

## WEST BLETCHLEY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 221 WHADDON WAY, WEST BLETCHLEY.

**Present:** Cllrs Belcher, Burn, Butson, Cockbaine, Sally Crockett, Stephen Crockett, Gibb, Harvey, Helder, Hircock, Layden, Lindop, N Long, S Long, McKenzie, P Moore, Revell & Wales.

**In attendance:** the Clerk, the Community Services Manager and 2 members of the public.

#### **FC19/01 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Kearon, Legg, B Moore, Phillips, Sinclair and Thomas

#### **FC19/02 Declarations of Interest – None**

#### **FC19/03 Councillor Vacancies - Church Green Ward (2 vacancies)**

It was noted that no requests for an election had been received in response to the notice of the second vacancy in this ward and that, in accordance with the local election rules 2006, this vacancy would also now be filled by co-option.

It was agreed that the vacancy would be advertised on the Council's website and any requests for co-option would be considered at the next Full Council meeting.

#### **FC19/04 Public Questions - None**

#### **FC19/05 Ward Items - None**

#### **FC19/06 Minutes of Meeting of Full Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Belcher as a correct record of the meeting.

#### **FC19/07 Requests for membership of the Council's Committees – None.**

#### **FC19/08 Chair's Announcements**

The Chair reported that she had, since the last meeting of Full Council, attended MKC's Transport Infrastructure Delivery Plan Workshop and a meeting of the Parish Advisory Group. She had, in addition, been present at the opening of the Landscape Contract Tenders and, with the Vice Chair of the Council and Chair of F&GP Committee, undertaken the Clerk's appraisal.

The Chair also made reference to the recent successful Neighbourhood Plan Referendum result and advised that the Council's officers were now in the process of confirming appointments to the vacant posts of Deputy Clerk and Estates Caretaker.

#### **FC19/09 Minutes of the meetings of the Council's Committees**

##### **Resolved that:**

- i) the minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 be received and the recommendation contained therein be adopted,
- ii) the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 be received,
- iii) the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted,
- iv) the Council approves the Scope of Internal Audit and appointment of Auditing Solutions Ltd to carry out the Council's internal audits for 2019/20 as recommended at Minute No.FGP19/05c),
- v) the Council confirms that it has undertaken a review of its Financial Regulations and that no changes are required at this time.

## **FC19/10 Salden Chase**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the Sub Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019 be received and the Clerk be authorised to obtain legal advice in respect of the recommended actions contained therein.

## **FC19/11 West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan**

It was noted that the Plan had successfully passed referendum and would, subject to the “making” of the plan by MKC at its Full Council Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019, now come into force as the statutory development plan for the parish of West Bletchley.

## **FC19/12 Planning Applications**

**12.1: 19/00246/FUL** – Various site alterations as stated in the application form, The Eight Belles, 28 Buckingham Road (**This Council had no objection to this application**)

**12.2: 18/02620/FUL – Additional information** - Extension of building following change of use to class C3 to add an additional three floors, Mercury House, Buckingham Road (**Having noted that the points previously made by the Council have not been addressed, West Bletchley Council objects to this application on the following grounds:**

**i) The requirement of policy E3 (Redevelopment of Employment for Other Uses) of the post referendum West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan**

Policy E3 Redevelopment of Employment for Other Uses is relevant to this application and should carry some weight in making a decision. It is contended that the applicant has not satisfied the criteria within this policy, namely that it has not been demonstrated that;

- a) there is no other employment activity that can viably occupy the site or buildings with supporting evidence of continuous marketing;
- b) the activity on the site would not give rise to unacceptable pollution or nuisance and that redevelopment would mean an improvement in the environment.

**ii) Concerns regarding the potential burden on the existing social infrastructure**

West Bletchley Council is concerned that the proposed development would place unsustainable stress on the existing infrastructure and local services and it is unclear, from the application, what contributions the developer proposes to make in mitigation.

**iii) Concerns regarding the potential detrimental impact on traffic and parking**

West Bletchley Council considers that this development will have a detrimental impact on traffic and parking in this area.

**iv) The cumulative impact of successive developments in this area**

West Bletchley Council notes that permissions have been granted for other new residential developments in Bletchley Town Centre (including 184 dwellings in Albert Street (Application:16/02451/FUL). We note that the developer has not addressed this concern or confirmed what contributions this development will be making towards alleviating the cumulative impact of successive developments in this area.

**v) Concerns regarding the structural safety of the proposed addition of three further floors to the existing building**

West Bletchley Council maintains its concerns regarding the safety implications of adding further floors to this building and seeks confirmation that MKC has assessed the suitability of the building in terms of its structural integrity to take an additional three floors.

**vi) Affordable/Social Housing**

West Bletchley Council confirms it's view, as previously stated in respect of this site, that 30% of homes should be designated as social housing.

**This Council requests that this application be referred to the Development Control Committee/Panel for determination and confirms that it will undertake to send a representative to attend to address the Committee/Panel to present this Council's objections).**

It was further agreed that an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of P&E Committee regarding the development of a Masterplan for Central Bletchley.

**FC19/13 Wilton Hall**

**Resolved:** that the Council's officers be authorised to take the following actions in seeking to retain Wilton Hall as a local community facility:

- i) apply to MKC for registration of Wilton Hall as a Community Asset,
- ii) establish the criteria and potential for securing listed building status for Wilton Hall,
- iii) establish potential scope and costs for an independent "options appraisal" to assess the range and viability of future community uses of Wilton Hall,
- vi) submit a report on the above matters to the next meeting of Full Council.

**FC19/14 Armed Forces Covenant**

**Resolved:** that the report of the Clerk be received and the identified actions, contained therein, be approved.

**FC19/15 Items relating to Financial Regulations**

**Resolved:** that the schedule of standing orders and direct debits be approved, in accordance with Financial Regulations 6.7 and 6.8.

**FC19/16 Rickley Park**

**Resolved:** that the report of the Parks & Environment Manager be received and the recommendation, contained therein, be approved.

**FC19/17 Matters relating to External Bodies**

**Resolved:** that the reports be received.

**FC19/18 Exclusion of Press and Public**

**Resolved:** that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

**FC19/19 Annual Staff Appraisals**

**Resolved:** that the report of the Clerk be received and the recommendations, contained therein, be approved.

**FC19/20 Landscape Maintenance Contract**

**Resolved that:**

- i) the joint report of the Clerk and the Parks & Environment Manager be received,
- ii) RTM Landscapes Ltd be awarded the landscape maintenance contract for the period commencing 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 and ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

**FC19/21 Date of Next Meeting**

Members noted that the next meeting of Full Council would be held at **7.30pm on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 at 221 Whaddon Way, West Bletchley.**