Minutes of the meeting of Loughton and Great Holm Parish Council held on Monday 20th April 2026 at 7.30 pm at Loughton Memorial Hall, Bradwell Road, Loughton

Minutes

Councillors Present: Cllrs Lee (Chair), Tripp, Dyer, Heinemann, Fortune, Pointer, Hoyle and Briggs.

Members of the Public Present: 10

Staff Present: Paula Milford (Parish Clerk)

FC56/26 Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr Eaton.

FC57/26 Declarations of interest: Cllr Hoyle declared an interest in agenda item number FC67/26

FC58/26 Public participation: A resident spoke about the coppicing of the shrubs and trees along Watling Street, adjacent to London Road stating that this work was not necessary and has not solved the flooding issue. This resident stated he would like us to keep pressuring MKCC when needed regarding all matters that impact our residents. Cllr Dyer asked the resident to take pictures next time the area floods and send them into us so we can forward these to MKCC. Cllr Heinemann stated she will continue working hard to ensure a greener, cleaner landscape for our residents both now and in the future.

A resident spoke about landscaping concerns in Great Holm and will forward Cllr Heinemann details of the location so we can look at this area. The resident was concerned the area would be coppiced as Watling Street had been and this was noted as the only barrier between their property and the newly built self-storage units on Watling Street.

A resident spoke about the use of pesticides in our Parish stating the use of weedkiller seems to be a bigger issue this year.

A resident spoke about his formal complaint to MKCC regarding the Shurgard development in Crownhill overlooking Great Holm stating his concerns were not fully addressed. He has therefore escalated his complaint to stage 2 of the process. He is waiting on a response from this escalation. The resident stated that there are numerous objections to the current landscaping plan on the planning portal and there could potentially be an enforcement issue with this build. We are currently awaiting the final decision and further information regarding this planning application.

FC59/26 Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 16th March 2026 were signed and approved as an accurate record. These minutes were signed by the Chair.

FC60/26 April Payment Schedule: The April 2026 payment schedule was noted and approved. It was noted that we will be paying for the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) this

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month. This month's payments will be approved by Cllr Lee.

FC61/26 Income and Expenditure: The income and expenditure against budget costs up to 31st March 2026 was noted.

FC62/26 Reserve Position: The Clerk confirmed the year-end financial reserves position as at 31st March 2026 – Reserves Account - £112,276.81 Current Account - £41,343.57, TOTAL RESERVES - £153,620.38

FC63/26 Earmarking Reserves: The following earmarked reserves for the 2026 – 2027 financial year as recommended by the Finance, Staffing and Premises Committee were approved.

a) £18,000 MUGA grant from the National Lottery Community Fund
b) £37,292.71 MUGA payment. (We will receive £34,140.21 back from the Communities Foundation for this project once this payment has been made.)
c) £1,374 Allotment Underspend from the 2025 – 2026 financial year.
d) £50,000 for potential Loughton Pavilion building work.

FC64/26 Fixed Asset Register: The fixed asset register for the 2025-2026 financial year was approved. Figure to be included in our end-of-year accounts and AGAR.

FC65/26 Meeting Calendar 2026 - 2027: The schedule of meetings for the upcoming year was approved. The December meeting will be held on Monday 14th December 2026 instead of Monday 21st December 2026 and the meeting schedule was amended to show his new date.

FC66/26 Annual Parish Meeting / Annual meeting of The Council: The upcoming annual meetings being held on Monday 19th May 2026 were discussed. It was resolved to invite a representative from the Loughton Residents Association, Great Holm SOS, The Hugh Park Trust and our newly elected ward councillors to the Annual Parish Meeting. Anyone that received a grant from us during the 2025 – 2026 financial year will also be invited to give us an update on what they used the grant money for.

Cllr Hoyle left the room for the following agenda item – FC67/26
FC67/26 Scouts Grant Request: The grant request from the Great Holm and TMA Scouts for £300.00 was approved.

Cllr Hoyle returned to the room.

FC68/26 Shurgard development, Watling Street (Crownhill): The following items were discussed.

a) The Clerk confirmed there had been no response from MKCC regarding our formal complaint relating to this planning application despite chasing weekly. The Clerk has escalated this issue to the Programme Manager for Parish and Town Councils and asked her to chase for a reply. It was resolved to keep chasing for this response and for the Clerk to contact a Senior Planning Officer asking them to attend the site to see the impact of this development on our residents.

