



**DRAFT MINUTES OF FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 18TH MAY 2021
AT 7:30PM VIA VIRTUAL ACCESS**

Present

Cllr A Snape
Cllr J Dann
Cllr A Lutley
Cllr K Badham
Cllr R Shaw
Cllr D Toinko
Cllr I Blazeby
Cllr P Dodds
Cllr G Mackey
Cllr J Roberts
Cllr C Thompson
Cllr J Gleave
Cllr M Platt
Cllr M Williams
Cllr H Hodges
Cllr A Chacko
Cllr P Earles

Cllrs G Mackey, C Gomm – Central Beds Ward Members

Also present:

Rob McGregor – Town Clerk & Chief Executive
Stephanie Stanley – Deputy Town Clerk
Stacie Lockey – Environmental Services Manager
Susan Eldred – Community Services Manager
Members of the public - 2

5095. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr A Snape be elected to the office of Town Mayor for Flitwick, for the year 2021/2022.

5096. DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Town Mayor, Cllr A Snape signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

5097. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr J Dann be elected to the office of Town Mayor for Flitwick, for the year 2021/2022.

5098. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr J Dann signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

5099. COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Ashwin Chacko to Flitwick Town Council for the East Ward.

Councillor Chacko signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took part in the remainder of the meeting.

5100. MEMBERSHIP OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. For Members to determine membership of the Town Councils standing committees. Information setting out the Committees of the Council preferences are attached to this agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members of the Standing Committees are as follows;

Business Services:

Cllr A Snape, Cllr I Blazeby, Cllr A Lutley, Cllr J Gleave, Cllr K Badham, Cllr M Williams, Cllr P Earles, Cllr G Mackey

Community Services:

Cllr C Thompson, Cllr D Toinko, Cllr J Dann, Cllr A Lutley, Cllr K Badham, Cllr A Chacko, Cllr M Platt, Cllr P Earles

Corporate Services:

Cllr I Blazeby, Cllr J Roberts, Cllr R Shaw, Cllr H Hodges, Cllr C Thomson, Cllr D Toinko

Personnel:

Cllr A Snape, Cllr I Blazeby, Cllr K Badham, Cllr J Dann, Cllr C Thompson

Planning:

Cllr P Dodds, Cllr J Gleave, Cllr M Platt, Cllr J Roberts, Cllr P Earles, Cllr R Shaw, Cllr H Hodges, Cllr A Chacko

Appeals:

Cllr J Gleave, Cllr G Mackey, Cllr D Toinko, Cllr J Roberts, Cllr H Hodges

Members noted the remaining committees:

Allotment Liaison Committee – Cllr A Lutley, Cllr M Platt, Cllr P Earles, 1 vacancy

Carnival Committee – Cllr C Thompson, Cllr M Platt, Cllr M Williams, Cllr P Earles

- b. For each Committee to appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman, (only members who have been confirmed as members of the committee can take part in the vote, In the case of a tie in votes, the Chairman of the Council will have a right to vote).

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint the following Chairman and Vice Chairman of each standing committee:

Business Services

Chairman - Cllr A Snape

Vice Chairman – Cllr I Blazeby

Community Services

Chairman – Cllr C Thompson

Vice Chairman – Cllr D Toinko

Corporate Services

Chairman – Cllr I Blazeby

Vice Chairman – Cllr J Roberts

Personnel

Chairman – Cllr K Badham

Vice Chairman – Cllr J Dann

Planning

Chairman – Cllr P Dodds

Vice Chairman – Cllr J Gleave

Appeals

Chairman – Cllr Roberts

Vice Chairman – Cllr Toinko

5101. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

It was **RESOLVED** to elect the following Members as representatives on outside bodies;

- I. Highways.
Cllr J Gleave, Cllr M Platt, Cllr P Dodds, Cllr R Shaw (Sub)
- II. Village Hall Committee.
Cllr J Dann, Cllr P Earles (Sub)
- III. Planning and DMC.
Cllr J Gleave, P Dodds (Sub)
- IV. Patient Participation Group.
Cllr Roberts, Cllr P Dodds (Sub)
- V. Police Priorities Setting.
Cllr M Williams, Cllr J Roberts (Sub)

5102. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

5103. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Statutory Declarations of interests from Members in relation to :

- (a) Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – None.
- (b) Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – None.

5104. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded Members to carry out lateral flow tests before attending face-to-face meetings. The Chairman also advised Members that joining meetings remotely would mean they were unable to participate in voting, however they would be able to take part in discussions and put forward proposals.

The Chairman suggested Members familiarise themselves with the Social Media Policy when commenting on social media posts.

The Chairman thanked Members for their support.

5105. REPORTS FROM WARD MEMBERS

Cllr Mackey advised Members that the Station Interchange project was progressing well, and a tender would be issued within the next four weeks. Demolition of the old Kebab shop would commence soon.

Cllr Mackey also advised that the development on the former Leisure Centre site had been granted approval at a recent Development Management Committee meeting with works due to start in October.

Cllr Gomm advised Members that a meeting had been held to discuss the traffic issues on Windmill Road and that the Highways team were looking into various options to improve this.

Cllr Gomm also advised that Libraries and Leisure Centres had re-opened to members of the public following the lifting of government restrictions.

Cllr Hodges asked for details on the issues within Windmill Road. Cllr Mackey responded that parked cars and speeding were the main issues.

The Chairman asked if any specific proposals had been made, Cllr Mackey advised that at this stage investigatory works were being undertaken however a likely option could be creating passing places along the road.

Cllr Shaw commented that parking for the Chip Shop created several problems during the evenings.

5106. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

None.

5107. INVITED SPEAKER

None.

5108. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Councillor Mackey referred to the Community Services recent decision regarding a Lockdown Car Show. He noted the Fun Fair was in town and going well and advised that the Prime Minister was likely to release restrictions further in June. He asked if the Council would be willing to re-look at the decision not to allow public use of the Millennium Park for this event. He advised that he was aware of the necessity to have two other Councillors request this in writing to the Clerk (in line with Standing Orders) and asked the Council to think about it. The Chairman advised that because the decision was made at Community Services, it would be most appropriate for it to be re-considered there.

Cllr Badham asked the following question;

“As we are still waiting for the now almost mythical local plan to be published, I wonder if members, in particular ward members are aware of the Planning Application No: CB/21/02011/OUT, which is for 3,850 residential units between Barton le Clay and Silsoe known as Greenwoods. This is on top of the 500 odd houses that are already planned in the aforementioned Local plan for that area. The development is, at the moment, including schools, Retail and other local facilities, but there appears to be no mention of the additional medical provision. There is also a history of the facilities being missed off the final developments. This is of course on top of the more local developments, like the Steppingley Care home, the development opposite the Rufus centre which are in the local plan, and then other mysteriously appearing developments such as the Church road development we heard about last week. This will put a tremendous strain on local facilities. So my question to our ward councillors is “Is the failure to deliver a local plan deliberate to allow such developments through, or is it, as has been suggested, simply incompetence, and will the ward members join with their colleague and ex leader Cllr James Jameison in objecting to this development in the strongest possible terms considering the additional impact it will have on local services and amenities?”

Councillor Mackey answered from his own perspective that he believed this to be incompetence and commented that speculative plans were unacceptable. He said he

would be strongly objecting in every way possible to him but he did not have a vote at CBC DMC meetings. Councillor Gomm endorsed this and commented that there was no way of stopping individuals from submitting applications and without a Local Plan, there was no guidance. The Local Plan was back with the inspectors. He promised that the Ward Members would keep an eye on the situation.

Councillor Snape asked if there was any indication as to when the Local Plan would be released and Councillor Mackey advised that this was unknown.

Cllr Badham also asked for an update with regards to an apparent complaint about the Kebab van that parked outside Barclays and commented that it had been noted in a recent Highways report and via conversation with Cllr Mackey that there was intention to get rid of the van. Cllr Badham asked Cllr Mackey for a response.

Cllr Mackey advised that he had been in contact with the licencing department to ensure the Kebab Van had all the correct licensing in place and would report back once he had an answer.

Cllr Badham suggested that there could be a conflict of interest, given that the Kebab Van's main competition is a tenant of Central Bedfordshire Council.

5109. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS

- a. For Members to receive and adopt the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held, on **Tuesday 27th April 2021**, this meeting was held via virtual access.

Members received and approved as a true record; the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 27th April 2021 via virtual access.

- b. For Members to receive and consider **resolutions and recommendations** of the Corporate Services Committee Meeting, held on **Tuesday 9th April 2021**, this meeting was held via virtual access.

Members noted the resolutions of the Corporate Services Committee Meeting held on **Tuesday 29th April 2021** via virtual access.

- c. For Members to receive and consider resolutions and recommendations of the Community Services Committee Meeting, held on **Tuesday 4th May 2021**, this meeting was held via virtual access.

Members noted the resolutions of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 4th May 2021 via virtual access. Members approved the applications to the Rolling Capital Fund.

- d. Members are asked to note the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on **Thursday 6th May 2021** via virtual access.

Members noted the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on **Thursday 6th May 2021** via virtual access.

- e. For Members to receive and consider **resolution and recommendations** of the Planning Committee Meeting, held on **Tuesday 11th May 2021** at the Rufus Centre.

There were no resolutions or recommendations.

- f. For Members to receive and consider **resolutions and recommendations** of the Personnel Committee Meeting, held on **Thursday 13th May 2021** at the Rufus Centre.

For Members to receive and consider **resolutions and recommendations** of the Personnel Committee Meeting, held on **Thursday 8th April 2021** via virtual access – this item was on a Late Sheet.

Members noted the resolutions and recommendations of the Personnel Committee Meeting held on **Thursday 13th May 2021**.

Members noted the resolutions and recommendations of the Personnel Committee Meeting held on Thursday 8th April.

- g. Members noted the Planning Decisions from 11th May 2021.

5110. MATTERS ARISING

- a. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27th April 2021 - none.
- b. Members to receive any updates from Officers - The Town Clerk advised Members that a meeting to discuss the community housing scheme had been scheduled for 27th May 2021 and he would send a formal invitation to Councillors the following day.

5111. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION – There were no items for consideration.

5112. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. **Flitwick Combined Charities Trustees**

Members noted the Trustees for Flitwick Combined Charities for the ensuing year as Catherine Hursthouse, Sheila Smith, Paul Cramner & Ann Lutley.

Councillor Lutley advised that it was possible the Curate, Andrea Maffei, may take Lucy Davis' place.

5113. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

None.

5114. EXEMPT ITEMS

The following resolution will be **moved** that is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are excluded whilst the following exempt item issue is discussed.

(15f) MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS – Noted.

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Council **resolve** to exclude the public and press by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

Chairman

Recommendations and resolutions of the Extraordinary Community Services Committee 24th May 2021

The Town Council are asked to consider and **approve** the **Resolutions** of the Community Services Committee

9a Welcome back fund

It was **RESOLVED** to hold a Family Fun Day in the centre of Flitwick at various locations, on Saturday 14th August - subject to the Welcome Back Fund application being successful.

Recommendations and resolutions of the Community Services Committee 1st June 2021

The Town Council are asked to consider and **approve** the **Resolutions** of the Community Services Committee

856b Manor Park Electric Fencing

It was **RESOLVED** to accept quote A for the supply of electric fencing at Manor Park. (Vote – All in favour)

856c Manor Park DRAFT PA2 Brief

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the draft Feasibility Study for Manor Park. (Vote – All in favour)

856d Youth Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to start promotions for the Flitwick Youth Panel, with the aim of forming a Youth Panel by mid-September 2021.

856e Library of Things

It was **RESOLVED** for FTC staff members to discuss The Library of Things with the organisers and come back to Community Services in July with a formal proposal. (Vote – 7 in favour, 1 abstention)

856f War Memorial Listing

It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with discussions with Natural Heritage to 'list' Flitwick's War Memorial.

Recommendations and resolutions of the Planning Committee 3rd June 2021

The Town Council are asked to consider and **approve** the **Recommendations** and **Resolutions** of the Planning Committee

2837. Members to consider a Street Trading License

Members discussed an application for a street trading license in Ryder Way, Flitwick.

It was suggested by CBC Licensing that a trial period could be considered. Members proposed to respond to CBC Licensing to allow a trial period subject to CBC consulting with the residents affected by the location of the van.

