

Council Decision Notice

The following decisions were taken by Council at its meeting held on Wednesday 18 October 2023 at 19:30

1(b) Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 September 2023 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

1(c) Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Oguntola declared a Non-Registerable Interest in Item 6(d), Motion 4 – Black History Month and left the Chamber while the matter was discussed and decided.

4(a) Corporate Parenting Annual Report - Cabinet - 12 September 2023

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Parenting Annual Report be received.

5 Councillors' Questions

ACTIONS:

1. Councillor Marland undertook to ask the Council's scrutiny team to give consideration to a lessons learned review of the procurement and implementation of the new waste and environment contract, at an appropriate time in the scrutiny work programme.
2. Councillor Nolan undertook to look into the concerns raised regarding a home to school transport case and to ask officers to explore a resolution with the family concerned.
3. Councillor Nolan undertook to ask officers to include the communication that occurred between the Head Teacher and the Board of Governors as part of the investigation into the incident with the school bus.
4. Councillor Marland advised that any logs of outstanding casework related to missed or undelivered bins should be sent to him and he would ask officers to follow up on any outstanding issues.

6 Notices of Motions: Urgent Motion

RESOLVED:

The Mayor ruled that in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council would debate an urgent motion as the motion deadline fell before the outbreak of war in Israel and Gaza

1. That this Council:
 - a) expresses the deepest sympathy for all those in Israel affected by the Hamas terrorist attack on innocent men, women and children;
 - b) condemns the actions of Hamas and expresses total revulsion at the crimes that have been committed in the name of Palestinians; and
 - c) re-affirms our unbreakable belief that Israel has the right to exist as a peaceful democratic state in the Middle East without the constant threat of terrorist action and violence from those who do not believe that a state of Israel should exist and wish to eliminate all Jews from the region.
2. That this Council believes that:
 - a) Israel has a right to defend itself and take any action necessary to destroy Hamas, and any terrorist group, that commits crimes against civilians and bring perpetrators to justice;
 - b) all actions should be in accordance with International Law, protecting civilians from harm and providing aid and refuge to innocent people; and
 - c) democracies distinguish themselves from terrorists and dictatorships by observing the rule of law at all times, respecting human rights and protecting civilians from harm.
3. That this Council further believes that:
 - a) the only viable long-term solution for peace is a two-state solution with a secure Israel and viable state of Palestine;
 - b) terrorist acts do not further this aim;
 - c) the government of Israel should re-establish meaningful dialogue with the democratic institutions of the Palestinian Authority and establish a pathway to a lasting peace settlement;
 - d) all surrounding states and the International community have an equal obligation and duty to ensure a peaceful and stable region; and

- e) we support the work in Milton Keynes of organisations such as the Council of Faiths to bring people from all backgrounds together to further the objectives of peace and understanding.

6(a) Motion 1 - The Provision of Facilities for Youth Football Across Milton Keynes

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2 the motion was withdrawn before the commencement of the meeting.

6(b) Motion 2 - Boys NEED Bins

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2 the motion was withdrawn before the commencement of the meeting.

6(c) Motion 3 - Is Milton Keynes Killing Me?

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2 the motion was withdrawn before the commencement of the meeting.

6(d) Motion 4 - Black History Month

RESOLVED:

1. That this Council notes that:
 - a) October marks Black History Month in the UK, a national celebration which honours the contributions and achievements of black heritage and culture;
 - b) Black History Month is an opportunity to continue to amplify the voices of black people and to raise awareness of the inequalities they face across all sectors including education, policing, health, business, housing and more;
 - c) the theme this year is 'Saluting Our Sisters' which focuses on the stories of the lives and contributions of black women to celebrate their achievements and excellence; and
 - d) this Council's Equality Vision: 'Improve the way we engage, think and act to deliver equality and inclusion for everyone, every day' which helps to create opportunities and remove barriers across the organisation.
2. That this Council welcomes:
 - a) the commissioning of 'The Black Female Pioneers of Milton Keynes', an exhibition which celebrates 11 pioneering black women in Milton Keynes, available to view at the Central Library from 4 October to 1 November 2023 and in Station Square; and
 - b) the positive and empowering initiatives to support the variety of events and activities taking place over the month of October such as free art and music workshops for children and families.

3. That this Council resolves to:
- a) continue to recognise Black History Month as an important month in the City Council's calendar each year;
 - b) continue to review policies and practices on a regular basis in line with the City Council's Equality Vision;
 - c) further explore diversity and inclusion training around ethnicity and equality for all City Council employees;
 - d) encourage schools across the city to design a programme to celebrate Black History Month each year; and
 - e) continue to salute all black women across the city who continue to work and deliver excellence all year round.

6(e) Motion 5 - Cycling and Walking Infrastructure

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2 the motion was withdrawn before the commencement of the meeting.

6(f) Motion 6 - Housing Ombudsman's Findings

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2 the motion was withdrawn before the commencement of the meeting.

7 Report on Committee Proportionality

RESOLVED:

That Council note the revised political makeup of Milton Keynes City Council and agree:

- a) revised allocations to Committees, and Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority (as set out in Annex A); and
- b) revised appointments to Committees, and Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority (as set out in Annex B).

