



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 2nd March 2022 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

M Bolt (Chairman), S Guy, V Lees-Hamilton, M Sullivan, M Connell, M Brown, S Naisbett, P Tolson, J Roberts, J Hirst, J Nottingham, C Mallinson

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: None

Press: None

MTC361/2019

Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Mayor Cllr Bolt welcomed Councillors to the meeting, stating that world events are moving quickly and there is a need to show solidarity. Parliament today wore ribbons in the Ukrainian colours or badges. Cllr Bolt wears the Chairman's Jewel with a ribbon in the Ukrainian colours and reports that he has written to the Mayor of Kyiv. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** the following in support of Ukraine: Our thoughts & prayers are with the people of Ukraine as they suffer grievously under this abhorrent act of war by the Russian regime. We look to our government to act decisively on the international stage while at local level we shall do what we must to support the Ukrainian people. We stand ready to welcome refugees displaced by the conflict. We will also do what we can to avoid purchasing items or services supplied from Russian companies, given the flagrant law-breaking of their own state and we urge all other local authorities to do the same **Seconded by all Cllrs present Vote: All in favour** Cllr Tolson is mindful that the boycott is not extended to Russian people.

Cllr Bolt reports that the Planning Inspector report has been published for Granny Lane, the Mayor & Deputy attended the remote hearing. He reports that the submission statement for 106 monies was agreed with £30k in funding for railcards, as suggested by Cllrs Bolt & Lees-Hamilton. Kirklees had asked for bus cards for a bus route that is unreliable at best. MTC supported the community both physically and financially. He reports that the Inspectors comments were damning to Kirklees. Costs were refused with the reason sited that the evidence submitted by interested parties was substantial, including representations from two consultants as well as various local witness reports, photographic images and videos. Reference was made to the Local Plan. All documents can be found on MTC website.

7.40pm several Cllrs leave due to car park congestion; Clerk confirms the meeting is still quorate.

MTC362/2019

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 have a leave of absence & Cllr Keith Taylor sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Hinchliffe is absent due to illness. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** a leave of absence for Cllr Hinchliffe Cllr Roberts **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to accept the apologies and reasons for absence Cllr Roberts **Seconded: Vote: All in favour**

MTC363/2019

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 Sullivan Declared a Pecuniary Interest as a member & treasurer of MAGS committee

Cllr Brown Declared an Other Interest as a member of MAGS

7.45pm Cllrs return.

MTC364/2019

Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 15th February 2022 including payments of Nil. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: 11 in favour**
Cllr Hirst abstained

MTC365/2019

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**

MTC366/2019

Clerk's Report:

1. To note the following decisions made between meetings by the Clerk under Delegated Powers as agreed in the Full Council Meeting 12th May 2020 & upheld 5th May 2021.

- Payment of Clerk Salary, Working Allowance, NEST Pension & HMRC for February
- Payment of Just Gardens Maintenance of Eastthorpe Gardens February £40.00
- Payment of Monthly Zoom Pro at £14.39 per month
- Payment of Hammonds Band RBL Parade £800.00
- Receipt of £1000 from Kirklees Festive Lighting Grant

The above were all noted.

MTC367/2019

Grant Applications:

1. To consider grant application form submitted: Trinity Methodist Church replacement Electric Range Cooker £499 (Documents circulated prior to the meeting) – Documents were circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk confirms that following confirmation from the group that the use is for the Community rooms and groups and not the church, that under Powers & Duties the grant can be submitted. The group wish to replace the expensive and out of date gas cooker with an Electric version. The gas cooker was chosen by the kitchen contractor but is not fit for purpose. The group confirms that the cooker has been serviced annually but the Community rooms will shortly have the gas heating replaced by air flow, so will be gas free. Cllrs note there is a balance in the accounts and ask if there are any uncommitted funds. The group confirms that there are no uncommitted funds and that they are always in debt with the Methodist Church, £5 per week per member is taken by the

Methodist Church. Cllrs ask if the group have thought to sell the cooker to fund a new one and Cllr Sullivan finds an online site for second-hand catering equipment with a like for like cooker selling for £900. Cllrs discuss options. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** the grant is subject to the installation of the electrical ring main beforehand. The Clerk is delegated to pay the maximum amount of £499 subject to the group using all reasonable attempts to investigating the potential to sell the cooker & use any monies from the sale for installation of electric, removal of the gas cooker and possible funds towards the electric cooker Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC368/2019

