



## Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

**Held on:** Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7.30pm

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

**Councillors Present:**

D Pinder, J Nottingham, J Hirst, T Hirst, V Lees-Hamilton, J Taylor, K Taylor, M Bolt, A Burton, A Mapplebeck, S Guy, E Armitage,

**In Attendance:**

Clerk: Lisa Staggs

Public: Grahame Forster, Alan Wilkinson, Steve Benson, Jane Halladay, Steve Lightwood, Bev Cheetham

Press: Richard Mirfield Reporter

**MTC184/2014 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:**

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance, she apologised to the public for the slightly late start, due to a private session.

**MTC185/2014 Public Question Time:**

NONE

**MTC186/2014 Apologies For Absence**

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

J Fearn, A White, M Hamilton

**MTC187/2014 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

**Cllr Lees- Hamilton Proposed to suspend standing orders and bring forward MTC192 item 1 Allotments and MTC191 Item 1 Canal & River Trust Cllr K Taylor Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**MTC188/2014 Confirmation of Minutes**

i. To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 as a true and correct record including payments of **NIL**

Cllr Pinder stated MTC176 should read Trench stew and not French stew Cllr D Pinder **Proposed** that once this amendment was made these were a true and correct record Cllr K Taylor

**Seconded Vote: 7 in favour 5 abstained**

- ii. To receive information on the following on going issues and decide further action where necessary.

Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that there is now a visitor counter on the website. Cllr Pinder confirms that the Burns night was successful and a cheque was presented to Kirkwood Hospice.

## MTC189/2014

### **Finance**

To consider and decide any action where necessary on the following matters:

1. BT Direct Debit £53.46 – **NOTED**  
Extra Mile Standing Order - £287.50 - **NOTED**

<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Clerk L Staggs	January Salary	£ 652.94
HMRC	January PAYE	£ 215.08
Just Gardens	December Maintenance	£ 40.00
Ben Hardcastle	Christmas Lights Balance	£ 2795.00
R Halstead	Land registry Mirfield Moor	£ 156.00
Extra Mile	Office Cleaning December	£ 24.00
Davesounds	PAT Testing	£ 54.00
Kirklees	Electricity Public Toilets	£ 208.19
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£ 4145.21</b>

Cllr J Taylor **Proposed** payment en block Cllr T Hirst **Seconded**  
**Vote: All in favour.**

## MTC190/2014

### **Planning**

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council.  
2015/90079 272 Huddersfield Road Erection of single storey front extension – **Noted**  
2014/94047 9 Hopton Ave Erection of 2 storey rear extension – **Noted**  
2015/90115 156 Stocks Bank Rd Erection of extensions – **Noted**  
2015/90067 Lidl Station Rd Erection of non-illuminated sign – Cllr J Taylor states that this is a 5 yearly application for advertising board - **Noted**
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council – **No Comments/Noted**
3. Balderstone Hall Lane – Cllr K Taylor informed MTC that Steve Hopwood had now taken over as planning consultant at Kirklees on this application.

## MTC191/2014

### **Community**

To receive an update/discuss/note:

1. Canal & River Trust – Jane Halladay from Groundwork introduces herself to MTC. She states that she is working with Canal & River Trust with some funding from the National Lottery in Dewsbury & Mirfield with emphasis on health & wellbeing, community cohesion, sustainability and creation of jobs. She confirms that she has had consultations with groups at Mirfield Library, Co-op and Mirfield Community Partnership. She would like help from MTC on which groups to approach. Cllr Pinder asks if she can speak to Canal &

River Trust to bring an end to strimming of the planting along the canal. Jane confirms that she has already raised this issue with them. She confirms that the funding is from Savile Town Marina to Newgate and that the project will be volunteers and not hard landscaping. Cllr Guy suggests that Jane contacts the local secondary schools, Army & Air cadets who may be involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. Cllr K Taylor suggests local Scouts & Brownie groups and Safe Anchor Trust. Jane thanks MTC for their time and ideas and confirms that she will send details to the clerk. **8.15pm Jane leaves. Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed whilst standing orders were suspended to add MTC192 Item 3 Mirfield Community Trust and bring forward MTC192 Item 4 Cllr J Taylor Seconded Vote: All in favour**

