

## HANSLOPE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council on Monday 9th September 2024, 7pm  
at the Community Hall, MK19 7LG.

### MINUTES

#### Present:

D Courtman (Chairman)  
A Andrew  
A Flatley

R Simpkins  
R Wallond

Clerk: G Merry

3 members of public

**24.094 Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Price, Pacheco and Geary. Cllr Moore was absent.

**24.095 Minutes from previous meetings held 8<sup>th</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> August (E.M.) 2024**

**MOTION:** To approve both sets of minutes PROPOSED by Cllr Andrew SECONDED by Cllr Simpkins and AGREED

**24.096 Declarations of Interest:** No declarations.

#### **24.097 Public Participation:**

- i. A member of the public reported that a speeding car had run over and killed the family's cat, on Hartwell Road, Long Street, causing significant personal trauma. The car had driven close to the property, instead of staying on the road and the fear was, this could be a person next time. The car had not stopped and the member of public asked what more could be done about speeding. Cllr Courtman offered condolences and explained that parish councils have no powers to address speeding or speed limits. However, 3 SIDs are operated in the village (by volunteers), which provide some deterrent, as well as a Community Speedwatch group. Cllr Wallond reported that CSW has been active but lacks volunteers. The reduction to 20mph consultation, had not resulted in enough support to meet Highway's criteria to start this process. Cllr Andrew stated that only MKCC Highways can implement speed limiting measures and as Ward councillor, she is currently in discussion with them. Highways will be collecting their own data on Long Street Road in October and may be persuaded to repeat this further out. Further speed bumps up by the Globe may be needed but incur significant cost and MKCC have little budget for this. She offered her phone number and the member of public offered his to Cllr Wallond, to volunteer with the CSW group.
- ii. A resident of the Wheatfields estate asked whether there was progress on transfer of the maintenance contract to the PC, as she would prefer this not happen while there are still significant snagging issues. Cllrs Wallond, Flatley and Simpkins agreed and advised that a snagging list is currently in place.

#### **24.098 Council**

- i. **Clerk's Report:** At 31/08/24 Income stood at £120,222 (73%) and Expenditure at £64,347 (39%). There is as a need to review the Earmarked Reserves set at budget time but generally, the finances are on budget, with income a little higher than budgeted and expenditure a little lower. The summer saw 7 play events on the Rec, as well as hosting a summer camp for a local church group. The clerk expressed thanks to Cllr Pacheco for his help with these events and to





Cllrs Flatley and Simpkins for delivering consultation letters door-to-door for the Lincoln Court consultation. There was an increase in anti-social behaviour but the new CCTV is now in place. The council has passed its audit and much work has taken place on overseeing landscaping, as well as working towards having some Christmas lights, and badgering British gas to replace the meters needed for the solar panel installation. The clerk was thanked for her work on the successful conclusion of the annual audit.

- ii. **Landscape Maintenance Contract:** The annual maintenance contract is due for renewal in March and it was necessary to review at this 6-month point. There was agreement that the standard of landscaping has been very good and it was agreed to extend the contract from March 2025, for a further 2 years.

**MOTION:** To agree to extend the contract for 2 further years from March 2025 **PROPOSED** by Cllr Andrew **SECONDED** by Cllr Flatley

- iii. **Highways and Speeding updates:** Cllr Courtman reported that the replacement SID on Forest Road is working well and councillors asked for the data to be circulated. The 2 new SIDs are installed and report speeds from both directions. Cllr Wallond will track the monthly data to record any emerging patterns. The Community Speedwatch group had carried out 5 sessions over the summer.

- iv. **Crime and Enforcement Updates:** The PCSO had sent the crime stats for Hanslope and these will be published on the website. Cllrs asked if more detail would be possible and Cllr Andrew advised that greater detail may reveal personal information, so reports were kept general. The clerk reported that the enforcement company had not provided a report, despite being asked and she advised that the current 6-month contract was due to end on 2/10/24. This matter was discussed in detail and disappointment expressed that the officers did not seem to be targeting ASB. There has been minimal improvement in dog fouling but generally, the cost of the contract was not giving value for money for the village. It was agreed to terminate the contract at the end of September without renewing. The clerk agreed to confirm this with Kingdom LA.

v. **Any reports from Cllrs:**

- i. Cllr Andrew has been spending time on operations with local police officers. She is now the Vice Chair of MKCC's Adult Social Care Committee and Vice Chair for Public Realm matters. As such, she attends 8-weekly briefings with the director and can bring local matters to his attention.
- ii. Cllr Simpkins drew everyone's attention to the results of the Buck's Best Kept Village competition, which had been circulated. Hanslope had come close to the winning score. Improvement measures were discussed with a view to entering next year.