It was **RESOLVED** to respond to CBC Licensing to allow a trial period subject to CBC consulting with the residents affected by the location of the van.

Vote 5 in favour and 1 abstention.

**Recommendations and resolutions of the Business Services Committee
10 June 2021**

The Town Council are asked to consider and **approve** the **Recommendations** of the Business Services Committee

12d) Investment Strategy

It was **recommended**:

1. To open a Public Sector Deposit Fund with CCLA.
2. To adopt the proposed Treasury Management Policy.
3. To delegate the Authority for the Town Clerk and Corporate Services Manager after consultation with Derek Kemp, make such investments and withdrawals as required in terms of the Treasury Management policy.

PART 3D - DELEGATIONS TO JOINT COMMITTEES

The Terms of References for Biggleswade Joint Committee, Dunstable Joint Committee, Houghton Regis Joint Committee and Leighton Linshire Joint Committee are set out as follows: -

Purpose

1. To influence decisions and help shape initiatives and their delivery for the benefit of the whole town taking into account the needs of the town, customers, employers, employees, residents, visitors, traders, property owners and developers.
2. To develop and encourage public participation and engagement and take into consideration the resident voice in the work of the Town Joint Committee.

Objectives

3. Help improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural vitality of the town.
4. Ensure a partnership and collaborative approach to achieve the delivery of town regeneration, including influencing Section 106 funding received for town improvements and community facilities.
5. Opportunities to delegate funding decisions to the Town Joint Committees should be explored, such as Section 106 received to spend on community facilities.
6. The Town Joint Committee will make decisions on any joint funding allocated to it.
7. Influence and help shape strategies / plans that impact on the future viability of the town.
8. Provide a forum for briefing Members of the Town Joint Committee on all key issues affecting the town, at the discretion of the Chair and Vice-Chair.
9. Make recommendations on strategically significant projects to the relevant Council's decision-making committees, including Committees of the Town Council.
10. Develop and maintain joint branding of communication, agendas and minutes.
11. To enable communities to discuss services and influence decisions at the local level as to how these services are delivered.
12. To provide a forum for two-way communication about public service delivery and the implementation and effectiveness of policies affecting the town.
13. Promote resilience by encouraging communities to do more for themselves and champion local solutions.
14. Consider the ways in which proposals and initiatives can help to advance equality of opportunity, eliminate discrimination and foster good relations.

Membership

15. Four Councillors from Central Bedfordshire Council and four Councillors from Biggleswade Town Council (Biggleswade Joint Committee).
16. Four Councillors from Central Bedfordshire Council and four Councillors from Houghton Regis Town Council (Houghton Regis Partnership Committee).

17. Five Councillors from Central Bedfordshire Council and five Councillors from Leighton-Linslade Town Council (Leighton-Linslade Partnership Committee).
18. Five Councillors from Central Bedfordshire Council and five Councillors from Dunstable Town Council (Dunstable Joint Committee). Who must be elected representatives of the wards.
19. Two substitutes from each Council will be permitted to attend meetings as full Committee representatives. A Councillor who sits on both CBC and the Town Council can substitute. Central Bedfordshire Council Councillors shall not substitute a Town Councillor on the Town Joint Committee and vice versa.
20. Substitutes for Central Bedfordshire Council Members on the Town Joint Committee must be a ward councillor in the town in the first instance or if not available, a substitute must be an Executive Member. Substitutes for the Town Council Members of the Town Joint Committee will be a Ward town councillor.
21. Members are appointed annually.
22. All Members of the Town Joint Committee should have the interests of the town as a priority, not their own wards.

Meetings and Quorum

23. At least three Members from each Council must be in attendance for the meeting to be quorate.
24. Meetings will be held a minimum of once per year and up to four per year and take place at venues in the area.
25. The Town Joint Committee may also organise extra ordinary meetings at the discretion of the Chair and Vice-Chair.
26. In addition to the Committee meetings, the Town Joint Committee can organise other forms of engagement to take place such as themed discussions / task and finish groups and community conferences, including joint meetings or events with other Joint Committees in Central Bedfordshire.
27. All meetings will be open to the public unless exempt items are discussed.

Chair and Vice-Chair

28. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be appointed from and by the Joint Committee's core membership; each Council must be represented in either role.
29. The appointed Chair and Vice-Chair will hold their post for a period of one year, after which they may stand for re-election.
30. The Vice-Chair will preside in the absence of the Chair. If neither is present, the Committee members in attendance will appoint a Chair from amongst them for the duration of that meeting.
31. The Chair and Vice-Chair will be responsible for the content of the Committee agendas and will allow committee members and other stakeholders to submit agenda topics which will be included unless the proposed agenda item is not relevant to the Purpose and/or Objectives of the Town Joint Committee.

Secretariat

- 32. Either Council can administer the Town Joint Committee, according to their own Standing Orders. The Committee will decide annually which Council is to administer the Committee.
- 33. Agendas, minutes and press releases will be issued under joint branding.
- 34. The secretariat will prepare, monitor, and keep up to date an annual work plan to set the broad direction and priorities for the Town Joint Committee.

Decision making arrangements.

- 35. Only members of the Town Joint Committee can vote. Co-opted Members have no voting rights.
- 36. The Town Joint Committee will not have any decision-making powers regarding planning applications and will not seek to duplicate or hinder the work of Central Bedfordshire Council as the Local Planning Authority.
- 37. The Town Joint Committee will reach decisions by a simple majority. The Chair will have the casting vote in the case of a tie.

Co-option

- 38. To support engagement with local stakeholders the Town Joint Committee can co-opt members from local representative groups, as appropriate up to a maximum of 15. Each co-opted Member will be able to engage fully in all discussions but will not have any voting rights. Co-opted members can be removed from the Committee and the decision to remove can either be taken by the whole Town Joint Committee or by joint agreement of the Chair and Vice-Chair, depending on each Town Joint Committee's preference.
- 39. The list of Co-opted Members should be reviewed annually by the Town Joint Committee.

Governance

- 40. The Minutes and action log for the Town Joint Committee will be presented both to the relevant Town Council and to Central Bedfordshire Council. The detail of where this will be presented will be determined by the Councils and reported back to Town Joint Committees.

Flitwick Town Council

Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Flitwick Town Council

Table of Contents

31 March 2021

	Page
Table of Contents.....	2
Council Information.....	3
Statement of Responsibilities.....	4
Statement of Accounting Policies.....	5
Income and Expenditure Account.....	8
Statement of Movement in Reserves.....	9
Balance Sheet.....	10
Cash Flow Statement.....	11
Notes to the Accounts.....	12
1 Other Costs Analysis.....	12
2 Interest Payable and Similar Charges.....	12
3 Interest and Investment Income.....	12
4 Related Party Transactions.....	13
5 Audit Fees.....	13
6 Members' Allowances.....	13
7 Employees.....	13
8 Pension Costs.....	13
9 Tangible Fixed Assets.....	14
10 Financing of Capital Expenditure.....	14
11 Information on Assets Held.....	15
12 Debtors.....	16
13 Creditors and Accrued Expenses.....	16
14 Long Term Liabilities.....	16
15 Financial Commitments under Operating Leases.....	17
16 Deferred Grants.....	17
17 Capital Financing Account.....	18
18 Earmarked Reserves.....	18
19 Capital Commitments.....	18
20 Contingent Liabilities.....	18
21 Reconciliation of Revenue Cash Flow.....	18
22 Movement in Cash.....	19
23 Reconciliation of Net Funds/Debt.....	19
24 Post Balance Sheet Events.....	19
Appendices.....	20

Flitwick Town Council

Council Information

31 March 2021

(Information current at 15th June 2021)

Town Mayor

Cllr J. A. Dann

Councillors

Cllr A. Snape (Deputy Town Mayor)

Cllr K. J. L. Bladham

Cllr I. S. Blazeby

Cllr N. A. Bunyan

Cllr R. Coleman

Cllr P. F. Dodds

Cllr Mrs P. Earles

Cllr C. Gomm

Cllr M. Halligan

Cllr Mrs A. Lutley

Cllr G. Mackey

Cllr M. Platt

Cllr J. Roberts

Cllr R. Shaw

Cllr D. Toinko

Cllr Mrs M. Williams

Town Clerk

R McGregor CiLCA

Responsible Financial Officer (R.F.O.)

R McGregor CiLCA

Auditors

Mazars LLP

Smaller Authorities External Audit Team

Salvus House, Aykley Heads

Durham

DH1 5TS

Internal Auditors

Auditing Solutions Limited

Clackerbrook Farm

46 The Common, Bromham

Chippenham, Wiltshire

SN15 2JJ

Flitwick Town Council
Statement of Responsibilities
31 March 2021

The Council's Responsibilities

The council is required:

- to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs
- to secure that one of its officers (R.F.O.) has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. At this council that officer is the Town Clerk, and
- to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.

The Responsible Financial Officer's Responsibilities

The R.F.O. is responsible for the preparation of the council's Unaudited Financial Statements in accordance with Part 4 of the "Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – A Practitioners Guide (England) (as amended)" (the guide), so far as is applicable to this council, to present a true and fair view of the financial position of the council at 31 March 2021 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In preparing the Unaudited Financial Statements, the R.F.O. has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent, and
- complied with the guide.

The R.F.O. has also:

- kept proper accounting records, which were up to date, and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Responsible Financial Officer's Certificate

I further certify that the Unaudited Financial Statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of Flitwick Town Council at 31 March 2021, and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Signed:

R McGregor CiLCA – Town Clerk

Date:

Flitwick Town Council
Statement of Accounting Policies
31 March 2021

Auditors

The name and address of the External Auditors is provided for information only.

These Statements are not subject to audit and the External Auditors have no responsibility for them.

Accounting Convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (FRSSE) issued by the Accounting Standards Board, as applied to Local Councils by part 4 of Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – A Practitioners Guide (England) (the guide). Comparative figures have been restated to conform to the revised formats where appropriate. Certain requirements have been omitted for clarity and simplicity as these statements are not subject to audit. They are produced in support of the council's audited Statement of Accounts contained within the Annual Return Statement of Accounts.

These accounts have been prepared having regard to the fundamental accounting concepts of: Going Concern, Prudence, Accruals, Relevance, Consistency, Reliability, Comparability, Understandability and Materiality.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Fixed Assets

All expenditure in excess of £1000 (on any one item or group of similar items) on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of fixed assets is capitalised on an accruals basis in the accounts. Expenditure on fixed assets is capitalised, provided that the fixed asset yields benefits to the authority and the services it provides, for a period of more than one year. Fixed assets are valued on the basis recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and in accordance with the statements of asset valuation principles and guidance notes issued by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). The closing balances are stated on the following basis:

land and buildings are included in the balance sheet at Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC). The DRC basis of valuation requires an estimate of the value of the land in its existing use, together with the current replacement cost of the building and its external works, from which appropriate deductions have been made to reflect the age, condition, economic, functional and environmental obsolescence and other locational factors which might result in the existing building being worth less than a new replacement building,

all other assets are included in the balance sheet at the lower of cost (estimated where not known) or estimated realisable value, except that,

certain community assets are the subject of restrictive covenants as to their use and/or future disposal. Such assets are therefore considered to have no appreciable realisable value and are included at nominal value only.

The surplus or deficit arising on periodic revaluations of fixed assets has been credited or debited to the Revaluation Reserve. Subsequent revaluations of fixed assets are planned at five yearly intervals, although material changes to asset valuations will be adjusted in the interim period, should they occur.

In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 15, depreciation is provided on all operational buildings (but not land), as well as other assets.

Flitwick Town Council
Statement of Accounting Policies
31 March 2021

Depreciation Policy

Buildings and leasehold land are depreciated over the shorter of 50 years or the anticipated remaining useful lives on a straight line basis.

Freehold land is not depreciated.

Non Operational Assets (including Investment Properties) are not depreciated.

Vehicles, plant, equipment and furniture are depreciated over 4 to 10 years on a straight line basis.

Play equipment is depreciated over 10 years at 10% per annum straight line.

Infrastructure assets are depreciated over 10 years at 10% per annum straight line.

Community assets are not depreciated, because they are of either intrinsic or purely nominal value.

Depreciation is accounted for as a Balance Sheet movement only, not through the Income and Expenditure Account.

