



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 16th November 2022 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

V Lees-Hamilton (Chairman) M Connell (Deputy), S Naisbett, P Tolson, J Roberts, J Hirst, M Sullivan, J Nottingham, S Guy, K Taylor

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs
Public: Members MIB, Brett from Novus
Press: None

MTC88/2022

Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed Cllrs & members of the public. She thanked Cllrs for their attendance at the Remembrance Parade, which all went well without any problems and all the risk assessments were carried out in line with safety guidance. She thanked the Cllrs that assisted with the parade and also thanked the member of the public that assisted. She also thanked Kirklees for sending the vehicles that blocked the entrances to Mirfield and reported that there were enough Order of Service booklets left for 2023.

MTC89/2022

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 Bolt, Brown & Mallinson sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Guy **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Naisbett **Seconded**
Vote: All in favour
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Guy **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr Naisbett **Seconded: Vote: All in favour**

MTC90/2022

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.

Cllr Guy declared an other interest MTC92(1)

MTC91/2022

Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 2nd November 2022 including payments of Nil. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Roberts **Seconded**
Vote: All in favour
Cllr Lees-Hamilton resolved to bring forward MTC94 MIB grant.

MTC92/2022

Matters Arising from the Minutes:

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

1. To receive an update on Mirfield Library and agree any action necessary – No update. Clerk confirms that a new officer has been appointed and will chase for an update.
2. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett on Christmas Lights and agree any action or cost necessary – Cllr Naisbett reports that certain establishments in Mirfield are engaging with the switch on and opening on the Sunday. Clerk to put on Facebook and Website and contact Lindley Brass Band for a cost for playing on the day.
3. To receive an update from Cllr Connell on Lamppost Banners and agree any action necessary – No update
4. To receive an update on suspected arson attacks and agree any action necessary – Cllr Lees-Hamilton reports she has liaised with WY Police on this matter. The residents are looking to set up a Neighbourhood Watch group, that she will help facilitate. No further fires have been reported.

MTC93/2022

Finance:

To approve the following accounts for payment

1. To agree Clerk November Salary by Bacs
2. To agree Clerk Working Allowance November by Bacs
3. To agree HMRC November PAYE by Bacs
4. To agree Trinity Methodist November Room Hire by Bacs £80.00
5. To agree Able Gardens November maintenance by Bacs £45.00
6. To agree Zoom monthly Pro by Bacs £14.39
7. To agree Old Colonial installation of signage at Ings Grove Park by Grove Fencing £144 (Grove fencing have confirmed the invoice was paid by Old Colonial)
8. To agree Williams & Co advice for Eastthorpe Gardens & land registry check £372
9. To receive Bank Reconciliation to 31/10/22 – **Noted**
10. To receive Monthly budget to 31/10/22 – **Noted**

Cllr Guy **Proposed** to pay items 1-8 en bloc & noted 9 & 10 Cllr Connell

Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC94/2022

Grant Applications:

To consider grant applications submitted: Mirfield In Bloom contribution of £20,000 from MTC for plants and watering (Documents circulated prior to the meeting) – Members of MIB are present and report on the YIB awards that took place in the summer. They report that MIB could not function without the major sponsors as everything has to be ordered in advance. Cllrs ask various questions regarding funding and what other areas of Mirfield are being adopted. MIB confirm the funding they received and applied for and that they are looking at other areas who are interested and secondary schools as well as the primary schools already involved. Cllr Naisbett confirms a conversation with Miller Homes, who confirm they have grants available for local community projects. Cllr Connell states that MIB is more than flowers, that it reaches out to the wider community, to groups etc and the environment. Cllr Sullivan notes that the “Grot spots” referred to on the Mirfield Matters survey have been maintained now by MIB. MIB member confirms that there is hardly any litter or graffiti in the town and this was commented on by the judges. There will be further development of floral displays by John Cottons as this is the only area available on A644 entrance to Mirfield, other entrances like Fire Station & Sunnybank have been improved. The Lord Lieutenant was impressed at the awards with how well the group managed their finances. Member MIB asks if the entrance signage to the town can include MIB and the awards the town received. Clerk to look at costs. Cllrs discuss incorporating London Park estate and MIB member confirms that a tenants &

residents association has been set up, so could contact them. Clerk confirms the budget allocations with Cllrs. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to grant MIB the £20,000, using £12,632 left in the Annual events budget heading, £6000 from Grants budget heading and transfer £2000 to annual events from the Regen budget heading Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
8.12pm MIB members leave. Cllr Lees-Hamilton resolved to reinstate standing orders.

MTC95/2022

Internal Matters:

To receive information on the following and decide any action necessary

1. To receive a presentation from Novus regarding Mirfield Town Council website incorporating Mirfield Remembers and discuss and agree any action or costs necessary – Brett is present from Novus. He presents a mock up format of a potential website to Cllrs and explains how event management, ticket sales, Mirfield remembers database, downloadable wellbeing resources, blogs & news sections can be included. It can also house a community hub with groups having their own page/own bio etc. He states there were 28 events in Mirfield from Jan-Dec and those could have been advertised on a council website. Mirfield Remembers will be a website within a website. He estimates 200-230 hours to build the website at a cost of £6-£7k, this being a one-off cost with an annual hosting fee of £250. Novus to collate a full quotation to present at a future meeting. Cllrs to decide on the format they prefer.
2. To discuss Meltham Town Council proposed Shared Capital Grant Scheme and agree any action necessary – Cllrs resolve that they need more information on the scheme before they can decide i.e. who will control the budget etc. Clerk to contact Meltham TC for more information.
3. To receive an update on Clerk's salary and agree any action necessary (Due to confidential nature to be taken in private) – Clerk updates Cllrs that the accountants have confirmed that over the year she will not have to pay higher rate tax as the amount will fall below the bracket. However, as the back pay will be paid in 1 month, this may exceed the tax bracket. She may however, get the overpaid tax back at the end of the tax year. Cllr Lees-Hamilton shares with Cllrs the updated NJC National Salary award scales that the Clerk's contract is tied to and confirms that an increase has been agreed for 2022/23 which must be back dated to April immediately as per the guidance. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** the Clerk is paid the full amount of back pay to April 2019 as previously agreed MTC66(4) and the annual pay award for 2022/23 backdated to April 2022 and to note the NJC pay scales 2022/2023 Cllr Tolson **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC96/2022

Public Question Time:

NONE

MTC97/2022

The Date of The Next Town Council Meeting.

Cllr Lees-Hamilton reports the Clerk will be absent from 14th December meeting, either change the date to 7th December or a Cllr will have to take the minutes.

Cllrs agree to hold the meeting on 7th December. Cllr Lees-Hamilton shows Cllrs the road safety signage that was arranged for Steanard Lane.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7th December 2022

Time Meeting Closed.....**9.15pm**.....