Internal Matters:

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

1. To receive an update from Cllr Connell on Lamppost Banners and decide any action necessary – Cllrs Connell & Naisbett raise the issue of broken/missing brackets that appear to have been taken or broken by CP Media. Cllr Connell to send email to CP Media. Cllr Naisbett confirmed that some lights could not be installed due to missing brackets.
2. To receive information from Cllr Connell on a Mirfield Business Breakfast and decide a course of action – Cllr Bolt reports that Cllr Connell has a proposal for a Business Breakfast at Dewsbury Golf Club prior to business hours to network & support the community. Cllr Connell would like the endorsement of MTC to establish the group & approve a liaison officer, no financial costs involved. Cllr Connell **Proposed** MTC supports the establishment of a Mirfield Business Breakfast Club as a means to improve communications within our business sector and community and will nominate a member each year to act as liaison between the group and council Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt **Proposed** Cllr Connell attends the meetings and acts as liaison between the Council and this group and the group be added to the Outside Bodies to be reviewed at the Annual Council Meeting **Cllr Naisbett Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Connell **Proposed** to use the MTC logo on media or written information as a supporter of the group **Cllr Naisbett Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To receive an update from the Clerk on Mirfield Riverside Project – Clerk updates Cllrs on the progress of the Riverside Project, reporting that she has now received 3 quotations and is meeting with Cutting Edge Tree Services who provided the best quotation on Wednesday 9th March to discuss the area at Lowlands bordering the riverside as a starting point for the project. Quotation to be provided for this area separately to the full project. Cllrs welcome to attend.
4. To discuss & review Grant criteria – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to delegate to the Clerk to merge the Guidelines and Terms of Reference into one document Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour**. Cllrs all agreed that feedback must be given and recognition following the grant approval. Cllrs agree that each grant should be assessed on an individual basis, dependant on uncommitted reserves and bank balances.
5. To discuss Eastthorpe Gardens maintenance from March onwards and agree a course of action – Clerk reports that Just Gardens will no longer be maintaining Eastthorpe Gardens as he has now retired. She reports a conversation with Mirfield In Bloom in which they confirmed they were interested in maintaining the gardens. Clerk confirms that MTC still has a 99 year lease with the church for the gardens and Cllrs confirm that they would be amenable to the church taking back possession of the gardens, as discussed, several years ago. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** Cllrs liaise with local gardening groups and contractors known to them and ask to submit a tender to the Clerk. Clerk delegated to approve contract details for tender and

scrutinise quotations ready for council approval Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

6. To receive information & consider the criteria for inclusion on Sporting Honours Board and endorse for any future course of action – Cllr Bolt reports in Cllr Keith Taylor’s absence that the Sporting Honours Board in the Library had not been updated for some time, no Mirfield Sports Council anymore and no previous criteria, MTC to look at adopting for the future. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** the following in the absence of Cllr Taylor: To ensure that sporting achievement is recognised in Mirfield, MTC will take the responsibility for maintaining the sporting honours board. The criteria for inclusion is independent of age or physical ability and applies to all participants, or those involved in governance, judging or other administration in sport. A person who lives in Mirfield or who is a member of a sporting group, team or body based in Mirfield is eligible for consideration provided that they have attained the status of a national champion, represented their country at international level, served in administration or have refereed, (or other designation) at national or international level and their suitability has been submitted for consideration fully detailing their achievements, along with the acceptance of the nominated person, which in the case of a minor must include parental/carer consent or person who has achieved & sustained outstanding contribution by bringing sport into the community **Cllr Bolt Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC will accept the responsibility for the cost of updating the names on the boards each year which have been nominated and assessed and subsequently approved by Council. Cllr Keith Taylor is asked to make contact with a diverse range of sports clubs and interested parties in Mirfield to establish a review committee for nomination review and submission to Council for adoption. Following such establishment, the group/committee will publicise their existence, the criteria etc and seek to bring forward the initial tranche of any qualified persons and thereafter an annual review Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC369/2019

Public Question Time:

NONE

MTC370/2019

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting.

Date of next meeting **Wednesday 16th March 2022**

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.25pm**.....