Grants or Contributions from Government or Related Bodies

Capital Grants

Where a fixed asset has been acquired or improved with the financing either wholly or in part by a grant or contribution from government or a related body, e.g. Sports Council, the amount of the grant has been credited to Deferred Grants Account and carried forward. Grants so credited are released back to revenue over the life of the asset to match, and thereby offset wholly or in part, depreciation charged.

Revenue Grants

Revenue grants are credited to income when conditions attached thereto have been fulfilled and/or equivalent expenditure has been incurred. Grants received in respect of which the conditions have not been fulfilled, or expenditure incurred, are carried forward as deferred revenue grants.

Stocks and Work in Progress

Stocks held for resale, where significant (generally in excess of £1,000), are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Consumable stocks have been treated as an expense when purchased because their value was not material.

Debtors and Creditors

The revenue accounts of the council are maintained on an accruals basis in accordance with the regulations. That is sums due to or from the council during the year are included whether or not the cash has actually been received or paid in the year. Exceptions to this are payment of regular quarterly and other accounts (e.g. telephones, electricity). This policy is applied consistently each year. Therefore, it will not have a material effect on the year's accounts or on the council's annual budget.

The council reviews the level of its commercial debtors on a regular basis and provisions are made, as required, where the likelihood of amounts proving ultimately collectable is in doubt.

Value Added Tax

Income and Expenditure excludes any amounts related to VAT, as all VAT suffered/collected is recoverable from or payable to HM Revenue and Customs. Any amounts not so recoverable are treated as a separate expense.

Flitwick Town Council
Statement of Accounting Policies
31 March 2021

External Loan Repayments

The council accounts for loans on an accruals basis. Details of the council's external borrowings are shown at note 14.

Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to revenue on an accruals basis. Details of the council's obligations under operating leases are shown at note 15.

Reserves

The council maintains certain reserves to meet general and specific future expenditure. The purpose of the council's reserves is explained in notes 17 to 18.

Certain reserves are maintained to manage the accounting processes for tangible fixed assets, available for sale investments and retirement benefits. They do not represent usable resources for the council:

Capital Financing Account – represent the council's investment of resources in such assets already made.

Interest Income

All interest receipts are credited initially to general funds.

Interest is reallocated to certain reserves based on the level of their fund balance.

Cost of Support Services

The costs of management and administration have been apportioned to services on an appropriate and consistent basis.

Pensions

The pension costs that are charged against precept in the council's accounts, in respect of its employees, are equal to the contributions paid to the funded pension scheme for those employees.

These contributions are determined by the fund's actuary on a triennial basis and are set to meet 100% of the liabilities of the pension fund, in accordance with relevant government regulations.

The next actuarial valuation is due at 31st March 2022 and any change in contribution rates as a result of that valuation will take effect from 1st April 2023.

Flitwick Town Council
Income and Expenditure Account
31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Income			
Precept on Principal Authority		854,243	816,053
Grants Receivable		(1,102)	26,930
Rents Receivable, Interest & Investment Income		1,784	5,801
Charges made for Services		449,956	661,781
Other Income		10,470	3,911
Total Income		1,315,351	1,514,476
Expenditure			
Direct Service Costs:			
Salaries & Wages		(565,253)	(526,519)
Grant-aid Expenditure		(6,162)	(9,916)
Other Costs	1	(562,434)	(486,720)
Democratic, Management & Civic Costs:			
Salaries & Wages		(202,430)	(161,398)
Other Costs	1	(131,906)	(161,900)
Total Expenditure		(1,468,185)	(1,346,453)
Excess of (Expenditure over Income)/Income over Expenditure for the year.		(152,834)	168,023
Net Operating (Deficit)/Surplus for Year		(152,834)	168,023
STATUTORY CHARGES & REVERSALS			
Statutory Charge for Capital (i.e. Loan Capital Repaid)		(40,291)	(40,291)
Capital Expenditure charged to revenue	10	(54,465)	(59,410)
Transfer from/(to) Earmarked Reserves	18	316,229	(22,903)
Surplus for the Year to General Fund		68,639	45,419
Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the Year		(247,590)	68,322
The above (Deficit)/Surplus for the Year has been (funded)/applied for the Year (from)/to as follows:			
Transfer from/(to) Earmarked Reserves	18	(316,229)	22,903
Surplus for the Year to General Fund		68,639	45,419
		(247,590)	68,322

The council had no other recognisable gains and/or losses during the year.

The notes on pages 12 to Error: Reference source not found form part of these unaudited statements.

Flitwick Town Council
Statement of Movement in Reserves
31 March 2021

Reserve	Purpose of Reserve	Notes	2021 £	Net Movement in Year £	2020 £
Capital Financing Account	Store of capital resources set aside to purchase fixed assets	17	3,024,342	(3,163)	3,027,505
Earmarked Reserves	Amounts set aside from revenue to meet general and specific future expenditure	18	276,781	(316,229)	593,010
General Fund	Resources available to meet future running costs		655,283	68,639	586,644
Total			3,956,406	(250,753)	4,207,159

The notes on pages 12 to Error: Reference source not found form part of these unaudited statements.

Flitwick Town Council

Balance Sheet

31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	9		3,348,303	3,413,616
Current Assets				
Stock		5,681		2,978
Debtors and prepayments	12	72,253		104,536
Cash at bank and in hand		1,022,031		1,197,304
		<u>1,099,965</u>		<u>1,304,818</u>
Current Liabilities				
Current Portion of Long Term Borrowings		(40,291)		(40,291)
Creditors and income in advance	13	<u>(138,037)</u>		<u>(93,950)</u>
Net Current Assets			921,637	1,170,577
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			4,269,940	4,584,193
Long Term Liabilities				
Long-term borrowing	14		(131,522)	(171,813)
Deferred Grants	16		(182,012)	(205,221)
Total Assets Less Liabilities			<u>3,956,406</u>	<u>4,207,159</u>
Capital and Reserves				
Capital Financing Reserve	17		3,024,342	3,027,505
Earmarked Reserves	18		276,781	593,010
General Reserve			655,283	586,644
			<u>3,956,406</u>	<u>4,207,159</u>

The Unaudited Financial Statements represent a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 31 March 2021, and of its Income and Expenditure for the year.

These accounts were approved by the Council on 15th June 2021 .

Signed:
Cllr J. A. Dann	R McGregor CiLCA
Town Mayor	Responsible Financial Officer

Date:

The notes on pages 12 to Error: Reference source not found form part of these unaudited statements.

Flitwick Town Council

Cash Flow Statement

31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £
REVENUE ACTIVITIES				
<i>Cash outflows</i>				
Paid to and on behalf of employees		(753,658)		(686,160)
Other operating payments		(659,103)		(667,841)
			(1,412,761)	(1,354,001)
<i>Cash inflows</i>				
Precept on Principal Authority		854,243		816,053
Cash received for services		491,156		654,523
Revenue grants received		(2,452)		25,580
			1,342,947	1,496,156
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from Revenue Activities	21		(69,814)	142,155
SERVICING OF FINANCE				
<i>Cash outflows</i>				
Interest paid		(10,653)		(12,834)
<i>Cash inflows</i>				
Interest received		1,784		5,801
			(8,869)	(7,033)
Net cash (outflow) from Servicing of Finance			(8,869)	(7,033)
CAPITAL ACTIVITIES				
<i>Cash outflows</i>				
Purchase of fixed assets		(54,465)		(153,002)
<i>Cash inflows</i>				
Capital grant received		(1,834)		38,338
			(56,299)	(114,664)
Net cash (outflow) from Capital Activities			(56,299)	(114,664)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow before Financing			(134,982)	20,458
FINANCING AND LIQUID RESOURCES				
<i>Cash outflows</i>				
Loan repayments made			(40,291)	(40,291)
			(40,291)	(40,291)
Net cash (outflow) from financing and liquid resources			(40,291)	(40,291)
(Decrease) in cash	22		(175,273)	(19,833)

The notes on pages 12 to Error: Reference source not found form part of these unaudited statements.

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

1 Other Costs Analysis

Other Costs reported in the council's Income and Expenditure Account comprise the following:

Direct Service Costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Community Events	23,537	26,783
Community Centres	356,199	286,977
Outdoor Sports & Recreation Facilities	73,248	47,813
Community Parks & Open Spaces	44,791	26,751
Allotments	3,180	5,352
Cemeteries	3,101	6,558
Community Development	62,823	92,865
Routine Repairs (other roads)	(600)	246
Street Lighting	2,317	3,291
Less: Grant-aid Expenditure	(6,162)	(9,916)
Total	562,434	486,720

Democratic, Management & Civic Costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Corporate Management	120,805	119,782
Democratic Representation & Management	(634)	6,338
Civic Expenses	136	22,098
Town Mayor's Allowance	946	848
Interest Payable	10,653	12,834
Total	131,906	161,900

As reported in the Statement of Accounting Policies, apportionment of central costs is not reflected in the above analysis.

2 Interest Payable and Similar Charges

	2021	2020
	£	£
External Interest Charges - Loans	10,653	12,834
	10,653	12,834

3 Interest and Investment Income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest Income - General Funds	1,784	5,794
Interest Income - Earmarked Funds	-	7
	1,784	5,801

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

4 Related Party Transactions

The council entered into no material transactions with related parties during the year.

5 Audit Fees

The council is required to report and disclose the cost of services provided by its external auditors.

These may be summarised as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees for statutory audit services	2,000	2,000
Total fees	2,000	2,000

6 Members' Allowances

	2021	2020
	£	£
Members of Council have been paid the following allowances for the year:		
Town Mayor's Allowance	946	848
	946	848

The council has resolved that, other than the Town Mayor, no members allowances will be paid.

7 Employees

The average weekly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
Full-time	13	13
Part-time	14	14
Temporary	-	5
	27	32

All staff are paid in accordance with nationally agreed pay scales.

8 Pension Costs

The council participates in the Bedfordshire Pension Fund Pension Fund.

The Bedfordshire Pension Fund Pension Fund is a defined benefit scheme, but the council is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities because all town and parish councils in the scheme pay a common contribution rate.

FRSSE requires the council to account for pension costs on the basis of contributions actually payable to the scheme during the year.

The cost to the council for the year ended 31 March 2021 was £127,231 (31 March 2020 - £112,306).

The most recent actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31st March 2019, and the council's contribution rate is confirmed as being 25.80% of employees' pensionable pay with effect from 1st April 2021 (year ended 31 March 2021 – 24.80%).

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Operational Freehold Land and Buildings	Vehicles and Equipment	Infra- structure Assets	Community Assets	Assets under Construction	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 31 March 2020	3,535,058	707,094	570,192	3,230	68,687	4,884,261
Additions	-	39,003	8,027	-	7,435	54,465
Reclassification						
At 31 March 2021	3,535,058	746,097	578,219	3,230	76,122	4,938,726
Depreciation						
At 31 March 2020	(509,114)	(517,584)	(443,947)	-	-	(1,470,645)
Charged for the year	(48,052)	(41,618)	(30,108)	-	-	(119,778)
At 31 March 2021	(557,166)	(559,202)	(474,055)	-	-	(1,590,423)
Net Book Value						
At 31 March 2021	2,977,892	186,895	104,164	3,230	76,122	3,348,303
At 31 March 2020	3,025,944	189,510	126,245	3,230	68,687	3,413,616

Although classified as capital expenditure, certain minor equipment purchases are not included in the above as they are not material in overall value.

Fixed Asset Valuation

The freehold and leasehold properties that comprise the council's properties have been valued as at 31st March 2009 by external independent valuers, Messrs the District Valuer. Valuations have been made on the basis set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies, except that not all properties were inspected. This was neither practical nor considered by the valuer to be necessary for the purpose of valuation. Plant and machinery that form fixtures to the building are included in the valuation of the building.

