



NEWPORT PAGNELL NORTH & HANSLOPE CONSULTATIVE AREA FORUM

Thursday 13th November 2014

7.30pm

**The Sports Ground Cricket
Pavilion
Castlethorpe**

MINUTES

Attendees:

Cllr Andrew Geary	Ward Councillor Newport Pagnell North & Hanslope
Cllr Jeannette Green	Ward Councillor Newport Pagnell North & Hanslope
Cllr Lynn Patey-Smith	Ward Councillor Newport Pagnell North & Hanslope
Cllr Phil Ayles	Castlethorpe Parish Council
Cllr John Keane	Castlethorpe Parish Council
Cllr Don Cook	Hanslope Parish Council
Cllr Gavin Lancaster	Hanslope Parish Council
Cllr Sheila Mobley	Hanslope Parish Council
Cllr Pam Furniss	Haversham Parish council
Cllr Ian Allen	Stoke Goldington Parish Council
Cllr Phil Winsor	Newport Pagnell Town Council

Also in Attendance:

Rob Ward	MKC Business & Liaison Manager
Heather Baker	MKC Business & Liaison Officer
James Williamson	MKC Senior Planning Officer
Andy Hudson	MKC Head of Environment & Waste
John Price	MKC Landscapes Contracts Manager
Tony Draper	Serco
Mark Sturgeon	Serco
Roy Clark	Serco

1. Election of Chair for this Meeting

Cllr PA welcomed everyone to Castlethorpe and thanked everyone for attending.

2. Apologies

Mike Hainge	MKC Service Director Public Realm Service Group
Julian Vischer	Haversham Parish Council / Stoke Goldington Parish PC

3. Minutes of the last Meeting (previously Circulated)

Minutes for Hanslope Area Forum 2nd July 2014 were agreed.

4. Meet Mike Hainge

Mike sent his apologies he was not well and unable to attend

5. Matters Arising & Review of Actions

Sustrans Cycle Route – parishes to speak to Ward Councillors to see if they can identify funding

Planning notifications not being sent out to neighbouring residents – to chase with DCC

There seems to be a problem with the MKC IT firewall is blocking emails from some external sources. Cllr JG confirmed that there had been a meeting about this and MKC is aware and looking into this. Whilst this problem exists it was asked if Planning could contact Clerks to say they have heard from them and they would welcome feedback.

Actions

ALL

HB

Hanslope pond – The councils enforcement team have been involved and the pond has been laid out as per the planning permission and all conditions have been discharge properly. Hanslope wanted it recorded that they are deeply unhappy.

HB

Highway works programme has been received.

RW informed the forum of the website roadworks.org www.roadworks.org/ which is constantly updated with what roadwork's or going on throughout the country. HB to send this information to clerks.

HB

Terms of Reference were agreed.

6. MK plan / Site Allocations

James Williamson introduced himself and explained that Fiona Robinson had another event to attend. He had prepared a presentation please find attached which give information.

He stressed that this was a key opportunity for parishes to influence the future plan for MK.

Site allocations consultations – will take comments until the end of the month.

The Site allocations plans feed into Plan MK

It was suggested that Newport Pagnell circulated their comments to the parishes within the ward as it was well written and positive and submit as a ward based response. PW to speak to the clerk.

PW

Plan: MK consultation asks broad strategic questions – MK is a fast growing Local Authority that needs a strategy for development, if not we could end up with developments where we don't want it.

Many previous plans have been superseded by National Policy and national changes.

There is co-operation with neighbouring authorities.

It was asked that the papers ask a series of questions and comments might not necessarily fit within these questions. JW said please send us any comments they will be happily received.

ALL

Future sustainability has not been decided yet

7. Landscape & Introduction to the New Landscape Contractor

Andy Hudson introduced himself and gave a brief background to the tendering process

- 2 year tendering process
- Cabinet keen to devolve services to Parish & Town Councils
- Divided into 8 lots to encourage smaller local companies to tender
- 140 tenders to compare
- Lot 8 the entire borough came out on top and Serco put in the winning tender.

Cllr PA explained that there had been a lot of dissatisfaction with landscaping over the last 2 or 3 years so Serco had been asked to come and tell them what will be different.

MS introduced himself and told the forum that he looked after environmental waste and recycling and Serco was interesting in growing in MK. Serco already has a good understanding and good relationship with MK

There is a good dedicated team providing the highest level of service. The 2 week transition is going well and there has been a seamless handover.

Serco are partnering with local enterprises – Frosts and Steve Dear. Frost is doing the landscaping for this ward area and the North and rural areas. The work is to be done by Frosts but will be managed by Serco overseen by Roy Clark.

TD welcomed coming to the forum as Serco wish to engage with parishes and

organisations. Communication is key but please report through the helpline.

They will talk to Councilors and parishes to let them know what they are planning. They work closely with the landscape inspectors and are available to residents.

He explained that they will be planning what is done to get the best possible results i.e. litter picking prior to grass cutting.

Serco will make available the loan of tools and want to work with community groups for a community based service and quality based contract.

There is a lot of work to be done to get back to standard and this may take a couple of seasons. They are opening footpaths and cleansing.

They will be working on a hybrid performance where if the grass needs cutting it will be cut if it doesn't need cutting it will not be done.

The forum suggested for a quick win signage that is obscured on roads to be cut back and signs cleaned. This would make a big difference.

Serco informed the forum that over time they would see the impact of joined up thinking.

Castlethorpe and Haversham asked if weed killing could be done both on hard surfaces and landscape for quick wins and Tathall End triangle signs need looking at.

The forum also asked if the footpath from Gayhurst could be cut back as this had virtually disappeared. It was asked if all this could be put through the helpdesk which would go directly to them.

It was asked if they consider the habitat impact and what ought to be done. JP informed the forum that he has wildlife specialists in his group. Tree health comes first rather than value against nuisance.

Hedges on bridleways are not part of the contract encroachment is normally the responsibility of the farmer who owns the land.

The forum asked how many LA landscaping maintenance they did. They replied 5 LA's, landscaping for blue chip companies, sports grounds – both national and sporting groups. They have 30 years' experience in ground maintenance.

ALL

8. Updates

Tathall End Flood Alleviation Works

Kate Davison has sent updates to the 3 affected parishes.

Thanks to AG for the bund completed on his land but 2 bunds not completed what impact would this have on devils dip this winter? RW replied that Littlewood Farm will be done early next year once the bad weather is out of the way and both bunds should be completed early next year.

There was no flooding of properties last year. A lot of flooding at Devils Dips is field drainage; the primary focus is Tathall End and protection of property.

Hanslope Pond – see above

9. Any Other Business

PW notified the forum that Newport Pagnell is doing a neighbourhood plan and will share with neighbouring parishes. A meeting is being planned and invites will be sent to parishes once this has been arranged.

At Hanslope open meeting the major complaint was the traffic flow through the village much of which comes from Northants. PA said that he and AG worked very closely with Northants for the improvement of the A508 junction. MKC Highways drew up a plan and negotiated with landowners for land to be gifted and contribute funding. Northants would not agree to junction changes. Ward Cllrs to approach Northants once again

Ward Cllrs

10. Date Venue and Topics of next meeting

The forum noted the suggested dates of future meetings as follows:

22nd January 2015 7.30pm Newport Pagnell

