

## COUNCIL DECISIONS – 11 JULY 2006

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	SUBJECT AND DECISION	DECISION REFERRAL	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION
1(b)	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p>That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2006, and the meeting of the Council held on 13 June 2006 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.</p>	-	Head of Democratic Services
1(c)	<p><b>Disclosures of Interest</b></p> <p>Councillors declared interests in the Statement of Accounts 2005/06.</p> <p>Councillor Geary declared a prejudicial interest in Item 5(b)(i) [Area 11 – Public Inquiry], having clients who farmed the areas of land in question.</p>	-	Head of Democratic Services
1(d)	<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p>Mayor to offer the Council’s congratulations to residents mentioned in the Birthday Honours List, the Wolverton Secret Garden Society on the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service and Mrs Jenny Hopkirk on her appointment as the Vice Lord-Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire.</p>	-	Head of Democratic Services
4(a)(i)	<p><b>Audit Committee Work Programme and Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>1. That the Audit Committee be authorised to co-opt non-voting members that hold specialist knowledge and to commission expert support to assist the Committee to achieve its technical capability in particular subject areas to discharge its audit responsibilities.</p>	-	Head of Democratic Services / Head of Audit and Risk Management



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4(b)	<p><b>Council Plan 2006/09</b></p> <p>That the Council Plan 2006-09 be adopted, subject to the words 'To build sustainable communities' on Page 10 being removed from paragraph 2 and the words 'To ensure that our communities are sustainable' inserted.</p>	-	Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Performance)
5(b)(i)	<p><b>Area 11 – Public Inquiry</b></p> <p>Motion and amendment lost.</p>	-	-
5(b)(ii)	<p><b>Written Questions</b></p> <p>1. That a procedure for Members of the Council to submit written questions to be answered by Cabinet Members and Chairs of Committees and Panels be adopted, based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that Cabinet Members or Chairs may decline to answer any question where the cost of doing so is found to be prohibitive;</li> <li>(b) that any Member be limited to asking a maximum of 20 questions in any one Council Year;</li> <li>(c) that all such formal questions and answers be published on a weekly basis; and</li> <li>(d) that answers to questions be provided within 15 working days of the question being submitted, except in exceptional circumstances where it is not possible, in which case the Member submitting the question to be advised as to the reasons within 15 working days.</li> </ul>	-	Head of Democratic Services

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5(b)(ii)	2. That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make any consequential changes to the Constitution.		
5(b)(iii)	<p><b>Empty Homes</b></p> <p>1. That this Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) notes the pressing need for more affordable homes for the people of Milton Keynes;</li> <li>(b) welcomes the best ever figure of 40% affordable homes achieved in 2005 –2006;</li> <li>(c) welcomes the recommendation of the new study of housing needs in Milton Keynes to increase the proportion of homes for social rent in new developments from 5% to 13%.</li> </ul> <p>2. That this Council is, however, extremely concerned that many new homes in Milton Keynes that are designated for key workers remain empty because the Government's definition of "key worker" is too narrow.</p> <p>3. That this Council therefore resolves to request the Cabinet to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) step up its lobbying to persuade the Government that, where homes designated for key workers are empty, they can be made available first to people who meet the Council's broader definition of "key worker" and then, if some still remain empty, to those people in most housing need;</li> </ul>	Cabinet	Head of Democratic Services / Acting Director of Housing

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5(b)(iii) (cont)	(b) enlist the support of local housing associations, English Partnerships and Milton Keynes MPs in this endeavour		
5(b)(iv)	<p><b>Stantonbury Garages</b></p> <p>That the Cabinet be requested to consider acquiring the freehold of the derelict garages at Redbridge and Ormonde, Stantonbury, either by negotiation or by compulsory purchase, and then arrange for their demolition so as to reduce the level of vandalism in the area, the number of arson attacks and the risk of fire in nearby properties, and the illegal dumping of old tyres, and thereby to respond to the numerous complaints from the residents of the area..</p>	Cabinet	Head of Democratic Services / Head of Development & Design
5(b)(v)	<p><b>Draft Growth Strategy for Milton Keynes to 2026</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Council notes and welcomes the Cabinet's proposal, at its meeting on 27 June, 2006, to agree to a period of public consultation on the draft Growth Strategy for Milton Keynes to 2026, to inform the Council's position at the Examination in Public into the South East Plan.</li> <li>2. That the Council calls upon the Cabinet to take the outcome of the consultation exercise fully into account in formulating its response to the Plan.</li> <li>3. That the Council confirms that the Growth Strategy does not require any demolition of existing properties, and that, furthermore, this Council re-affirms that it has no intention of proposing any programme of demolition of homes in any area of Milton Keynes.</li> </ol>	-	-

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5(b)(vi)	<p><b>National Identity Cards and Data Base</b></p> <p>That the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notes that on the 14 June 2005 a motion was passed declaring this Council's opposition to a National Identity Card and Database scheme, to write to and enlist the support of our MPs to request the Government spend the money allocated for this scheme into local policing.</li> <li>2. Regrets that despite overwhelming public opposition the Labour Government has continued its pursuit of such an Orwellian scheme and re-affirms its request that the funds being made available to this scheme should be spent supporting local policing.</li> <li>3. Advises the residents of Milton Keynes to renew their passports before October 2006 in order to avoid being registered on the National Identity Database, to avoid having to attend a registration centre and to save nearly half the cost of renewal.</li> <li>4. Calls upon the Cabinet to consider affiliating to the national NO2ID campaign and to assist the local NO2ID campaign in educating the residents of Milton Keynes about the dangers to privacy and freedom the scheme will create.</li> <li>5. Invites the Cabinet to resist the new Identity Card scheme where legally possible by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) refusing to take part in any pilot scheme; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>-</p> <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet</p>	<p>-</p> <p>Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Performance)</p> <p>Head of Democratic Services</p> <p>Head of Democratic Services</p>

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5(b)(vi) (cont)	(b) accepting alternative and traditional methods of identification from residents wishing to access Council services and benefits.		
5(b)(vii)	<p><b>Urban Potential Study</b></p> <p>1. That this Council is concerned that:</p> <p>(a) the blocking of the release of the '<i>Urban Potential Study</i>' until after the local elections has led to significant public concern and loss of trust in the Council;</p> <p>(b) the lack of clarity in '<i>A Strategy for Growth 2031</i>' has added to public disquiet and created further uncertainty and insecurity amongst thousands of residents; and</p> <p>(c) the lack of clarity in '<i>A Strategy for Growth 2031</i>' has added to public disquiet and created further uncertainty and insecurity amongst thousands of residents; and</p> <p>2. That this Council requests the Cabinet to hold and fund independent secret postal ballots on any proposals for demolition of homes on any estate or group of estates in Milton Keynes.</p>	Cabinet	Head of Democratic Services/ Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Performance)
5(b)(viii)	<p><b>LiveMK</b></p> <p>That the Council calls upon the Cabinet to suspend the publication of LiveMK until all-party editorial control is put in place."</p>	Cabinet	Head of Democratic Services

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6.	<p><b>Appointment of Independent Member to the Standards Committee</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Mr Christopher Rose be appointed as the third independent member of the Standards Committee.</li> <li>2. That the Council adopt a term of office for Mr Rose which expires immediately prior to the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2009</li> </ol>		Head of Democratic Services / Head of Legal Services