

WEST BLETCHLEY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF INTENT AS TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Aims and Objectives

West Bletchley Council undertakes to provide democratic representation on behalf of the residents of West Bletchley and to deliver or facilitate delivery of projects and/or services that make a positive difference to the community.

Defining the Community

The Council will proactively engage with all sectors of the community within the parish, irrespective of age, race, gender, religion and to include all individuals, community groups and businesses. We will also actively engage, with specific partnership agreements where necessary, with all third party agencies operating within the parish.

Provision of information to the Community

The Council has a comprehensive “publication scheme” which details all types of information available to residents. Full details of the scheme are published on the Council’s website www.westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk and are available in hard copy from the council office.

Opportunities for Community Involvement

The Council undertakes regular sample surveys of residents, by post, across a range of subjects, throughout each year.

Many projects cannot/will not happen without local resident involvement, whether in planning, execution and/or reviewing and the Council actively encourages this level of involvement.

Opportunities for Formal Representations to the Council

All Council Committee meetings are “public meetings” at which members of the public can make relevant representation. It is helpful if the Clerk to the Council is made aware of the fact that residents wish to attend and make representation, as extra time can be allowed when compiling agendas. Details of proposed meeting dates, together with appropriate agendas are published on the Council’s website and on 10 notice boards across the parish.

Involvement in Partnerships

The Council has nominated representatives on the governing body/committee of a range of local groups and influential bodies. The Council will consider all requests for representation on such bodies.

The Council also has formal partnership arrangements with statutory groups, including sections of Milton Keynes Council.

Role of Council Members and Officers

Contact details for all Members are included on the website and in the Council’s quarterly newsletter, together with details of the Committees on which they “sit”. Similarly, contact details for officers are included on both the website and in newsletters.

Specific Areas for Community Involvement

The Council intends to consult with and involve the local community in all relevant projects undertaken. As at January 2015, the Council is working with the community in respect of the following specific projects:

- Developing a Neighbourhood Plan.
- Maintaining ownership of and improving a range of community assets, protecting their use by the local community.
- Maintaining and improving all areas of community open space across the parish.