



Minutes of the meeting of the MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2007 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillor Carstens (Mayor)
Councillor Barry (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors Brock, Burke, Butler-Ellis, Carruthers, Sandra Clark, Stephen Clark, Coventry, Crooks, Dransfield, Drewett, Eastman, Edwards, Exon, Ferrans, Fraser, Geary, Gerrella, E Henderson, I Henderson, Holroyd, Hopkins, Hoyle, Irons, Jury, Latham, Legg, Lloyd, Long, Mabbott, D McCall, I McCall, McKenzie, Miles, Morris, Morsley, Pendry, Seymour, Snell, Tallack, Tamagnini-Barbosa, Tunney, Wharton, Williams and Wilson

Aldermen Connor, Howell and Tapp were also present

Apologies: Councillors Box, Bristow, Campbell, Eaton and Pugh and Aldermen Bartlett and Ellis

Also Present: 80 members of the public

CL113 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 January 2007, be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:

1. the sub-heading in Minute CL100 being amended from 'Cultural Strategy' to 'Waste Development Plan Document Submission';
2. the seconder at Minute CL106 being amended from 'Councillor Hopkins' to 'Councillor Stephen Clark' and
3. the word 'the' being replaced by the word 'this' in Clause 1 of Minute CL111.

CL114 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor Seymour declared a personal interest in Item 5(b) [Growth in Milton Keynes] as a member of Bucks Lacks Enough Wind.

Councillor Brock declared a personal interest in Item 5(b) [Growth in Milton Keynes] as Chair of Bucks Lacks Enough Wind and being related to an owner of land in one of the potential growth areas.

Councillor Geary declared a personal interest in Item 5(b) [Growth in Milton Keynes] as an owner of land in one of the potential growth areas.

Councillor Hopkins declared a personal interest in Item 5(b) [Growth in Milton Keynes] as a member of Milton Keynes Partnership Committee.

Councillor D McCall declared a personal interest in Item 5(b) [Growth in Milton Keynes] as spouse of a member of Milton Keynes Partnership Committee.

Councillor I McCall declared a personal interest in Item 5(b) [Growth in Milton Keynes] as a member of Milton Keynes Partnership Committee.

CL115 ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) The Royal Green Jackets

The Mayor announced that the Royal Green Jackets, who were granted the Freedom of Milton Keynes by the Council on 25 November 1998, had recently merged and were now known as 'The Rifles'. The Freedom of Milton Keynes had passed to the new Body.

(b) Craig Pickering

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council congratulated Craig Pickering on his recent success in winning the 60m final at the UK Indoor Championships and European Indoor Trials in Sheffield.

CL116 PROCEDURAL ANNOUNCEMENT / MOTION

The Mayor announced that the Council would consider the items in the following order:

1. Item 2 - Public Involvement
2. Item 5(b)(i) - Growth in Milton Keynes

and then return to the order of business as on the agenda.

The Mayor moved the following Procedural Motion in respect of the forthcoming debate on growth, which was seconded by the Deputy Mayor:

That, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.1, Council Procedure Rules:

- 13.6(c) - Offering Amendments to the Mover of a Motion;
- 13.6(e) - Ownership of motion to pass with a successful amendment;

13.8(b)(i) - At the close of a debate on a motion and any proposed amendments, the mover of the original motion has the right to reply to the debate, in as far as it relates to amendments; and

16.4 - Request for a Recorded Vote

be suspended in respect of Item 5(b)(i) - (Notice of Motion - Growth in Milton Keynes).

On being put to the vote the Procedural Motion was declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED -

That, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.1, Council Procedure Rules:

13.6(c) - Offering Amendments to the Mover of a Motion;

13.6(e) - Ownership of motion to pass with a successful amendment;

13.8(b)(i) - At the close of a debate on a motion and any proposed amendments, the mover of the original motion has the right to reply to the debate, in as far as it relates to amendments; and

16.4 - Request for a Recorded Vote

be suspended in respect of Item 5(b)(i) - (Notice of Motion - Growth in Milton Keynes).