**24.099 Planning**

- i. **New planning applications Sept 2024.** These were discussed as follows (column 5):-

Ref. No.	Location	For	Comment by	PC Decision
24/01640/HOUM	Mulberry Manor 81 Hartwell Road Hanslope MK19 7BY	Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) seeking to increase the height of the front porch (relating to permission ref. 24/01083/HOU	31/08/2024	<b>NO COMMENTS</b>
24/01866/TCA	Cemetery At St James Church Church End Hanslope	The Repollarding of 21 Lime trees to historic pollard head at 2.3 - 2.4 metres from ground level. 1.4 -1.7 metres will be removed from the crown of the Lime Trees	01/10/2024	<b>NO COMMENTS</b>



APPEALS:				
Appeal ref. APP/Y0435/D/24/3348091	1 Higham Cross Road, Hanslope, Milton Keynes MK19 7FQ	Application ref. 24/00795/HOU Erection of a wall with iron grill fence detail (Retrospective)		AGREE TO MONITOR
24/00023/REF	19 Nevill Close Hanslope Milton Keynes MK19 7NY	Description of development The construction of a detached dwelling Appeal ref APP/Y0435/W/24/3346580		Letter submitted in support of original grounds for refusal (based on MKCC refusal reasons)

**MOTION:** To agree the parish council's responses as above, PROPOSED by Cllr Andrew SECONDED by Cllr Courtman and AGREED.

- ii. **Revision of Neighborhood Plan - Update from working group:** The Regulation 14 consultation has concluded and the consultants are preparing the next stage. The Steering Group meet again on 18/9/24 when the plan will be finalised.
- iii. **MKCC New City Plan:** Cllrs had attended the briefings on the New City Plan and the Local Planning Authority are reiterating that no new developments are planned for the Hanslope area.

#### 24.100 Finance

- i. **Reconciliations and financial situation report to August 31st 2024:** The clerk circulated the accounts to 31/08/24 and Cllr Price will carry out the reconciliation checks. There were no other questions.
- ii. **Re-worked EMRs:** The clerk circulated details showing that £4,960 had been spent from EMRs, out of £50,500. The Rec. Ground budget was overspent and the clerk recommended a virement of £4000 from the 'Planter' budget. The virement was agreed.
- iii. **Approval of payments, including any grant applications – Aug/Sept 2024:** The clerk advised that the software produces a list of receipts and payments at month end. This had been circulated and will be published on the website. She circulated the list of payments for approval as follows:

DATE	Invoice from	For	Net	Vat	Total
26/08/2024	Wave (Anglian Water)	Allotments May-Aug	£ 124.85		£ 124.85
31/08/2024	Suez	Aug empties - wheely bins	£ 43.62	£ 8.72	£ 52.34
31/08/2024	Kingdom LA	Enforcement contract – Aug	£ 2,099.50	£ 419.90	£ 2,519.40
01/09/2024	Marcus Young Landscapes	Aug bins and dog bins	£ 781.00	£ 156.20	£ 937.20
03/09/2024	Tove Landscapes	Monthly maintenance contract – Aug	£ 1,954.16	£ 390.84	£ 2,345.00
04/09/2024	Locked and Secure	Installation of 2 x upgraded cameras	£ 2,331.50	£ 466.30	£ 2,797.80
04/09/2024	Anne Washington	Caretaking - Aug + reimburse receipts	£ 593.96		£ 593.96
04/09/2024	Tara Davies	Hall and Pavilion Aug cleans	£ 261.00		£ 261.00
04/09/2024	Premiership Lawncare	Marking of 4 x pitches for Hornets	£ 225.00	£ 45.00	£ 270.00
06/09/2024	Smith's Recycling	Skip hire - allotments (pay in advance)	£ 260.00	£ 52.00	£ 312.00
09/09/2024	G Merry	PC Expenses – Aug	£ 11.97		£ 11.97
<b>GRANTS</b>					
From Oct 2024	Tickford Meadow and Woodlands Children's Centre	Continued subsidy of hall rent @ 26 sessions to July 2025 x £36 (with	£ 1,260.00		£ 1,260.00



	(Hanslope site)	proportion from 2025-26 budget)			
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It was agreed that the Children's Centre are carrying out valuable work in Hanslope, using the community hall, and the rent will be subsidised for the remainder of the academic year.

