

## Petitions and Public Questions – Full Council (15 September 2021)

### 1. Petitions

Councillor D Hopkins to present a petition on behalf of local residents, to support the introduction of a 20 MPH speed limit on Watling Street and Great Brickhill Lane in Little Brickhill.

### 2. Public Questions

#### (a) Alderman Bartlett to Councillor Wilson-Marklew (06/09/21 – 10.15)

“Residents of Stony Stratford who were badly affected by the most recent severe flooding in the town last December continue to be affected by the cost, not only in financial terms but also their mental health.

Will MKC support in tandem with other relevant agencies to support residents with the after effects of the floods, individually if requested by residents and to offer support in ensuring that the River Great Ouse is dredged and removed of overgrown reeds and trees by the Environment Agency which affect the flow of the river and influence the risk of flooding?”

#### (b) Stephen Blakey to Councillor Wilson-Marklew (10/09/21 – 19.49)

“You will be aware of the extensive flooding in Stony Stratford on the 23rd December 2020, a major event, similar in nature to the flooding of 1998.

After the ‘98 flood, a Hydrologist from Cranfield University produced a report that identified the bridge between Stony and Old Stratford as the weak link in the flood plain. I quote:

*‘The small outlet for the river Ouse at this bridge is the main outlet to keep the river flowing at times of flood. Water backs up from this bridge and increases the pressure on the lower end of Stony Stratford.*

*The river bed is very high at this point and the space between the top of the arches and the river bed is not very deep. This is an obstruction to the river in flood – especially as the surrounding environment is very reedy and prone to silting - and increases the risk of flooding at the lower end of Stony Stratford High Street.’*

Nothing has been done at the bridge since 1998.

So, my question is; What interventions do the council believe are necessary at the bridge to improve the protection of Stony residents, when should they happen and what steps are being taken by the council to make them happen?’

#### (c) Ray Brady to Councillor Darlington (13/09/21 – 07.47)

“Why have all homeless applications been put on hold, while sorting out the Afghan refugees? We have a duty of care to our own first and foremost, as well as an obligation to the refugees, but not at the expense of our own; please explain?”

**(d) Tim Skelton to Councillor Marland (13/09/21 – 13.15)**

“We welcome last week’s announcement that the Council has received a grant of £665,000 to explore the feasibility of a locally-led Development Corporation. Can the Leader give us some more information upon this please – in particular how the money will be spent and whether the Council will be engaging with the wider public as part of the feasibility exercise?”

**(e) Nick Burton to Councillor Marland (13/09/21 – 17.23)**

“Will the Leader of the Council provide assurance that this Council will do all in its power, including writing to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Transport, to ensure that as part of the East West Arc proposals the EWR is electrified from the start of operation, that Woburn Sands station is retained in its current position in order to minimise carbon based travel to the station and that Edgewick Farm and the nearby allotments are completely retained as green spaces in all future plans as Woburn Sands already has proportionally significant less green space than the rest of Milton Keynes.”