Old Woughton Parish Council
Website: www.oldwoughton.org.uk Email: clerk@oldwoughton.org.uk

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Monday, 9th March 2020

at St. Mary's Church, Woughton on the Green at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Brown, Freeman Gwynn, Hall, Humphries, Kenyon, Major, Morrison and Nash.
Ward Councillor Terry Baines. Seven members of the public
Clerk J. Vischer

Nicholas Hannon, Head of Environment and Waste, Milton Keynes Council, was unable to attend

1. Public Open Forum

1.1. Mr Pearson (WotGN) asked for an update on pedestrian access from Goodman Gardens to the bus stop on old Newport Road. His enquiry related to a partially sighted resident of Goodman Gardens. He had initiated the request for a footpath from Goodman Gardens to the bus stop more than 3 years ago. Ward Cllr Baines stated he was aware of the issue. It was thought that lack of traffic volume might be a reason that nothing appeared to be happening. Clerk to contact Highways department and make enquiries. Mr Pearson also asked for an update on the Speedwatch initiative. (*see below).* **CLK**

1.2. Ward Cllr Baines reported that he was pursuing the H8 noise issue with Highways but had not been making any progress. He would persevere.

2. Procedural

2.1. Apologies - Cllr Grindley. These were accepted.

2.2. Declarations of Interest by councillors

2.2.1. Cllr Hall regarding: the Woughton Heritage Group (Chair); the Patch Allotment Association (President); and Treasurer of the MK Heritage Association Executive Team.

2.2.2. Cllr Major as a Trustee of the Patch Allotment Association; item 5.1, Passmore ward project, as a closely affected resident.

2.3. To agree January Meeting Minutes - Proposed Cllr Gwynn, Seconded Cllr Nash. Unanimous**.**

2.4. Matters arising from these Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

2.4.1. Item 1.3 - Woughton Playing Fields gates - The Clerk had sent an email to Leisure Services MKC (via the portal) regarding the new height restricting gates being left open. However the Chair reported that it was again open on Sunday around 7pm. Clerk to re-report. **CLK**

3. Finance

3.1. Balances and approval of the latest payments schedule

Spending vs budget graphs (see Annex A) showed a slight underspend (6%) on Operating expenditure. Reserves had been reduced by £9,506 on the year, less than predicted.

Cleared Balances at 29th February 2020: Main account: £7,616; instant access account: £10,200. [Fixed term savings £30,000]

Payments schedule since the last meeting (January) to date -
Main account: website hosting (Jan) £5.99; OWIS subscription (Feb) £117.30; Clerk's salary (11) £294.60; HMRC (PAYE 4th qtr) £237.60; MKC (no fly-tipping signs) £250.00; venue hire

(Jan) £30.00; Bins (Dec) £201.49; Bins (Jan) £201.49; website hosting (Feb) £5.99; Clerk's salary (12) £294.60; Clerk's admin/expenses (Jan-Mar) £51.88; Ward project W Pk (bluebells) £192.25; Bins (Feb) £201.49.

Balances and payments were approved unanimously. Proposed Cllr Nash, seconded Cllr Hall.

3.2. Capital Improvement Programme

Cllr Hall ran through the latest edition of the spreadsheet. The white-lining works and the Passmore house number sign had been requested. Village signage costings were still awaited.

4. Allotments - The Patch Report had been received from the Patch Allotment Committee. Some damage had been sustained to an assortment of sheds, poly-tunnels and greenhouses. All rotting stand pipe stakes had been replaced and all valves on taps and troughs renewed.

5. Environment

5.1. Ward Projects

5.1.1. **Woughton Park** - Cllr Freeman Gwynn reported that formal access approval for the village green bio-diversity plan was awaited. Five hundred bluebells had been planted by volunteers. A SERCO quotation for hedge maintenance work between the canal steps and the new bus shelter had been received valued at just over £2,000. This expenditure was agreed as a 50/50 split between this year's ward project funding allocation and next year's.

5.1.2. Passmore - Cllr Major reported that the remedial works had been completed but the invoice was still awaited.

5.1.3. Woughton on the Green North and South - Cllrs Nash reported that six Bat boxes had been purchased and discussions were underway with the Parks Trust as to suitable locations. The group had decided to postpone the Baskerfield Grove planting project. A defibrillator and box had been purchased. The box is installed on the Dentist's wall facing Newport Road.

5.1.4. Ward Project Form - had been revised.

5.2. Speedwatch Programme - Cllr Kenyon reported that approved times and dates were still not available from the Police Community Support Officers. These are required for Thame Valley Police approval. Cllr Kenyon reminded councillors that he was storing the equipment at home. Ward Cllr Baines invited Cllr Kenyon to liaise with PC J.McClinton via Campbell Park Parish Council.

5.3. Conservation Area Review - Cllr Freeman Gwynn reported that the OWPC detailed response had been well-received and OWPC representatives had been offered their own discussions with MKC officers. The outcome of these talks should be known this week.