CL117

PETITONS

Petitions submitted by Moulsoe Parish Council and residents of North Crawley were presented to the Leader of the Council. The objects of the petitions were as follows:

(a) Moulsoe Parish Council

To request the Council to reject 'both plans published by the Buckinghamshire County Council and the Milton Keynes Forum for the building on land in this Parish for housing and for business purposes'.

(b) Residents of North Crawley

To 'call on the Council to reject the MK Forum and the Buchanan proposals as they totally ignore the wishes of local people and will destroy the villages as we know them'.

The Mayor stated that the petitions would be referred to the Cabinet.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (a) Question from Mr A Francis to Councillor I McCall (Leader of the Council):

“Given that it is not in the interests of residents of Milton Keynes and surrounding areas and it is not supported by them, will the Council reconsider its support for the Growth Strategy proposed by Milton Keynes Partnership?”

Answer from Councillor I McCall:

“Just to be factually accurate about the Growth Strategy, the villages to the east of the motorway were not included in the Strategy and demolition has not been agreed by either Milton Keynes Partnership Committee, or by this Council.

As a Council, we haven't supported the Strategy in its entirety and, following consultation with the public over three months, some differences to the Strategy have been put forward by this Council. The differences were particularly around timing, phasing and the importance of having development around the south west of Milton Keynes. The public consultation actually showed a mix of responses. The majority supported some growth. There was clear support for east-west rail; regeneration, which was about refurbishment and not demolition; and there was support for higher densities in Central Milton Keynes, Bletchley and Wolverton. There were big differences in the views of the public about where growth should be located, and much of that was determined by where residents live.

We are actually only one small step along the process of deciding where the houses go, and there are going to be lots more opportunities for public consultation over the coming months and years.”

Mr Francis asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor McCall.

- (b) Question from Mr S Turner to Councillor I McCall (Leader of the Council):

"Given that the Council recognises that Milton Keynes Partnership's Growth Strategy is flawed in so much that a consultant has been commissioned to undertake a review of the Buchanan Report, do then the Members of the Council consider a decision on Items 8 and 9 of the motion tabled by Councillor I McCall is premature, and that the items should be omitted and any further consideration be deferred until after the finding of the Consultant's report has been published?

MK Forum makes this suggestion as the information and the facts will ensure the Members of the Council will have a better understanding of where growth and particularly the additional

13,000 dwellings (or a substantial number of them) currently allocated for the city and urban area can be relocated and this will in turn help clarify the Council's policy on densification."

Answer from Councillor I McCall:

"Those two paragraphs are actually what this Council agreed a month ago, and it was a unanimous view right across all three political parties. This is the established view of this Council that there should be no growth to the east of the motorway.

As the other local authorities, Buckinghamshire County Council and Aylesbury Vale have taken a strong position that they want to push growth into our rural villages, as a Cabinet we felt it was important to take a strong stand against that, and to fight back.

The Buchanan Report is 231 pages long, and covers many other points which our consultants will be looking at, as well as houses to the east of the motorway and the additional houses within the existing city which were referred to in the question. We hope their findings will challenge the many aspects of the report, and we intend to use it as evidence to the Examination in Public, which will be meeting in March 2007 to consider Milton Keynes housing issues. We will also use that report to challenge the Milton Keynes Forum's plans for 30,000 houses to the east of the motorway, which is more than double what the Buchanan Report is proposing."

Mr Turner asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor McCall.

- (c) Question from Mr P Geary to Councillor Long (Leader of the Labour Group):

"Would you expand on the plans of the Labour Group (as laid out in Section 3 of your amendment) paying particular attention to what other areas of renewable energy should be promoted?"

Answer from Councillor Long:

"The Labour Group is strongly committed to Milton Keynes being a green city. We are conscious of the need to get the right balance between residential development and green in the city. So, for example, we are very much in favour of building a new recycling facility in Milton Keynes, but we think it should be away from areas of substantial residential housing. Equally, we are very much in favour of renewable energy, for example, I am a strong supporter of wind turbines. However, I would argue they should be away from areas of substantial residential development.

