



## Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

**Held on:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7.30pm

**Held at:** Council Offices, Huddersfield Road, Mirfield

**Councillors Present:**

V Lees-Hamilton (Chairman), D Pinder, K Taylor, J Nottingham, J Taylor, A White, S Guy, S Benson, M Bolt (9.05pm Cllr Bolt Left)

**In Attendance:**

Clerk: Lisa Staggs  
Public: R Johnson, A Johnson, C Tyler, D O'Driscoll, Mr & Mrs Schiff  
Press: Richard Beecham

**MTC221/2014 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:**

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed everyone in attendance

**MTC222/2014 Public Question Time:**

**Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to suspend standing orders and bring forward MTC227 (4), MTC227 (3) & MTC226 (3) respectively**

**Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**All items were heard in Public Question Time but in agenda order for the purpose of minutes.**

**MTC223/2014 Apologies For Absence:**

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

**Cllrs:** A Burton, E Armitage, M Hamilton, A Mapplebeck, T Hirst, J Hirst

**MTC224/2014 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 S Guy – Royal British Legion & Mirfield Library

Cllr S Benson – Project Mirfield

**MTC225/2014 Confirmation of Minutes:**

- i. To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 as a true and correct record including payments of £852.26 Cllr Guy **Proposed** the minutes were a true and

- correct record Cllr Pinder **Seconded 4 in favour 5 Abstained**
- ii. To receive information on the following on going issues and decide further action where necessary.  
Cllr Lees- Hamilton reads a letter from D Adkins who attended the previous meeting regarding 2015/90302, she states at least 16 residents were against the application and only 1 (D Adkins) in favour; she states that MTC supported the majority of residents who gave material planning considerations. She also states that the car park adjacent to the building is privately owned and therefore any parking would be subject to landlord's approval. Clerk to send letter to D Adkins.

**MTC226/2014**

**Planning:**

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council.  
2014/94029 Eastfield Garage Change of use from coach garage and repair to janitorial supplies & distribution warehouse – Cllr K Taylor stated it would be problematic getting in and out of the access. Cllr K Taylor **Proposed** MTC objects on the basis of access and egress from and to the highway Cllr Pinder **Seconded**  
**Vote: All in favour**  
2015/90202 6 Sunways Erection 1<sup>st</sup> floor extension – **Noted**  
2015/90416 68 Huddersfield Rd Demolition of detached single garage and erection of side and rear extension – **Noted**  
2015/90518 Land at Knowl Grange Erection of 6 wheelchair accessible bungalows and warden flat – **Noted**  
2015/90153 115 Northway Erection of detached dwelling – **Noted**  
2015/90539 Land at Mount Pleasant Farm Use of land for caravan/mobile home storage area and assoc landscaping – **Noted**
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council  
**No Comments/Noted**
3. Balderstone Hall Lane – Cllr Benson declares an interest. Cheryl Tyler informs MTC of a Pig Race on 20<sup>th</sup> March to raise funds for Save Mirfield. She states she has spoken to Steve Hopwood, who has indicated that the application will be heard at the earliest May/June. She confirms that Save Mirfield are affiliated to KCAN, who are planning a Local & National PR Campaign (reported by Daily Telegraph 12<sup>th</sup> April), for a National Day of Action under the banner 'Listen to local voices on planning'. She asks MTC for their support on the day. Cllr Benson refers to a meeting of Project Mirfield the previous Sunday that was productive and states that residents need to go to the library, write their objections and send to Kirklees in the freepost box, whilst utilising library services. Cllr Benson confirms seeing the drainage report and believes what developers propose will not accommodate the field design and is not fit for purpose. He states the proposed school car park will create more problems, with more traffic driving into the road. A resident local to the proposed development asks if MTC can influence traffic control as there are cars everywhere. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states that it is a police matter and that a police action day along with pupils from Crossley fields was planned, with children informing drivers of the dangers but that Crossley Fields pulled out of the initiative. Cllr Bolt states that the traffic issue

needs policing and he believes vehicles should be towed if causing an obstruction or blocking pavements, preventing pushchair access. He states that he would assist in fundraising by means of a sponsored bike ride from Balderstone(Preston) to Mirfield to raise funds to fight the application. Cheryl Tyler thanks Cllr Bolt for this offer. Cllr Bolt states that former Cllr Nicholson proposed the local schools employ a Traffic Road Safety Officer with the power to issue parking tickets; however, the schools would not contribute. Cllr K Taylor states she is also concerned for the planning application for the Barn on Wellhouse Lane, she states that she will request a site visit when this is at HWP, as it will have more impact on the highway. 8.40pm Cllr Lees-Hamilton thanks everyone for attending. **Public leave at 8.40pm** Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** a 15 minute comfort break Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**8.55pm Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to reinstate standing orders Cllr Guy Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**MTC227/2014**

