

Unitary Councillor Report

(Snippets) Report from Cllr David Hopkins, Cllr Victoria Hopkins & Cllr Alice Jenkins – Representing Wavendon at MK Council

March 2018

**Note: Important new addition to MKC Staff.
Steve Hayes (Interim Head of Transport) Tel: 07765 043335**



Appeal Decision – Land at Long Street Road,

**Hanslope (Housing Land Supply Matters)
Background**

MK Council has received a decision from the Planning Inspectorate for the above appeal.

Unfortunately, we have not been successful in defending the decision to refuse planning permission and the appeal has been allowed. The Inspector concluded on land supply matters, that the Council could not currently demonstrate a 5 year land supply.

His main consideration was that the Council should be applying the Sedgefield method (Governments favoured position) for calculating its housing requirement as opposed to the Council's current favoured position, utilising the Liverpool method.

Inspector's key points on relation to land supply

- The Council should utilise the Sedgefield method.
- Council can currently demonstrate a 5 year land supply position of approximately 4.48 years.
- This represents a shortfall of approximately 1492 dwellings.

Next Steps

I wanted to outline our next steps so you are aware that matters are being dealt with and considered by the scenes.

1. Legal have been instructed to critique the Inspectors Decision to ascertain whether there are grounds to challenge. Please note we can only challenge on a point of law.
2. If challenged need to understand impact in terms of delivery of homes, reputation with CLG and defending further Public Inquiries that will inevitable come.
3. We are seeking to understand what sites may be available that could address the shortfall of 1492 dwellings. This option will also impact on the delivery of homes and reputation with CLG.

I think it is important to highlight that whatever action / option is taken we need to factor the impact on Plan:MK and assess against the new national Housing Delivery test that is planned to be launched in November. Please note we have sense checked where we sit under the new test and we currently fail the two thresholds set within it. Therefore, there are implications on 5YHLS (i.e. don't have one), invokes Government intervention and under the NPPF consultation launched on Monday this could have implications on New the Homes Bonus.

A fuller briefing note will be issues in the next couple of days with a clearer understanding where we are. It is important that are understanding is measured and considered weighing up all the options hence the need for a couple of days

Brett Leahy - Chief Planner - T: 01908 252609

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PARISHES FORUM

Thursday 22nd March 2018 | 19.00 – 21.00
Room 1.02 / 1.03 Suite – Civic Offices

ITEM

1 Welcome and apologies 19:00

2 Minutes of the Last Meeting 19:05

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Parishes Forum held on 21st December 2017 and to discuss any matters arising

3 Parish Grant Funds 19:10

Martin Gowans (Cabinet member responsible for Public Realm)

4 Framework in Action – Landscaping 2020 19:20

Nick Hannon (MKC Head of Environment and Waste) and Kay Pettit (MKC Programme Manager - Parish & Town Councils) and also interactive session Kay working through landscape package with Vicky Mote (Clerk at Broughton and MK Parish Council) to give as an example

5 West Bletchley Question 20:05

Implementation of Planning Obligations Policy including future use of S106 contributions

Sarah Evans (MKC Infrastructure Policy and Programme Manager)

6 Best practice from Parish Councils - Joint working between two parishes 20:40 Cllr Kevin Wilson (Ward Cllr and Leader of Woughton Community Council) and Terry Baines (Chair of Campbell Park Parish Council)

7 Good news and Hot issues 20:55

Parishes can now procure utilities from MKC – through Jeremy Draper



A draft Development Brief for **Site C, Caldecotte**

has been approved for public consultation. An eight week public consultation on the draft Development Brief runs from **Monday, 5 March until 5pm Friday, 27 April 2018**.

The purpose of this document is to provide prospective developers with appropriate planning and design guidance for the development of this site in Caldecotte. Engagement with stakeholders and citizens of Milton Keynes to establish their issues, views and aspirations is a key part of the process of preparing and adopting development briefs.

MKC would be grateful for any comments you have on the draft development brief. If you would like a meeting to discuss the development brief, please let me know. I am happy to meet as a group/s or as individuals.

The document can be viewed on the website at consultations. Copies of the development brief can also be viewed at Central Library, Woburn Sands Library and the Civic Offices. Comments can be e-mailed to urban.design@milton-keynes.gov.uk or posted to: David Blandamer, Urban Design and Landscape Architecture, Planning and Transport, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, MK9 3EJ

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact David Blandamer Urban Designer on T: 01908 254836

And

A draft Development Framework for **South Caldecotte** has been approved for public consultation. An eight week public consultation on the draft Development Framework runs from **Monday, 5 March until 5pm Friday, 27 April 2018**.

The purpose of this document is to provide prospective developers with appropriate planning and design guidance for the development of this site in Caldecotte. Engagement with stakeholders and citizens of Milton Keynes to establish their issues, views and aspirations is a key part of the process of preparing and adopting development frameworks.

MKC would be grateful for any comments you have on the draft development framework. If you would like a meeting to discuss the development framework, please let me know. I am happy to

meet as a group/s or as individuals.

The document can be viewed on the website at consultations. Copies of the development framework can also be viewed at Central Library, Woburn Sands Library and the Civic Offices. Comments can be e-mailed to urban.design@milton-keynes.gov.uk or posted to: David Blandamer, Urban Design and Landscape Architecture, Planning and Transport, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, MK9 3EJ

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact David Blandamer Urban Designer - T: 01908 254836

Milton Keynes Council | UDLA | Placemaking | Growth, Economy and Culture | Civic Offices | 1 Saxon Gate East | Milton Keynes | MK9 3EJ



The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for the Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge Corridor has been launched in Westminster.

Chaired by Iain Stewart MP, the corridor's official champion, it builds on the East West Rail APPG with a wider remit that reflects the challenges and opportunities of the region, which has the potential to become the UK's answer to Silicon Valley.

The APPG will promote the corridor on a cross-party basis, working closely with local authorities, local enterprise partnerships and businesses.

Mr Stewart said: "The launch event for the APPG for the Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge corridor was a great success. I was delighted by the number of attendees from across the corridor. As well as Parliamentary colleagues, we had a great range of representatives from businesses, local authorities, LEPs, universities and other organisations from across the corridor.

"There was a great buzz of excitement and a willingness to co-operate to realise the potential of the project. In my role as the Government's official champion for the corridor, I shall now be setting up meetings with stakeholders over the next couple of months to allow me to map out their priorities for the Government.

"I have met with Sajid Javid and the Government sees enormous potential for this new 'Silicon Valley' to drive the nation's economic growth. There are many challenges and to be successful we shall have to innovate new ways for Central Government departments and local authorities to co-

operate. I strongly believe that the enthusiasm on display today bodes well for making this vision a reality."

The launch provided an opportunity for stakeholders to hear about the progress already being made in delivering key projects, as well as the latest developments on the work to deliver the long-term Transport Strategy for the corridor.

Speakers included Mr Stewart and representatives from England's Economic Heartland, East West Railway Company and Highways England.

Cllr Martin Tett, chairman of England's Economic Heartland, the established partnership of county and unitary local authorities, local enterprise partnerships and growth boards stretching from Swindon to Cambridgeshire, said: "The launch of the Oxford-MK-Cambridge APPG is another demonstration of the real momentum which is building behind this corridor, which with the right investment in strategic infrastructure, can leverage significant economic growth all the way from East Anglia to the west of England and south Wales, enabling us to compete for UK Plc on the global stage.

"We particularly look forward to working with the APPG as we develop our over-arching transport and infrastructure strategy to improve connectivity and unlock growth – while also playing a key role in ensuring the region has the digital infrastructure capable of supporting an area renowned for its centres of science, technology and innovation.

"We also look forward to working with new, emerging corridor bodies that include our local planning authorities."

England's Economic Heartland's Transport Board is the emerging Sub-national Transport Body for the region. STBs are statutory bodies that provide the single voice on strategic transport infrastructure issues in order to shape Government decision-making on infrastructure investment.

Key priorities include East West Rail and the Oxford to Cambridge expressway.

The National Infrastructure Commission believes the corridor could support 1.1m new jobs by 2050, boosting GVA by £163bn.

All-Party Parliamentary Groups consist of Members of both Houses who join together on a cross-party basis to pursue a particular topic or interest.

They provide an opportunity for parliamentarians to engage with individuals and organisations who share similar interests, and to raise the profile of their subject matter.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Milton Keynes Council is updating its existing Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to reflect changes in planning policy

and guidance, including the emerging Plan:MK, since the SPD was adopted in 2013. Consultants AECOM have been commissioned by Milton Keynes Council to undertake this work.

As part of this work, Milton Keynes Council will be consulting on a draft version of an updated SPD between 19 March and 27 April. To raise awareness amongst key stakeholders, Milton Keynes Council are holding a consultation event that will include a presentation on what changes are being made to the SPD, facilitated discussion of key issues and an open floor Q&A session. Details of the event are below:

Date: 22 March, 10:00 – 12:00

Venue: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Milton Keynes

Stakeholders from Milton Keynes Council, the housing sector and development industry have been invited, and it is hoped that you or a colleague will be able to attend.

Please RSVP by 16 March to development.plans@milton-keynes.gov.uk to confirm your attendance.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Turner
Senior Planning Officer | Development Plans

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W: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/>



Milton Keynes Site Allocations Plan: Schedule of Main Modifications

Consultation

The Site Allocations Plan was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for examination in April 2017. Inspector Richard Schofield was appointed to conduct the examination and he held hearings on the 12-13 September 2017.

Following the close of the hearings, the Inspector wrote to the Council on 26 September 2017 setting out further questions which he required the Council to respond to. Having responded to these questions, the Council were then invited by the Inspector to submit, for his consideration, a schedule of proposed Main Modifications to the SAP which he considered to be necessary to make the plan sound.

Following further correspondence with the Inspector to finalise the schedule of modifications, he has now requested that the schedule be subject to public consultation.

MKC is therefore holding a six-week period of public consultation to provide an opportunity for you to comment on the schedule of proposed Main Modifications to the SAP. The consultation is only on the Main Modifications and not on any other aspect of the plan.

This consultation opened on Wednesday 21 February and comments must be received no later than 5.00pm on Wednesday 4 April 2018.

Following the close of the consultation, all representations received will be sent to the Inspector for his consideration and to assist his final conclusions in preparing his report on the examination.

The Proposed Schedule of Main Modifications consultation document, along with supporting documents, is available to view on the Council's website at: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/site-allocations-plan> Copies of the documents are also available at all libraries across Milton Keynes and within the Civic Offices in Central Milton Keynes.

The easiest way to submit comments is via the Council's online consultation portal which can be accessed via the website link above. If you are unable to use the online portal you can also respond via:

Email: development.plans@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Or post to Milton Keynes Council, Development Plans, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3EJ



Update on A421 Dualling Project

The aim of this project is to 'dual' a 3 km section of the A421 carriageway which extends between M1 Junction 13 and Milton Keynes, Magna Park (Eagle Farm Roundabout).

This section of highway forms part of an important gateway into MK. However, it is, currently, the only remaining single carriageway stretch of the A421 between Milton Keynes and M1 Junction 13.

The proposed improvements will build on the 'Pinch Point' scheme completed by MKC in 2015 and will create additional highway capacity to relieve congestion and support future growth.

Central Beds Council (CBC) is the project lead and is delivering the scheme in partnership with both MKC and SEMLEP. That partnership arrangement is underpinned by a memorandum of understanding.

Further details of and progress with the project can be found via the following web-page [NB click on the link in the 'blue box']:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways-and-transport-hub/projects-and-schemes-hub/local-pinch-point-fund>

A business case, which seeks to secure funding of £22.5 million for the scheme, has recently been submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) by CBC. This funding is critical to the viability of the project and, until DfT has taken a decision on the business case, there is uncertainty surrounding the delivery programme for the scheme. It is anticipated that the construction period for the improvements will be, approximately, 18 months.

At present it is not known what traffic management measures will be required to deliver the scheme (e.g. diversions or road closures), however, any requirements will be communicated to all stakeholders, including members of the public, and every care will be taken to minimise disruption.

Any questions about this scheme can be directed to Paul Hammond, Area Manager – MK Land and Tariff:

Email: paul.hammond@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Direct Tel: 01908-254367



New Trains for Bletchley to Bedford line

Three Vivarail two-car Class 230 diesel electric multiple units (DEMUs) will enter traffic on the Bedford-Bletchley line from December 2018.

The deal was finally confirmed on March 1. The DEMUs will replace two-car Class 150/1s and single-car Class 153 diesel multiple units currently used by West Midlands Trains (WMT).

Vivarail spokesman Alice Gilman told RAIL the company will make a separate announcement on maintenance contracts and where the '230s' will be based. She also confirmed that negotiations are continuing on whether they will be leased to WMT or sold.

WMT said the '230s' are the first trains to be introduced by the new franchise, which replaced London Midland on December 10 last year.

Vivarail Chief Executive Adrian Shooter said: "This is a big day for Vivarail. We have invested considerable time and money to bring our innovative D-Train to this point."

- For the full story, read RAIL 848, published on March 14, and available digitally from March 10 on Android and iPad.
- To read about Vivarail's battery train, read RAIL 847.

Author: Richard Clinnick

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Heritage Open Days

Last year Milton Keynes organisations held 75 events for Heritage Open Days - its largest number to date, and over 16,000 people visited the various attractions over the weekend.

We'd like to invite you for lunch to say thank you for putting on an event – we know it takes a lot of time and effort. We'd also like to hear your feedback and talk about your plans for this year. Please feel free to pass this invitation onto colleagues, volunteers or other organisations you think may be interested in holding an event this year.

Please join us on **Tuesday 6 March, 12.30 – 1.45pm**

Granary Café, Milton Keynes Museum

12.30 - Lunch

1.00 - Introduction from Shane Downer, Heritage Officer, Milton Keynes Council.

1.10 - Questions, key dates and general information – Mel Jeavons, Living Archive MK, and Dianne Sutton, Milton Keynes Heritage Association.

This year Heritage Open Days will take place over 2 weekends: 6 – 9, 13 – 16 September.

Living Archive MK and MK Heritage Association will be co-ordinating events again this year and we look forward to seeing you.

Melanie Jeavons - General Manager - Living Archive MK

<http://www.livingarchive.org.uk/>

01908 322568



Strategic Growth Study

Following the NIC's recommendations for the provision of up to one million new homes across the Cambridge – MK – Oxford corridor by 2050, The Strategic Growth Study aims to forge a closer collaborative relationship between the councils. In partnership, the study will consider the implications of the MK Futures 2050 project, exploring the potential locations and patterns of future housing and economic growth within MK and the potential for new settlements surrounding the city. The study will also include work on; economic visioning, possible new rapid transit systems, and exploiting the location of MK and its neighbours in relation to improved east-west and north-south connectivity. Questions to Geoff Snelson, Director of Strategy and Futures, and Fiona Robinson, MK Futures 2050 Programme Manager, on this initiative.



Lobby Day is an annual opportunity for local councils to form stronger relationships with their MPs.

NALC would appreciate it if all local councils were to contact their MP requesting an appointment at their surgery in the days and weeks following Lobby Day. The Templates below can help you to either email or make phone contact so please feel free to adapt them to your liking.

Below the suggested areas that the Association will be lobbying on :

- GDPR /DPO's – possibility of clerks being allowed to be DPO and possibility of funding for smaller authorities.
- Business rates – being passed down to local councils

- Unitary Status – especially relevant with non MK Bucks MP's. This may be more complex if the Parliamentary boundary review goes ahead and if two MK Wards are moved into a Buckingham Constituency going down as far as Princess Risborough. MP's are acutely aware of possible parliamentary boundaries. It doesn't affect the Unitary issue but does affect the interest that MPs might show on the issue. It doesn't affect the Unitary issue but does affect the interest that MPs might show on the issue
- New Homes Bonus
- Neighbourhood planning
- Oxford/MK/Cambridge Growth Corridor
- The unparished area of Wycombe to support for making parished areas
- Perishing of MK Western Expansion Area (Iain Stewart, MP only)
- Diminishing of Local Council Tax support Grant scheme and the negative impact on parishes
- Promoting the good works being done by councils responding to both devolution and using the General Power of Competence

Contact- Carole Burslem, County Officer, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UA

Tel: 01296 383154

Email: balc@bucksalc.gov.uk



Local Government has changed significantly over the last few years. The Localism Act 2011 and the Open Public Services White Paper supported a national drive to shift power away from central government to local government, communities and individuals. Reduced central government funding and increased demands for services mean that principal authorities (like Milton Keynes) are now (more than ever) needing to work alongside their local council partners (Parish and Town Councils) in a collaborative, different and creative way to ensure that our residents continue to receive services that are important to them.

Milton Keynes is fully parished in both rural and urban areas. There is an established tradition of working together on a range of matters. A Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils' (MKALC) conference, supported by Milton Keynes Council (MKC), was organised in March 2017 to look at how

this tradition could stimulate new ways of working. One result of this is the development of a joint framework to provide information and opportunities for greater involvement of Parish and Town Councils as they see fit and as appropriate for their communities

Delegated Decision on 20 February was

A Draft Framework for Parish and Town Councils to Have An Increased Role in Service Delivery

1. That the framework be developed jointly, owned and valued by both Milton Keynes Council and the Parish and Town Councils.
2. That development be ongoing so that the framework is living document, able to capture information and opportunities as circumstances and aspirations change.
3. That the progress to date be noted and the approach continued.



Communities are often concerned with the issue of speeding vehicles through their community. Following increased concerns and enquiries from communities, working with Thames Valley Police, Road Safety colleagues have identified a scheme (community speedwatch) whereby communities can sign up to take part in exercises where they can themselves actively be involved in managing speed in their locality. There has been a trial involving two communities during Autumn 2017, where both communities have seen positive feedback.

The scheme works by residents of the community being asked to volunteer to assist in the setting up the Speedwatch device and logging vehicles that are exceeding the 30mph speed limit. Offenders are then written to via the Police advising them of their excessive speed and given guidance to avoid speeding in the future. Vehicles details are recorded on a Thames Valley Police speedwatch database.

Community Speedwatch can only be used on 30mph and 40mph roads.

Community Speedwatch has been successfully running throughout the Thames Valley Police area since 2006. Although no parishes within Milton Keynes Borough have formally supported the initiative previously. Updated equipment is now available which allows the initiative to run more smoothly and amended guidelines allow local communities to deliver speedwatch on the roadside without the requirement of a Police Officer or Police Community Support Officer.

The Road Safety Team now have 2 sets of community speedwatch equipment and wish to “showcase” the scheme and the equipment to local communities, who can then borrow the equipment free of charge to use at locations throughout their parish. This will allow community speedwatch to be delivered more effectively across the Borough.

Initially I am looking to arrange a meeting to visit individual parishes to discuss community speedwatch, the protocol, guidelines to follow and to run an actual “on the road” training exercise

of the equipment.

Once a community has undertaken this training they can then request to borrow the equipment for a period of one week, to use at locations and times of the day where local knowledge indicates there may be a speeding problem. There is no charge for use of the speedwatch equipment.

If you would like to arrange a meeting please e-mail me to set a meeting up within your parish, with the most relevant persons.

Nigel Spencer - Road Safety Officer - Highways

Direct: +44 (0)1908 252806 - Switchboard: +44 (0)1908 691691

Email : nigel.spencer@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Visit Online : <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/streets-transport-and-parking>

David Hopkins / Victoria Hopkins / Alice Jenkins

***MKC Senior Staff List Corporate Core - MKC Senior Team
2018***

<i>Chief Executive</i>	<i>Carole Mills</i>	<i>01908 252200</i>
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<i>Contact Us</i> www.milton-keynes.gov.uk	<i>Email:</i> <i>firstname.surname@milton-keynes.gov.uk</i>	<i>Tel: 01908 691691</i>
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<i>Service Director: Finance and Resources</i>	<i>Steve Richardson</i>	<i>01908 252756</i>
<i>Head of Revenues and Benefits</i>	<i>Robin Bates</i>	<i>07738 636820</i>
<i>Assistant Director: Audit & Risk Management</i>	<i>Duncan Wilkinson</i>	<i>01908 252089</i>
<i>Service Delivery Manager: ICT</i>	<i>Hazel Lewis</i>	<i>01908 254117</i>
<i>Capital Programme Director</i>	<i>Kamran Rashid</i>	<i>07792 540523</i>

Head of HR	Musrat Zaman	01908 254278
Head of Customer Service, Digital and Transformation	Vacant from November 2017	
People Corporate Director	Michael Bracey	01908 258041
Director of Public Health (Shared with Bedford & Central Bedfordshire Councils)	Muriel Scott	01908 254241
Service Director: Children's Services	Mac Heath	01908 253121
Service Director: Adult Services	Victoria Collins	01908 253270
Assistant Director: Joint Commissioning	Mick Hancock	01908 252091
Place Corporate Director	Duncan Sharkey	01908 253411
Service Director: Housing & Regeneration	Michael Kelleher	01908 254167
Service Director: Public Realm Services	Tom Blackburne-Maze	01908 252213

Service Director: Planning, Culture and Infrastructure	Vacant from August 2017	
Head of Economy and Culture	Pam Gosal	01908 252192
Head of Placemaking	Neil Sainsbury	01908 252708
Head of Development Management	Brett Leahy	01908 252609
MKDP	Charles Macdonald	01908 253899

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