Given that there is going to be no residential development over the M1 because nobody here supports that, it strikes me

that developing renewable energy sources and, in fact, creating a new waste centre with proper infrastructure over the M1, is an eminently sensible place to do so.”

Mr Geary asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor Long.

- (d) Question from K Fraser to Councillor I McCall (Leader of the Council):

“How many new houses your Party believes should be built to the East of the M1?”

Answer from Councillor I McCall:

“In terms of rural areas, zero. However, I do have to add a rider to that, in that our submissions to the Examination in Public on the South East Plan, is actually saying that there should be 120 dwellings per year in the whole of the rest of the Borough outside the existing urban area, and I think that includes Newport Pagnell, from 2011-2026.”

Mr Fraser asked a supplementary question which was answered by Councillor I McCall

CL119 GROWTH IN MILTON KEYNES

Councillor I McCall moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor E Henderson:

- “1. That this Council reaffirms that it is committed to securing growth that is advantageous for Milton Keynes, subject to the timely provision of infrastructure.
2. That this Council resolves to ensure there is proper community engagement in decisions on how and where Milton Keynes grows and to make every effort to involve hard to reach and minority groups in this process.
3. That this Council supports Milton Keynes’ ambition to become a major UK city with the wide range of leisure facilities, jobs and choice of housing that this entails.
4. That this Council is committed to:
 - (a) developing infrastructure that meets the aspirations of a major UK city;
 - (b) continuing to work for solutions to enable East West rail and a new University for Milton Keynes to be delivered;
 - (c) ensuring that growth plans develop the necessary conditions to sustain economic growth over the next twenty five years with sufficient high quality jobs for the growing population; and

- (d) ensuring that no areas are left behind as the city becomes more successful and that new development does not result in a two-speed city.
5. That the Council agrees that plans for the growth of the city should:
- (a) aim to achieve carbon neutrality;
 - (b) promote public transport whilst maintaining ease of car movement;
 - (c) not make changes to the existing grid road system;
 - (d) protect the green spaces and open nature of the city as they make a significant contribution to the high quality of life;
 - (e) ensure that new developments are sensitive to the impact on the identity and character of the rural areas and of the existing New City estates; and
 - (f) provide sufficient affordable housing to meet local needs.
6. That this Council is committed to accelerating the regeneration of the more deprived areas of Milton Keynes but agrees that it must be driven by local residents, and not imposed from above.
7. That the Council promises to ballot local residents where any regeneration schemes come forward from the community and to honour the results of those ballots, as in Fullers Slade.
8. That this Council reaffirms its opposition to the separate proposals of Buckinghamshire County Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council to:
- (a) target the area east of the M1 for future development; and
 - (b) propose a doubling of the number of houses within the current city, above that originally proposed in the growth strategy.
9. That this Council restates its belief that the area to the south west of Milton Keynes affords the best rationale for an urban extension in support of sustainable development and cross-regional linkages. Development to the south west will also assist in the delivery of the Council's and community's plans for the redevelopment of Bletchley;
10. That this Council is committed to:
- (a) campaigning for a more democratically accountable body than Milton Keynes Partnership (MKP) to take forward the growth of Milton Keynes, when the review of MKP takes place;

- (b) continuing to lobby for the massive receipts being accumulated by English Partnerships from developments in Milton Keynes to be retained within Milton Keynes to help fund the new infrastructure requirements, rather than being passed to the Treasury; and
- (c) continuing to lobby for sufficient capital and revenue funding to meet the needs of existing and future communities.”

