



Wavendon Parish Council – Chairman's Report (July 2025)

Parish Council Appointments – Welcome to Jan Flawn, Roger Penfound and Nabeel Kasmani who are joining the Parish Council this evening, subject to the agreement of the council.

- **Residents petition to MK City Council regarding Walton Road** – AS ward member and Chairman of the PC I was pleased to be able to present a petition to MK City Council on 16th July signed by 230 residents of all ages calling for the long-promised consultation into the options for road safety measures on Walton Road to be started asap. The Cabinet member reported that the Motion Detection ICT based initiative would be in place in August and the consultation would commence in October.
- **Congratulations to Glebe Farm School** in Wavendon which has received an "Outstanding" rating in all areas during its first full Ofsted inspection since opening in 2022. The inspection, conducted in May 2025, praised the school's exceptional quality of education, inclusive approach, and strong leadership. The school was highlighted for its exemplary curriculum, inclusive ethos, and positive behaviour among students.
- **Kickback Kitchen at Glebe Farm School** – and whilst talking about Glebe farm School their latest initiative is something called Kickback Kitchens which is a pre-cooked hot meals initiative providing a "Contribute what you can" meals, made from "lost" ingredients and prepared in underused school kitchen space. They aim to create resilient communities by building a social economy through local food redistribution.
- **Lollipop Person at Glebe Farm School** – I am pleased to report that following my question to the Cabinet member at MKCC Full Council, MK City Council has been able to find money to provide a grant of £5K to fund a lollipop person to be positioned on Burney Drive to help address the road safety concerns at this increasingly busy school drop off and pick up times.
- **Temporary Community Building on Glebe Farm School Site** – MK City Council officers recently had what they describe as a good meeting with developers *Catesby and they still think there is every likelihood that the council can provide some kind of permanent facility which would work for most daytime uses (although it will have to prioritise Family Centre use). However, the timescales for this are from 18 months onwards so the same officers are

going to have a conversation with Portakabin, and possibly some others, about what could be done on the school site as an interim measure.

<https://www.catesbyestates.co.uk/land/glebe-meadows-wavendon-milton-keynes> *



- **Update on likely timetable for development of SEMK** - Whilst I'm sure it appears to the local residents that nothing is happening there are 'many conversations' going on in the background between various developers (O&H, L&Q and the individual plot consortia) and the various railway companies (EWR and Network Rail) and MKCC so that (and I quote) the clarity MKCC thought it had on the way forward is now subject to further clarification and confirmation. It is still likely that commencement timescales for the Bow Brickhill bypass (late 2026 start) and the first homes on SEMK in mid to late 2027, are about right but it would be helpful if those were confirmed and then the future projection would be much easier to set out. Like all these developments, it's getting started that takes all the time!
- **Tree Replacements on Burney Drive** – The clerk and a fellow PC Member have walked Burney Drive and identified that there are a considerable number of newly planted trees that have not survived, mostly due to drought conditions one assumes, and will need to be replaced.
- **Public Arts Project** – report of meeting with Head of Arts at MKCC. The clerk and I met with Fiona Boundy (Creative and Cultural Manager) and a separate paper is attached setting out the plan for the remainder of 2025. There is some £250,000 available in total for arts funding in Wavendon. The search for an Arts Consultant has been registered and this to go live on Arts Jobs from Monday 21 July and MKCC will combine with a social media campaign. Fiona will also send to some specific companies. She will offer some dates to us to be involved in the interviewing.
- **Church Farm Development** – MKCC officers report that they have not spoken to the representative of the developers Connolly Homes for a few weeks so are not sure where things stand from their perspective. Connolly has been doing their required archaeology and ecology pre-commencement works and there may still be issues over the access agreement to the site. That needs to be resolved before MKCC can construct the H10 extension. On the road extension technical design itself MKC has made some good progress, although the LLFA (Flooding issues!) has raised some issues still to

be resolved, and MKCC is still planning to do some of the service diversion and other preparatory works before the end of the calendar year. The council has had to make some profuse apologies to the Inland Drainage Board for tampering with the ditches, and I think peace has now broken out and that matter!

