

NORTH CRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk: Mrs P Reynolds-Nunn, 25 Park Close, Moggerhanger, Beds, MK44 3RY
Tel: 01767 641281

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 6th October 2015

Present:

Cllr R Hatton (Chair), Cllr D Hunt (Vice Chair), Cllr J Hobbs Cllr K Rogers, Cllr J Small, Cllr F Flower, Cllr T Stapleton, MK Ward Cllr P Geary, 9 members of the public

Item 1 06/10/15	Apologies: RFO S Bushnell, Clerk P Reynolds-Nunn, MK Ward Cllrs D Hoskin & K McLean, apologies accepted.
Item 2 06/10/15	Declarations of interest: None at present.
Item 3. 06/10/15	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2 nd June 2015 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting, except for one spelling correction as follows:- Item 14 1/9/15: Sgt Andy ‘ Pullen’ should read ‘Paulden’
Item 4 06/10/15	Scan Reporter: Cllr Hunt agreed to action the SCAN report this month.
Item 5. 06/10/15	Planning: 31 Kilpin Green – Double storey extension to rear of property – No adverse comment. 46 High Street – Anticipated improvements within the existing foot print details awaited from Milton Keynes Council.
Item 6 06/10/15	Cranfield Developments: Ward Cllr Peter Geary pointed out that Bedford Borough Council should have prepared a Traffic Management Plan for their developments in Cranfield to safeguard surrounding villages. Cllr Hatton pointed out that their seemed to be limited contact between Bedford Borough and MKC to discuss matters of mutual interest, past contact between Bedford and North Crawley had yielded very little. Cllr Hatton said we would make further approaches but felt MKC would have more influence.

Item 8.
06/10/15

Ward Councillor's Report:

Ward Cllr Geary reported that the Mineral Extraction plans will be debated by MKC in December and although not effecting North Crawley directly, could affect traffic levels through the village.

More directly the new Plan MK discussions will start on 9th November and consultations will take place through November. There may well be proposals made that could effect North Crawley, Moulsoe and Olney. Papers will be available on 29th October and will be presented at a meeting on 29th October 2015 at the Olney Centre at 7.30pm. We were all urged to attend.

Ward Cllr Geary reported that MKC were replacing all street lights with LEDs amounting to approximately 60,000 units. This was being carried out on cost saving grounds, electricity savings alone would pay for the new lights in 4 years plus the longer lasting nature of the LEDs themselves.

Ward Cllr Geary replied to Cllr Hobb's concerns that MKC appointing Ringway Contactors for all Highway works was wasteful because they sub contracted the work anyway and it was just introducing another layer into Highway contracting. Ward Cllr Geary reported that at the moment MKC could undertake more work for the same money by this method but it could change in the future.

Cllr Hatton questioned MKC's pothole management when they attended site to repair one pothole but leave other adjacent holes untouched.

Cllr Hatton also asked what was the cost of the Rugby World Cup to MKC. Ward Cllr Geary said it was estimated that the cost was approximately £50K but income to the Council meant they would break even. However benefit to the local economy was estimated at £10million.

Item 9.
06/10/15

Finance:

FINANCE REPORT – 6 October 2015

RECEIPTS:

RECEIVED FROM	AMOUNT	CHQ/CASH	DETAILS
Finch and Sons	£150.00	Cheque	Memorial fee – J Baker
H W Mason and Sons	£125.00	Cheque	Interment fee – A Platten
H W Mason and Sons	£50.00	Cheque	Balance of fee due re. Interment fee for Brian Mapley
Milton Keynes Council	£6,646.21	Direct Credit	Second instalment of precept

PAYMENTS:

PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE	DETAILS
O Rose	£400.00	101812	Work at the Ford (£150) and Peter's Path (£250)

R Hatton	£30.00	101813	Reimbursement for poppy wreath
Sage UK Limited	£3.00	Direct Debit	Sage Payroll software monthly payment – September 2015
Sage UK Limited	£3.00	Direct Debit	Sage Payroll software monthly payment – October 2015
Mazars LLP	£120.00	101814	External audit – year ended 31.3.15
P Reynolds Nunn	£615.59	101815	Clerk’s Salary July – September 2015
S M Bushnell	£206.23	101816	Finance Officer’s Salary July – September 2015
HMRC	£291.60	Direct Debit	PAYE due on above salaries
RTM Landscapes Limited	£591.98	101817	Grounds maintenance – September 2015
Glasdon UK Limited	£214.21	101818	Metal 50 litre bin
North Crawley United Charities	£40.00	101819	Rent of land at Broadmead – 1.9.14 – 31.8.15
M Chilton	£205.50	101820	Bin emptying and bin bags to 30.9.15

ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN

It was reported that the audit of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015 had been completed. In the External Auditor’s report, Mazars had made the following comments:

“On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the council:

The Council is holding reserves of £24,866 compared to an annual precept of £10,922. A significant proportion of reserves are not earmarked for specific purposes. The Council has no powers to hold revenue reserves for general purposes and should determine projects that it can earmark appropriate funding from reserves.”