Councillor Williams moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor Ferrans:

“That the following clause be added between clauses 5 and 6, with the motion being renumbered accordingly:

- 6. That this Council agrees that transport is one of the key challenges facing Milton Keynes as the city grows and that the implications of growth on congestion, parking, public transport and access to jobs and services cannot be underestimated.
- 7. That this Council agrees that it is crucial to the continuing success of Milton Keynes for solutions to its future transport challenges to be identified, understood by local people, owned and delivered by the Council, Milton Keynes Partnership, the business community and the Council’s many other partners.
- 8. That, therefore, the Cabinet be requested to establish an Independent Transport Commission to make recommendations about the future transport strategy for Milton Keynes. The Commission would:
 - (a) be chaired by a respected, national figure with an interest in transportation and no previous involvement in Milton Keynes;
 - (b) include other independent commissioners who have no previous involvement in Milton Keynes;
 - (c) be scrutinised, as its work progresses, by a focus group of local residents; and
 - (d) report by December 2007.
- 9. That the objectives of the Commission will broadly be to:
 - (a) review the transport analyses produced to date, including the wider national and regional contexts and the strategic plans for the growth of Milton Keynes;
 - (b) receive and assess evidence submitted by all interested parties;
 - (c) understand the views of the local community through promoting an informed local debate about transport

and establish opportunities for discussion and the submission of views from all residents; and

- (d) make recommendations about the future of transport in Milton Keynes to those bodies with a formal responsibility for transport planning for the locality - Milton Keynes Council and Milton Keynes Partnership.
10. In conducting its review and formulating recommendations the Commission will have regard to a number of key principles including:
- (a) those elements of the city's design that have contributed to its many accomplishments should be retained unless they are demonstrably a barrier to future success;
 - (b) the recommendations should balance the needs of all sections of the Milton Keynes community for mobility - including car owners, non-car owners and rural residents - and those who visit the city for work or leisure; and
 - (c) environmental concerns, including national and local targets for Carbon Emissions, should be a major factor addressed within the final report."

The voting on the Liberal Democrat amendment was as follows:

New Clause 6 was declared carried unanimously.

New Clause 7 was declared carried unanimously.

New Clause 8 was declared lost with 21 Members voting in favour, 25 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting. As a result the Council noted that New Clauses 9 and 10 were no longer relevant.

Councillor Long moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor Coventry:

- “1. That the following words be added to the end of clause 1:
‘and that the growth should not be limited other than by the level of economic growth’
- 2. That the following words be added to the end of clause 2:
‘and that in order to create community cohesion, promote opportunity for all and deliver sustainable communities, the Council will promote the transfer of resources to the poorest areas of the new city, including appropriate areas of the older towns’
- 3. That the following words be added to the end of clause 5(a):
‘and in order to achieve the Council’s green aspirations the Cabinet be requested to promote a major programme of alternative energy development, including a new Waste

Recycling Centre and electricity generating wind turbines with supporting infrastructure to the east of the M1, as this is not planned as a new residential area.

In addition, the Cabinet be requested to promote energy efficiency in the home and provide financial support to help households on low incomes to obtain insulation and help with other energy efficiency measures'

4. That the words 'sufficient affordable housing' be deleted from clause 5(f) and the following words be added as a replacement:

'at least 25% of all new homes as social housing, 25% intermediate housing (shared ownership, low cost for sale) and 50% as for sale market housing'

5. That the following words be added to the end of clause 6:

'and in order to do this the Cabinet should, in consultation with residents:

- (a) draw up a programme of estates that are the priority for regeneration, including estates such as Netherfield; Bradville; Greenleys; Stacy Bushes; Hodge Lea; Stantonbury; Beanhill; Coffee Hall; Tinkers Bridge; Fishermead; Conniburrow; and the Lakes, by September 2007;
- (b) publish dates for the commencement of regeneration on each estate in the programme by January 2008;
- (c) identify the resources to regenerate each estate in the programme by March 2008; and
- (d) include, within the programme of regeneration, areas within the older towns that require renewal'

6. That clause 10(a) be deleted and replaced with the following:

'A Development Corporation, with its focus solely upon Milton Keynes, and with the Board being accountable to the Cabinet of Milton Keynes Council;'

7. That the following new clauses be added:

'11. That the Council ensures that the highest standards of design and environmental standards are applied to all new homes and estates.

