



## Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

**Held on:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm

**Held at:** St Mary's Community Centre, Church Lane, Mirfield

**Councillors Present:**

P Blakeley (Chairman), P Tolson, D Pinder, A Burton, M Bolt, V Lees-Hamilton, J Nottingham, S Guy, S Benson

**In Attendance:**

Clerk: Lisa Staggs  
Public: J Tomlinson Walsh, P King, C Sykes, C Tyler  
Press: None

**MTC81/2017** **Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:**

The Chairman Cllr Blakeley welcomed Councillors back after recess and welcomed members of the public.

**Cllr Blakeley Proposed to suspend standing orders and bring forward MTC87(2) Cllr Lees-Hamilton Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**MTC82/2017** **Public Question Time:**

None

**MTC83/2017** **Apologies For Absence:**

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

**Cllrs:** M Burton, J Taylor, K Taylor, C Walker, K Sibbald, M Ibberson, J Hirst

**MTC84/2017** **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.

Cllr Guy declared a personal interest MTC86(4) & MTC89(1) member of RBL.

**MTC85/2017** **Confirmation of Minutes:**

To approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017 as a true and correct record including payments of **£4773.00**. MTC70 add before any pecuniary interest Cllrs declare an interest on any item on the agenda and any..... Cllr Bolt **Proposed** once the amendment was made the minutes were a true and correct record Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: 8 in favour Cllr Lees-Hamilton abstained as she was absent from the meeting 18<sup>th</sup> July.**

**MTC86/2017** **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 the Clerk regarding Bankfield Hedges – Clerk reports that Wild About Gardens apologised for not attending on the agreed date and confirmed a second cut on 11<sup>th</sup> September.
2. To receive an update from the Clerk relating to the Flood Report and proposed meeting with Kirklees and Environment Agency – Clerk reports that Tom Ghee from Kirklees, Joanna Arnold from Environment Agency and Trefor Hillas will attend the meeting 19<sup>th</sup> September at Salvation Army commencing 7.00pm. Cllr Bolt to upload this information to Mirfield Matters on social media.
3. To receive an update from the Clerk regarding contact with WYPW relating to Eastthorpe Gardens & discuss and agree the next course of action – Clerk reports that she has emailed and sent a reminder email to WYPW but as yet not received a reply.
4. To receive an update from the Clerk on Mirfield Memorial Park Fields In Trust status and update on position with Ramsdens solicitors – Clerk reports that Ramsdens are carrying out an Index Map Search and that she used her delegated powers during recess to approve and pay the £40 fee. Clerk also reports that Mark Nicholson at Kirklees has confirmed that he is taking further instructions regarding the allocation of the park to Fields In Trust status.
5. To receive an update from the Clerk and Cllr Pinder regarding the handover of keys to Kirklees and present position regarding the public toilets – Clerk reports that Cllr Pinder met with Robert Crossland to handover the keys and take meter readings. Unfortunately, Cllr Pinder's keys could not unlock all the doors. Clerk reports that Clan Services will deliver their set of keys to the library on 6<sup>th</sup> September and Robert Crossland will collect them.

**MTC87/2017**

**Grant Applications:**

1. To consider grant applications submitted: **None**
2. To receive updates from Previously approved grants: Mirfield Arts Festival – Jenny Tomlinson Walsh is present and hands out a report to Cllrs. Jenny reports that the festival received complimentary comments from press/police and social media. She reports minor problems, mostly with 'peddlers', that were dealt with quickly. She reports a total of 5000 visitors with 3000 visitors to the library alone and confirmed that it is now included in the Kirklees Creative Scene and website. Jenny thanked Tim Wood for his advice on the parade and confirmed that it was a success with 500 children from local schools and youth groups taking part. She reports that the festival had supported several charities and thanked MTC for their support. Cllr Blakeley thanked Jenny for the update and congratulated her and the Friends Group on the success of the festival. 7.50pm Jenny leaves.

**Cllr Blakeley Proposed to bring forward MTC89(2) whilst standing orders were suspended Cllr Lees-Hamilton Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**MTC88/2017**

**Planning:**

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council.
  - 2017/92751 20 Bishop's Way– **Noted**
  - 2017/92778 4 Greenside Mount – **Noted**
  - 2017/92788 19 The Coppice – **Noted**
  - 2017/92877 50-52 Calder Road – **Noted**
  - 2017/92887 97 Stocksbank Road – **Noted**
  - 2017/92758 The Cottage 61 Leeds Road – **Noted**
  - 2017/92666 24c Hopton Hall Lane – **Noted**

2017/92947 Land off Huddersfield Road - **Noted**

2017/92806 18 Granny Lane - **Noted**

2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council  
2017/91953 8 Crowlees Rd – Cllr Bolt reports Carl Pickering is still in talks with Kirklees and Cllr V Kendrick  
2017/90823 & 2017/90824 – Cllr Bolt reports the applicant is to appeal this decision

**All other planning decisions noted**

3. To consider potential controversial planning applications. To discuss the public consultation held by Bellway Homes and agree any course of action necessary – Cllrs who attended the meeting report a low turnout from residents. MTC to await formal application.

