



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 1st February 2023 at 7.30pm

Held at: Trinity Methodist Church, 4 Trinity Street, Mirfield, WF14 8AD

Councillors Present:

V Lees-Hamilton (Chairman), S Naisbett, P Tolson, J Roberts, M Bolt, M Sullivan, K Taylor, J Nottingham

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: Member NP Steering Group, Member RBL

Press: None

MTC117/2022 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed Cllrs & members of the public to the meeting

MTC118/2022 Apologies for Absence:

Councillors to send apologies and reasons for absence to the clerk or chairman for approval

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs Kath Taylor, M Burton & J Hinchliffe have a leave of absence & Cllrs Brown, Hirst, Mallinson, Guy & Connell sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Sullivan **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour**
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr Sullivan **Seconded: Vote: All in favour**

MTC119/2022 Declaration of Interest:

Councillors to declare an interest, if applicable to any item on the agenda including any pecuniary interests whether they have been declared on the members register of pecuniary interests.

None

MTC120/2022 Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 18th January 2023 including payments of **£9740.39 plus Clerk Salary, pension & HMRC**. Cllr Tolson **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Nottingham **Seconded** **Vote: 7 in favour Cllr Bolt Abstained as he was absent from the meeting**

MTC121/2022 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary

1. To receive an update from Cllr Connell on Lamppost Banners and agree any action necessary – Cllr Connell is absent but Clerk reports that she has

received a spreadsheet of revenue from CP Media, but it was received too late to prepare a report for council. She states that the initial report is that the lampposts at Sunnybank are concrete and unable to secure brackets to. Cllr Sullivan states the lampposts near his home are being replaced, so there may be potential for the future.

2. To receive an update on Mirfield Library and agree any action necessary – No update.

MTC122/2022

Internal Matters:

To receive information on the following and decide any action necessary

1. To receive a report from Internal Auditor and agree any action necessary – The report was circulated by email prior to the meeting. No actions - **Noted**
2. To receive an update from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – Member of the steering group is present. She reports that the NP has been ongoing since 2016 with 38 meetings in total, a consultant was contracted to draft the plan and design codes with grants sourced from Locality, but Kirklees planning department wiped the floor with it. She states that there are only 2 members of the steering group that attend on a regular basis and that other members never send apologies for non-attendance. Aecom have provided technical support but more is needed as the planners are not happy with the draft and want amendments made. She states that the problem is Kirklees tell you what you should not do but not advise what you should do. The Local Plan was published in 2016 and we must accept it and cannot put anything in the NP that is contrary to the Local Plan. Cllrs state that they are not sure how the planners want things phrased or what they want, so find it difficult to engage. Cllr Bolt states that the group is a Steering Group and not a council committee as stated by the steering group member. He states that a consultant was engaged and people have come and gone during the process, but the public do not appear to have been engaged with the plan and the masses who have not engaged will still get a vote on the plan when it goes to a referendum, which typically have a poor turn out. The challenge now is to engage with the public. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** that MTC look at costing a post card drop to each household, publicise the work that has been done and future work by the steering group and facilitate a meeting to engage the public with an information and consultation exercise Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt **Proposed** £5000 contingency for the above from the Community Fund Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To review the current Scheme of Delegation as per decision MTC104(3) (Cllr Connell **Proposed** MTC look to amend the delegation of powers financial status Cllr Guy **Seconded. Vote: All in Favour**) Draft circulated prior to the meeting – Cllrs discuss the draft scheme of delegation. Cllr Lees-Hamilton stated there were times, like the planning consultant appointment, that the Clerk needed to be able to act as calling a meeting still required 3 clear days' notice and due to increase in costs, £1000 may not be enough Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to accept the draft as recommended by the Clerk and add "Where practical, members will be informed via email prior to decisions and a deadline set for any comments to inform the outcome" Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. To receive an update from Novus on Mirfield Remembers/Mirfield Town Council community website and agree any action or costs necessary – Novus were not present at the meeting to update. Cllr Lees-Hamilton to still explore other funding avenues.
5. Cllr Lees-Hamilton resolved to add an urgent item to the agenda – Community Recognition – RBL member is present to discuss the possible community recognition. Cllrs discuss. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC approach the Lord Lieutenancy to seek guidance on recognition Cllr Tolson **Seconded**

Vote: All in favour

MTC123/2022

Public Question Time:

NONE

MTC124/2022

The Date of The Next Town Council Meeting.

Cllr Naisbett circulates costs of the agreed plaque for the Queens Canopy tree to be planted in Ings Grove and confirms the cage is ready. Cllrs agree to a planting ceremony once everything is ready.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 15th February 2023

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.12pm**.....