2. St Pauls Road – Cllr Bolt explains the difficulty with a two way system on St Pauls Rd and states that Kirklees are looking to implement a one way system going up St Pauls Road, which is the safest option. Cllr Armitage states that she is concerned that the only 2 routes turning right are Doctor Lane and Knowl Road, which she believes are extremely difficult and dangerous to get out at and she believes that this will result in queues on Doctor Lane. Cllr Bolt confirms that St Pauls residents have been consulted and this is the outcome. He states that a box junction at the junction of Doctor Lane/Huddersfield Rd could be an option. Cllrs agree this is a good idea. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to approach Karen North regarding the possibility of a box junction at Doctor Lane/Huddersfield Rd Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. Mirfield Community Trust – Cllr Bolt has been asked by Andy Dyson to speak on behalf of MCT, Steve Lightwood & Bev Cheetham are also present. Cllr Bolt gives a brief history stating that former Cllrs Betty Taylor and Pauline Boyce were involved with the setup of the Community Centre and MTC granted Water Royd Community Centre £20,000. In 2002 the cabinet at Kirklees agreed a transfer of assets and Gilder Hall/Mirfield Community Trust took over Water Royd Community Centre. If sold the proceeds, approx. £350k, in principal to be held by MCT to develop Gilder Hall, with a 125 year full repair lease and freehold with covenant stating never to be sold or realise value. He states that the Centre has approx. 800 users per week and if sold off the value would not be realised and not be put into the community and would be a massive loss to Mirfield. Steve then spoke with regards to the issue of no heating, He confirms that Kirklees contribute £13k per year for Gas etc and that under the agreement; Kirklees are responsible for the heating and equipment. In November 2014, Kirklees decommissioned the boiler. The centre is now using 9 heaters for the entire building. Kirklees obtained a quotation for a new boiler totalling £30k, however MCT have obtained a quotation for £13,280 plus VAT and have agreed to contribute 35% of this, balance of £8632.00 payable by Kirklees. MCT have now been informed by Kirklees that they will not authorise the replacement boiler until a cabinet decision has been made as to the destiny of the centre. Steve is concerned of the possibility of the sale of the Community Centre. Cllr Bolt states that the 3 Ward Cllrs will receive a copy of the cabinet agenda. Cllr Armitage asks if the lease is open ended.

Steve confirms that each side can give 3 month notice to terminate. Cllr K Taylor states the Community Centre is not on the tranche of buildings to be sold. Cllr Pinder **Proposed** that MTC write a letter of concern to Kirklees asking what is planned as MTC has heard disquieting reports and would like clarification of the planned future destiny of Water Royd Centre under the Confidentiality act and MTC to be notified of any decision made, prior to it been in the public domain Cllr Mapplebeck **Seconded Vote: All in favour 8.45pm Steve & Bev leave.**

## MTC192/2014

### Internal Matters

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

1. Allotments Lowlands – Alan & Grahame inform MTC of the issue that has arisen regarding the intended sale of Boulds Bins. The main concern is 1. The access lane to the allotments 2. Piece of land at the top of the site currently used as a car park. Alan states that Boulds spoke with Tony Wainwright regarding an approx. 12 foot area at the top of the site that belongs to Boulds but has been on allotment land with a fence at the top for decades and that this piece of land has been used by the allotment society for approx. 100 years. **7.50pm Cllr Mapplebeck arrives.** If this land is taken by Boulds, it would mean losing the first plot to make car parking. Alan also notes that whilst looking at the land registry he has noticed that Boulds have possibly fenced on allotment land all along the lane, making the lane narrower than it should be, although still wide enough for vehicles. Grahame states that since the top fence has been in place, as long as he can remember over 40 years, that the allotments society have worked up to this fence, so Boulds accepted the fence as a boundary when they bought the land. Cllrs agree that MTC needs to safeguard this asset and establish facts Cllr Burton **Proposed** to speak to a colleague who is a Solicitor who deals with commercial property dispute resolution to obtain advice on this matter Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour Cllr Pinder told the allotments society if they were approached by Boulds Bins to direct them to MTC. 8.00pm Alan & Grahame leave.**
2. Website Renewal Go Daddy – Cllr Bolt Proposed that MTC renew the domain & website management with Go Daddy for a 2 year period Cllr J Taylor Seconded Vote: All in favour
3. Counselling.org link to website – Cllr Lees- Hamilton confirms that she has seen the link and does not think it is appropriate for the website, Cllrs agreed. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** MTC inform Counselling.org that it is not appropriate for the MTC website Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. Resignation Cllr Fearn – Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that after an extended leave of absence due to ill health and family commitments, Cllr Fearn has resigned as she cannot commit further. Cllr Burton confirms that the Council can co-opt up until 10<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states it is 100 days from an election and that Steve Benson known to Cllrs from Project Mirfield has shown an interest in becoming a Councillor. Cllr Lees-Hamilton asks Steve to address Cllrs. Steve confirms that he has

vast experience and knowledge in the construction business and feels that he can bring this knowledge to MTC. Cllrs confirm that Steve meets the NALC requirements for co-opted Cllrs. Cllr J Taylor **Proposed** that in view of this Steve Benson be co-opted to Mirfield Town Council Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: 11 in favour Cllr Nottingham Abstained**. It is confirmed that Steve will take over the Eastthorpe Ward from former Cllr Fearn. The declaration of acceptance is brought into chambers and Steve signs and reads the acceptance in front of Council, Public & Press. Members of the council welcome Cllr Benson and congratulate him on his co-option. **Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to reinstate standing orders Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour**

5. Lack of response from Leader of Kirklees council – Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that Julia in the Cabinet office has been given dates by Cllr Sheard and will confirm these to the clerk.

#### **MTC193/2014** **Correspondence**

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

1. White Rose Update YLCA – **Noted**
2. Electronic Communication YLCA – **Noted**
3. Streetscape Flyer – **Noted**
4. Guide to Planning – **Noted**
5. Public Sector Online - **Noted**

#### **MTC194/2014** **Matters for Report and Information**

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

Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that John Heneghan will be attending Council at 6.00pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February and asks Cllrs to forward any questions to the Clerk so that these can be sent to John before the meeting.

#### **MTC195/2014** **The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:**

Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomes Steve Benson and thanks Cllrs for their input.

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

Time Meeting Closed.....**9.38pm**.....