

Broughton and Milton Keynes Parish Council

(Including Atterbury: Middleton: Oakgrove)

Minutes of the Parish Annual Assembly Meeting

Held on

Monday 2nd April 2007 in Milton Keynes Village Hall at 7.15 pm.

Present: Mrs J Brighton (Chair); Mr I Corlett; Mrs B Hulse; ; Mr A Kidd; Mr R Brown; Mr R Peters; Mrs M. Watkins; Councillor Sam Crooks; Mr D Miller – Clerk; and 8 members of the public. Guest speaker: David Foster, Chief Executive, MK Parks Trust; also present Rai Darke, Operations Manager.

Mrs Brighton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1 Apologies for Absence

Mr I Mitchell; Peter Johnson.

2 Minutes of the Parish Annual Assembly Meeting held on Monday 3rd April 2006

The minutes were agreed as a correct record and were signed by Mrs Brighton.

3 Chair's Annual Report of the Parish Council

Copies of the Chair's Annual report (Annex 1) had been distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

Mrs Brighton invited any questions, but there were none.

4 Financial Report

Copies of the Financial report (Annex 2) had been distributed at the beginning of the meeting. The clerk reminded everyone that these figures related to the year which ended 12 months ago.

Mrs Brighton invited any questions, but there were none.

5 MK Parks Trust

Mrs Brighton welcomed Mr David Foster, who spoke about the work of the MK Parks Trust.

David explained that the Parks Trust, an organisation unique to Milton Keynes, was a charity and explained how it was structured and funded. He gave details of the land managed by the Parks Trust – some 20% of the total area of the city.

He went on to describe some of the work the Trust is involved in, including work with local schools and the running of events, some of these being run in conjunction with other community groups.

The vision for the future is to create inspirational spaces, valued by local people. Current priorities include taking on new landscapes, including Broughton Linear Park, Brooklands and Oakgrove, enhancing landscapes generally and providing better signage, and other awareness-raising measures. Workforce development is also a priority and a number of young people have recently been recruited.

Challenges and threats include urban intensification, and the effects of climate change.

Mrs Brighton thanked Mr Foster for an informative presentation and provided an opportunity for questions.

Ward Councillors Sam Crooks and Derek Eastman joined the meeting at this point

6 Racial Equality Council

No representative from the Racial Equality Council had come to the meeting, so this item was cancelled.

7 Report from School Governors

Alex Kidd reported on developments at Middleton Primary School. Pupil numbers are currently 360, rising to 390 in September and 420, the current maximum capacity, in September 2008. Two thirds of the pupils come from within the catchment.

The year had seen a strengthening of links with Oakgrove Secondary School and Broughton Fields Primary School. The Extended Schools agenda was being addressed and this will involve working with Monkston Primary School and St Bernadettes.

The website is now operational.

Ian Corlett reported on developments at Broughton Fields Primary School. Pupil numbers are currently 280, and this will rise to 360 in September.

The year had been marked by an Ofsted inspection in October, in which the school had been judged as good with some outstanding features. Playground equipment had been installed, funded partly with a grant from the Parish Council, and the need is now to provide some shading. Pupils had been involved in the Canal project.

8 Milton Keynes Councillors

Derek Eastman remarked on the recent growth of the parish and of the growth to come. He reported on recent progress towards getting roads adopted in Broughton Leys; also Woodall Close and Welbeck Grove. The newest schools – Oakgrove Secondary and Broughton Fields Primary had been successfully established.

With regard to current planning issues, he advised that the Oakgrove outline planning application was being delayed whilst changes to the Outline Plan are made. The A5130 is planned to become a 4-lane city street with a 30mph restriction. An earlier proposal to locate a new “V12” route closer to the motorway, which he believed this parish council had opposed, is likely to re-surface.

In conclusion he thanked the Parish Council for the way in which it had conducted its business over the past year.

Sam Crooks thanked the Parish Council and local residents again for their successful campaign to have the secondary school location altered, a decision that was now proving to have been wise.

He reminded everyone that the nature of the parish will change considerably in the near future – specifically the Oakgrove development, which includes providing many homes employing the Australian *commonhold* model of ownership which will involve having a Management Committee that will undoubtedly need to work closely with the Parish Council.

He explained that the neighbouring Parish Council, Kents Hill and Monkston, is establishing a Neighbourhood Action Group and employing a PCSO – and that they are hoping that this parish will work together with them on this as a joint venture.

9 Reports from Local Organisations

Thames Valley Police

Sgt Tim Puleston described the parish as a low crime area, but noted that there had been an increase in Broughton, albeit it from a very low base. The largest crime risk in this area is the theft of laptops and satellite navigation systems from cars.

