

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Title: Residents Association Meeting
Date of meeting: 20/03/2015 **Time of meeting:** 19.30
Location: Newton Leys Community Centre, St Helena Avenue, Newton Leys MK3 5FJ

Apologies: J Hunter

The Minutes from the last meeting were agreed

Chairs Update

The Chair gave an update on the recent consultation that took place with local residents in relation to setting up a Newton Leys Parish Council. Around 81% of respondents completing the survey were in favour of setting up a Newton Leys Parish Council, with around 9% in favour of remaining in Bletchley and Fenny Stratford, and the remainder undecided.

The Chair mentioned that there were strong messages that Beth's role is supported by the community, and the suggestion to create a Newton Leys Parish is not about the performance of Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Council but a desire for an organisation that will continue to put Newton Leys first. We will need volunteers to collect signatures supporting our petition to MK Council to conduct a community governance review which will consult with residents on whether to allow the creation of a separate Parish.

The Chair also confirmed that he had spoken in support of the redesigned park on Phase 4, which was discussed at the Planning & Environment Committee of Bletchley and Fenny Town Council.

Update from BFSTC

Beth Benton from Bletchley and Fenny Stratford gave a verbal update

New s106 (Planning Obligations) funding has been agreed by MKC with Taylor Wimpey. The first sums will be for the current infrastructure. Some residents had commented that Oxley Park had facilities delivered quicker, but this was funded by 3rd parties. NL is solely developer (TW) funded, hence the delay in the infrastructure

New s106 means slightly higher social housing levels at 21% than we were consulted on the last meeting in May. Recommended was 30%. This is not an argument on whether social housing should be included, a lower level of social housing means a higher level of funding to the infrastructure, so need to get the right balance right. P1 has 38% social housing, so actually overall we are okay.

The s106 Funding will be discussed at the MKC Development Control Committee meeting – 30th July at Milton Keynes council office. Time TBC. The Chair confirmed that it was important that residents turned out to support their community, having seen the recent impact on another site in Bletchley.

The Chair mentioned that whilst the split of the s106 money has been outlined, however, the trigger points have not yet been issued. These are key as we have found in the first s106 which has no timescales. The Chair is meeting with Planning Obligations Officer to confirm this before a decision is made whether the RA will support this new doc

£1.28 million was secured for Health Centre provision on or near to Newton Leys. The previous advice was that there would not be a health facility in this area, but there is now provision for this, however, Henry Davidson have said that there is no demand from NHS. MKC looking at either having it in NL or possibly in Eaton Leys. If we want this to be considered for NL, then we will need to start petitioning the NHS England and bodies that are linked to this.

Permanent community centre will now be planned to open 2017 rather than 2022. The permanent centre is located at the very rear of the site near the landfill, however, there are concerns as visitors to the cc would need to cross the link road, which will still be a construction road and there will still be building all around. However, this is not a reason to delay the build of the CC. Instructed to start these talks now but H&S is the major issue. 2017 is provisional. Still need to support for this from community. Plan is to provide the playing fields after the community centre – trigger point to be agreed.

The £16.5 mill given was for community facilities, but TW have used it for the link road, so it is essential that we get the s106 right

Pushing to get £137k for the voluntary sector to fund organisations in Newton Leys.

Phase 4 park. Initial plans rejected and now redesigned. Nicely landscaped with bushes etc. Good feedback from our community. LEAP still planning to be ready September 2015. Jonathan @ MKC pushing TW and Beth is taking weekly photographs to show MKC the progress

Eaton Leys – planning application has been submitted on the Aylesbury Vale planning portal. It is the design and access statement. Eaton leys will be developer lead like NL. You can oppose or support now.

Monday 20th July, Tracy Jenkins meeting with MKC regarding their plans for the youth provision for the next year. Newton Leys is being considered within this provision, where as historically we have not. Lisa Courtney produced a report supporting this before she left her post to support this. Some holiday provision allocated now – Beth will confirm details nearer the time. MK Play association run schemes across MK and Beth is engaging them.

Brownies and Rainbows doing a summer holiday guiding session. Rainbows (5-6yrs) 2 days and Brownies (7+) 3 days. Brownies will start after Feb half term in NL

Wednesday nights, pilot programme slot. 6 weeks of a session, promoting health and wellbeing in the community. Using national lottery funding

Friday afternoons – Leisure Together afternoon tea and games – all welcome

Treasurer update

We have received 2 donations from residents equating to £120 (1 x £100 and 1 x £20) to help support the community. The Residents Association would like to formally thank these residents who requested anonymity.

