



FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Flitwick Town Council meeting held on
Tuesday 19th August 2025 at the Rufus Centre at 7:45pm

Present:

Cllr J Roberts (Chairman)
Cllr A Snape
Cllr I Blazeby
Cllr A Crawford
Cllr R Wilsmore
Cllr F Patterson
Cllr P Earles
Cllr L Bandy
Cllr M Platt
Cllr C Thompson
Cllr T Parsons

Also present:

Stacie Lockey – Town Clerk & Chief Executive

5862. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Harald – work commitment, Cllr Hodges – holiday, and Cllr Toinko – holiday.

5863. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

- (a) Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item.
- (b) Cllr Parsons declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15a due to working with the agent acting on behalf of the Council.

5864. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor had held a Coffee Morning at the Village Hall in aid of the Town Mayor's Charities and thanked those who attended and helped, raising over £200.

The Town Mayor advised that he had attended the VJ Day service at the war memorial, and wanted to pass on thanks to the Public Realm Team, as comments were received about how nice the area looked.

The Town Mayor has also attended the Car Show and thanked Jim Snook for delivering another great day for the Community.

The Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Platt, had also attended the VJ Day Service and the Car Show.

5865. Leader Update

The Leader updated Members on the outcome of the action he was given at the last meeting regarding Section 106 funding. He had received agreement from senior Members at CBC that the remaining £56k could be allocated to Flitwick for various projects. Officers were now completing the next steps to obtain this funding.

The Leader also advised that he had received verbal communication from CBC that Flitwick would be receiving funds from the household support scheme, which would be used for the Community Fridge.

5866. REPORTS FROM WARD MEMBERS

No items.

5867. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

Jim Snook joined the meeting but was unable to talk due to a bad connection.

5868. INVITED SPEAKER

No invited speaker.

5869. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

There were no questions from Members.

5870. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS

- a. For Members to approve the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday, **15th July 2025**, this meeting was held at the Rufus Centre.

It was **resolved** to accept the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday, 15th July 2025, as an accurate record of the meeting.

- b. For Members to receive and consider the resolutions and recommendations of the Community Services Committee meeting, held on **Tuesday, 5th August 2025**, this meeting was held at The Rufus Centre.

Members noted the resolutions from the Community Services meeting held on Tuesday, 5th August 2025.

5871. MATTERS ARISING

- a. There were no matters arising.
- b. There were no updates from officers.

5872. OUTSIDE BODIES

No items.

5873. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- a. **Central Bedfordshire Council – Licensing Policy Consultation**

Members decided not to respond to this consultation.

b. Planning application Land between Brogborough, Lidlington and Marston Moretaine CB/18/01969/OUT

The Town Mayor advised Members that Cllr Hodges had looked at this application and proposed submitting the existing response with the following amendments:

1. On page 6, remove the comment where it refers to a 'commitment by the development to have a 'net benefit' impact in terms of biodiversity'. The Bio Diversity Net Gain became a requirement at the beginning of 2024, so this comment was no longer relevant.
2. Add an additional comment that the revisions to the application do not sufficiently address FTC's previous objections, and we regret that FTC object to the application.

Members commented that it had been reported within the local news recently that should this development go ahead, there would be proposed changes to junction 13 of the M1.

The Leader of the Council commented that he felt it would be beneficial to reinstate the joint committee with CBC, which would focus on creating a list of infrastructure improvements to be included in both the current and new local plans. The Leader and the Town Clerk would work together to look at getting this back up and running.

Action: Leader/Town Clerk

Reference to CCJ needed to be amended within the report as this no longer existed.

It was **resolved** to submit the existing response with the amendments listed above.

c. Sabbatical Leave Request

It was **resolved** to accept the sabbatical request from Cllr Thomson from 27th August to 31st October.

d. Universal Destinations Theme Park Planning Application

The Leader of the Council advised that he had put together this response based on feedback he had received from others. He felt the Council should respond to this application.

Members were concerned that there was no consideration for improvements to junction 13 of the M1, which was already an issue at peak times. They felt this development would significantly worsen this.

Members also commented that there was nothing within the application relating to the large proposed development at Marston Moretaine; this should be added to the response, as it would double any impact.

It was **resolved** to respond to the universal planning application, including the following comments: concern over the congestion of junction 13 of the M1 and the lack of mitigation, the impact of the planning application Land between Brogborough, Lidlington and Marston Moretaine CB/18/01969/OUT, and mitigation for M1 closures.

5874. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Finance Reports

Members noted the following finance reports:

- i) Balance Sheet

ii) Projects Fund

b. Flitwick Town Mayor's Charity Annual Report & Accounts

Members noted the annual report and accounts for the Flitwick Town Mayor's Charity.

c. Delegated Authority Decision

Members noted the following decision made via delegated authority on 18th July 2025:

To allocate up to £20k from the ops reserve to complete necessary upgrades to the Tractor Store.

5875. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

Jim Snook joined the meeting and thanked the Members for attending. He advised Members that he was having a meeting with the Town Clerk to discuss next year's event and plans to overcome the issues that arose on the day. He asked if the Council would be doing anything to rectify the mess from the skatepark contractors. The Town Clerk advised that officers were working with the contractors to rectify this matter, and they were currently waiting for a date to resolve this issue.

5876. 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.

a. 3 Station Road

It was **resolved** to remarket the restaurant unit, adding new photos and further information to the marketing material.

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.

Meeting closed: 20.28.

Signed(Chairman)