He referred to the establishment of a Neighbourhood Action Group in August 2007, and encouraged the Parish Council to join in the scheme to employ a PCSO – the costs would be £16k annually with a little extra in year 1 to cover training. Half the costs are funded by TV Police.

Two Villages Archive Trust

Joy Dawe talked about recent and future events in connection with the 40th anniversary celebrations of the new city. She also mentioned the TVAT AGM on April 10th.

Key issues that needed addressing were:

- Storage requirements – they have one filing cabinet in the village hall, the rest of their materials are stored at their home. Ultimately the Parish Council is responsible for the archive of the Trust, if the latter were to cease to exist.
- The seat by the pond – this is currently maintained by Geoff and Joy and there needs to be an alternative arrangement in place for when they are no longer able to continue with this.

The Pavilion

Pam Duggan reported that the Pavilion had experienced a challenging year – it had not yet reached the point of financial viability. She thanked the Parish Council for its support.

There were positive developments to report. Business usage had increased, the Pavilion website had been launched and Sky Sports is now provided on the large TV monitor above the bar.

Membership fees had been reduced to just £1 in response to previous criticisms, and an increase in membership by 50 had resulted.

She concluded by saying that the Management Committee’s commitment to the success of the venture was still very high.

10 Any other Business

None.

11 Date of Next Annual Assembly Meeting

Monday 7th April 2008

Signed.....

DJM

Annex 1 - Chair's Annual Report

We have had no changes in Councillors over the year, but sadly we are to lose our clerk, David Miller in May. He has worked very hard over the last four years and has done much to bring us into the computer, e-mail and website age. Our sincere thanks to him for all his efforts. We have been fortunate to recruit a replacement with some overlap, and Helen Ward will start as from 1st April 2007. As this is an election year there will be changes in the membership of the Council, so Helen will be working with a new team after May.

Our work continues in maintaining and improving the Council's assets, you may well have seen the work being done to the bus shelter in Broughton, to the gates in the allotments, and to the paddock. We have contributed to the maintenance of the pond on Walton Road which the Youth Forum so ably assisted with, planted some trees on our land and continued with tree pruning and removal where necessary. We are about to place new notice boards in Broughton and to extend the coverage of dog bins to include the now developed areas of Broughton and Atterbury.

We have given grants to various bodies such as the Village Hall, the Community Sports Pavilion, the Youth Forum, and the MK Village garden. We supported a very lively evening of theatre provided by the Mikron Theatre Company and funds raised were contributed to the project to reinstate the bell in the village hall in memory of Tim Eastaff. A successful launch of the bell took place in September with many comments on how well the bell looks on the village hall roof.

We continue to have a considerable input into planning matters in the parish, notably the proposed Oakgrove development, the Broughton/Atterbury development as well as smaller scale developments such as the demolition and rebuilding of 12 Walton Road in Milton Keynes Village. Inevitably such matters can be controversial with varied views held by parishioners and councillors, but we continue to try and present a consensus view to those consulting us.

The newsletter continues to be an important means of communication with parishioners and support for it continues. There are increasing numbers of people visiting the website which is heartening and we are striving to keep the site both up to date and easy to use.

Thanks are due to councillors for their time and commitment over the last year and also to our internal auditor, Chris Davies who both saves the Parish money and prevents us from making mistakes!

Jenny Brighton - Chairperson

Annex 2 - Financial Report

Broughton & Milton Keynes Parish Council

Income and Expenditure 2005-6

GENERAL FUND

Income	2005-6
Precept	26,800.00
Rents	1,658.85
Bank Interest	638.88
Insurance contributions	1,990.12
Insurance claims	215.00
Parish Partnership Grant	3,702.50
Newsletter advertising	275.00
Total	35,280.35
Expenditure	
Clerk salary and employment costs	6,808.92
Insurance	3,081.46
All other admin expenses	1,715.54
Communications	3,995.45
Maintaining Land & Assets	6,315.71
Grants	3,675.00
Projects	5,519.25
Misc	0.00
Total	31,111.33
Surplus/(deficit) on General Fund	4,169.02

PAVILION FUND

Income	610.41
Expenditure	435.00
Surplus/(deficit) on Pavilion Fund	175.41

For the year 2005-6, the Precept raised was on the basis of 1182.73 Band D equivalents at a rate of £22.66 per Band D property.

Expenditure on Grants and Projects in 2005-6 included investment in the Bell project in memory of Tim Eastaff, a grant to the MK Community & Sport Pavilion, and additional grants to Middleton and Monkston Youth Club and Middleton Primary School.

Section 137 expenditure was £811.75.

The finances of the Parish Council are in a sound position as shown by the end of year Balances below:

Fund Balances

	31-Mar-06
General Fund	23,563.53
Reserved Funds	14,800.00
Pavilion Fund	13,082.65
TOTAL	51,446.18

David Miller, Clerk to the Parish Council
31st March 2007