

Emberton Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held in The Pavilion
Monday 1st July 2024 at 7pm

Present:

Cllr Melanie Duncan – Chair
 Cllr Harry White
 Cllr Paul Flowers
 Cllr Colin Jamieson
 Cllr Angela Laval
 Cllr Guy Palmer
 Cllr Joe Walker

Ward Cllr Keith McLean (part meeting)

Mr N Bacon - resident (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Welcome – The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

To accept apologies for absence – Apologies were received from Ward Councillors Peter Geary and Debbie Whitworth and also from PCSO Tilly Skippen.

Update of Register of Members' Interests – Cllr White updated his Register of Member's Interest.

Declarations of interest in items on the agenda – Cllr Duncan declared an interest in item 2.1.17. Cllr Palmer declared an interest in item 4.381.

1. To confirm the **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on the 3rd June 2024. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd June 2024 were agreed and duly signed by the Chair.
- 1.2 **Public questions** – Mr Bacon commented that he had met with Cllr Jamieson to look at Alison Fraser Walk and the area of land in question.
- 1.3 **Risk** – Having been approved at the previous meeting, the Allotment Risk Assessment was signed and would be posted on the parish council website and circulated to allotment holders asking them to comply with it. **Action: KG.** Further risk assessments to be addressed. The clerk to circulate the clock tower assessment. **Action: KG.** It was noted that a risk assessment should be undertaken for the village fete. Cllr Palmer to take this back to the SRC. **Action: GP.** Cllr Laval asked if councillors approved the risk assessment that came through last month. Cllr Duncan responded that advice was given in accordance with it but it was not approved at the meeting.
2. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND AGREE ANY DECISIONS/ACTION**
 - 2.1 **Ward Councillors' Report** – Ward Cllr McLean reported that after the last meeting, he was trying to get some intervention regarding the grass bank at the allotments. Residents were still experiencing problems with MK Connect with a meeting being held next week to review what

had happened since April to see what the response times were. Cllr Duncan spoke about her experience with MK Connect. Ward Cllr McLean stated that any issues should be raised with passenger transport.

- 2.2 **Update from Thames Valley Police** – Noted that there had been 1 burglary and 1 public order offence during the month of June.
- 2.3 **PLUG (13/6/24)** – Cllr Laval reported that parking was discussed at length. Cllr Laval advised PLUG that the parish council had met with the organisers of the Midsummer Festival. Cllr Jamieson commented that there were a lot of vehicles trying to find places to park in the village and moved on when they could not do so. Cllr Laval reported that the new people in the café would be doing more events. Councillors discussed the Cowman event on the 4th August with concerns being raised regarding litter and the speaker system starting at 6am. Cllr Palmer raised the issue of volunteers playing loud music on the route. The clerk to raise these concerns with the organisers. **Action: KG.**
- 2.4 **Parishes Forum (13/6/24)** – Cllr Duncan reported as follows: A representative from Neighbourhood Watch gave out leaflets. A presentation was given by MK Youth Council addressing the issue of how young people could become more involved with their local councils and communities. Cllr Duncan commented there could be opportunities for the parish council to involve students as volunteers under the DofE scheme. There was a presentation on flood and water management with MKCC stating that there would be a flood management plan in place for any new significant developments.
- 2.5 **Dates for Diaries** – These were noted. **MK City Plan Information session**, Monday 22nd July, 19.00 in the Council Chamber to be attended by Cllr Duncan and Cllr Flowers. Cllr Flowers commented that 4 sites for Emberton had been put forward for the MK City Plan but the parish council did not know where these were. Cllr Duncan responded that the locations of rejected sites were going to be published. It was noted that Regulation 18 of the New City Plan was on the MKCC website. The clerk to circulate this. **Action: KG.** Ward Cllr McLean suggested that the parish council write to Andrew Turner to ask for a list of the disregarded sites for the Olney ward. Cllrs agreed with this action. **Action: KG.**
- 2.6 **Clerk's Report**
- 2.1.17 **Bridleway claim at Petsoe End** - Update from MKCC as follows:
As regards the Petsoe case, we have appointed a specialist barrister who has read up on the case and who will represent MKCC in a future inquiry. Discussions have been had with them around case strategy and the merits of various approaches.
- Some of the research undertaken for the case was during COVID when some record facilities were understandably not able to offer the full range of information available. We are just going through this to ensure there isn't any info now available that wasn't previously available during this timeframe.
- 2.1.82 **Residents parking – Hulton Drive** – Nothing to report.
- 2.1.83 **Manhole cover outside Stonepits House** – Nothing to report.
- 2.1.86 **Home Farm Court (lighting)** – Noted that a canopy had now been installed over the door at the rear of the property. The clerk to seek advice from Joanne Payne. **Action: KG.**

2.1.87 **Litter on A509** – Nothing to report.

2.1.117 **Surface water drain outside Acorn Early Years** – Nothing to report.

2.118 **Community orchard** – A discussion took place regarding the possibility of a community orchard and a possible location. The clerk to investigate the allotment regulations to ascertain whether fruit trees could be planted. **Action: KG.**

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Cllr Jamieson reported that Speed Watch was undertaken on the 21st June with one vehicle reported for speeding. It was noted that this vehicle did not have a current Mot nor was the vehicle taxed.

