



ITEM 2
PARISHES ASSEMBLY
6 DECEMBER 2001

Minutes of the meeting of the PARISHES ASSEMBLY held on THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2001 at 7:00pm

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| Present: | Councillor Day (Chair) | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| | Councillor Mabbutt | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| | Councillor Miles | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| | T Eastaff | - | Broughton and Milton Keynes Parish Council |
| | J Underwood | - | Bradwell Parish Council |
| | I Fraser | - | Campbell Park Parish Council |
| | T Fraser | - | Campbell Park Parish Council |
| | D Pafford | - | Campbell Park Parish Council |
| | R Osbourne | - | Campbell Park Parish |
| | G Mann | - | Emberton Parish Council |
| | M Keen | - | Haversham Cum Little Linford Parish Council |
| | C Nicholas-Letch | - | Lavendon Parish Council |
| | K Owen | - | Loughton Parish Council |
| | N Richards | - | Moulsoe Parish Council |
| | M Collins | - | New Bradwell Parish Council |
| | D Scarland | - | Newport Pagnell Town Council |
| | J Buxton | - | Sherington Parish Council |
| | A Dnes | - | Stantonbury Parish Council |
| | M Galloway | - | Stony Stratford Town Council |
| | S King | - | Wolverton and Greenleys Town Council |
| | H Saunders | - | Wolverton and Greenleys Town Council |

Officers: P Timmins (Chief Officer Finance and Corporate Services), M Small (Projects, Partnerships and Sponsorships Manager), A Armes (Head of Architecture), B Sandom (Head of Synergy), S Crowther (Countryside & Rights of Way Officer), C Godfrey (Senior Parish Liaison Officer), E Euston (Parish Liaison Assistant), A Prockter (Landscape and Countryside Manager), G Uppington (Transport Manager) and J Blaney (Committee Manager)

Apologies: Councillor Pym
Councillor O'Sullivan
J Jeffries - Woburn Sands Town Council
R Nix - Central Milton Keynes Parish Council
C Locke - Bow Brickhill Parish Council

1.0 MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June be approved as a correct record, subject to it being placed on record that in the opinion of Hanslope Parish Council, the minutes were incomplete as they failed to record the comments made by representatives from Olney and Campbell Park Councils in response to Mr Best's presentation.

2.0 PARISHES EVENING – 21 AUGUST 2001

The Assembly received feedback on the Parishes Evening held on 21 August 2001. Parish representatives expressed disappointment regarding the date of the meeting as it had coincided with Town Council meetings. Representatives also expressed concern that the invite to the workshop had not conveyed the importance of the workshop. The Assembly was informed that the meeting had formed part of the consultation process and thus possible dates were limited and Officers expressed apologies for any inconvenience caused.

The Assembly was informed that approximately half of the Parish Councils had been represented at the Parishes Evening. The Evening consisted of a series of discussion groups on Landscaping, New Democratic Structures/Area Forums, Section 136 and the Protocol, Areas of Potential for Section 136, Crime and Community Safety and Community Buildings and Management of Sports Facilities.

The Assembly noted the feedback from the discussion tables and the summary of evaluation forms.

It was also noted that the format of the Open Evening had been well received and should be considered as a possible format in the future.

3.0 PARISH COUNCIL CONFERENCE – 29 SEPTEMBER 2001

The Assembly noted that preparations for the Parish Council Conference were underway and that seventy-six Parish Councillors/Clerks had confirmed their attendance. Brian White, MP and several Milton Keynes Councillors had also confirmed their attendance. It was noted that the Mayor of Milton Keynes would open the Conference. The Assembly was informed that delegates would be able to choose to attend one of three workshops in the morning and there would be one afternoon workshop for all delegates.

4.0 STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Assembly noted a letter from Mark Jones, Head of Legal and Property Services, regarding the request for a Parish Council presence on the Standards Committee and noted that nominations should be submitted to Mark Jones, the Council's Monitoring Officer.

The Assembly was informed that Parish Council's could also submit their views as to whether a Standards sub-committee should be set up to deal with Parish Councillors separately. Members of a sub-committee would be taken from the Standards Committee. It was noted that the establishment of a Standards Committee was a statutory requirement and would consist of five Milton Keynes Councillors, one Parish Councillor and two independent members, Mr C Fogden (Chair of the Committee) and Mr K Dudakia.

The Assembly was informed that a workshop at the Parish Conference would focus on the Standards Committee and Ethical Frameworks for Parish Councils, therefore making it a good forum to discuss the merits of a Standards sub-committee.

5.0 NEW AUDIT REGULATIONS

The Assembly was informed that a letter had been sent to all Parish Councils on behalf of Brian White MP regarding a new approach to audit.

6.0 NEW DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURES

The Assembly was informed that Milton Keynes Council had now implemented new democratic structures and a Cabinet consisting of eight councillors had been elected. It was noted that the Parish Assembly would now report to the Cabinet. However it was noted that the Officer support for Parishes would remain unchanged.

The Assembly noted that the three pilot Area Consultative Forums, Newport Pagnell, Danesborough and Hanslope had all held their first meetings. The Assembly was informed that the Area Consultative Forums set their own agendas on a range of issues.

It was noted that the Newport Pagnell Consultative Forum covered two wards and one town council and had decided to involve two co-optees and had held two meetings. The second meeting had involved a discussion regarding youth facilities and over forty young people had attended and participated in a productive and encouraging debate. The Forum had decided to erect a temporary skate park.

It was noted that some Parish Councils had concerns regarding the establishment of Area Consultative Forums however it was also noted that the Forums were at the pilot stage but those involved were encouraged by the success of the initial meetings.

7.0 CONSULTATION WITH PARISH COUNCILS

Andrew Armes, Head of Architecture, informed the Assembly that a programme of extensive consultation was due to take place regarding the Central Milton Keynes Framework. It was noted that all Parish Councils would be sent a cd-rom containing a presentation from EDAW regarding the proposed framework and that information

was available in libraries and at the Civic Offices. A model of the proposed developments would also be available for viewing at the Civic Offices. It was suggested that a special meeting, consisting of a presentation from EDAW and workshops be held to seek the views of Parish Councils.

8.0

DATE/VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED –

That the next meeting of the Assembly be held on Thursday 6 December 2001 at 7:00pm