Assets Held under Finance Agreements

The council held no such assets at 31 March 2021

10 Financing of Capital Expenditure

	2021 £	2020 £
The following capital expenditure during the year:		
Fixed Assets Purchased	54,465	153,002
	54,465	153,002
was financed by:		
Capital Grants	-	93,592
Revenue:		
Capital Projects Reserve	296,917	-
Equipment Replacement Reserve	17,000	-
Precept and Revenue Income	(259,452)	59,410
	54,465	153,002

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

11 Information on Assets Held

Fixed assets owned by the council include the following:

Operational Land and Buildings

The Rufus Centre
Depot and store
The Burial Ground
Playing Fields – 2
Allotment sites – 2
Play Areas – 3
Sea Scouts HQ and Changing Rooms
Flitwick Manor Park
Youth Hub

Non-Operational Land and Buildings

Former Town Council Offices – Library

Vehicles and Equipment

Play Equipment – at 8 sites
Tractors - 2
Sundry grounds maintenance equipment
Sundry office equipment
Rendezvous furniture & equipment

Infrastructure Assets

Street lights – 47
Bus shelters – 6
Other street furniture
Gates and fencing
Flitwick Manor Park car park
Skatepark
Village Hall Car Park, Gates and Fencing
Solar Panels on The Rufus Centre
Millenium Park

Community Assets

War Memorial
Childrens' play areas – 3
Council Artefacts

Assets under Construction

New Burial Ground

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

12 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Debtors - General	58,533	71,216
Debtors - Functions	(17,051)	1,360
Trade Debtors	41,482	72,576
VAT Recoverable	15,964	10,760
Other Debtors	50	5,127
Prepayments	12,923	16,073
Capital Grant Debtors	1,834	-
	72,253	104,536

13 Creditors and Accrued Expenses

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade Creditors	53,858	19,841
Other Creditors	-	1,401
Superannuation Payable	14,174	-
Payroll Taxes and Social Security	11,010	11,158
Accruals	12,781	9,895
Income in Advance	46,214	51,655
	138,037	93,950

14 Long Term Liabilities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Public Works Loan Board	171,813	212,104
	171,813	212,104

The above loans are repayable as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	40,291	40,291
From one to two years	40,291	40,291
From two to five years	55,231	83,522
From five to ten years	36,000	48,000
Total Loan Commitment	171,813	212,104
Less: Repayable within one year	(40,291)	(40,291)
Repayable after one year	131,522	171,813

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

15 Financial Commitments under Operating Leases

The council had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases of equipment as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Obligations expiring within one year	3,576	6,696
Obligations expiring between two and five years	6,403	2,686
Obligations expiring after five years	-	-
	<u>9,979</u>	<u>9,382</u>

16 Deferred Grants

	2021	2020
	£	£
Capital Grants Unapplied		
At 01 April	22,967	78,221
Grants received in the year	-	38,338
Applied to finance capital investment	-	(93,592)
At 31 March	<u>22,967</u>	<u>22,967</u>
Capital Grants Applied		
At 01 April	174,008	105,391
Grants Applied in the year	-	93,592
Released to offset depreciation	(21,859)	(24,975)
At 31 March	<u>152,149</u>	<u>174,008</u>
Revenue Grants and S106 Revenue Contributions		
At 01 April	8,246	9,596
Released to Revenue	(1,350)	(1,350)
At 31 March	<u>6,896</u>	<u>8,246</u>
Total Deferred Grants		
At 31 March	<u>182,012</u>	<u>205,221</u>
At 01 April	<u>205,221</u>	<u>193,208</u>

Capital Grants are accounted for on an accruals basis and grants received have been credited to Deferred Grants Account. Amounts are released from the Deferred Grants Account to offset any provision for depreciation charged to revenue accounts in respect of assets that were originally acquired with the assistance of such grants.

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

17 Capital Financing Account

	2021	2020
	£	£
Balance at 01 April	3,027,505	3,026,937
Financing capital expenditure in the year		
Additions - using revenue balances	54,465	59,410
Loan repayments	40,291	40,291
Disposal of fixed assets	-	(12,037)
Depreciation eliminated on disposals	-	12,037
Reversal of depreciation	(119,778)	(124,108)
Deferred grants released	21,859	24,975
Balance at 31 March	3,024,342	3,027,505

The Capital Financing Account represents revenue and capital resources applied to finance capital expenditure or for the repayment of external loans. It also includes the reversal of depreciation to ensure it does not impact upon the amount to be met from precept. It does not represent a reserve that the council can use to support future expenditure.

18 Earmarked Reserves

	Balance at 01/04/2020	Contribution to reserve	Contribution from reserve	Balance at 31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£
Capital Projects Reserves	122,528	402,648	(296,917)	228,259
Asset Renewal Reserves	17,000	-	(17,000)	-
Other Earmarked Reserves	453,482	-	(404,960)	48,522
Total Earmarked Reserves	593,010	402,648	(718,877)	276,781

The Capital Projects Reserves are credited with amounts set aside from revenue to part finance specific projects which are part of the council's capital programme.

The Other Earmarked Reserves are credited with amounts set aside from revenue to fund specific known commitments of the council.

The Other Earmarked Reserves at 31 March 2021 are set out in detail at Appendix A.

19 Capital Commitments

The council had no capital commitments at 31 March 2021 not otherwise provided for in these accounts.

20 Contingent Liabilities

The council is not aware of any contingent liabilities at the date of these accounts.

21 Reconciliation of Revenue Cash Flow

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net Operating (Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(152,834)	168,023
Add/(Deduct)		
Interest Payable	10,653	12,834
Interest and Investment Income	(1,784)	(5,801)
Deferred Revenue Grants Released to Revenue	(1,350)	(1,350)
(Increase) in stock held	(2,703)	(979)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	34,117	(31,717)
Increase in creditors	44,087	1,145
Revenue activities net cash (outflow)/inflow	(69,814)	142,155

Flitwick Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2021

22 Movement in Cash

	2021	2020
	£	£
Balances at 01 April		
Cash with accounting officers	800	1,050
Cash at bank	1,196,504	1,216,087
	<u>1,197,304</u>	<u>1,217,137</u>
Balances at 31 March		
Cash with accounting officers	1,200	800
Cash at bank	1,020,831	1,196,504
	<u>1,022,031</u>	<u>1,197,304</u>
Net cash (outflow)	<u>(175,273)</u>	<u>(19,833)</u>

23 Reconciliation of Net Funds/Debt

	2021	2020
	£	£
(Decrease) in cash in the year	<u>(175,273)</u>	<u>(19,833)</u>
Cash outflow from repayment of debt	<u>40,291</u>	<u>40,291</u>
Net cash flow arising from changes in debt	<u>40,291</u>	<u>40,291</u>
Movement in net debt/funds in the year	<u>(134,982)</u>	<u>20,458</u>
Cash at bank and in hand	1,197,304	1,217,137
Total borrowings	<u>(212,104)</u>	<u>(252,395)</u>
Net funds at 01 April	<u>985,200</u>	<u>964,742</u>
Cash at bank and in hand	1,022,031	1,197,304
Total borrowings	<u>(171,813)</u>	<u>(212,104)</u>
Net funds at 31 March	<u>850,218</u>	<u>985,200</u>

24 Post Balance Sheet Events

There are no significant Post Balance Sheet events since the preparation of these accounts, up to the date of their final adoption (on 15th June 2021), which would have a material impact on the amounts and results reported herein.

Flitwick Town Council

Appendices

31 March 2021

Appendix A

Schedule of Earmarked Reserves

	<u>Balance at</u> <u>01/04/2020</u> £	<u>Contribution</u> <u>to reserve</u> £	<u>Contribution</u> <u>from reserve</u> £	<u>Balance at</u> <u>31/03/2021</u> £
<u>Capital Projects Reserves</u>				
Rolling Capital Fund	122,528	402,648	(296,917)	228,259
	122,528	402,648	(296,917)	228,259
<u>Asset Replacement Reserves</u>				
Vehicles & Equipment Fund	17,000		(17,000)	0
	17,000	0	(17,000)	0
<u>Other Earmarked Reserves</u>				
Resident Driven Projects	3,269		(3,269)	0
Community Involvement	5,000			5,000
Civic Regalia	800		(800)	0
Election Costs	7,351			7,351
Country Park & Museum	16,056		(16,056)	0
C L F Fund	3,995		(3,995)	0
Projects	41,074		(41,074)	0
Arts Festival	6,014		(6,014)	0
Allotments	20,357			20,357
T C P	11,649		(11,649)	0
General	44,506		(44,506)	0
Youth Forum	3,500		(3,500)	0
Planning Committee	15		(15)	0
Community Services - Events	0			0
Wall Fund	5,081		(5,081)	0
Bus Shelters	4,309		(4,309)	0
Rufus Projects	113,558		(113,558)	0
Rufus Building	19,500		(19,500)	0
Skate Park Maintenance	9,285		(9,285)	0
Community Events	15,814			15,814
Manor Park	6,995		(6,995)	0
New Burial Ground	115,354		(115,354)	0
	453,482	0	(404,960)	48,522
TOTAL EARMARKED RESERVES	£593,010	£402,648	(£718,877)	£276,781

Flitwick Town Council

31 March 2021

Annual Report Tables

Table. 1 – Budget & Actual Comparison

	Budget £	Actual £
Net Expenditure		
Community Events	23,600	16,967
Recreation & Sport	362,447	622,982
Open Spaces	(150)	29,368
Cemetery, Cremation & Mortuary	(7,250)	(31,188)
Planning & Development Services (including Markets)	55,700	45,149
Highways Roads (Routine)	500	(600)
Street Lighting	3,500	2,317
Net Direct Services Costs	438,347	684,995
Corporate Management	329,405	312,765
Democratic & Civic	21,500	448
Net Democratic, Management and Civic Costs	350,905	313,213
Interest & Investment Income	(1,500)	(1,784)
Loan Charges	51,491	50,944
Capital Expenditure	5,000	54,465
Transfers to/(from) other reserves	10,000	(316,229)
(Deficit from)/Surplus to General Reserve	-	68,639
Precept on Principal Authority	854,243	854,243

Flitwick Town Council

31 March 2021

Annual Report Tables

Table. 2 – Service Income & Expenditure

Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £
	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
CULTURAL & RELATED SERVICES				
Community Events}	23,537	(6,570)	16,967	4,042
Recreation & Sport	994,291	(371,309)	622,982	294,278
Open Spaces	47,971	(18,603)	29,368	(16,415)
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES				
Cemetery, Cremation & Mortuary	3,101	(34,289)	(31,188)	(11,058)
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES				
Community Development	63,232	(18,083)	45,149	60,060
HIGHWAYS, ROADS & TRANSPORT SERVICES				
Highways Roads (Routine)	(600)	-	(600)	246
Street Lighting	2,317	-	2,317	3,291
CENTRAL SERVICES				
Corporate Management	323,235	(10,470)	312,765	281,073
Democratic & Civic	(634)	-	(634)	6,338
Civic Expenses	1,082	-	1,082	19,142
Net Cost of Services	1,457,532	(459,324)	998,208	640,997

Hello

My name is James Snook, the organiser of the Flitwick lockdown car show,

I understand 3 councillors have written to review the decision about use of the millennium park for the car show this year.

I would like to include attached information to support my request,

In light of the fun fair, funtopia and food festival taking place on the park all of which will draw large crowd, I feel the reason given not to allow the car show to be unjustified.

I am requesting to only use a small section of the park highlighted in red on the map included,

This section of the the show is 100% static displays in two rows with a 5 meter gap between the rows to aid social distancing,

The purpose is to link areas already being used in the show at the village hall and Flitwick lower school.

In addition to the vehicles which will be gapped by 2 meters so only approx 20 vehicles, I will install a first aid point

This will be in addition to the currant previsions in the currant locations

Quote for additional first aid included

This will also be equipped with regulatory fire extinguishers as per fire requirements

Using bsi approved CO/foam

I also would take out a separate insurance for the area. Letter attached

Each exhibit will be given a large sack for waste which along with rest of the show will be collected shortly after 5pm and disposal via my waste contractor.

This work well last year and all sites clear of any waste after event within hour.

I have a team of Marshall's in place to cover the part provided by beds n bucks rescue and response, this will ensure every vehicle is moved in to position under control and safety is uppermost.

If toilets are felt to be needed I can provide these at short noticed, but as this links with village hall and local public houses may not be needed

In all this is only a very small part of the lockdown show, and maybe in future years after the COVID pandemic is under control the park may be utilised more.

If you have any questions please let me know.

I will speak at the open meeting session and during the item if the chair so wishes

Dear Town Clerk,

Further to my email below, please remove the name of Cllr Chacko and replace it with that of Cllr Dodds, who has agreed to sign the letter.

