



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 7.30pm

Held at: Council Offices, Huddersfield Road, Mirfield

Councillors Present:

V Lees-Hamilton (Chairman), D Pinder, K Taylor, J Nottingham, J Hirst, M Hamilton, M Bolt, J Taylor, A White

In Attendance:

Clerk: Lisa Staggs

Public: Mark Simon & associate, Christine Sykes, Roger Hammond, Frank Wright

Press: Richard Beecham

MTC171/2014 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed everyone in attendance and wished everyone a happy and prosperous new year.

MTC172/2014 Public Question Time:

Frank Wright thanked MTC on behalf of himself and Mirfield Fire Station for the loan of the chair for Santa's Grotto. He explains to MTC that he is in possession of 2 plaques commissioned by Mirfield Urban District Council that were rejected by Cllrs at the time. He presents one of the plaques to the Mayor, who accepts on behalf of MTC. He also confirms that he has been contacted by a Wakefield resident who is in possession of a Silver Rose Bowl engraved with the Mirfield Logo, who has asked Frank Wright if anyone local would like it and he offers this to MTC. Cllr Lees-Hamilton accepted his kind offer and thanked him.

MTC173/2014 Apologies For Absence:

Members are reminded that apologies should be sent to the Clerk or Chairman if they are unable to attend.

Cllrs: J Fearn, A Burton, E Armitage, A Mapplebeck, T Hirst, S Guy

MTC174/2014 Declaration of Interest:

Councillors to declare an interest, if applicable to any item on the agenda.

Cllr D Pinder – Royal British Legion & Mirfield Community Partnership

Cllr K Taylor – Heavy Woollen Planning

Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to suspend standing orders and

bring forward MTC176 Trinity Methodist Grant Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC175/2014

Confirmation of Minutes:

- i. To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 16th December 2014 as a true and correct record including payments of £1506.87 Cllr K Taylor **Proposed** to approve the minutes as a true and correct record Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour.**
- ii. To receive information on the following on going issues and decide further action where necessary.
Cllr Bolt confirms that the naming of the land previously known as Wasps Nest was heard at area committee. He states that there will possibly be mediation over the name and could possibly go before magistrates, which would cost Kirklees money to do and confirms the last time this happened was in the 1980's and the developer won. Cllr Pinder confirms he met with the developer regarding the history of the name and lent him books, with the developer promising to research the history before proposing the final name.
Cllr Pinder confirms that the exhibition of the plaques will now be in the 1st week of February due to staffing problems at the Library.

MTC176/2014

Grant Application:

To consider grant applications submitted: Trinity Methodist Christine Sykes introduces herself and Roger Hammond to MTC. She briefly outlines the grant application stating that Trinity Methodist wish to commemorate WW1 in November 15. They are holding a concert including a meal on 13th November with an exhibition over that weekend to commemorate the 15 men who died in WW1 who had connections with Trinity Methodist. She confirms that the wooden plaque bearing their names needs work and confirms a cost from a sign writer of £300 plus £300 for the cost of the event and mini flower festival they wish to hold. She confirms that the extra £300 is to be fundraised by Trinity Methodist. Cllr K Taylor states that the plaque is of historic significance, but that it should be in a more central location for the public to see. Cllr K Taylor **Proposed** to allocate Section 137 monies for the cost of the sign writing as Christine could only obtain 1 quotation and as this would be a community event give the extra £300 for the cost of the event Cllr Bolt **Seconded stating that this was an excellent suggestion Vote: All in favour** Cllr White offered to put Christine in touch with his flower distributor to hopefully obtain a better cost. Christine confirmed the meal would be Trench Stew followed by Bread & Butter Pudding. Cllr Pinder offered his help with artefacts etc. Christine & Roger thanked MTC and stated that they would like everyone in Mirfield to attend.

7.45 Christine, Roger & Frank Wright leave.

Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to bring forward MTC178 Item 1 whilst standing orders were still suspended Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour.

MTC177/2014

Planning:

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council. 2014/93803 14 Bracken Hill Erection of dwelling with integral

garage – **Noted**

2014/93331 40 Bracken Close Erection of extension to existing

Detached garage – **Noted**

2014/93793 J Barnes & Co Knowl Rd Change of use of existing 1st floor offices to form 3 apartments and alterations to ground floor shop to form access - **Noted**

2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council

No Comments/Noted

3. Balderstone Hall Lane – No updates

MTC178/2014

Mirfield Matters:

To receive information (if available) on the following items and decide any action where necessary.