5.4. Grand Union Canal - Cllr Freeman Gwynn restated the two planned dates for the towpath volunteer working party: 21st April and 19th May. Negotiations were taking place with the Parks Trust to use their tractor again to move the aggregate from the delivery point to the working site.

5.5. **LED streetlight replacement programme** - no update had been received. Cllr Hall re-stated that this was closely linked to the outcome of the Conservation Area Review.

5.6. **Bins & Noticeboards** - Nothing to report on bins. Following the decision by the Woughton on the Green North and South ward project group to postpone the planting project the Clerk had been asked to return to the original plan for re-siting the Baskerfield Grove noticeboard. The Clerk had submitted a request to go ahead as per quotes and licensing advice, received last year, on 28th January. No response had been received and he had reissued the email on 2nd March. Ward Cllr Baines offered to contact the Licensing officer to move things forward. **CLK**

5.7. **Litter Picking Programme -** Dates are circulated in the Newsletter. Nothing new to report.

5.8. **Log -** Sixteen issues had been completed and thirteen new issues recorded since the last meeting. There are forty-eight ongoing issues, five of which involve a monitoring brief.

5.9. **Planning comment -** it was noted that Ward Cllr Baines took no part in the discussions**.**

5.9.1. **Update on Previous Planning Applications** (for info)

19/03123/LBC & 19/03122/FUL 1 The Green Woughton On The Green, (Listed building consent for) extension to and part conversion of garage and addition of single storey side / front extension with internal alterations. *Permitted*

19/03224/FUL 5 Foxton Woughton Park, Two storey Side Extension with single storey rear extension and front alterations. *Permitted*

19/03253/FUL 64 Passmore, Proposed single storey side/rear orangery style extension. *Permitted*

20/00008/TCA PearTree House – removal of Ash Tree – ash dieback. *Permitted*

5.9.2. **Planning Applications since the last meeting**

20/00066/TCA 40 Lucas Place Woughton On The Green, Notification of intention to - T1 and T6 Planes. Shown on sketch plan, trees are in the first car parking area on the South side of Lucas Place and make up the edge of this group on the N.W. and N.E. side of the group. T1 crown extends on North to East side from stem by 8.5m, prune back 2m to leave 6.5m crown spread from 4m height up to 9m height. T6 crown extends on North and West side from stem by 10m, prune back 4m to leave 6m crown spread graduating to pruning 1.5m to blend in to remaining crown at 6-8m height. Remove broken branch at 7m. T1-6 as a group lift crowns to 6m from ground over car park side, (N.W.) only to lessen impact on car parking area. T1 and T6 pruning to alleviate impact on neighbouring properties. *Application Withdrawn*

20/00431/TPO Old Tudor House 3 The Green Woughton On The Green, T1 - Ash - Reduce by 15-20% (15 feet). T2, T3, T4 - Willow - Pollard. No comments.

20/00173/DISCON 2 Saddington Woughton Park, Details submitted pursuant to discharge of condition 3 (statements of safe working practice) attached to planning permission 19/02851/TPO. *For info only*

5.10. **Pub car park low-level bollard lighting** - not installed yet. Floodlights not removed.

6. Communications

6.1. **May Election procedure -** The Clerk briefly ran through the election procedure. The most important date being the submission of nomination papers: between 30th March and 8th April (4pm). To be delivered by hand (for checking purposes). The Clerk offered to submit nomination papers on behalf of candidates. Electoral roll numbers obtainable from the Clerk.

6.2. **Recognition Scheme 2019 -** no further update.

6.3. Consultations

6.3.1. MKC 2050 - Cllr Freeman Gwynn reported that due to cancellation of the Woburn Sands briefing, she would be attending Bletchley library this coming week. Any comments on the MKC online documents to the Planning Group.

6.3.2. MKC Mobility Strategy - the Chair reported that the policy document covering road safety, the environment and transport issues appeared to omit any reference to noise pollution. He would draw up a draft response. Any comments on the document to AH.

6.4. Woughton Heritage Group - Cllr Hall listed the planned events. Quiz August 8th, an OWPC team would be very welcome. A Talk 22nd April by MKC Lead Archaeologist Nic Crank entitled 'The Archaeology of Woughton Parish'. A possible exhibition in September as part of the annual Heritage Open Days events.

6.5. **Reports from any other outside meetings**

6.5.1. Cllr Morrison and the Clerk attended the latest Bio-diversity workshops on 6th February. Feedback notes on this and the previous meeting in November were still awaited. The culminating conference would be held on 12th March.

6.5.2. Cllr Morrison attended the Community Boat Trust meeting to initiate the first all-electric canal barge.

6.5.3. Cllr Major attended the postponed Parishes Forum on 17th January. Ward Cllr Baines encouraged councillors and the Clerk to attend the upcoming 'workshops' Parishes Forum on 12th March.