It seems I have misinterpreted Cllr Chacko's verbal offer to sign and support as a formal offer. I have apologised for this and indicated that I would remove his name.

Kind regards,

Cllr Gareth Mackey
Independent Central Bedfordshire Councillor
Flitwick and Steppingley Ward

Subject: Request to Review Decision

Dear Town Clerk,

Under Section 7 of the Standing Orders, we the undersigned Councillors request that the matter of the Flitwick Lockdown Car and Bike Show 2021 and their request to use part of the Millenium Park field is reviewed.

As you will know the Council recently granted permission to the travelling Fun Fair to use the area for a number of days. This occurred without apparent incident.

The Car Show Event have stated that they request a much smaller portion of land and this only for a day.

I understand that they offer to supply details of public liability insurance should they be given permission and can arrange toilet facilities.

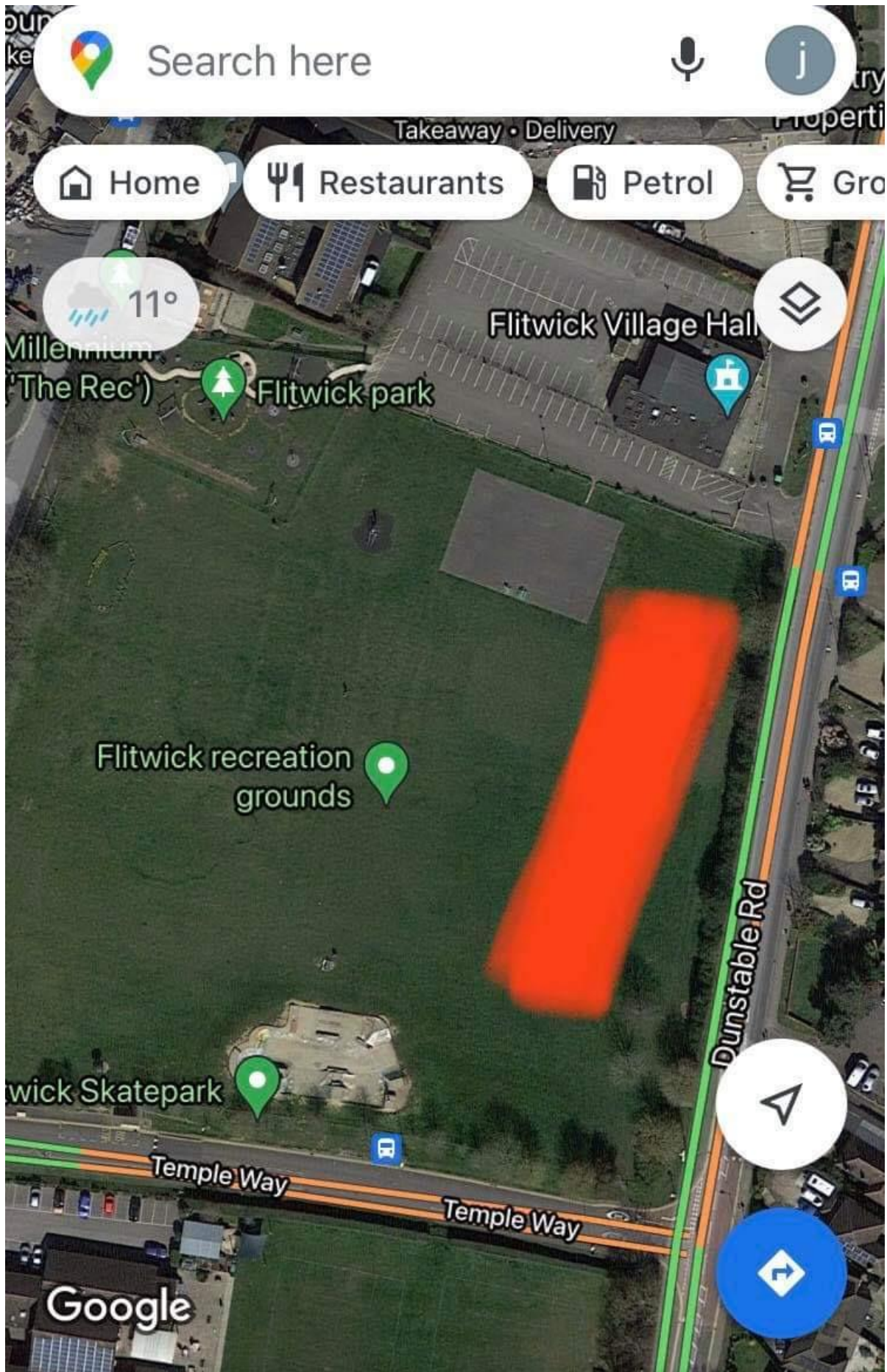
I also understand that St John's Ambulance will be present to provide first aid coverage.

I further note that the request to hold this Town wide event takes place after the reported and expected end of Covid restrictions in the country. This event is also arguably, considerably safer than an event centred in one area as it promotes social distancing.

I ask that this be reconsidered at the first available opportunity. This being either Community Services or Full Council.

Yours sincerely,

Cllrs Mackey, Platt & Chacko



Cllr Gareth Mackey
Independent Central Bedfordshire Councillor
Flitwick and Steppingley Ward

**FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL DRAFT STRATEGY 2021-2025
RESIDENTS' SURVEY
FEEDBACK**

Introduction

The Flitwick Town Council Draft Strategy 2021-2025 consultation initially ran from 7th May to 4th June. However, the closing date for feedback was extended to 13th June to encourage more people to respond to an article in Flitwick Papers which was distributed door to door the previous week.

We received a total of 125 responses:

103 online

22 paper surveys

The survey and strategy document were publicised on social media and on the FTC website. Emails were sent to local schools with the survey/strategy link for distribution to parents, emails with the links were also sent to local businesses and local community groups and organisations. A QR code was generated to link directly to the survey and draft strategy document to make it easier for people to submit their responses.

Paper copies of the survey were available to pick up from the Tesco noticeboard display (QR code was also on display), Flitwick Library, FTC stall at Flitwick Market, including the Town Mayor's charity coffee morning in the Village Hall, the Town Council offices and Rendezvous Café & Bar. Copies were also given to over 60s Lunch Club members on food delivery day.

Respondents were asked if they supported the Vision, Mission and key themes detailed in the strategy document.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Flitwick Resident

Less than 1 year	3%
1-5 years	12%
5-10 years	14%
More than 10 years	71%

(Total number of responses 125)

Work or Run a Business

No	70%
Yes	10%
Run a business	14%
Other	6%*

(Total number of responses 125)

*3 work from home, 3 retired, 1 full time parent

SURVEY RESULTS

Overall, the responses were extremely positive with at least 80% strongly agreeing/agreeing to all the themes. The highest response was 90% - Engaged Community. Followed by 87% - Sustainable Environment; 86% - Council that delivers and Prosperous Town; 81% - Vision and Mission; and 80% - Centre for Everyone.

VISION

Strongly Agree	40%
Agree	41%
Neither	13%
Disagree	2%
Strongly Disagree	4%

(Total number of responses 111)

MISSION

Strongly Agree	35%
Agree	46%
Neither	13%
Disagree	4%
Strongly Disagree	2%

(Total number of responses 111)

PROSPEROUS TOWN

Strongly Agree	48%
Agree	38%
Neither	7%
Disagree	5%
Strongly Disagree	2%

(Total number of responses 97)

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

Strongly Agree	53%
Agree	34%
Neither	8%
Disagree	1%
Strongly Disagree	4%

(Total number of responses 97)

ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Strongly Agree	54%
Agree	36%
Neither	4%
Disagree	4%
Strongly Disagree	2%

(Total number of responses 97)

CENTRE FOR EVERYONE

Strongly Agree	44%
Agree	36%
Neither	14%
Disagree	4%
Strongly Disagree	2%

(Total number of responses 97)

COUNCIL THAT DELIVERS

Strongly Agree	50%
Agree	36%
Neither	10%
Disagree	2%
Strongly Disagree	2%

(Total number of responses 97)

COMMENTS

A number of respondents took the opportunity to comment under each theme.

Please see Appendix A listing all comments received.

Appendix A

FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL DRAFT STRATEGY 2021-2025 RESIDENTS' SURVEY COMMENTS

All comments received online and via paper copies are listed below under the theme headings. The process has enabled respondents to not only give feedback on the draft strategy but share ideas for the Town. Two common themes in particular are lack of healthcare facilities and accessible disabled facilities.

VISION

55 comments:

The vision does not need the word "improved".

Engagement with the community is a must. Council need to take into consideration the views of the community they serve, current methods are not completely obtaining this objective.

More green leaning strategy covering how saving planet will be achieved.

Not take away open spaces accessible to all ages.

Flitwick needs to look 'well managed', currently the town look very scruffy; verges are uncut, footpaths overgrown, graffiti on the millennium park (just examples) all give a extremely poor impression to residents and visitors alike. It's hard to see how you will attract investment if you're not doing these basic things even moderately well. If this is not FTCs responsibility you need to lobby CBC to do much better.

Life enhancing environment should reference enhancing the rural quality of the town.

Making the town accessible for wheelchair users.

Increased facilities for residents including doctors and dentists as these facilities are overwhelmed. We also need a strategy for dealing with commuter parking in the town as this is a huge problem within a mile of the station on every main road including The Ridgeway, Manor Way, Temple Way. A parking system such as that in The Avenue and Kings Road would solve the problem everywhere.

Equipped with all the facilities needed i.e. doctors surgery.

Safe.

Keep the town more safe and teach the kids not to touch or walk on someone's property.

A bigger doctors surgery.

The word 'improved' doesn't really add anything and doesn't feed 'visionary' - perhaps you could articulate what 'improved' would look like and then include that - dynamic, vibrant? Also, could reference a 'culture' alongside 'environment' so it's about people as well as the place.

More doctors surgeries, more local shops, better community services. A zebra crossing on the bridge at the Station to ensure safety.

I don't use social media. So something that can be accessible for a resident like me to find information or be notified of any upcoming events.

Stop building new houses.

Facilities for everyone - enough capacity.

Ensuring there is a fair mix of shops available to everyone. We do not need 7 hairdressers!

No, this is great as an aspiration. But in my 20 years here I've only seen some small steps towards this.

Vibrant look at that monstrosity you created to make a bus depot. High crime and litter nothing here to shout about hopefully prices of houses go up and i can move. Nothing worth seeing or doing its all rubbish.

A translation into everyday English. It reads like a management speak. Are you really trying to create a beast that needs feeding with layers of management, operating principles, etc? Are you saying this is the only way to deliver the very simple level of services the Council needs to? Let's stop pretending we are something we aren't.

More help for disabled residents and visitors.

Something for the young.

I wonder if "for all" should be added at the end to emphasise the inclusivity of the vision.

Recognise that growth is not always the answer.

Preservation of green land and wildlife. Lack of doctors, poor water pressure for residents, lack of consideration for increased traffic.

West ward is lacking any play space, outdoor seating within. The housing developments. Town centre is where they are all concentrated more than 1k from my home. The Mount, Dewpond and some other open areas could at least have benches. Open areas that originally had planning for play areas should be honoured. Voluntary youth groups should be supported as a priority if you wish to create a culture of volunteering.

For every resident.

To put the plans into action for Station Road with a new scout hut which was promised along with other builds, have better plans for Maulden Road country park and build the planned home on Steppingley Road instead of Ferndale. Where does this leave Ferndale for much needed improvements which won't be able to be done on 5e existing plot? It seems everything has been scraped like everything which is planned for Flitwick. Extremely disappointing news. We want good amenities with a new doctors surgery among so many other things.

Doctors surgery/ health centre.

More Doctors.

Play areas for children, proper development of the "country park", beautification of the town centre to encourage local and national business to invest, facilities for teenagers.

Provision of services accessible for all.

Vision as too aspirational, vibrant and inclusive are not words that resonate when thinking of Flitwick, quite the contrary.

Healthy.

Healthy, green, countryside.

Explanation of what is meant by vibrant! It is not self explanatory.

An actual vision would have been good....

The town does not enhance life, there is no investment in facilities for residents, the residents are forced to go elsewhere.