3.6.30 **Allotments** – Awaiting to hear from Rushford & McCarville.

Grass cutting – The clerk emailed MKCC to ask that the grass bank be included in the grass cutting contract. Response received from MKCC as follows: I will speak to my manager to see if this can be changed. Currently the contract signed between us and the contractor is to only cut that bank section twice a year, moving this to be in line with the current cutting schedule would be at more cost to MKCC. I will come back to you and let you know the outcome.

3.6.48 **Alison Fraser Walk** – The clerk shared an email received from Mr & Mrs Soul in response to the letter from the parish council. It was agreed to acknowledge the email and state that the parish council were concerned about the state of the chain link fence and to request contact details of how footballs could be retrieved from the rear of their property by the teams playing at Emberton. **Action: KG.** Mr Bacon commented that he was fairly certain that Mr & Mrs Soul did not own the small strip of land inside the chain link fence and their boundary and stated that he thought this was owned by the Lett family. The clerk commented that a relative of the Lett family had confirmed that it did not belong to them.

3.6.50 **Dog fouling** – Nothing to report.

3.6.68 **Well at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.

3.107 **Tree planting** – Nothing to report.

3.6.114 **Steps in High Street (no 5)** – Nothing to report.

3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – reported on under item 2.3.

3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Nothing to report but noted that consideration must be given to the policies in the Emberton Neighbourhood Plan when the parish council looked at planning applications.

3.85 **Emberton School (School House Fund)** – Cllr Walker reported that the next EUC meeting was on the 18th July and the email to Noel Sibbald would be delayed until after this time.

3.97 **Sports & Recreation Committee** – Nothing to report.

- 3.99 **Conservation area – review of 1997 Conservation Area Statement by MKC** – The clerk reported that a response had been received from Martin Ellison that he was trying to arrange a correction to the main plan as per the parish council’s comments. The clerk to chase. **Action: KG**
- 3.103 **Demand Responsive Transport (21 bus service) and double yellow lines** – The proposed TRO drawing from MKCC was discussed. Councillors agreed that the double yellow lines should be removed from outside the pub and across the entrance to the rear. It was agreed that the yellow lines should be extended around the bend as per the drawing and introduced on either side of the entrance to Gravel Walk. The clerk to respond to Paul Harrison and ask whether residents will be consulted. **Action: KG**
- 3.113 **Climate Change** – Nothing to report.
- 3.116 **Access to playing field from residential properties and general access** – The letter to residents was approved. **Action: MD/KG**
- 3.118 **New City Plan** – Discussed under item 2.5.
- 3.121 **Consideration of proposals to extend the restrictions on street trading by mobile vendors throughout Milton Keynes** – Nothing to report.
- 3.122 **Local Government Boundary Commission for England electoral review of Milton Keynes City Council** – Nothing to report.
- 3.123 **Alcohol Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)** – Cllrs had no objections to the revised draft order but felt that PLUG might wish to comment. The clerk to email Laura Clancy to request this as an agenda item for the next meeting. **Action: KG**

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.

previous applications status

- 4.378 **24/01106/HOU** – The erection of a proposed single storey porch extension to front elevation. Single storey infill extension. Loft conversion with rear dormers and front roof lights and internal alterations at Hartoft, West Lane - **pending**
- 4.379 **24/01121/HOU** - The erection of a two-storey side extension with front and rear pitched dormers and rear roof light. Single storey rear extension with roof light and associated alterations. New front pitch dormer to main roof at Echo Barn Cottage, Petsoe – **pending**

New applications

- 4.380 **24/01319/HOU** – Demolition of existing conservatory roof to replace with new slate roof and conservation rooflights. Replacement of rear windows and doors at 13 High Street. Cllrs had no objections but would like to request a condition of minimal external lighting. **Action: KG**

- 4.381 **24/01411/TCA** - The felling of a Cherry Tree at 1 West Farm Way – Cllr Palmer did not take part in the discussions following a declaration of interest. It was noted that councillors would agree with the recommendations made by MKCC’s tree officer regarding this application. The clerk to respond accordingly. **Action: KG**

5. ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 **To receive the RFO’s Report for the 1st July 2024** and approve payments. It was proposed by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Jamieson that the payments be approved. Cllr White to approve the payments. **Action: HW.**
- 5.2 **Quarterly budget review** – This was noted.
- 5.3 **Community Infrastructure Fund** – Nothing to report.
- 5.4 **Co-operative Bank – application for Sports & Recreation Committee** – The application form for a separate account for the Sports & Recreation Committee was completed. **Action: KG.**

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

- 7.1 **Village publicity** – **Action:** Speedwatch (3 new people), double yellow lines, New City Plan
- 7.2 **Cllrs’ concerns** – The incident involving injury to a volunteer at the D-day memorial event held on 6 June 2024 was discussed in detail and the meeting wished a speedy recovery to the volunteer. Individuals who had given assistance had been thanked in person. **Cllr Flowers** reported the theft of an advertising banner on his boundary wall.
8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 5th August 2024 at 7pm to be held at the Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.