The above comment refers to the H1 Account (current balance £13,662.86) which is held in a separate Business Premium account. The original purpose of this funding which was given to the Parish Council many years ago was to contribute to the cost of landscaping and maintenance of the H1 area of land

	<p>within the village. It was used for this purpose when the Parish Council carried out its own grounds maintenance before the current use of external contractors. Expenditure over the years from this account had been topped up by precept which accounts for its current balance.</p>
<p>Item 10. 06/10/15</p>	<p>Churchyard Matters: Seat in cemetery – It was reported that Mr Platten had telephoned the RFO to ask whether it would be possible for him to purchase a seat for the cemetery in memory of his parents. Cllr Flower is to speak to Richard Martin in respect of clearing out the earth from the bottom left hand corner of the churchyard, landscaping with gravel on the ground and putting a bench there, in order for relatives to sit when visiting. This would also stop the continual mounds of earth and dead flowers being thrown into a heap. It was agreed to advise Masons and any other Funeral Directors, when applying for a burial place, that all earth must be taken away. It is also hoped that people will now use the green bins provided for dead flowers.</p> <p>The late Robert John Baker – Approval was given to erect a memorial on grave plot 1/83. The appropriate fee had been received.</p> <p>The late Alma Ann Platten – The interment in grave plot 3/182 was noted. The appropriate fee had been received.</p>
<p>Item 11. 06/10/15</p>	<p>NAG Report: Cllr Rogers asked at which point the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) record the speed of oncoming traffic. Cllr Hunt replied that there were now two measurements on the reports ‘V in’ and ‘V out’. Velocity In was the speed of the vehicle when first picked up by the radar, Velocity Out was when it passed the device, the intention is to measure any speed reduction as a result of the instrument flashing up the speed.</p> <p>There had been no meeting this month.</p>
<p>Item 12 06/10/15</p>	<p>Update on War Memorial Cleaning: Cllr Hatton reported that in view of it being too late to have the Memorial restored professionally by Remembrance Day, she called for volunteers to clean it on Monday 26th October starting at 10.00am. The memorial will be cleaned professionally in the Spring.</p>
<p>Item 13. 06/10/15</p>	<p>Consultations with other bodies: Cllr Hatton reported that both she and Cllr Hunt attend quarterly meetings of the Olney Ward Forum, formerly MK NE Area Forum. Cllr Hatton said she would circulate the meeting minutes to Councillors. Some of the items are very informative and keep us up to date on MKC policies. We had learnt for example that unless there were deaths or injuries involved, road safety schemes would not be undertaken as part of MKC’s cost cutting exercise.</p>

<p>Item 14. 06/10/15</p>	<p>Councillor,s Items: Cllr Stapleton reported that the pavement at the end of the High Street outside the new garages was in very poor condition making it impossible to drive into the garages without damage to the underside of a car. Cllr Stapleton was prepared to make repairs at his cost but the meeting advised against this. It was suggested that he write to David Hall at MKC explaining the problem. Cllr Flower reported that drivers were parking their cars up against the wall of the shop making it difficult for deliveries to be made. It was suggested that the shop tenant puts up a notice requesting driver park elsewhere. Cllr Rogers said that the hedges in Brook End between Tythe Barn and the bungalows were overgrown and needed to be cut. Land owners need to be advised and he suggested it was included in our SCAN report and if action was not taken MKC would do the work and counter charge the owners.</p>
<p>Item 15. 06/10/15</p> <p>Item 16: 06/10/15</p>	<p>Residential Safety: Cllr Hatton reported that the remedial work to the pavement in the High Street would be undertaken and completed over half term. However she expressed he concern that we had still not received the definitive plan of what work was to be carried out and would follow up again with David Hall at MKC.</p> <p>Questions from residents: A resident reported that the street light in Nixies walk was still out of action and an additional light where it meets Kilpin Green is needed. The condition of the path is so bad now it is dangerous underfoot in daylight let alone in the dark. A resident reported that Chequers Lane has never been resurfaced in the 35 years they had lived there. It is in extremely bad condition.</p>
<p>Item 17. 06/10/15</p>	<p>Date and time of next meeting confirmed as 3rd November 2015 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.10pm. All were thanked for their attendance and support.</p>

Signed.....(Chair) Dated,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,(Clerk)