

# WOLVERTON AGORA REGENERATION WORKING GROUP

**THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**

**17:00 – 18:30**

<b>Attendees</b>	
Cllr Robert Middleton (RM)	Milton Keynes Council
Kath Cook (KC)	Milton Keynes Council
Ed Palmieri (EP)	Milton Keynes Council
Neil Murphy (NM)	TOWN
Guy Rochez (GR)	TOWN
Tia Castellano (TC)	TOWN
Adrian Moss (AM)	Wolverton & Greenleys Town Council
Hilary Saunders (HS)	Wolverton & Greenleys Town Council
Allan Nall (AN)	D W Roberts
Andy Forbes (AF)	Kings Church
Gillian Barrow Jones (GBJ)	St. George's Church
Stephen Norrish (SN)	Milton Keynes Christian Foundation
Marie Osborne (MOS)	Future Wolverton
David Beattie (DB)	Future Wolverton
Karen Parisi (KP)	C P Locks

<b>Apologies</b>	
Maggie Pemberton (MP)	Wolverton Resident
Laura Wadsworth (LW)	Milton Keynes Council
Miles Walsh (MW)	St. George's Way Resident
Alan Sivyour (AS)	Wolverton Resident
Martine Harvey (MH)	Wolverton Resident
Taj Raja (TR)	Smart Move

## 1. General progress update

- GR noted demolition progressing with Goody demolition contractors. Highlighted that additional asbestos has been found which adds 2-3 weeks to the programme.
- GR noted to report any breaches of the site to Goody/TOWN/MKC.
- AF noted to record crime in the area by calling 101 but only if you have witnessed the incident.
- Highlighted the photocall to mark demolition will likely be the 21<sup>st</sup> July, details to be confirmed. *Post-meeting note: This is now anticipated to be in w/c 8<sup>th</sup> August.*
- Currently preparing to issued tender out to contactor market for construction of development. Tender period will run until October.
- Noted the current challenges of inflation, busy construction market and labour shortages. MKC and TOWN have been looking at mechanism to manage this risk.
- Public Arts Steering Group are looking at community and arts activities that can be brought forward to commemorate the overall development of the site. Also, noted to get in contact if anyone would like to be involved.
- GR noted in response to AF that tender process is submitted as a whole which secures the costs.

- AF also noted that it would be useful to include stages of construction on a sign outside the development to inform the public on current stage.
- AF noted display/information board should have board dates (i.e. not specific as likely to shift)
- Employer's Requirements outline phasing for new car park to open before existing car park closes. Contractors will review how this works in practice as part of their tender submissions for assessment by MKC/TOWN.

**ACTION:** GR to discuss with KC on comms side on public sign to demonstrate construction phases (currently accessible on the Love Wolverton website).

- RM noted the co-housing land decision made on 29/06 which gave the go ahead for MKC to dispose of the land for Block C / Still Green to TOWN.

## 2. Parking strategy

- NM shared presentation on St. George's Way parking allocations.
- Purpose to provide additional parking spaces to the town centre whilst re-providing parking for residents of St. George's Way.
- Currently 50 spaces in Agora car park, proposing 108 spaces at St. George's Way (55 of which are town centre spaces).
- Revising controlled parking zone on Church Street – two hours visitor parking (currently one hour).
- To introduce a residents permit scheme and if possible will include businesses in this scheme on a discretionary needs basis.

**ACTION:** RM to pick up GB point on bays in front of church – re hearse parking

- GR noted phasing of delivery – parking to be delivered before old car park is closed, but this will be subject to the contractor's review of the feasibility of this phasing.

## 3. Community Improvement District bid

- TC shared presentation on CID bid.
- Emphasis that Wolverton will be an exemplar with the CID – national coverage.
- An opportunity to connect with other communities with similar challenges.
- Working Group agreed that they would be forum for moving the CID forward.
- MO to discuss with members separately on the CID in the following weeks.
- MO also meeting with Sheffield Hallam University on CID in July and will update at next Working Group meeting/individual meetings.

## 4. Future meeting and communications

- TOWN to revisit parking strategy once feedback is received from MKC parking / housing teams and to update group in the next meeting.
- Updates from CID going forward.
- GR noted 6 weeks' time for next meeting (August).
- TOWN to send proposed dates, in due course, for next meeting via doodle poll.

## 5. AOB

- AN raised concern over space around new bus shelter for number of bus users.
  - NM noted no issue in looking at a larger bus stop, but noted constraints in terms of regulations around accessibility and need to discuss with bus operator in terms of standards – will need to see what's technically possible, review and update group.
  - NM noted will speak to relevant MKC teams. Difficult to make an argument for a different case if relevant teams are satisfied with current plan in context of accessibility and operational requirements.
- AN raised concern over Radcliffe Street not being adopted highway.
  - Will be a public right of way. Main purpose is to restore street for pedestrians/cyclists and re-energise the retail sector, and offer opportunities for it to be closed for things like street parties and markets. This is challenging to achieve with the requirements of adopted highways. Also, rationale for not being adopted as

parking is resident parking. Working Group agreed there wasn't shared concern over the street not being adopted.

- GR noted access points / bellmouths onto Church St and Buckingham St will be subject to a S278 agreement with MKC Highways; detailed design of which will be the contractor's responsibility.