

# WOBURN SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Memorial Hall, 4 High Street, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, MK17 8RH

Telephone: 01908 585368 (24 hrs.) Fax: 01908 585239

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[www.woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.woburnsandstowncouncil.gov.uk)

Members of Woburn Sands Town Council Environment Committee are hereby summoned to attend the  
**Meeting of the Environment Committee on**  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm in the Committee Room, Memorial Hall.**  
 Members of the public are welcome to attend.

## DRAFT minutes

<b>12/24</b>	<b>Present:</b> Cllr K Temple, D Hopkins, T Sutton, R Allan, W Green, K Fisher Member of the public x1	
<b>13/24</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> G Smitham	<b>ACCEPTED</b>
<b>14/24</b>	<p><b>Emergency planning volunteer group:</b> how the council can support existing volunteers and help with future flood emergencies.</p> <p>Resident Lorraine Hearn spoke to the meeting about the impact of the recent floods. She has contacts for a number of volunteers who assisted individual residents with flooding at their homes but are not permitted to work on the highways, e.g. clearing drains and gulleys. Floods also affected BT phone lines.</p> <p>Volunteers would like to be trained to clear drains on public highways but need funding and the authority to do this.</p> <p>Cllr D Hopkins explained CBC regularly unblock drains but our location means sand runs down from the heath. The work is ongoing and beyond what volunteers can do due to the necessity for special machinery.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residents can take preventative measures such as keeping their area of pavement clear of leaves and gravel</li> <li>• Residents can monitor drains in their immediate neighbourhood and report as soon as blockage begins. Can inform Cllr D Hopkins or Cllr T Bailey to report to MKCC</li> <li>• L Hearn has money raised for preventative measures. Cllr D Hopkins recommended liaising with Neil Allen responsible for emergency planning at MKCC.</li> <li>• Blake Stevens MP also expressed an interest in dealing with this issue</li> <li>• Cllr D Hopkins suggested CBC and MKCC liaise when clearing drains informing each other</li> <li>• MKCC Highways responsible for checking drains</li> <li>• D Hopkins recommended WSTC look at devising an emergency plan and have contact numbers &amp; info on the WSTC website</li> <li>• L Hearn talked about importance of making volunteers feel needed, to call on them as required but also offer training</li> </ul> <p>Cllr K Temple suggested arranging an separate meeting to discuss this.</p>	<p><b>Cllr D Hopkins</b> to speak to Neil Allen</p> <p><b>Clerk</b> to contact T Bailey and E Darlington MP</p> <p><b>L Hearn</b> to pass on contact for CBC Blake Stephenson MP</p>
<b>15/24</b>	<p><b>20 mph speed limit:</b> Cllr D Hopkins reported.</p> <p>MK Officer Phil Jeffs is dealing with this issue. WSTC would like to have a 20mph limit throughout town. Some streets already have 20mph and a petition presented to MKCC for other roads to lower the speed limit had strong support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Groves can be made 20mph zones as no physical changes needed</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remaining roads need traffic calming but no budget for this meaning The Leys and Hardwick 20mph limit will be delayed</li> <li>• Cllr K Fisher asked who will enforce the speed limit and would it make a difference? TVP do not enforce below 20mph</li> <li>• Speed Watch report to TV Police on drivers speeding and TVP follow up. A lower speed has a calming effect on traffic</li> <li>• CBC are using average speed cameras which means don't need manned intervention</li> <li>• Parking issues raised by Cllr K Fisher</li> <li>• Cllr D Hopkins says 40mph needed before 30 entering Woburn Sands and WSTC should push for this</li> <li>• Clerk spoke for a member of public who wanted to say that a MKCC Officer stated some residents do not like the traffic calming measures where they live, however, residents here are very keen for traffic calming and do not have a problem with the physical measures required</li> </ul>	
<p><b>16/24</b></p>	<p><b>Updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Mowbray Green: some loose blocks on the stage area which the Caretaker will repair if possible. Footpaths are being lifted by tree roots causing a trip hazard. Clerk to get advice on this. Maybe redirect the footpath</li> <li>b) Edgewick Farm: a volunteer meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct discussed the Ecology Report for Edgewick Farm. Recommendation to have an annual visual check of large trees. This took place 08.10.24. Some tree works are needed from the report last year. They were not urgent but need to be planned in the budget, this survey will give an update.</li> <li>c) Memorial Green: application for tree work still out. The work can be done as soon as we get permission from MKCC (permission is required due to being in a conservation area)</li> <li>d) High Street update: on parking, street furniture, and planters. The Clerk has quotes and on speaking to MKCC Officer we can use the remainder of the funding from the High Street Regeneration fund for benches and planters. Cllr W Green suggested we consider remarking the top of Downham Rd to allow pavement parking.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Clerk to investigate solutions</b></p> <p><b>Clerk to continue to work on this project</b></p>
<p><b>17/24</b></p>	<p><b>Christmas Fayre and lights:</b> to consider two new lights to be installed on lampposts. These lights were bought last year with the others, they are extra lights and the lampposts do not yet have fixings but can be installed this year.</p> <p>To clarify, only one additional socket and timer set required not two as the quote otherwise the quote was APPROVED.</p>	<p><b>APPROVED</b></p>
<p><b>18/24</b></p>	<p><b>Parklands pond:</b> Swan Rescue have taken on Parklands pond with other waters in Milton Keynes to care for the water fowl.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are now contracted by MKCC to attend ponds across MK including Woburn Sands to care for water fowl</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr W Green informed the fence around the pond has partly collapsed by an area quite steep. Condition of fence reported last year and Clerk to report</li> <li>• Cllr R Allan asked how do we contact Swan Rescue if see a bird in distress? Information on Facebook but otherwise this is not clear. To check with MKCC about noticeboard.</li> <li>• Cllr W Green asked is there a charity or private body who would maintain the pond? Cllr D Hopkins suggested the Parks Trust.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Clerk to report fence to MKCC</b></p> <p><b>Clerk to check on ownership and use of noticeboard</b></p>
<b>19/24</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday:</b> Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> November. The road closure applications have been submitted and Ringway have agreed to manage the road closure again this year.	
<b>20/24</b>	<p><b>Grounds maintenance:</b></p> <p>a. The landscaping/grounds maintenance contract with RTM ends March 2025. AGREED to tender. The Clerk has a list of recommended companies.</p> <p>b. The dog waste collection has been with the same company for several years with no time on the contract so the council could look at this again. Some companies do this and landscaping so could combine both contracts. The Clerk has a list of recommended companies. Cllr R Allan offered to assist Clerk with tender.</p>	<p><b>AGREED to go to tender</b></p> <p><b>AGREED</b></p> <p><b>Cllr R Allan and the Clerk</b></p>
<b>21/24</b>	<p><b>Budget:</b> to consider the budget for the Environment Committee for 2025-26</p> <p>The Environment Committee budget has some amendments then to go to the Admin Committee meeting when looking at the whole budget. Cllr K Temple asked for a quote for a SID for the High Street</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>22/24</b>	<b>Date of next meeting:</b> 6.30pm Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025	

Meeting ended 8.10 pm

Signed:

Date: