

Wavendon PC – Chairman’s Report – February 2022

Highways – Graham Cox (Head of Highways) Reports

Wavendon – Walton Rd, Cranfield Rd, Lower End, Speed counts complete and being analysed along with previous Walton Rd traffic calming designs

Governance arrangements

Agreed by MK Council on 16 February. The reorganisation order makes provision for the special election in Wavendon in May to the two seats. It will be run like a normal election: Notice of Election, Nomination forms and a Poll if there are more than two valid nominations. If there are only two valid nominations then it is an uncontested election!

Peter Taylor (MK Committee Section) will write to the clerk this week to confirm the arrangements.

Convenience Store Coming soon! – Eagle Farm South

From: Duncan Mason dm@new-crest.com Sent: 18 February 2022

Chris Green (our planning consultant) sent me a copy of your correspondence, which he has also now sent to MK Planning. My company exchanged contracts to purchase the land last year but needed to revert to planning, as the previously consented scheme did not work from an operational perspective for any of the main convenience retailers. We therefore submitted what we had expected to be a very straightforward planning application in May 2021, expecting a decision well within the statutory 8 week determination period.

Sadly, 9 months and 3 different planning officers later, we are still waiting for a decision - despite continually chasing. In fact, it has taken so long that the retailer with whom we were working (The Co-operative Group) has now withdrawn, their Board approval having expired last month.

I very much appreciate your frustration Tyler - which is probably more than matched by our own. Thanks to the planning delays, we are quite possibly now back to 'square one', having committed a great deal of both time and money. I have personally explained all of this to Planning, but we are still waiting!

I have asked MKC Head of Planning for an explanation.

SEMK

I met on Thursday 17 February with agents promoting the land in the southern part of SEMK.

Present at the meeting was Neil Sainsbury (Head of Placemaking at MK Council) plus

Tim Brown – Associate Engineer

Jack Boyce – Lexington

Chris Ball – Planning Director Fox Land and Property

Richard Edward L&Q - Planning Director

They had met yesterday evening with senior GP’s and The Practise Manager at Asplands who (according to those present at this meeting) were left reassured and content regarding the future siting, provision and management of any future health facilities within SEMK. I think it is probably worth checking that with the Asplands Surgery!

The proposals were very much in line with the SPD. There were two variations, one regarding the proposed siting of the combined school (due to open in 2028) and the additional piece of land in Bow Brickhill (on the south side of Station Road close to the junction with Brickhill Street which did not form part of the SEMK SPD red line area). They asserted this was necessary to assure the safe highways developments that are required.

However, there are two glaring issues which make any early planning applications unacceptable.

Firstly, the large blank area(s) not under their control that more than pepper pot the SEMK South side area. These are mainly controlled by Smith Jenkins (<https://www.smithjenkins.co.uk/>) - most of the non-defined land - and O&H Properties (the land adjacent to Woburn Sands) and it seems the three organisations do not appear to be talking! Neil Sainsbury supported fully my assertion that only a complete scheme for the area would be acceptable, that that completed scheme come before the Stakeholder Group and only then be considered ready to go the Planning (formally DC Committee).

The scheme at MK East (land close to Newport Pagnell/ Moulsoe etc) was a complete stage one scheme for all the land involving several landowners and agents and only when such a scheme was submitted to that local stakeholder group was it debated, amended and then finally submitted to Development Control.

Secondly the fact that there has been no consultation with East West Rail. They maintain that they have tried to engage with EWR but EWR refuse stating they cannot be constrained in their legal consultation processes leading up to the Statutory Consultation later this year or early in 2023. Again I feel this is totally unacceptable and it seems these developers and their agents are attempting to bounce MKC/EWR into a Fait Accompli!

They are aware of the Stakeholder Group being established and they asked to come to the first meeting of the Group as soon as a date is fixed.

Neil Sainsbury offered to act as intermediary with Smith Jenkins in particular to see if an agreed joint scheme could be prepared that was in line with the SPD and fit for purpose and that he would talk with EWR and arrange a meeting for this set of developers and agents.

EWR

The first meeting of the EWR Stakeholder Group for our area was held on 15 February (7pm)

A brief summary of the meeting is as follows.

1. Attended by 5 EWR officials including Jeremy (chair)
2. Attendance from parishes patchy and tended to be from those that are directly affected by EWR proposals. In all 6 parishes/wards were represented including Woburn Sands and Bow Brickhill and myself.
3. Some attendees did not participate but most did in the end.
4. Those that did participate freely were variable in their support - from Bletchley Ward Cllr and the Clerk to W Bletchley Council who were in the main supportive, partly because Bletchley has benefitted hugely monetarily from EWR, and those who were more reserved in their judgements (eg myself and those from Woburn sands and Bow Brickhill)
5. Quarterly dates agreed with information/updates to be given beforehand: 10th May; 9th August; 11th October; 7 Feb 2023.

6. Jeremy was charming (as usual) but defensive on some topics and waffled on others eg that the business case for the EWR will 'evolve over time'!!!!
7. Woburn Sands and I asked for future talks to look in detail at level crossings and 'bridges' (as did others).
8. EWR has not done a definitive study of traffic assessment (one of the waffle moments!)

New Bus Service

Britannia has now registered its 450 service, with an anticipated start **date 14th March.**

They have not as yet had back written confirmation of the acceptance of this registration, but under the current circumstances that is not at all surprising and Britannia do not envisage any problems with it.

Timetable information can be found at:

<http://www.britanniabus.co.uk/en-gb/travel/timetables/midlands/450.html>

Fare information will be released shortly, but to confirm that council passes will be accepted throughout.

From the MD - One question I am being asked regularly is where it will start from outside The Swan PH. It might well be possible to extend that elsewhere in the town if this proves necessary and I am happy to look at that.

To reiterate that the future of the service is really in the hands of the residents- if they use it then we'll add more journeys to it and as you will realise, if they do not then it makes it 'challenging' to keep it running. My personal opinion is that the route has the potential to become a full time service, but we must be cautious and expand it incrementally.

Please do let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Derek S. Taylor – Managing Director (Britannia Bus)

Council Tax in Dansborough & Walton ward parishes - 2022/23

Includes Police, Fire Authority & Parish Precepts

Area	Band A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Wav	£1255.99	1465.32	1674.65	1883.99	2302.66	2721.32	3139.98	3767.98
W.Sands	£1288.43	1503.16	1717.90	1932.64	2362.12	2791.59	3221.07	3865.28
Walton	£1286.75	1500.03	1714.33	1928.62	2357.21	2785.79	3214.37	3857.24
Bow B	£1296.94	1513.09	1729.25	1945.41	2377.73	2810.04	3242.35	3890.82
Little B	£1271.30	1483.18	1695.06	1906.95	2330.72	2754.49	3178.25	3813.90

David Hopkins - Chairman – Wavendon PC