TW North Thames donated £1500 to help pay for the summer fayre. We also have the £400 allocated for the Easter event that was not used, so total budget of £1900 for the event. Confident that we can put on a great event for this budget, although waiting for formal quotes to come back for catering and some activities

Allotments

- Struggling to get a response from Aylesbury Vale regarding these, so no update

Planning Update

There is a current plan being perused for 1800 houses on the fields opposite Dobbies, up to the A4146 by Hunters/McDonalds and as far as Water Eaton/Waterhall Park/Lakes Estate. This will be split in to two planning applications as the site is 60% Aylesbury Vale and 40% Milton Keynes. The Chair stated that having developments that cross boundaries between councils have lots of unnecessary challenges. Different policies for different council, so inconsistencies

The Town Councillor for Newton Leys confirmed that the A4146 is a single carriageway and no plans to make this wider. The development was on a flood plain. There is also a scheduled ancient monument on the site (near Dobbies) from Magionvinium (The Roman Town which is broadly where Fenny Stratford is now), so concerns over digging this up. The Town Councillor suggested the development is not needed. MK has land supply for the next 10 years. Original plans are for the next local plan, so after 2022. Developers pushing to get it into this local plan as they want to sell it. Massive expansion near 2 Mile Ash, linking up with Wolverton, so is this not needed. Eaton Leys seems like a strange place to propose additional housing, where the infrastructure will be very challenging

The Chair mentioned that there was some feedback in the survey about residents of Newton Leys objecting against another new development, but it was important to recognise

that Newton Leys was a 'brownfield' development', built on land previous occupied by three different brickworks so there was no other real use for this land.

The Chair asked for a show of hands. All member of the RA have agreed that we are against this at this stage. No residents voted no, but there was one abstention.

School

- Opening hours are now until 10pm and the school facilities can be used at the weekend
- Still need more governors
- RA will work with the governors to look at how the school is managed outside of school hours

Local centre

TW sold the land to Henry Davidson in October 2014. The site will not be moved and it is far more productive for us to ensure that what is being built, serves the community in the best way rather than expelling energy in trying to get it moved

The original plan was for the Local Centre to be delivered in Phase 5, which does not yet have detailed planning permission. This is potentially years away.

Still no name on who the supermarket it. All we know is that the Supermarket played a big part in the design of the supermarket. The new site also means that if the 'Bletchley Bypass' opens, then this is prime land for a supermarket. Received good feedback from residents on the design of the area. It is recommended all residents to check the plans and comment. This is the only chance to officially get view across

Public Art

- Milton Keynes Council negotiated £300k for public art. Concepts are widely supported by the RA.

Events

- Summer Fayre - 5th Sept 11-5
- Activities throughout the day.
- Music
- Food and drink
- Quiz night in the evening
- Volunteers desperately needed
- Prizes for the raffle
- Christmas event – 13th Dec
- We need a Father Christmas...

Town Councillor

- Graham may be standing down, if so we will need a new councillor. You do have to be committed to attend the meetings and be prepared to fight to get NL on the radar and to make NL heard as it is our priority and not necessarily the main focus of BFSTC as they cover a wider area
- 1400 electors should trigger a 2nd councillor space for NL
- Any criticism of BFSTC is not a criticism of individuals who work there, but the organisations' views as a whole. There are some policies that they support as an organisation for instance wind turbines close to Newton Leys, which are not supported by residents at Newton Leys.

AOB

- Can we get a bus shelter before winter?
- Walk through the wood – some wooden fencing done, but hasn't gone far enough, so there are still unprotected drops. Can the RA clarify whether this is still ongoing?
- Woodchips were laid in wet weather, so has been buried. Needs to be redone
- As you enter the woods on from Willow lake, there is a rusty metal lump on the left which is dangerous
- Speed restrictions – nothing permanent until the roads are adopted. TW want MKC to take them over, however, not likely to do any until P1 is finished and then they will need to wait for P2 and 4 to be completed, so at least 2017.
- Post boxes – need 2 and it is in a dangerous position. The 'Posh entrance' will be redeveloped, widened with parking spaces, but still waiting for the 2 councils to finalise everything
- No construction traffic should be coming down St Helena between the crescent and the community centre.

Next meeting: Thursday 17 September at Newton Leys Community Centre

Agenda items to meetings@newtonleys.org.uk