**Mirfield Matters:**

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

1. Asset of Community Value/Transfers – Defer to next meeting
2. Mirfield Public Toilets – Clerk informs Cllrs of the difficulties the cleaner has with the toilet roll holders. Cllr Pinder Proposed that MTC accepts the estimate of £415 for supply & fit of 5 stainless steel dispensers Cllr K Taylor Seconded Vote: All in favour. Estimates for wall hung litter bins, plumbing and plastering to be presented at the next meeting if obtained.
3. Friends of Mirfield Library – Cllr Guy declares an interest. Roger Johnson lists a timeline of events relating to meetings for the setting up of a Friends Group to save Mirfield Library. He accuses Cllr Pinder (who in MTC meeting 13<sup>th</sup> January had stated he would set up a Friends Group but not Chair it), of inaction and being absent from the meetings. Roger states that for the meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March, Alma had networked over 30 people to be at the meeting but that neither Cllr Pinder nor any Mirfield Cllrs had attended. He concluded, stating that he was withdrawing his involvement and leaving it in Cllr Pinder's incapable hands **8.00pm Alma & Roger walked out of the meeting.** Cllr Pinder stated to MTC & members of the public that the truth had been twisted and that he is only interested in saving the library. He stated that he was at the meeting 21<sup>st</sup> January as it was his birthday and clearly remembers, he states there was no advert of the meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March and nobody knew about it. He states that the group should be run by residents and not Cllrs, as it shouldn't be political. Cllr Bolt agrees with Cllr Pinder and states that Town & District Cllrs should support, not take a leading role. He refers to the Friends of Mirfield Railway Station that has been set up by residents with the support of MTC. He states that he has been told that budgets are in place for Library services until 2017. He states Denby Dale have set up a charity and are looking for grants to support this. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC supports the retention of library services & will seek to support anybody setting up a Friends Group Cllr K Taylor

**Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Lees-Hamilton also agrees a Friends Group should be apolitical. Cllr Pinder concludes that he is happy Roger expressed his views, but should have given him chance to reply.

4. M’Fest (Donal O’Driscoll) – Donal addresses Cllrs & Public stating that 2014 M’Fest was challenging, however he states Mirfield is an ideal location due to the transport links and venue. After problems last year with weather and heavy transport on the showground he held a public consultation and the outcome was a country fair type festival with smaller rides. He confirms base costs of £14k and urges residents to pledge money to secure the festival for 2015. Cllr Pinder asks if the festival will be 1 day as per 2014. Donal states that he is looking at a 2 day event, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June, as there are plenty acts interested and he can provide a larger stage that will have less effect on the showground than the 2 smaller ones from 2014. There will be camping for the festival workers only and festival times Saturday 10am-11pm, Sunday 11am – 10pm but following the consultation, the Sunday to finish at the earlier time of 9.30pm. Cllr Pinder believes 8.30pm would be better due to the local children being of school age. Cllr K Taylor thinks that 2 days will be too much for local residents. Donal states that it is more economical and more possibility of good weather over a 2 day period, he confirms the speakers will be angled towards Eastthorpe Spa to reduce noise. Cllr Benson asks if Donal will be donating any funds to charity. Donal confirms that as there was a huge loss in 2014, he will recoup some of the profits, but will look to donate to a charity dealing with depression. In 2014 Kirkwood Hospice received £100 to match the £100 they fundraised on the day. He also confirms that the majority of the bands are local. Cllrs are concerned at the long drinking hours. Donal states that he has organised 12 festivals in Heckmondwike, with 11 hours alcohol availability, as these are family festivals he states the overall behaviour of the crowds is good, he confirms they are SIA monitored and well stewarded and that he has to submit a robust plan with support from police. Cllr Bolt asks if the company is an organisation or registered charity, Donal confirms that it is a Limited company and not a registered charity. He concludes by asking MTC if they have any objections to a small production outside the Library, probably Saturdays, to advertise the festival. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states MTC would be happy for him to utilise this area of the Library and refers Donal to Naomi Goddard @ Kirklees.

**7.50pm Donal leaves.**

**MTC228/2014**

**Outside Bodies:** (Updates via email from Cllrs)

To accept updates (if received) and decide any action where necessary. Cllr Pinder informs MTC that Mirfield Rifle Volunteers are hosting a Toga Party on 21<sup>st</sup> March @7.30pm at Old Colonial.

**MTC229/2014**

**Internal Matters:**

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

1. Hanging Baskets – Cllr K Taylor **Proposed** MTC accept the estimate and confirm the order to Kirklees **Cllr J Taylor Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Taylor stated that it was prudent that this

part of the budget had been increased as the cost was almost £100 more than 2014.

2. Prize WW1 School Project – Cllr Pinder stated that the display by Crossley Fields J & I School of the recreation of the display at the Tower of London from paper-mache was brilliant. Cllr Pinder **Proposed** that the prize for the Best School WW1 Display is presented to Crossley Fields J & I School Cllr K Taylor **Seconded**  
**Vote: All in favour** Cllr Lees-Hamilton asked in view of the display if the school would like Garden Centre vouchers or equipment, Cllr Pinder stated he would approach the school for a preference.

#### **MTC230/2014**

#### **Correspondence:**

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

1. Holme Valley Neighbourhood Plan – **Noted**
2. Kirklees Stakeholder Consultation – **Noted**
3. Locality – **Noted**
4. Fields In Trust Update – **Noted**
5. Dementia Friendly Workshop – **Noted**
6. Public Sector Online – **Noted**
7. YLCA Branch Meeting – **Noted**
8. Creative Arts Hub – **Noted**

#### **MTC231/2014**

#### **Matters for Report and Information:**

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

Cllr Nottingham reminds Cllrs of the upcoming Towpath Clearance on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March @ 10.00am. Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that a letter has been received from M Hirst of the Towns Women Guild confirming that she is please to authorise MTC to send her letter to A Lythgo, Cllr Sheard & S Reevell. Cllr Lees-Hamilton also reads a Thank You card from Trinity Methodist for the grant of £600. Cllr Pinder informs MTC that Ripponden Parish Council is now independent from Calderdale Council, which will give them more authority on planning issues. He also informs MTC of another armed robbery in Greenside at 5.30am. Cllr Lees-Hamilton reminds Cllrs that Cllr Sheard will be attending the next meeting. Clerk to advise exact times via email.

#### **MTC232/2014**

#### **The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:**

Cllr Lees-Hamilton thanked Cllrs for their attendance

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

Time Meeting Closed.....**9.25pm**.....