**MTC89/2017**

**Mirfield Matters:**

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

1. To discuss Fields In Trust Centenary Fields for Upper Hopton Recreational & Cricket Ground and decide and agree what action to be taken – Cllr Bolt reports that he sent Cllr Tolson's email to Jamie Leeson at Fields In Trust and is awaiting his response. Cllr Bolt reports Knowl Park & Knowl House also have War Memorial Plaques and to consider these in any correspondence with Fields In Trust.
2. To receive an update from the Clerk on Service Agreement with Kirklees and receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and decide and agree the next course of action for the Neighbourhood Plan – Chris Sykes, Cheryl Tyler & Peter King are present. Clerk reports that the amended Terms of Reference have been accepted by Kirklees and that the Service Agreement between Kirklees and MTC has been signed and now in force. Cllr Blakeley reports that the steering group has lost many members of the public. He asks Cllrs for their support with the Neighbourhood Plan preparation and in recruiting more members of the public. Cllrs Pinder, Benson, Blakely and Lees-Hamilton pledge their support along with current members Cllrs Bolt & Tolson. Cllr Benson states that it needs residents to get involved and needs to set out what is required from volunteers. Cllr Pinder suggests each Cllr identifies & recruits 2 volunteers from each ward. Cllr Lees-Hamilton suggests contacting local community groups. Cllr Bolt states that MTC is the statutory body but the Steering Group is preparing the plan, grants need to be sourced by both the council and steering group. Clerk to circulate a list of dates for the next Neighbourhood Plan meeting and then liaise with Cllr Guy to arrange venue, probably Old Colonial.

Cheryl Tyler refers to an email sent by the Clerk on 3<sup>rd</sup> August in which Clerk included motion MTC61(3). Cheryl reports that the members of Save Mirfield are not in favour of the motion which includes Project Mirfield, who Cheryl says in the past have refused to work with Save Mirfield. She states Save Mirfield will support Kirklees council if an appeal is brought by Bellway. She asks what Save Mirfield will get in return for sharing information. Cllr Lees-Hamilton reminds Cheryl that MTC have in their budget provision for their own consultants and have retained consultants in the past and that MTC do not expect Save Mirfield to shoulder the burden. A heated discussion ensues, resulting in Cllr Pinder & Cllr Benson leaving the meeting seconds apart at 8.15pm. Cllr Blakeley reads out loud the motion MTC61(3) which does not mention Project Mirfield but agrees to share information with Save Mirfield, and local action groups having an 'open book' sharing of expertise. Clerk confirms the meeting is quorate. Cllr

Bolt **Proposed** MTC recognises that Save Mirfield is a fully constituted transparent group, who holds an AGM in which accounts are circulated Cllr Tolson **Seconded Vote: All in favour** After clarifying the motion MTC61(3), Cheryl agrees to discuss with Save Mirfield to agree that there is no barrier from them regarding the sharing of expertise. Cheryl mentions the Local Plan Hearing and asks if MTC will be attending as her literature received from Kirklees does not mention MTC. She confirms that an electronic copy of MTC's response to the Local Plan should be sent to Yvonne Parker before 5.00pm Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Clerk confirms MTC response to Local Plan was sent to Richard Hollinson 28/1/16 and confirmation of receipt of this received 29/1/16. Cllr Guy **Proposed** MTC contact Yvonne Parker and refers to the Local Plan Response that Mirfield Town Council submitted to Richard Hollinson 28/1/16, which was received and acknowledged 29/1/16, includes an electronic copy and explains that any reference made by the council regarding flooding, drainage, highways, infrastructure etc was for Mirfield as a whole. It requests that as a collective any or all the Councillors be allowed to speak at the Local Plan Hearings. Clerk to email Yvonne Parker at her earliest opportunity prior to 5.00pm Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017 Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour**  
8.31pm C Tyler, C Sykes & P King leave

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

3. To discuss a request from a resident regarding a possible fixing of a plaque on a MTC bench in memory of a former resident and agree on any action necessary – Cllr Bolt reports he was approached by a resident to fix a commemorative plaque to the bench on Crossley Lane. Clerk reports YLCA have confirmed that as the bench is the property of MTC, further approval is not required, but MTC need to set a precedent regarding production and installation of plaques by residents. Clerk to contact Will Acornley at Kirklees as picnic bench has still not been returned to Battyeford and Crossley Bench not replaced with new one. Defer decision.
4. To discuss the format and agree process for 2017 Christmas Light Switch On - Clerk reports the Kirklees will provide a Christmas Tree for outside the library but this may not be the case in 2018. She reports that Ben Hardcastle has sent a quotation of £6000 for 2017 Christmas Lights. Defer decision.
5. Cllr Blakeley added an urgent agenda item. To discuss, agree and support Kirklees Council Motion Count them in – Armed Forces - Cllrs discussed the Kirklees Motion at great length. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** Mirfield Town Council recognises the debt we owe to our service personnel both current & former, and as an early adopter of the Heroes Welcome scheme continues to encourage businesses in Mirfield to support them wherever possible. Mirfield Town Council also endorses the Community Covenant by which armed forces personnel and their families, who move frequently due to military postings, will be supported on either temporary or permanent settlement in terms of access to social housing, education and health care needs, (this is not an exhaustive list but an example). This Council supports & promotes the call by the Royal British Legion nationally to include questions in future census returns with respect to membership of the Armed Forces Community. We note this matter is on the next agenda of Kirklees council and wish to add our support to that debate Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Clerk to email Motion to Jacqui Gedman.

To receive updates and decide any action where necessary.

**None**

**MTC91/2017**

**Correspondence:**

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

1. YLCA NALC Bulletin - **Noted**
2. YLCA Government Enquiry - **Noted**

**MTC92/2017**

**Matters for Report and Information:**

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

Cllr Guy reports that the Mirfield Branch RBL has received a letter from the Queen on its 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**MTC93/2017**

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

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

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