- **Parish Boundaries – report from MKC agreed in June.**

Walton Community Council made 5 proposals in total, of which only one is reflected in draft recommendations:

a) It was proposed that the Council cease to be warded. However, no specific evidence was provided to support this proposal, whilst there is clear statutory guidance which supports the principal of warding urban parishes.

b) It was proposed that the northern border of the Parish be moved to incorporate Kents Hill and Brinklow (effectively following the new MKCC ward boundary along Standing Way). This proposal represents a significant change to the size and geography of both parishes and does not appear to be supported by Kents Hill & Monkston Parish, nor was any evidence provided to support such a proposal.

c) It was proposed that Parishes eastern boundary should be changed to incorporate the Church Farm development, (currently in Wavendon Parish). This proposal **was not supported** by Wavendon Parish, and additionally, officers consider that it is premature to consider this proposal based on the timescale for build out of Church Farm and the emerging relationship with the broader Milton Keynes South-East development.

d) In line with the proposals at b) and c) it was proposed to increase the number of Councillors commensurately.

e) There was consensus between Walton and Wavendon Parishes about moving their external boundaries so that the Townergate area no longer traverses both parishes. This issue was also considered by the Commission and was reflected in a revised boundary between new MKCC Walton, and Danesborough Wards. Given that Townergate has clear links to Glebe Farm, draft recommendations reflect a revised boundary between Walton and Wavendon Parishes, following Ortensia Drive.

4.15 Wavendon Parish Council submitted a single proposal to amend their external boundary with Walton, in line with para 4.14 e) (above)

- **Playground on land north of the Stables Theatre**

MKCC should be out to tender on the delivery packages shortly. There have been some issues with the ecology (new) licence which need resolving but should not stop us. The Stables have decided that the summer camp won't be happening this year which, while disappointing, does simplify the delivery path somewhat.

- **Connecting redways etc adjacent to Lower End Road**



This now has the support of the Highways and Infrastructure Boards at MK City Council so will go forward for the Spend Approval required. The design work for the various culverts is being done 'in-house' at MKCC so once the funding is approved (which should be relatively straightforward) MKCC officers think they can put together the technical package(s) of work quite quickly.

- **Road and street lighting adoptions**

We have been chasing for updates updates on these. If there are any particular areas that are of concern, please let me know so I can ask for specific details from MKCC. Burney Drive road surfacing is now largely complete but some of the side road still need to be properly surfaced before the blanket 20 MPH limit agreed some months ago can be put in place.

- **CCTV Dankworth Way into Glebe Farm west**

I understand that this is being taken forward by MKCC Highways Officers Murray Woodburn and Paul Harrison and I am chasing continually for an update from one or other of them for the PC. The last I heard was the system would be in place in October. Following an enquiry about the use of the CCTV for other monitoring purposes, it does appear that this is not possible nor legal.

- The applicant has gone to appeal on the land at Wavendon Fields - **Planning Appeal AP-3749** Construction of 5 detached dwellings, demolition of garage blocks serving existing dwellings, removal of tennis court, the erection of replacement garage blocks and a bin store, extension of access road and associated hard and soft landscaping at Wavendon Fields, Wavendon, Milton Keynes MK17 8AF. Started 03/07/2025

- **Residents have asked about the need to implement 30 MPH repeater signs and remove the 40 MPH written on the road signs on Newport Road. Officers respond with the following information**

30 MPH Limit Repeater signs on Newport Road <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/sn01921/> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/know-your-traffic-signs/speed-limit-signs>

All explained in the links above. It doesn't matter if there are no lampposts, it's to do with the distance between each lantern, which is a form of street lighting for the road.

The national speed limit for the type of road and class of traffic applies.

A larger sign indicates the start of a speed limit. Smaller repeater signs act as reminders. Repeater signs for a 30 mph limit are used only on roads with no street lighting. Repeater signs for the national speed limit are used only on roads with street lighting (other than motorways)

MKCC has seen a SID delivered and installed.

All old signs have been removed and 30 mph ones installed. There are less 30 mph signs now as the rules state that you cannot have repeater signs in areas with streetlights.

MKCC is waiting for a date for the removal of the 40 mph markers in the road which is being scheduled to coincide with similar work with Milton Keynes.

- **Eagle Farm South noise Pollution from M1** (acoustic fencing perhaps?)

It appears that MKCC options here are extremely limited. Acoustic fencing on land that it (or the Parks Trust) have control of would be too remote from the source of the noise (the M1) to have any meaningful effect and the likelihood of National Highways deeming the housing at Eagle Farm being impacted sufficiently to warrant acoustic fencing along the M1 is small. I have contacted Environmental Health at MKC to ask them to visit and to assess the local impact.

