused in deliveries of the recycle bags;
  - (c) increase in pressures put on the customer service team as a result of the backlog;
  - (d) cost of bringing down the backlog will have impacted the estimated savings of the changes; and
  - (e) wider concerns regarding the potential drop in recycle rates which would be unacceptable.
2. welcomes:
- (a) the improvements made by the Cabinet to the ordering of replacement recycling bags, but believes that they do not go far enough; and
  - (b) the commitment of the Cabinet to investigate future improvements such as:
    - (i) reducing the maximum ten working day delivery period to five working days on a permanent basis;
    - (ii) investigating allowing residents to choose between deliveries through a letter box, doorstep, safe place, or a click and collect service from agreed outlets; and
    - (iii) issuing confirmation dispatch and delivery emails to inform households on the status of their orders.
3. urges the Cabinet to analyse which of the above, or suitable alternative measures will have the greatest impact on performance and implement as soon as possible.
4. if the measures already taken and the above improvements are unable to bring the performance up to an acceptable level, calls on the Cabinet Member to reverse the changes and return to providing recycle bags in public buildings and regular deliveries to homes.

**CL112**

**COUNCILLORS' SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES 2019/20**

The Council considered adopting a Scheme of Councillors' Allowances for 2019/20, which took account of the recommendation from the Independent Remuneration Panel that a 2% increase be applied to the allowances paid to councillors for 2018/19.

The Mayor moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded:

- "1. That the Scheme of Councillors' Allowances be adopted to take effect from 1 April 2019.
- 2. That the decision of the Independent Remuneration Panel to adopt the provisions of the 2014 report on allowances for members of Parish and Town Councils, be noted."

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

RESOLVED -

1. That the Scheme of Councillors' Allowances be adopted to take effect from 1 April 2019.
2. That the decision of the Independent Remuneration Panel to adopt the provisions of the 2014 report on allowances for members of Parish and Town Councils, be noted.

**CL113**

**QUARTERLY REPORT ON SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS**

The Council noted that, in accordance with Access to Information Procedure Rule 17.4, the Provisions for Special Urgency, as set out in Access to Information Procedure Rule 16, were not used during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2018.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 10.41 PM