FC69/26 Loughton Pavilion: The following items were noted:

a) To note that the Premises Committee has taken 5 expressions of interests through to Stage 2 of the tender process. These applications best aligned with the specific questions included in the invitation document. These 5 applicants will be notified this week.
a) To note that the football showers/changing rooms reconfiguration will be discussed further after organising a public consultation asking what our residents would like to

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see offered from this side of the building. This consultation will be organised by the Community Engagement Officer.

FC70/26 Dog Waste Contractor: It was resolved to approve The Shield Group to empty our dog waste bins for the next 24 months at a cost of £3.00 per bin.

FC71/26 Planning Applications: To discuss and consider a response (if any) to the following Planning Applications.

a) **Application Number:** PLN/2026/0296
Location: 114 LONDON ROAD, LOUGHTON, MILTON KEYNES, MK5 8AQ
Proposal: Proposed part single, part two storey rear extension and 1.5 storey side extension
Outcome: Dealt with under the planning delegation policy – No Comment

b) **Application Number:** PLN/2026/0613
Location: 17 CHURCH LANE, LOUGHTON, MILTON KEYNES, MK5 8AS
Proposal: Erection of single storey front extension
Outcome: No Comment

c) **Application Number:** PLN/2026/0679
Location: 97 LONDON ROAD, LOUGHTON, MILTON KEYNES, MK5 8AG
Proposal: Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of replacement single storey extension and the proposed change of use from (Class C3) Dwellinghouse to (Class E) Childcare Nursery
Outcome: Objection to be made due to the breach of policy – HN9.

d) **Application Number:** PLN/2026/0537
Location: 2 ROEBUCK WAY, KNOWLHILL, MILTON KEYNES, MK5 8HL
Proposal: Advertisement consent for the proposed installation of post, panel and totem pole signage
Outcome: No Comment

FC72/26 The Woodland Management Plan: An agreed response to The Parks Trust Woodland Management Plan was resolved. The Clerk will send this response over to The Parks Trust on Tuesday 21st April 2026.

FC73/26 Watling Street / London Road: It was noted that MKCC will not be replanting along Watling Street. MKCC have stated that the coppiced shrubs will regrow. It was resolved to write to Euan Darling asking him if MKCC can replant some trees and shrubs along Watling Steet to support our residents' concerns.

FC74/26 MKCC Spraying of Pesticides: The following items were noted and approved:

a) To note MKCC have been spraying pesticides in March/April. It was resolved to write to Euan Darling regarding the excessive spraying under the new contract detailing our resident complaints. And put in a Freedom Of Information (FOI) request asking for clarity regarding how they plan to reduce the spraying of pesticides by 50% by 2030.
b) It was resolved to give Cllr Heinemann delegated authority to respond to the Senior Landscaping Officer at MKCC regarding any Loughton landscaping matters that have been discussed at a Full Council meeting.

FC75/26 Millenium Meadow: It was resolved to approve purchasing £200 worth of wildflower seeds for the Millenium Meadow in Loughton. To note this will need MKCC approval prior to planting.

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FC76/26 Parish Competitions: It was resolved to approve the following competitions. Prizes will be sourced by the Clerk prior to the closing date.

a) Parish Photography Competition. Open to residents 16 year old onwards. The winner of this competition will be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to collect their prize.
b) Parish Children's Drawing Competition. Open to ages up to 15 years old.

FC77/26 Summer Play/Community Sessions: To consider for approval the following summer community / play sessions during the 6-week school summer holiday.

a) **MKPA Sessions** – 1 session per week in both Loughton and Great Holm. £546 per session.
   Total cost = 12 sessions @ £546 = £6,552 - **Approved**
b) **Football Sessions** – 2 hours per week in both Loughton and Great Holm. £80 per session.
   Total cost 12 sessions @ £80 = £960 - **Approved**
c) **Basketball Sessions** – 2 hours per week in Great Holm for 4 weeks in total. Total Cost £500 - **Approved.**
d) **Adults Yoga Classes** – Aimed at adults only. 1 hour session per week. £65 per session.
   Total Cost 4 sessions @ £40 = £160 - **Approved with a nominal charge of £2 per session.**
e) **Summer Community Event** – To host our summer community event open to everyone in the Parish on Friday 28th August 2026. To note our budget amount of £1,800 for this event - **Approved**

FC78/26 Finance/Staffing and Premises Committee Meeting Minutes: The draft minutes from the Finance/Staffing and Premises Committee meeting held on Thursday 9th April 2026 were noted by Full Council.

FC79/26 External Reports: No reports received.

FC80/26 Items for the next agenda: To note that all members must notify the Clerk of any items for the agenda in accordance with the Parish Council's standing orders.

Details of Next Meeting: Monday 18th May 2026, 7.30pm at Great Holm Community Centre, Kensington Drive

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