Emphasis on sustainability. Housing for young/first time buyers.

Doesn't actually say anything does it, just usual words & blather.

Lobby for safer roads, crossings and pavements by supporting residents who have problems in their areas.

Supporting local businesses to thrive

Traffic calming, average speed cameras, would be the best way to go as speed bumps done not work.

More disabled access. Unfortunately, Flitwick is not disabled friendly, it feels that when new projects happen disabled access is not considered. In 2021 we should be inclusive to all residents.

This covers pretty much everything.

There has always been a vision but as yet we have to wait for that 'vision' to be realised. Words not deeds.

It is the people of Flitwick that make it vibrant and welcoming and I do not see how the Town Council improve this. The Rufus Centre is so far out of the town you need a car to get there. The same for the leisure centre.

Roadside draining. Road drain side grills cleared.

To specifically engage with 13-18 age group. Inclusively, empowering them, making them feel valued and respected, so that in turn they do not feel the need to litter, daub graffiti and make their presence felt via loudness or dangerous road behaviours on bicycles, scooters, etc.

Access for disabled would be great. Something for the teenage community to give them something positive to do.

More parking.

Please use 'our voice' to pressure CBC in providing public disabled parking spaces in East Ward for PO, etc.
Random police presence for shocking outbreaks of ASB.
Stop using weedkiller, be selective in mowing and salt application. Too many dead plants due to CBC ignorant behaviour.

More affordable, decent housing.
Enter RHS competition 'Britain in Bloom' (as seen on TV)

MISSION

37 comments:

Given the importance of public open space for all that the pandemic has demonstrated, the Council should include a commitment to protect the current public open space within Flitwick from development (e.g. Millennium Green, Hinksley Road, Station Road, etc

Green strategy.

CBC will always restrict what we want to achieve.

Making the town accessible for wheelchair users.

Increased facilities for residents including doctors and dentists as these facilities are overwhelmed. We also need a strategy for dealing with commuter parking in the town as this is a huge problem within a mile of the station on every main road including The Ridgeway, Manor Way, Temple Way. A parking system such as that in The Avenue and Kings Road would solve the problem everywhere.

Support for all.

Champion diversity in addition to equality.

Stop people doing drugs or sell drugs and stop people smoking weed around children's area that are in it.

New scout hut!!!!!! NOT using the Rufus Centre!!!

There is huge opportunity for Flitwick in the next four years. The large numbers of commuters will likely reduce in number and more will work from home. It doesn't feel like this is explicitly captured in the plans. People should have more time to spend around here and more money to spend locally.

'Advocating to influence beneficial development, investment and services' doesn't sound very concrete - something more like 'we will work with partners to develop the local area and bring investment to local services' feels more purposeful and action driven.

Again, good mission statement but it's not been delivered.

Community spirit is more important than your equality words.

Make sure that there is sufficient infrastructure in place. No more housing needed.

Beneficial development on existing land whilst protecting the green spaces that surround Flitwick.

Define sustainability because this word means nothing, builders stick it onto plans to get approval then build new houses with no parking and no way to charge electric cars in future.

The Council should be prepared to Lobby and engage with other bodies to promote the requirement of a growing community. For example, Health Centre facilities.

This is the same mission statement that has been produced for years with no action, just a change in the words.

No, wholly support your mission as being appropriate.

Far too much residential development and with little concern to improving infrastructure first before further development. For example, GP surgery struggles to cope with demands of increased residents, Steppingley Road just seems to get busier and the area around the entrance to the train station has been a disgrace for years.

Actively improve the town by actions.

Usual apathy will apply.

You've led the residents on for 2 years about improved facilities for local groups, there is no development in the town to bring in shops or restaurants for the residents. CBC continually change their mind, and have wasted money on plans such as the multi-story car park, the retail development, etc. etc.

Protecting the town from over development.

Although I agree with what is written there is absolutely nothing new is there, just a rehash of that which has always existed.

Stronger emphasis on non-house facilities (doctors, community buildings)

Again, please include your disabled residents and not as an afterthought.

I think the aspiration is to engage with ALL residents, organisations & businesses

A specification and explanation of how the Mission's four statements are to be implemented and achieved. As it stands, the four statements are idealistic or utopian.

Ask the school authorities to ask the school children to take their litter home i.e. cartons, food wrappings, drink cans, unfinished food, plastic bottles, etc.

The word 'Mission' is modern use in this instance is very strange to me. Maybe this whole document could have been worded more simply.

Some help needed for disabled people. Organisations that hold meetings in the Village Hall struggle without electric doors. The two parks are not easy to use with a wheelchair. I'm sure these comments do not come under the title of 'Mission' but I just wanted to make a point.

I have yet to be engaged and you never seem to understand our needs. I hope you will encourage community involvement because the spirit is there. I would expect openness with the money. I wish you well.

The whole scout movement and RBL needs to be fully supported in re-location to more suitable premises as this current building is not suitable for use for us to enable the groups to develop and evolve.

I do not understand the 'Mission' at all.

What's the difference between this and 'Vision'? A lot of words that need simplifying and specifying.

Getting on with the development of the bus station/train improvements already promised but so far non existent!

Somewhere young people can meet with activities.

A PROSPEROUS TOWN

43 comments:

Encourage young people who wish to start up small businesses in the area, to meet, and perhaps team up to create ideas.

A new supermarket would be good.

What is the time frame for achieving this prosperity? Too vague. What are the small steps towards attaining the goal?

Try to educate the growing population what Flitwick Town has to offer so don't spoil it.

The market is hidden behind the Village Hall. It needs to be promoted. More shops, not services. There is little to come to Flitwick for unless its Tesco or the station. The Carnival was a great day for the town, perhaps the Council could help in some way. The brass band and carol singing outside the bank was also enjoyed, with the street market.

There are many services that you should encourage a new doctor's surgery with parking and medical centre. So many things waiting while you talk.

Current services are not being improved to meet constant demand i.e. doctors require expanding/relocating to new building. The current middle school is not currently the correct size for this amount of children attending.

Which services to do what? Cut the grass?

Stop all housing developments until a new surgery is up and running. No new businesses can flourish if their staff can't get adequate and speedy medical treatment.

Specifically, the provision of another GP surgery

Encourage business involvement in a more diverse manner than just barbers, Indian restaurants and estate agents. Provide a more defined town centre. Raise the bar as Ampthill is seen as a class well above Flitwick

The town needs its sense of identity to obtain these, work with the people and this could easily happen

More defined ways of tackling green issues not just saying doing nothing is not a option

Local businesses could be helped by having street festivals such as the ones Baldock runs. This also engenders a strong sense of community.

Encourage more varied traders in the town and promote a bigger more varied market that is open for longer hours

Support the Aldi planning application

The need for services are crucial to achieve the vision.

We are a small town, work should be done with the businesses already here, before bringing new businesses if they mean more building.

A prosperous town and nice place to live needs green spaces, quality and affordable housing, improved shopping facilities, better eating out facilities.

No more barbers or Indian restaurants please

See earlier comment about more commuters staying local more and the opportunity to spend money locally.

The town lacks a sense of a 'centre' beyond the Tesco, so there is not much to build a sense of vibrant community around. More could be done with the triangle by the war memorial outside the Barclays Bank, using it as a market square, area for boutique and specialist food stalls at the weekend (beyond the awful kebab van that seems to be in permanent residency). It is a perfect location to act as a core between the main streets that hold businesses, and could be built upon to attract new business to the area.

Stop building.

New amenities to help cope with the growing town eg doctors surgery, supermarket

We must improve services and take action

Get rid of all the estate agents and no Aldi will encourage all the dross

This will not work without improved local services and facilities.

Neighbourhood Plan - We are worried are green fields are getting built on and no matter if people object it still goes ahead (money always wins).

No extra doctors, dentists

More diverse retail opportunities

Not entirely sure FTC has anything other than an influencing role in this so not sure this is deliverable

Prosperity doesn't always bring happiness to the current residents, who are affected by further development. You need to engage more closely with residents on any further development.

Again what do you mean by vibrant? Also improved against what? What is an improvement to me may not be an improvement to someone else.

Countryside, green, sustainable

What exactly will you do, other than use generalisations to cover everything and anything.

The town does well as you can get to London quickly, the town would fail without the train station. Services have not been improved in years.

Prosperity is not just about money, it's quality of life, a community that thrives and is its own support network. A town that believes in itself and takes pride in that

I'm not so sure about increasing economic prosperity - especially as first mention. More important perhaps to try to ensure that all residents have everything that they need to live comfortably and without worry.

Find ways to encourage a wider range of businesses to the town, making it more appealing to residents and visitors

Can't disagree, but again what is new here? Clearly what FTC want and what is actually achievable differ significantly. Most people just want to get on with their lives unhindered by such dreams

Running hot food markets once a month, open air craft markets in prominent positions in the town.
Publishing a directory of services.

More emphasis on support for local residents, over people just commuting into the train station by car; encourage public transport over cars

More than barbers. We need to represent the diverse community we have & the disabled. More retail opportunities with nearby parking.

A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

comments: 39

Should include a commitment to protect public green open space within Flitwick from development, and not 'compensating' loss of central greenspace with new greenspace around Flitwick's margins

The proper upkeep of footpaths in the town

Putting biodiversity before residents needs (Manor Park !!!)

It's always going to be there, but it will need to be done with thought, engagement with the younger demographic to tackle Flitwick's environmental issues, largest we face in the town is pollution

How?

If this is to be realised, those who won't or will fully destroy the environment need to be held accountable. Would be good if living in synergy with wildlife and the nature was mentioned too to it's not so people centric.

Ensure wildflowers are actively planted so the wild green areas not just a mess of weeds that are an eyesore but an area that actively supports bees, other insects and small mammals.

More litter picking and dog fouling measures

This should be the main priority as the quality of our local environment has declined sharply in the last 30 years.

Please do not add speed bumps, as this increases pollution with the slowing down and accelerating away it causes.

We massively need more Green spaces so house building must be avoided on the Maulden Road land and the land behind the Football Centre. It is accepted that the land off Steppingley Road is suitable but Steppingley Road itself is a crazily busy and dangerous road which needs dealing with in some way shape or form. We also need to keep green spaces and walkways clean of rubbish, dog poo and fly tipping.

Focus for the town - Barclays Bank area more seating

Commit to re-forestation where appropriate

Stop building on green space

Don't allow building on green belt land

More seating

I'll build an incinerator don't see anything for nature

Plant a lot more trees.

You can only be sustainable if you do not build on our surrounding fields. Any new developments take away valuable habitat for insects and birds which is lost forever. And no farmland should be built on as it produces food for us.

Limit the amount of large lorries that go through the town.

Sorry, but laughable. By continually increasing the size of the Flitwick population and adding a crematorium hardly creates a cleaner and less polluted town. Traffic has increased adding to pollution. A ring road would help. We also have had issues with smells and Covanta pollution. I find it bizarre that the

filthy brick works close down and an eco friendly wind turbine erected just up the road and then Covanta is allowed to pollute the immediate area. Crazy!

Encouraging more walking and cycling access.

Act and make the town green, embrace the countryside, reduce pollution.

Not exactly leading the way at the moment are you...

This means keeping our green spaces no more development in an over developed landscape.

Where have you shown this?

Much, much quicker. Time has already run out, penny pinchers delaying.

I believe we should have a community shop where items can be taken to be repaired, where people can book to learn how to change a washer in a tap, where sessions are run on policy, guidance about laws (in general) where local businesses can promote themselves perhaps in sessions, where volunteer groups can be established, promoted and work from, a community hub, non political. Let's face it many plumbers for example are faceless but building rapport within the community being seen to help - becomes its own reward.

Push ahead with tree planting, maintaining the river and ponds, prevent development on green spaces and develop more recreational spaces, such as the country park. These should be a priority to redress the balance following the considerable overdevelopment of housing.

Typical 'nothing' statement. Speaks volumes but says little. Not exactly rushed 'improving the public realm' in the past have you?

Initiatives to seed verges with wildflowers. Electric charging points.

Stop supporting initiatives that reduce trees (outside Barclays, moving planted trees in Manor Park, tree on entrance to old leisure centre)

This is a unity; countrywide agreed strategies are required, so we work in tandem, rather than as a small community. Too wide an aim to achieve as an individual, small community.

