

Notes & Actions

The LERF meeting

Monday 4 September 2023 – 18.30 in Spotlight

In Attendance:

Mariee Wymer	MW	Vice Chair - Lakes Estate Renewal Forum (LERF)
Jessie Gilsonan	JG	Lakes Estate Renewal Forum (LERF)
Paul Burton	PB	Lakes Resident
Sue Evans	SE	Lakes Resident
Jan Sebastian Power	JSP	Lakes Resident
Jeanette	J	Lakes Resident
Paul Burton	PB	Lakes Resident
Lynn White	LW	Lakes Resident
Will Rysdale	WR	Head of Housing Development
Rahul Munday	RM	Development Manager
Zulf Awan	ZA	Community Engagement Manager
Scott Gamble	SG	Community Engagement Officer for the Lakes Estate (MKCC)
Samantha Goodwin	SamG	Interim Community Partnership Officer for the Lakes Estate (MKCC)
Sue Brown	SB	Senior Landscape Architect (MKCC)
Louise Izod	LI	Public Arts Officer (MKCC)
Delia Shephard	DS	Clerk, Bletchley Fenny Stratford Town Council
Cllr Ed Hume	EH	Ward Councillor

Apologies were received from:

Rev. Steve Hallett	SH	Chair - Lakes Estate Renewal Forum (LERF)
Stacey Colburt	CB	Lakes Resident
Fiona Bundy	FB	Public Arts Team, NKCC

1. Welcome and Introductions

MW welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited everyone to introduce themselves,

2. Chairs Update

There was no chairs update.

3. Minutes & Actions from the last meeting (5 June 2023)

- The Minutes were not discussed.

4. Landscaping Works.

DS explained that BFSTC (Bletchley Fenny Stratford Town Council) took over landscaping contract on 4.9.2023. Serco finished working on the patch last week and we have begun some work in the area during the last few weeks. The town council took on delivery of the general landscaping service because resident surveys told us people were not happy with current delivery and we thought we could do it better also MKCC had made it clear that their direction of travel was to devolve the landscaping contract to town and parish councils. The town council can't deliver a cheaper service than MKCC's contractor but we can deliver a localised service with the same people working on the same area and we can respond to local need. The town council has employed its own work force to undertake this work because it brings local jobs to the area and gives us better control over service delivery

The main tasks the town council will be performing are:

- Grass cutting (April to November depending on weather)
- Hedge and shrub bed maintenance (October to April)
- Some tree work (low branches only) to ensure that sight lines on roads and footpaths are kept clear

BFSTC will be working on land owned by MKCC or BFSTC. They will not be working on any private land including Parks Trust land, unadopted housing areas such as Newton Leys, the grid road verges (Vs and Hs), Manor Road Cemetery and the Blue Lagoon.

The Lakes is further complicated as we will not be maintaining any of the Regen development sites ie Warren Field, Serp, Melfort Drive, Drayton Road, Skene Close and Stoke Road.

BFSTC will not be responsible for any hard landscaping such as pavements, alleyways etc also play equipment and hard surfaces in play areas are not our responsibility but we will cut grass and shrubs in these areas.

Residents can contact the Town Council via our [website](#) and find out more as there is a lot of detail there including FAQs, grass cutting schedules etc

Complaints and questions can be raised directly with the Town Council either via the app on our website (report it button on page linked above), by emailing info@bletchleyfennystratford-tc.gov.uk or by ringing us on 01908 646469 or by coming into our offices at Sycamore House between 9 am and 4 pm Tuesday to Friday or 9 am to 1 pm on Mondays. We are a small officer team but we work outside those hours and messages can be left at any time of day.

Please contact BFSTC with any concerns we want to help and please bear with us as we can't put everything right very quickly.

A handout was circulate, which was the first part of the webpage linked above (up to the FAQs) plus maps attached. See Appendix A.

DS also noted some specific concerns, raised by residents present, which she said she would look into as follows:

- Shrubs at GP surgery near the school
- Melfort Drive hedge
- Gary Close
- a problem with Sycamore branches outside JG's house.

These concerns have since been looked into and the hedge will be cut next month and the problem with the branches has already been reported to MKCC.

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5. Any Other Business

Community Engagement Officer post

WR explained that this was SamG's last LERF meeting as she was leaving MKCC. He thanked SG for all her hard work, said she would be missed by residents and MKCC staff and that he had had enjoyed working with her. WR went on to welcome Scott Gamble (SG) as the new Community Engagement Officer for the Lakes Estate.

6. Date of Next LERF meeting:

Monday 6th November 2023 at 18.15 in Spotlight

Meeting concluded – 8.00pm

