

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON 14TH FEBRUARY 2007**

PRESENT

Mr. Coward presided over Mesdames Harrison, Reddick and Clark. Mr. Mackin.

1. APOLOGIES

Messrs. Wren, Rance and Dear.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

At this point Mr. Coward welcomed Mr Basil Jackson, Assistant Director of Highways and Transport at the County Council who arrived to respond to the Town Council's concerns regarding the poor condition of the roads and pavements in the town.

The meeting was deemed to of mutual benefit as both parties were able to voice their opinions. Mr. Jackson stated that in future all the Town Council's concerns about poor quality or unfinished workmanship etc. should be addressed to him personally and further announced his commitment to the town. Naturally any work requested will have to be prioritized along with other towns and parishes in the county but Mr. Jackson promised to deliver the best service available.

It was agreed that the Town Council members would survey all areas of the town and note any areas that they considered were in need of remedial action. The information could then be collated and reviewed by the Services and Maintenance committee prior to their meeting on 14th March. The ensuing reports would then be passed to Mr. Jackson personally who promised to inform members of a works programme for the town prior to the Annual Town Meeting on 20th April 2007.

Mr. Jackson was thanked for attendance and offer of commitment to deliver and subsequently left.

3. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE SURVEY

A survey has been received from the County Council requesting the committee's views on their performance etc. Mr. Coward and the clerk will complete the survey prior to returning it to the C C.

4. PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS

Play area inspection reports up to and including the 2nd of February have been received from the contractor. These were read out to the committee and any remedial works were noted.

5. HIGHWAYS REPORT

The January report for highway repairs has been received from the County Council. Those items appertaining to Shefford were noted accordingly.

6. PRESS RELEASE – PCSO

A Press Release has been received from the Media Office of Beds Police informing members that PCSO Kirsty Bannon will join Flitwick Safer Neighbourhood Team and work alongside PCSO Roy Danaher and Beat Manager Jon Birch and PCSO Rachel Keen will join the Shefford Safer Neighbourhood Team and work alongside PCSO Gill Richardson and Beat Manager Steve Busby.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that several areas in the town still had not received their copy of the Shefford Newline magazine. Mrs. Harrison informed members that some residents had expressed concerns that they were missing deadlines on events due to the lateness or non-arrival of the magazine. Clerk to contact the co-ordinator to request a swifter delivery time.

It has been previously noted that the Supa Nova at the STMA play area has been subjected to vandalism on several occasions. The play ground inspector has attempted to carry out a temporary repair only to find on his next visit that it has been vandalized again. The clerk has previously contacted the manufacturer to request a parts list of the items required for the repair as well as an expanded drawing showing how it should be assembled. These have now been received and subsequently shown to the contractor. However, the contractor decided that overall it would be preferable if the manufacturer (Kompan) carried out the repair as they had a better idea of how it worked.

The Clerk is to contact Kompan accordingly.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.