

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 30TH APRIL 2004

PRESENT

Mr. Mackin presided over Mesdames Harrison, Holmes, Reddick and Collins. Messrs. Fisher, Coward, Steeples and Leith. District Councillor Mr. Birt and County Councillor Mr. Younger.

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Warwick, Messrs. Wren, Fletcher and Dear and District Councillor Mr. Chapman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

An item on page 1040 (4) Matters Arising Therefrom was queried.
An item on page 1042 (7) Committee Reports was also queried but after a vote was taken it was agreed that the Minutes should remain as stated.
Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Mr. Brown stated that the new date for the Ethics and Standards Committee was Wednesday 16th June.

Mrs Collins stated she had attended the Bedfordshire Rural Sports and Physical Activity Conference that was held on 22nd April and further added that after she had studied all the relevant literature, she would make her report.

5. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Mackin thanked the Councillors who had attended the Annual Town Meeting and suggested that a letter thanking Mr. Malynn Strategic Director (Environment) from the County Council and Mr. Valentine, Head of Planning at Mid Beds District Council for their attendance.

A petition has been launched to request action from the appropriate authorities to rectify the problems surrounding the Churchill Way / Old Bridge Way / Kingfisher Way housing estates and to put in place controls that will prevent a re-occurrence during future developments. A copy of the petition is to given to all Councillors with a view to collecting as many signatures as possible.

Mr. Mackin then drew attention to the Summer Fayre and Parade and the need for more volunteers to come forward to assist in getting the event organised.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Crime Record Sheet received from Bedfordshire Police for the period 1st March to 31st March.

- 6.2 Mid Beds District Council Forward Plan for the period 1st May to 31st August 2004 - to be scrutinised by the Policy & Finance Committee.
- 6.3 Various Journals: Local Councils Update, CPRE's edition of Transport Campaign Group, Aragon Housing's 'In Touch', Local Council Review, The Playing Field, Funding Times, Mid Bedfordshire's Access Guide, CPRE's Planning Update, Standards Board for England, Rural Matters, Bedford & District News (Macmillan Cancer Relief), Pasque Charity Update, Bedford Heartlands' 'Headlines',
- 6.4 A letter from the 'Chilterns Show Committee' advertising their event on 16th, 17th and 18th July at Gt. Missenden and enquiring if there are any nominations for the Outstanding Achievement Awards.
- 6.5 A pamphlet from the Bedfordshire Playing Fields Association advertising their 'Auction of Promises'
- 6.6 An invitation from Bedfordshire Heartlands NHS Primary Care Trust to attend their Open Board Meeting on Thursday 13th May at the MBDC offices in Ampthill.

It was noted that the plan operated by Raynesway in respect of grasscutting was unsatisfactory and the Council will register their discontent to the company accordingly.

Quotations are to be sought to replace the broken 'Georgian-wired glass' in the changing rooms at Bellcote Meadow.

The County Council are to be contacted again in respect of the 'leaning' road sign adjacent to the parking bay in North Bridge Street.

Application is to be made to the appropriate authority to either repair or replace the bench seats in Willow Way and to further inform them of the severe cracks and subsidence that has occurred in the adjacent brick wall.

A letter is to be written to Bryant Homes regarding a large pothole in Kingfisher Way. It was reported that a local resident had tripped and fallen at that point and broken her wrist. The pothole had been subsequently filled in with sand but this is now being gradually removed still leaving a potential hazard.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following were adopted:

Planning and Environment of 7th and 21st April 2004

Services and Maintenance of 14th April 2004

Finance and Policy of 21st April

8. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

This was given by Mr. Younger.

9. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

This was given by Mr. Birt.

10. ACCOUNTS

Accounts as listed in the Minute Book were approved for payment.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Report of a damaged bollard in Purcell Way.

Mrs. Carol Rooker was proposed as a Co-opted Town Councillor by Mr. Leith and seconded by Mrs. Collins and agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m