12. That as part of the growth process, cultural success such as the Theatre and Gallery be complemented and developments should include expansion of both the Theatre's facilities, to include a multi-use area, and of the Gallery to provide greater opportunities for artists and visitors. The implementation and delivery of the action plan of the newly developed Cultural and Public Arts Strategies, especially, "advocacy, promotion and

support to facilitate capital works initiatives” must be supported, as should the collaborative work of partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors, such as the Cultural Alliance, to promote, at least, the areas defined in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport’s definition of culture.

13. That, following the successful development of the MK Dons Stadium and establishment of the National Badminton Centre and National Hockey Stadium, the Council supports the proposed Ice Facility at the Leisure Plaza, the new Denbigh arena for MK Lions and seeks to attract other major sporting facilities to the area including a new national cricketing venue of international quality and centre of excellence / academy.”

The voting on the Labour amendment was as follows:

Clause 1 was declared lost with 13 Members voting in favour, 33 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 2 was declared lost with 13 Members voting in favour, 33 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 3 was declared lost with 13 Members voting in favour, 31 Members voting against and 2 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 4 was declared lost with 13 Members voting in favour, 32 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

Clause 5 was declared carried with 25 Members voting in favour, 21 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 6 was declared lost with 13 Members voting in favour, 33 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 7(11) was declared carried unanimously.

Clause 7(12) was declared carried with 45 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

Clause 7(13) was declared carried unanimously.

Councillor Hopkins moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor Butler-Ellis:

- “1. That the following words be added to clause 1 in between the words ‘growth’ and ‘that’:

‘in those areas identified within the adopted Milton Keynes Local Plan,’

2. That the following words be added to the end of clause 2:

‘through the preparation of a communications strategy produced in conjunction with Milton Keynes Partnership and under the editorial management of Milton Keynes Council’s

Corporate Communications Manager'

3. That the following words be added to the end of clause 4(a):
'in particular through the continuation of the successful, sustainable and popular grid road system as part of the basic infrastructure for the identified expansion areas'
4. That the following words be added to clause 4(b) in between the words 'rail' and 'and':
'a direct EuroStar link to Paris and Brussels'
5. That the following words be added to clause 4(c) in between the words 'years' and 'with':
'(with a rolling three year review mechanism)'
6. That the following words be added to clause 4(d) in between the words 'development' and 'does':
'is completed in equal stages on the east and west flanks so that it'
7. That a new clause 4(e), as follows, be added:
'Ensuring that housing densities and car parking provision in new growth areas are in line with the design that has made Milton Keynes such a success and to the maintenance of existing open spaces and the incorporation of new public open spaces in residential and employment areas.'
8. That the following words be added to the end of clause 5(c):
'and to maintain the grid road design principles in the identified areas for expansion'
9. That the following new sub-clauses be added to clause 5:
 - '(g). Including a significant role for democratically elected town and parish councils across Milton Keynes through a return to the preparation of Town and Village Plans produced through co-operation with Milton Keynes Partnership (or its successors), Milton Keynes Council and each individual local town or parish council;
 - (h) Ensure that proper consideration is given to the primary principles of "organic growth" for Milton Keynes, catering for the residential needs of the people living here today and of the current Milton Keynes based expanding business communities that are the life blood of the city.'"

The voting on the Conservative amendment was as follows:

Clause 1 was declared lost with 12 Members voting in favour, 34 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 2 was declared carried with 33 Members voting in favour, 13 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 3 was declared lost with 12 Members voting in favour, 34 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 4 was declared carried unanimously.

Clause 5 was declared carried with 45 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

Clause 6 was declared carried with 32 Members voting in favour, 13 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

Clause 7 was declared lost with 12 Members voting in favour, 13 Members voting against and 21 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 8 was declared lost with 12 Members voting in favour, 33 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

Clause 9 was declared carried with 32 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 14 Members abstaining from voting.

The Council heard from five members of the public on the substantive motion.

The voting on the substantive motion was as follows:

Clause 1 of the substantive motion was declared carried with 33 Members voting in favour, 12 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 2 of the substantive motion was declared carried with 33 Members voting in favour, 12 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

Clause 12(a) of the substantive motion was declared carried with 24 Members voting in favour, 21 Members voting against and 0 Members abstaining from voting.