6.5.4. Cllr Major attended the Cycling Grant Forum. This had been poorly attended.

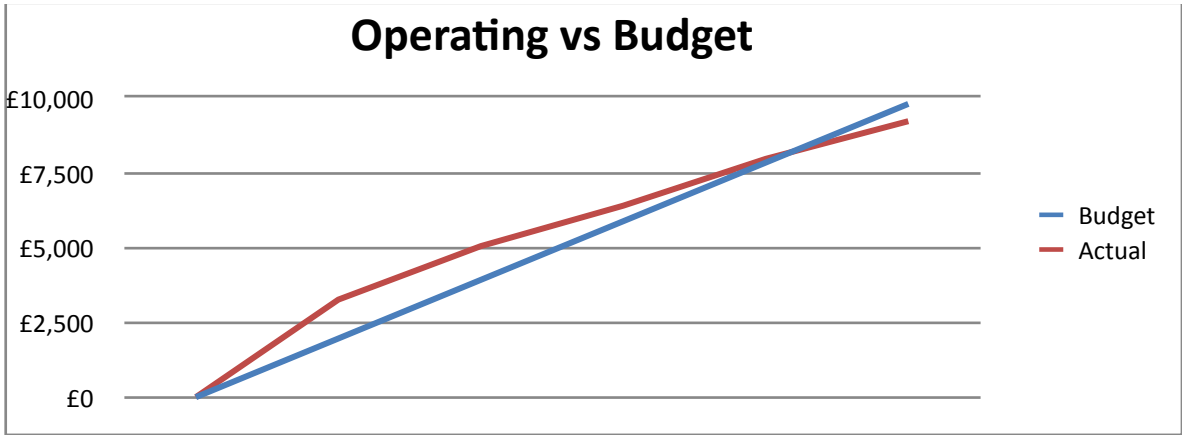
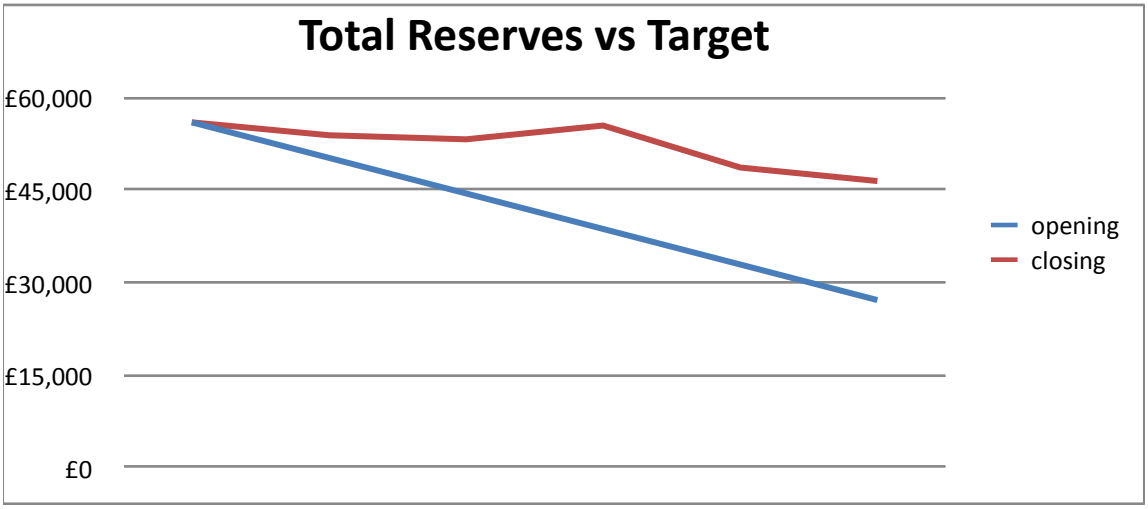
6.5.5. Cllrs Hall and Grindley attended the European City of Sport gathering. This had been poorly attended. There was potential for Outdoor Table Tennis in Lucas Place. To be investigated.

6.6. **Correspondence (other than email)** - The Allotments Association Quarterly; the Clerks' Quarterly; a litter and other bins catalogue (Broxap); Local Clerks and Councils Quarterly.

6.7. **Newsletter -** Cllr Freeman Gwynn notified the meeting that the next edition was almost ready to go. Publication was due for the end of the month. The Newsletter continued to receive praise from residents. Sales of the calendar had amounted to £110, a real vote of confidence.

7. **Date and Time of next Meeting –** 11th May 2020 for the newly elected Parish Council, at St. Mary's Church, Woughton on the Green at 7.30pm. [*post-meeting note*: due to the Covid-19 outbreak local elections had been postponed until May 2021]

Annual Parish Meeting: 6th April 2020. [*post-meeting note*: due to the Covid-19 outbreak this meeting was postponed]

signed date

ANNEX A - Spending *versus* budget graphs