1. The Ship Inn Hydropower project – Mark Simon introduces himself and his colleague James as Barn Energy/Yorkshire Hydropower and apologises for not asking to attend last month's meeting but commented that the planning department had been very quick with the application. Mark thanks MTC for their support on this project. He confirms that Hydropower is green energy and generates 550,000 units (180 houses) per year. He confirms that it will enable Salmon to come up the river at The Ship and confirms the Canal & River Trust are in favour. He states his interest in meeting and interacting with local schools and also Mirfield Anglers Club. He also mentions a similar venture possibly at Battyeford and asks for support contacting John Cottons. Cllr Bolt confirms that he will assist with this contact. Cllr Hamilton asks how long the lifespan of the unit is. Mark confirms that it is turbine so has very long lifespan and will only need grilles replacing in time. He confirms that his company is cash flow positive as it will not be employing anyone. Mark confirms that the turbine is much smaller than an Archimedes Screw so there will be no viewing platform and that the fish/eels will swim the other side of this with no fishing of fish info board in situ. Cllr Bolt states he is pleased to hear that the project is going ahead and asks if there will be any boat passes. Mark states that they cannot combine fish passes and boat passes and that the Canal & River Trust does not want the river used more than it is at present. He also confirms that the turbine does not have a noise issue and that they will be able to manage the generator noise easily. Mark hands out business cards to some Cllrs, thanks MTC and leaves at 8.05pm.

Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to reinstate standing orders Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour

2. Canal & River Trust – Postponed to next meeting. Cllr Pinder stated that Mirfield Community Partnership had repainted all the benches along the riverside and planted gardens and the Canal & River Trust had been along and strimmed it all.

MTC179/2014

Outside Bodies: (Updates via email from Cllrs)

To accept updates (if received) and decide any action where necessary. Cllr Pinder informs MTC that Mirfield Volunteer Rifles are hosting a Burns Night on 24th January and that kilts are being sold for £18 at Lidl.

MTC180/2014

Internal Matters:

To receive information on the following items and decide any action where necessary.

1. Website Renewal – Clerk states she will confirm costs for renewal via email. Cllr Bolt asks how many visits the site obtains. Clerk confirms she will find this out and email with costs.
2. CTR Grant – **Noted**
3. Delegation of Powers – Cllr Lees-Hamilton states that due to the problems that can occur with the Public Toilets and Christmas lights it is prudent to delegate some powers to the Clerk as no 1 member has any delegated powers. She states that the circulated powers from Kirkburton are only an example and would like Cllrs to email the clerk any ideas they may have regarding this.
4. Ambassadors – Cllr Lees-Hamilton asks Richard to put a notification in The Reporter for nominations for Mirfield Ambassadors and asks the Clerk to put on Mirfield Town Council website. Cllr K Taylor asks what date the deadline should be. Cllr all agree Monday 16th February, which will give the independent panel time to meet and then bring the recommendations back to council.
5. Counselling-directory.gov.uk – Cllrs to follow the link sent by clerk or type into search engine if link is not working and bring comments to next meeting.
6. Lowlands Allotments – No update from YLCA. Cllr Lees-Hamilton asks the clerk to invite a representative from the Allotment Society to the next meeting to discuss. Cllr Lees-Hamilton asks the Clerk to liaise with Cllr Armitage again as she was the Cllr that originally dealt with the transfer from Kirklees. Cllr Bolt recommends the clerk contact Robert Halstead for his advice on the matter. Cllrs discuss the length of time this has taken YLCA to reply and Cllr Lees-Hamilton states that quite a few enquiries that have been made recently are taking too long.
Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to suspend standing orders and add an extra item 7 to Internal Matters Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour
7. YLCA complaint – Cllr Bolt Proposed that MTC write to Chairman South Pennine Branch, Chair YLCA and NALC stating that it is taking too long to get a response from YLCA Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour.
Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to reinstate standing orders Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC181/2014

Correspondence:

To receive the following items of correspondence and decide any action where necessary.

1. Invitation open evening Creative Arts Hub – **Noted**
2. Invitation Mining Museum – **Noted**
Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to note all correspondence Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC182/2014

Matters for Report and Information:

Members wishing to raise items under this heading should consult the Chairman prior to the meeting

Cllr Lees-Hamilton reads the email from Castle Hall regarding the production of Beauty & The Beast and asks the Clerk to circulate to all Cllrs and asks Cllrs to inform the Clerk if they wish to attend so that she can confirm numbers to Castle Hall.

Cllr Pinder states that after the meeting regarding the Library he was surprised that a 'Friends' group has not been set up. He confirms an open meeting on 21/1/15 with suggestions to Kirklees Librarian. He confirms that he will form a 'Friends' group as Mirfield needs one as other Towns in the area have and he will look for somebody to chair the group. He states he only want to get the ball rolling and handover to someone else. He confirms a meeting 15th January 7-9 for Mifield Railway Station and also that Birstall, Thornhill and Cleckheaton have all shown an interest in setting up a Town Council. Cllr J Taylor states his disgust at Kirklees regarding the lights in the council chamber as both he and the Clerk have reported this several times and Kirklees have logged a job but not done anything about it. He states this is a matter to address to Adrian Lythgo when he attends MTC next meeting. Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that Adrian Lythgo will be attending the next meeting and states that it will be an early start with a consultation of this year's budget at 6.00pm and hopefully a meeting with Adrian at 6.30pm. Clerk to email Chief Exec secretary to confirm times.

MTC183/2014

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:

Cllr Lees-Hamilton thanks Cllrs for their attendance and input.

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 27th January 2015**

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.50pm**.....