**MOTION:** To approve invoices as presented, PROPOSED by Cllr Andrew SECONDED by Cllr Flatley and AGREED.

**24.101 Recreation Ground**

- i. **Any updates and trading in the Rec. Ground:** Bolts on the inside of the hall doors had been installed as a security measure, in the wake of the Southport tragedy. The emergency access key to the field gate had been activated at the start of the football season, due to an injury. The process worked well and an ambulance had been able to drive across the Rec.
- ii. **Feedback re potential cricket net(s) behind MUGA:** Cllr Flatley had met with Buck's Cricket, who had offered valuable advice. Funding is available but more so if double nets are planned, due to the potential for grassroots/youth cricket development. He has developed a specification and is in the process of obtaining quotes for 2 cricket practice nets. The clerk enquired whether the football club had provided a layout plan for the pitches and whilst this had not yet happened, Cllr Flatley advised that for the nets to be viable, the main football pitch would need to be moved to the Pavilion end of the Rec. A tree survey may also be required which the PC will have to fund but this will become clearer once planning is applied for.
- iii. **ASB Community Resolution Update:** The clerk advised that following visits from the police, 3 out of the 4 young people had now undertaken some voluntary work with the PC. The Officer in charge will try again with the 4<sup>th</sup> young person. Cllr Andrew will meet him to discuss this.
- iv. **Feedback from Rec. Ground Liaison group:** The cricket club had requested more 'cut and collect' cuts in the summer to improve the playing standard of the pitch. The contractor had advised that more frequent 'cut and drop' cuts would be less expensive and he supplied quotes for both options. It was discussed and agreed to increase to weekly 'cut and drop' cuts @ an additional £4800 for the year. However, it was requested that the first one for the season should be a 'cut and collect'. It was also agreed to pre-authorise 4 additional cuts to be implemented over the summer, if there was particularly high growth. The clerk will advise the contractor and add this to next year's budget.

**MOTION:** To amend the annual Rec. maintenance contract to increase to 31 cuts plus one 'cut and collect'. Additionally, 4 pre-authorised cuts as needed PROPOSED by Cllr Wallond, SECONDED by Cllr Andrew and AGREED (Cllr Flatley declared an interest and abstained from voting)

**24.102 Village Projects**

- i. **Update on Hanslope Field's transfer of car park and Public Open Spaces:** No progress.
- ii. **Update on Wheatfield's transfer Public Open Spaces:** MKCC had advised the clerk that the commuted sum from Davidsons had already been paid to MKCC and had advised the name of the officer who will work with the PC on the transfer arrangements (including addressing snagging issues). Cllr Simpkins expressed concern that the PC cannot take over the SUDS systems as they stand and there is a need to involve Anglian Water to address this. Davidsons are making arrangements for Tove Landscaping to take over maintenance in the interim and in due course, this should mean a smoother transfer to the PC.
- iii. **Development of Lincoln Court Green Space:** During July/Aug consultation letters had been delivered to homes in Lincoln Court, and surrounding streets, to ascertain the level of support for MKCC's proposal. The clerk circulated the responses which were 20 AGAINST and 2 FOR. Cllrs had also read the replies to get a good snapshot of views. It was discussed and agreed to advise MKCC, that there was insufficient support for the planned play installation.

**MOTION:** To turn down MKCC's proposal in light of the views of the residents, PROPOSED by

Cllr Flatley SECONDED by Cllr Wallond and AGREED.

- iv. **Hedge Issues and contractual amendments:** Over time, areas not included in the original landscaping contract had emerged, requiring the contract to be amended: -
- Strip between William's Close and Davidson's estate: Ownership of the strip was unclear but the PC had been maintaining the overgrown hedge as a favour to the elderly residents. For legal reasons, it was no longer possible to offer this service and it was agreed to notify residents of its withdrawal. They will be advised to contact their landlord for any assistance.
  - Inclusion of new areas in annual contract. The following were discussed and **AGREED** to be added to the contract: Rhymer Close – immediate @ £1400+VAT as very overgrown and should have been in original contract from MKCC. Ongoing @ approx. £466 annually. 34 Williams Close public area – increase to twice yearly hedge trim @ additional £150. Hedge opposite Dr's surgery @ £120 x 2.
- v. **Christmas Lights:** The junction box work was complete and 1 set of rope lights had been installed as a trial. Images were circulated and met with approval. The clerk circulated a proposed specification for 9 lampposts in High Street and Market Square. This was accepted and the clerk will now circulate it to electrical contractors. The clerk advised all to consider how much to budget to extend this next year.

**24.086 S106 Projects:**

- Overall S106 picture:** The working group made arrangements to meet within the next few weeks to progress this.
- Public Art proposal – update:** This project had not progressed due to a bereavement at MKCC.
- Dr's surgery – update:** Cllr Andrew reported that quotes for the build have been received but progress had stalled with Northants Integrated Care Board.
- Solar Panels – update:** Cllr Wallond reported that despite a formal complaint to British Gas, and 3 visits from their contractors, they had still been unable to undertake the work to change the meters. A new date of 18/9/24 had been arranged. The S106 funding for the project had been received.

**24.104 Allotments:**

Cllr Simpkins reported that the committee plans to order a skip 4 x a year going forward, since there is always significant debris to be cleared and tenants who leave items on their plots.

**24.105 Date of Next Meeting:** 14th October 2024.

Signed (Chairman): ..... *D. G. Countman* .....

Date: *14th Oct 2024*