Why does this questionnaire have to be so formal? The Millennium Park could have trees and benches with a path to push buggies and wheelchairs around. Don't cut the grass verges so often, give wildflowers a chance. When new housing estates are built include a grass park with trees.

Some events aimed at school children regarding the local environment would be welcomed i.e. child visits to woods/moors, etc., on an educational basis.

Lots more dog poo bins needed around the town.

How will this be achieved? What will it look like? More dog bins. Stop Council staff smoking out the Rufus Centre offices? Not a good model to follow.

AN ENGAGED COMMUNITY

39 comments:

Engagement required with young people to a greater degree.

The need for community focus and engagement, council should support any ideas that come to them with view of getting Flitwick's community involved.

Difficult to include the younger generation if not given direction whilst at school and also involve parents.

We need more community events like the carnival

It is crucial to get children and young people involved and accommodated, to reverse the increasing disaffection and anti-social behaviour by a minority.

Make the town accessible for wheelchair users

Support all areas of the community

Engagement is lacking.

Is it possible to have a statue of Professor Flitwick from Harry Potter books outside the station?

Tesco is too much the prevailing experience in Flitwick - more could be done to create a vibrancy about the 'centre' as a destination - nice food stalls and market stalls in the empty area outside Barclays Bank would be a starting point. An independent coffee van might bring people in...

Make it safer with more of a presence of police officers

You'll need to actually listen to your residents if you want to develop more of a community spirit. So far all I've seen is incompetence.

Some of your councillors are so disjointed from reality engaging in their own beliefs and not of the people

The Central Local plan to build on the fields opposite the old Leisure Centre should be opposed at every level. ALL those fields been a valuable escape during lockdown, any building on those will effect the water table for remaining crops. Also, as the schools and doctors are full (you cannot get a doctors appointment at the best of times) we should not be building any more housing estates because of this.

Voluntary youth groups need more than just Leases by way of support

Poor facilities

Do as you have been promising for years, developing the town centre and creating open areas for people. We are all so let down by the council doing nothing other than spend money on proposals that never go through that the community are apathetic to any proposals from the council

More community events throughout the year

This is very much needed, and to be welcomed, given past practices of failing to adequate engage with electorate on key issues

Please ensure this includes young people and meets their needs so that we prevent the common issues often faced by communities where bored and disillusioned people cause difficulties for others

More restaurants etc, nightlife to provide a vibrant town centre

Oh do me a favour - folks want to be left alone to get on with their own life

Activities and engagement for teenagers not just guides and cubs

The Town Council have driven local business away from Christmas lights, to pizza shops. This is a place to live not to be a community.

More opportunities for folks to become engaged, encourage businesses and organisations to run and support their events as well as TC events. Advertising in FLITWICK papers for businesses in FLITWICK should be minimal , many are small and this advertising helps them build, perhaps the “exchange” could be taking part in a TC event or even promoting one or running one to aid the community.

Continue to improve play areas, to include swings and roundabouts for children in wheelchairs. Provide more areas for teenagers to gather, including them in discussions, to reduce the amount of anti social behaviour. Provide more benches, community gardens etc

Oh come on, of course this is a standard dream. Unachievable of course due to public indifference and just wanting to be left alone to get on with their own lives.

Actions such as litter picking should continue. Open Gardens scheme. Litter bins in streets. Trees and flowers planted in street sites.

Brilliant work with Christmas lights and Halloween events etc. Embrace that we are more diverse than Ampthill & stand in our own right.

All age groups? Flitwick is fast becoming a retirement town. The age groups from 16 to 30 seem to be missed out. Lots of different things for the over 50s to do as long as you have money. Activities for under 16yrs. What about a tenpin bowling alley?

Where are we at now? We might all be very proud now!!

More communal events – market (farmers), perhaps outside Barclays Bank. Concerts.

How are we to empower residents to have a strong sense of well-being? Bold statements such as ‘an engaged community’ need exemplifying. Too idealistic as it stands.

I feel Middle School aged children would join more social clubs and events if the facilities provided were updated.

Stop the waffling re the scouts/guides/cadets, etc. These are the youngsters who may be reading these pages in 10,15,20 year's time. Make them proud of you.

Would be nice to have a Flitwick Arts & Crafts Show, engaging artists of all ages to show each year.

Keep up the good work. Already achieved.

Encourage things like litter picking. Again, this is all talk, talk.

A CENTRE FOR EVERYONE

32 comments:

Nice idea but profit shouldn't become the main focus

Need to have a few centres like this in Flitwick with Rufus perhaps as a main hub but not the main centre.

Has the space required

The Rufus Centre is in pretty good shape structurally and seems to be thriving, it is on the edge of town, so not easily accessible without transport for some. The village hall is more accessible to the majority of the population and would benefit from structural and cosmetic improvements.

I have an office in The Rufus Centre and the Rendezvous has proved a great success and could be expanded further in some ways.

Location of the Rufus Centre

I previously contacted the Rufus Centre about hiring a room for community fitness and was appalled by the amount they wanted to charge! Not exactly encouraging local business to help keep the community fit and active!

Discounts for local businesses.

It should be used as a centre for Arts, Culture, Music, Dance, etc - more investment in opportunities for children and young people to learn and take part in creative activities - post-Covid these opportunities are more important and beneficial for young people's wellbeing than ever. Invest in people and the community, not just making money from hiring out the space for conferences and commercial benefit.

With the ability to employ staff who have children around term times.

More activities for children, people with special needs

Great centre that will help to bring our community together

This means you have to do more for youth and commuters.

Why? Another waste of money

The Rufus Centre is more than 2k from my home and I cannot cycle for health reasons so not all resources should be solely focused here in the town.

It's not a centre when it is on the outskirts of town that is nearly two miles from a significant number of the town population

More facilities, more development leads to more people, more pollution. Sort out the roads and infrastructure first and consider the peace and happiness of the current residents before further expansion.

Developing the Rufus Centre more commercially will inevitably impact on its use by the community.

For many years the TC didn't actually listen to what people wanted. It catered to a select few, events were never properly advertised. By utilising and supporting businesses within FLITWICK they in turn can agree to advertise event for the Rufus Centre. The outdoor cinema idea was inspired but the costs were ridiculous - why don't the TC crowd find for equipment and have an outdoor cinema that people/families can afford? Going forward if you buy the right equipment you could hire it out to local schools for events too. The Rufus Centre is on the edge of FLITWICK which can make it awkward for some people to get to, but if you have events put on a little bus for free to collect people. The Rufus Runner.

Would love to see a shuttle bus or similar for those that feel they cannot walk there - 'improved transport links'

Good, but isn't that supposed to be what is happening now? Nothing new here then.

Get rid of The Beach and make the village hall site attractive for use as a social hub. The building is outdated and could be so much use as a centre for activities.

Disabled access.

Is this the role of the Council? If we sold off the Rufus Centre and just leased essential offices, how much would we get to reinvest in the town and let someone run the Rufus Centre as a business.

Greater diversity in all aspects currently offered; particularly range of community activities that do not, in the main, focus on retired people or weddings/parties.

As a long term resident of Flitwick it is very good to see the Rufus Centre being used for a number of events. Some events aimed at young families would be welcomed in this future. The Rendezvous Café is a great addition.

I rarely go so have no opinion here.

Very good.

As I've already said, the Rufus Centre is too far out. It's not environmentally friendly to keep using cars. There needs to be building in Flitwick as the Council does not own the Village Hall.

Shame the Rufus Centre isn't nearer. The Village Hall is more central.

Good job done by you all.

To cater for activities for the older generation (entertainment and social activities).

A COUNCIL THAT DELIVERS

29 comments:

Utilise the wealth of talent, capability and skills within the community before engaging outside resource. This can also assist in community engagement.

How will you know when councillors will be developed in the skills required? What are the skills required? Surely some councillors should already have the skills and experience required? May need revising as it doesn't instill confidence.

An awful lot to deliver.

Do not outsource the maintenance of green spaces and verges in the new housing estates where the residents pay council tax and a maintenance fee to a private company for poor service.

Actions speak louder than words.

A council that listens to the public, rather than driving it's own agenda and dismissing the opinions of others is essential. The current council is not approachable and does not seem to care about other views.

Not enough collaboration.

How would anyone not support that objective?

Yes please - and is accountable. Communication with the local community on progress and plans is important to build trust and that sense of pride in the local area.

It will be better to focus on one or two major projects and deliver than start several and not deliver any.

Again, this will be a tall order...

You couldn't deliver a newspaper.

Bigger surgery, which includes health centre and physio etc.

Same promise with no action.

Appropriate training of staff and Councillors very important in gaining trust and achieving engagement.

Yes, it really isn't doing this currently with any of its projects.

Councillors should be held to account and all should engage with the wishes of the town

Agree for officer training. Pointless for councillors.

Engagement with your businesses, groups and schools - talk to them - go visit them see what helps them what they needs. FLITWICK TC is well placed for putting people in touch with each other, building relationships, seeing a need and addressing it.

Agree if this applies to Officers, as for Councillors, not a chance.

A Council that delivers slowly. My daughter then aged 8yrs wrote to FTC asking for more shops, in her case a shoe shop. We were told a development at the station. Good we thought. That was 38 years ago! Station development yes, no shops?

More information put out generally e.g. noticeboard at Village Hall not just Tesco.

Excellent.

Would hope that this aim is a pertinent part of job interview!

Deliver the return of the Carnival.

A decent newsletter each month.

Keep it simple!! Do we really need KPI's for the essential services provided by Flitwick Town Council?? Relative to need. The Lord Mayor of London perhaps, Mayor of London yes, Flitwick needs to deliver but does not need this level of management claptrap which echoes around Whitehall and multi-national boardrooms.

How are you going to 'deliver' on a limited budget, with inexperienced persons, small committees and 75% of Flitwick residents not committed?

Consider the businesses when doing specialist things that are to 'help' local footfall. When developing the bank you closed the area for customers parking on the very few days that all the shops around needed customers. This value of business lost was at least a third. Then followed the pandemic followed by the road and path being dug up many times ruining the special paving that you spent huge amounts of money on. Would be pleased to know that the space is going to be used for.

MCM
June 2021

Hello

My name is James Snook, the organiser of the Flitwick lockdown car show,

I understand 3 councillors have written to review the decision about use of the millennium park for the car show this year.

I would like to include attached information to support my request,

In light of the fun fair, funtopia and food festival taking place on the park all of which will draw large crowd, I feel the reason given not to allow the car show to be unjustified.

I am requesting to only use a small section of the park highlighted in red on the map included,

This section of the the show is 100% static displays in two rows with a 5 meter gap between the rows to aid social distancing,

The purpose is to link areas already being used in the show at the village hall and Flitwick lower school.

In addition to the vehicles which will be gapped by 2 meters so only approx 20 vehicles, I will install a first aid point

This will be in addition to the currant previsions in the currant locations

Quote for additional first aid included

This will also be equipped with regulatory fire extinguishers as per fire requirements

Using bsi approved CO/foam

I also would take out a separate insurance for the area. Letter attached

Each exhibit will be given a large sack for waste which along with rest of the show will be collected shortly after 5pm and disposal via my waste contractor.

This work well last year and all sites clear of any waste after event within hour.

I have a team of Marshall's in place to cover the part provided by beds n bucks rescue and response, this will ensure every vehicle is moved in to position under control and safety is uppermost.

If toilets are felt to be needed I can provide these at short noticed, but as this links with village hall and local public houses may not be needed

In all this is only a very small part of the lockdown show, and maybe in future years after the COVID pandemic is under control the park may be utilised more.

If you have any questions please let me know.

I will speak at the open meeting session and during the item if the chair so wishes

Dear Town Clerk,

Further to my email below, please remove the name of Cllr Chacko and replace it with that of Cllr Dodds, who has agreed to sign the letter.

It seems I have misinterpreted Cllr Chacko's verbal offer to sign and support as a formal offer. I have apologised for this and indicated that I would remove his name.

Kind regards,

Cllr Gareth Mackey
Independent Central Bedfordshire Councillor
Flitwick and Steppingley Ward

Subject: Request to Review Decision

Dear Town Clerk,

Under Section 7 of the Standing Orders, we the undersigned Councillors request that the matter of the Flitwick Lockdown Car and Bike Show 2021 and their request to use part of the Millenium Park field is reviewed.