The remainder of the substantive motion was declared carried with 44 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

RESOLVED -

1. That this Council reaffirms that it is committed to securing growth that is advantageous for Milton Keynes, subject to the timely provision of infrastructure.
2. That this Council resolves to ensure there is proper community engagement in decisions on how and where Milton Keynes grows and to make every effort to involve hard to reach and minority groups in this process through the preparation of a communications strategy produced in conjunction with Milton Keynes Partnership and under the editorial management of Milton Keynes Council's Corporate Communications Manager.
3. That this Council supports Milton Keynes' ambition to become a major UK city with the wide range of leisure facilities, jobs and choice of housing that this entails.

4. That this Council is committed to:
 - (a) developing infrastructure that meets the aspirations of a major UK city;
 - (b) continuing to work for solutions to enable East West rail, a direct EuroStar link to Paris and Brussels and a new University for Milton Keynes to be delivered;
 - (c) ensuring that growth plans develop the necessary conditions to sustain economic growth over the next twenty five years (with a rolling three year review mechanism) with sufficient high quality jobs for the growing population; and
 - (d) ensuring that no areas are left behind as the city becomes more successful and that new development is completed in equal stages on the east and west flanks so that it does not result in a two-speed city.
5. That the Council agrees that plans for the growth of the city should:
 - (a) aim to achieve carbon neutrality;
 - (b) promote public transport whilst maintaining ease of car movement;
 - (c) not make changes to the existing grid road system;
 - (d) protect the green spaces and open nature of the city as they make a significant contribution to the high quality of life;
 - (e) ensure that new developments are sensitive to the impact on the identity and character of the rural areas and of the existing New City estates;
 - (f) provide sufficient affordable housing to meet local needs;
 - (g) include a significant role for democratically elected town and parish councils across Milton Keynes through a return to the preparation of Town and Village Plans produced through co-operation with Milton Keynes Partnership (or its successors), Milton Keynes Council and each individual local town or parish council; and
 - (h) ensure that proper consideration is given to the primary principles of “organic growth” for Milton Keynes, catering for the residential needs of the people living here today and of the current Milton Keynes based expanding business communities that are the life blood of the city.
6. That this Council agrees that transport is one of the key challenges facing Milton Keynes as the city grows and that the implications of growth on congestion, parking, public

transport and access to jobs and services cannot be underestimated.

7. That this Council agrees that it is crucial to the continuing success of Milton Keynes for solutions to its future transport challenges to be identified, understood by local people, owned and delivered by the Council, Milton Keynes Partnership, the business community and the Council's many other partners.
8. That this Council is committed to accelerating the regeneration of the more deprived areas of Milton Keynes but agrees that it must be driven by local residents, and not imposed from above.
9. That the Council promises to ballot local residents where any regeneration schemes come forward from the community and to honour the results of those ballots, as in Fullers Slade.
10. That this Council reaffirms its opposition to the separate proposals of Buckinghamshire County Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council to:
 - (a) target the area east of the M1 for future development; and
 - (b) propose a doubling of the number of houses within the current city, above that originally proposed in the growth strategy.
11. That this Council restates its belief that the area to the south west of Milton Keynes affords the best rationale for an urban extension in support of sustainable development and cross-regional linkages. Development to the south west will also assist in the delivery of the Council's and community's plans for the redevelopment of Bletchley;
12. That this Council is committed to:
 - (a) a Development Corporation, with its focus solely upon Milton Keynes, and with the Board being accountable to the Cabinet of Milton Keynes Council;
 - (b) continuing to lobby for the massive receipts being accumulated by English Partnerships from developments in Milton Keynes to be retained within Milton Keynes to help fund the new infrastructure requirements, rather than being passed to the Treasury; and
 - (c) continuing to lobby for sufficient capital and revenue funding to meet the needs of existing and future communities.
13. That the Council ensures that the highest standards of design and environmental standards are applied to all new homes and estates.