- **Bus Shelters** – As you may recall, MKCC acknowledged the request for new stops for this area in February, and they added the requests on Newport Road and Dankworth Way to its review list, whilst assessing the ongoing commercial viability of the new 'Loop' service. Arriva consider that it is proving to be very 'viable' with some minor route adjustments from September, which MKCC is not yet in a position to share as part of the Traffic Commissioners process. Once this position is clear, MKCC will review the locations proposed with Arriva against their finalised route and safety auditors, and where appropriate add them to the list to receive refurbished or new shelters as funding becomes available. MKCC is unable to provide a timescale for this unfortunately. If approved, the public transport team will be aiming to get decisions made and review funding for putting them on the 26/27 contractor plan. It costs £10k to £20k per shelter, so MKCC need to be clear they will be well used. The Newport Road replacement was previously declined due to no public services using it. School buses are not registered and therefore MKCC did not recognise the use of the stop and don't provide facilities. However, they will review this again now the Loop is operating, and Arriva seem so positive. The Dankworth Road is not an existing stop, so this would require more work, i.e. to establish safe locations for stops, design them fully, and to get them constructed, including hard standing.
- **East West Rail** - Lawyers, it is understood, are still negotiating the land requirement for EWR to compulsorily purchase with O&H north of the railway so that seems to run and run. Senior MKCC Planning staff still think their commencement timescales are still about right, but it would of course be helpful if those were confirmed and then the future projection would be much easier to set out. Church Farm for example was in the 2001-11 SLA Plan and still not one house has been built on that site! But there were exceptional circumstances.

Progress to date from Community Action:

- This is the area where we are delivering the work across two parish areas. We have been liaising with the Walton Community Council and the Wavendon Parish Councils to jointly plan this work. This initial planning meeting took place on Thursday 3rd April with Dan Preston from Walton Community Council, Councillor Hopkins, and Wavendon 's Parish Clerk.
- We have agreed to a monthly meeting to confirm the work plan and check progress. We had a next meeting scheduled for the 8th May 2025 and this was rearranged until 19th May to accommodate VE Day and various Councillor commitments. We focused wholly on the process for the area-based budget. Our outreach team held a Big Lunch event in June which was a great success with lots of residents enjoying the event together.
- We have compiled a list of activities in the area which has been developed into a leaflet that the Parishes have both been involved in and these are now printed and are being distributed by our team through door knocking and discussion with residents.
- We have contacted Bucks Rural Community Council and will pursue the prospect of racial justice training.

Next Steps

Continue to deliver the door knocking support to Towergate

- We are going to include 2 volunteering outreach sessions in the next quarter. We will be setting up the communications for enabling communities to access the area-based budget for start-up activities. Our work with the OU relating to perceptions of Poverty in new communities is nearly over and we will be presenting at the International Festival in July - This Sunday 20 July at 12.30pm



Munday Gardens – Following the presentation of a petition to June Full Council meeting at MKCC the cabinet member, Councillor Wilson-Marklew agreed to speak with officers to ensure the required process for the requested 20 MPH limit for Munday Gardens in Wavendon is being progressed.

It turns out that Munday Gardens is still not yet adopted by MKCC. The good news is that it has been designed for a 20mph speed limit in accordance with the planning consent.

MKC are therefore requesting the developer to install the relevant signage, although it is not included in the existing legal agreement.

Local Plan (MK2050)

Update on timings for the Regulation 19 Plan Consultation

A paper was presented to Members of the Planning Cabinet Advisory Group (CAG) in February this year setting out the progress made so far on the MK City Plan 2050 (MKCP) and the next steps. Members were advised that the preparation of the next version of the MKCP, known as the Regulation 19 Plan, would be informed by various elements including the feedback received on the Regulation 18 Plan, and updated and ongoing evidence work.

MKCC received a considerable number of comments on the Regulation 18 Plan and have continued to work with key stakeholders this year as the MKCP develops. The main reason for the delay is that it has had to check and refine the proposed strategic site allocations. The site allocations must be tested through various studies, and MKCC is still awaiting completion of its transport modelling.

MKCP (Plan MK2050) must be based on comprehensive and up to date evidence, so MKCC cannot progress without this. MKCC will however continue to progress this work as quickly as it can and manage the overall programme carefully.

This delay means that it has had to revisit the timeline for the next steps for the Plan. The July 2025 Planning CAG will have to be rescheduled and MKCC is working towards this taking place in early October. This would then be followed by a delegated decision before commencing a six-week consultation.

The Council will notify stakeholders of the new dates for the Planning CAG, delegated decision alongside councillor, and Town and Parish Council briefings as soon as possible. Despite the delay, MKCC is committed to achieving the overall submission date of March 2026.

Cllr David Hopkins

Chairman – Wavendon Parish Council

July 2025