As you will know the Council recently granted permission to the travelling Fun Fair to use the area for a number of days. This occurred without apparent incident.

The Car Show Event have stated that they request a much smaller portion of land and this only for a day.

I understand that they offer to supply details of public liability insurance should they be given permission and can arrange toilet facilities.

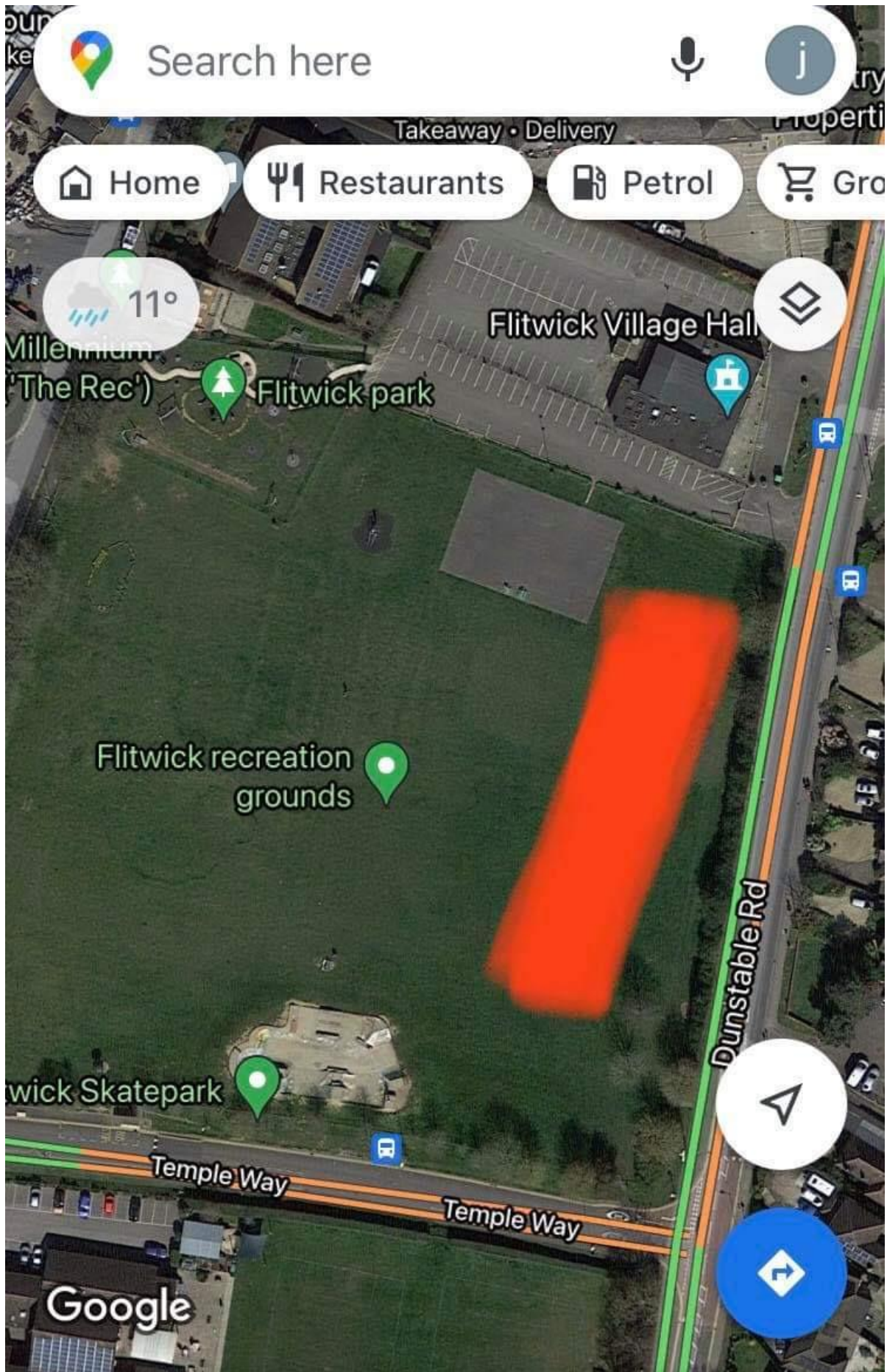
I also understand that St John's Ambulance will be present to provide first aid coverage.

I further note that the request to hold this Town wide event takes place after the reported and expected end of Covid restrictions in the country. This event is also arguably, considerably safer than an event centred in one area as it promotes social distancing.

I ask that this be reconsidered at the first available opportunity. This being either Community Services or Full Council.

Yours sincerely,

Cllrs Mackey, Platt & Chacko



Cllr Gareth Mackey
Independent Central Bedfordshire Councillor
Flitwick and Steppingley Ward

Date :- 6/7/2021

Observations on the following Planning Applications

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Support on the following applications;				
21/00216/TRE	5/11/2021	Pat Longland	Mr Dominic Caswell	2 Swift Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1RG
Proposal : Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order: MB/76/00007/T7 Reduce Oak Tree overall height by 4.5 metres, reduce the maximum lateral spread to south, east and west by 4 metres, and to north by 2.5 metres and remove any significant deadwood from crown				
Observations : FTC-Support Vote-All in favour				
21/00249/TRE	5/17/2021	Pat Longland	Mr McVay	8 Burghley Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1TF
Proposal : Works to a tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order: MB/76/00007/G1 reduce Lime tree back to previous point of reduction and remove basal growth and epicormic growth on the tree.				
Observations : FTC-Support Vote-All in favour				
21/00251/TRE	5/17/2021	Pat Longland	Mrs Trisha Trowbridge	9 Burghley Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1TF
Proposal : Works to a trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order MB/76/0007/G1: reduced back to previous point of reduction. Remove basal growth and epicormic growth on Lime Trees.				
Observations : FTC Support Vote - all in favour				
21/01509/FUL	5/11/2021	Lucy Baxter	Mr Paul Cripps	14 Windermere Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1NQ
Proposal : Dropped Kerb				
Observations : FTC-Support Vote all in favour				
21/01829/FUL	5/17/2021	William Comber	Mr & Mrs Danis	12 Chaucer Road Flitwick Beds MK45 1QG
Proposal : Proposed two storey front extension				
Observations : FTC - Support Vote - all in favour				

Date :- 6/7/2021

Observations on the following Planning Applications

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
21/01841/FUL	5/11/2021	Lucy Baxter	Mr S Ball	Windmill Lodge 56a Windmill Road Flitwick MK45 1AU
Proposal : First floor side and rear extension Observations : FTC-Support Vote - all in favour				
21/01876/FUL	5/11/2021	Stuart Kemp	Mr Molyneaux	42 Ampthill Road Flitwick Beds MK45 1AY
Proposal : Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension with new front masonry wall and steel railing and automated sliding gate Observations : FTC-Support Vote - all in favour				
21/01900/FUL	5/21/2021	Sarah Fortune	Mr L Woodcraft	32 Ampthill Road Flitwick Beds MK45 1AY
Proposal : Remove existing garden store and part rear extension, erection of new infill single storey rear extension, remove existing pitched roof, build new flat roof with lantern and infill openings of existing car port Observations : FTC-Support Vote-All in favour				
21/01925/FUL	5/11/2021	William Corber	Mr & Mrs Willis	14 Pilgrims Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1UL
Proposal : Proposed first floor extension above existing garage with single storey side/rear extension and new front porch Observations : FTC-Support Vote-All in favour				
21/01988/FUL	5/17/2021	Janine Richardson	Rev Lucy Davis	Saint Andrews Church Hall Windmill Road Flitwick MK45 1AT
Proposal : Demolition of existing church hall & erection of two 3 bed dwellings with associated access, parking & amenity space. Observations : FTC-Support Vote-All in favour				

Date :- 6/7/2021

Observations on the following Planning Applications

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
21/01997/ADV	5/17/2021	William Comber	Star Bars Ltd	The Crown Station Road Flitwick MK45 1LA
<p>Proposal : Advertisement: 2 fascia signs, A2 sign with new trough light to illuminate. Hanging sign B with new double sided, illuminate signs to existing totem. Sign C, 3 amenity boards, 1 to building and 2 to totem post, non illuminated. 1 new car park disclaimer sign E non illuminated</p> <p>Observations : FTC-Support Vote-All in favour</p>				
21/02207/FUL	5/21/2021	Annabel Robinson	Mr Purkiss	10 Sandringham Road Flitwick Beds MK45 1RW
<p>Proposal : Two storey rear extension and single storey front extension</p> <p>Observations : FTC-Support Vote-All in favour</p>				
21/02336/FUL	5/25/2021	Janine Richardson	Mr & Mrs Morreale-Devereaux	26 Windmill Road Flitwick Beds MK45 1AU
<p>Proposal : Construction of a 3 bed dwelling.</p> <p>Observations : FTC- Support subject to concerns about vehicular access on public right of way. FTC Recommended to divert the official right of way along Millwright Way. Vote - 5 in favour and 1 abstention.</p>				

Signed _____ Date _____

Rob McGregor Mr

Date :- 6/7/2021

Observations on the following Planning Applications

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Application Withdrawn on the following applications;				
21/01880/FUL	5/11/2021	Sarah Fortune	Mr & Mrs MacCormack	19 Woburn Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1TE

Proposal : Single storey rear extension with attached glazed canopy, replacement garden/boundary wall to side with erection of new garden wall to part of front garden/driveway and installation of new fishpond.

Observations : Applicatioin Withdrawn

Signed _____ Date _____

Rob McGregor Mr

Date :- 6/7/2021

Observations on the following Planning Applications

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Not Discussed on the following applications;				
21/02394/REG	5/25/2021	Fenella Hackney	Central Bedfordshire Council	The Rufus Centre Steppingley Road Flitwick MK45 1AH

Proposal : Temporary relocation of 'Machinery Store' to include 1no. Site Office,
2no 8ft Storage Containers and 3no. 20ft Storage Containers. Enclosed
by 2m high fencing with associated gated access.

Observations : FTC - Noted

Signed _____ Date _____

Rob McGregor Mr

Date :- 25/06/2021

Observations on the following Planning Applications

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Support on the following applications;				
21/02406/FUL	08/06/2021	Sarah Fortune	Mr & Mrs MacCormack	19 Woburn Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1TE
Proposal : Single storey rear extension, side boundary wall moved nearer to road side to include land to the side and erection of front boundary wall Observations : FTC - Support with comments; 1. Members supported the single storey rear extension. 2. Members queried the ownership of the amenity space next to the property. 3. Members objected to the high section of the wall extending the boundary wall as it would not be inkeeping with the street scene. Vote - All in favour				
21/02430/FUL	04/06/2021	Sarah Fortune	Brand	9 Astwood Drive Flitwick Beds MK45 1EN
Proposal : First floor rear extension Observations : FTC - Support (Vote - all in favour)				
21/02472/FUL	08/06/2021	William Comber	Mr Green	36 Trafalgar Drive Flitwick Beds MK45 1EF
Proposal : First floor side extension Observations : FTC - Support (Vote - all in favour)				
21/02488/FUL	08/06/2021	Sarah Fortune	Mrs Claire Taylor	17 Kings Road Flitwick Beds MK45 1ED
Proposal : Two storey rear extension and associated alteration works Observations : FTC - Support (Vote - all in favour)				
21/02502/FUL	09/06/2021	Julia Ward	Richard Howkins	7 Byron Crescent Flitwick Beds MK45 1PY
Proposal : Single story side/rear extension, first floor side extension and pitched roof to front porch and garage Observations : FTC - Support (Vote - all in favour)				

Date :- 25/06/2021

Observations on the following Planning Applications

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
21/02645/FUL	15/06/2021	Lucy Baxter	Mr P Bierton	24 Hampden Road Flitwick Beds MK45 1HX

Proposal : Single storey front extension.
Observations : FTC - Support
 (Vote - all in favour)

21/02676/FUL	15/06/2021	Lucy Baxter	Mr & Mrs A Phillips	2 Durham Close Flitwick Beds MK45 1UR
---------------------	------------	-------------	---------------------	--

Proposal : Single storey side extension and garage conversion
Observations : FTC - Support
 (Vote - all in favour)

Signed_____ Date_____

Rob McGregor Mr