14. That as part of the growth process, cultural success such as the Theatre and Gallery be complemented and developments should include expansion of both the Theatre's facilities, to include a multi-use area, and of the Gallery to provide greater opportunities for artists and visitors. The implementation and delivery of the action plan of the newly developed Cultural and Public Arts Strategies, especially, 'advocacy, promotion and support to facilitate capital works initiatives' must be supported, as should the collaborative work of partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors, such as the Cultural Alliance, to promote, at least, the areas defined in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's definition of culture.
15. That, following the successful development of the MK Dons Stadium and establishment of the National Badminton Centre and National Hockey Stadium, the Council supports the proposed Ice Facility at the Leisure Plaza, the new Denbigh arena for MK Lions and seeks to attract other major sporting facilities to the area including a new national cricketing venue of international quality and centre of excellence / academy."

(Councillors Brock, Geary, Hopkins, D McCall, I McCall and Seymour declared personal interests in this Item.)

CL120

REPORTS FROM CABINET AND COMMITTEES

Cabinet - 6 February 2007

Housing Revenue Account Budget and Rent Increase 2007/08 Onwards

Councillor I Henderson moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6 February 2007, which was seconded by Councillor Drewett:

- "1. That the proposed draft Housing Revenue Account budget for 2007/08 and its implications for future years within the framework of the Council's existing corporate priorities be approved.
2. That the annual increase in average rents of 2.86% for 2007/08 as the Council moves towards Government formula rent by 2011/12 be approved.
3. That the annual increase in garage rents of 1.4% for 2007/08 be approved.
4. That an increase in Shared Ownership rents of 1.4% for 2007/08 in line with the contractual obligations of the Lease be approved."

On being put to the vote the recommendation was declared carried with 33 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 12 Members abstaining from voting.

RESOLVED -

1. That the proposed draft Housing Revenue Account budget for 2007/08 and its implications for future years within the framework of the Council's existing corporate priorities be approved.
2. That the annual increase in average rents of 2.86% for 2007/08 as the Council moves towards Government formula rent by 2011/12 be approved.
3. That the annual increase in garage rents of 1.4% for 2007/08 be approved.
4. That an increase in Shared Ownership rents of 1.4% for 2007/08 in line with the contractual obligations of the Lease be approved.

CL121

QUESTIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY

Questions from Councillor Hoyle:

- “1. What steps can the police take to encourage courtesy and consideration towards pedestrians using the footpaths and redways?
2. How many prosecutions have the police instituted involving cyclists over the last year?

Answer from Councillor Crooks (Representative of the Police Authority appointed to answer questions on its behalf):

“Whilst responsibility for the management of the redways and footpaths does not fall to the Police, working in conjunction with our partners, the Force can support and promote initiatives designed to educate people. Where the evidence suggests a significant problem at a particular location, the Force can target offenders appropriately.

The Police has a number of options available to deal with cycling offences and it is a matter for the discretion of individual officers as to the option employed given the circumstances. These range from verbal warnings through to prosecution through the court system.

The Force does not record the instances where officers have given verbal warnings to cyclists on the range of cycling offences. Where the offence is deemed to be more serious officers can issue Non-Endorseable Fixed Penalty Tickets (£30) or alternatively institute formal proceedings.

Details in relation to the latter two categories for the period 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006 for Milton Keynes are reproduced below.

Non-Endorseable Fixed Penalty Ticket	1
Formal Prosecution	0.”

CL122

RESTRUCTURING

Councillor Dransfield requested that the Council approve the withdrawal of his motion relating to the restructuring of the Council's management structure.

On being put to the vote the Procedural Motion was declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED -

That the withdrawal of the motion be approved.

CL123

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

Councillor I McCall moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Long:

"That the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Finance) be appointed as the Council's Chief Finance Officer for an interim period of six months from 21 March 2007."

On being put to the vote the recommendation was declared carried with 44 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 1 Member abstaining from voting.

RESOLVED -

That the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Finance) be appointed as the Council's Chief Finance Officer for an interim period of six months from 21 March 2007.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 11.28 PM