



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Tuesday 1st October 2019 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

M Bolt (Chairman), J Nottingham, J Roberts, P Tolson, M Burton, J Hirst, M Brown, S Guy, S Naisbett, K Taylor, J Hinchliffe

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs
Public: 2 Members Mirfield Rescue Service
Press: None

MTC94/2019 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Mayor welcomed Cllrs & members of the public to the meeting and reported that the Clerk would be late. Cllr Guy to take the minutes until the Clerk arrives.

MTC95/2019 Public Question Time:

None

MTC96/2019 Apologies For Absence:

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

Cllrs: Cllr V Lees-Hamilton, Cllr S Benson, Cllr M Connell, Cllr Kath Taylor.

Cllr Tolson **Proposed** to accept apologies and reasons Cllr Burton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

Cllr M Ibberson was absent. No apologies received

MTC97/2019 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 Bolt declared an other interest MTC104(3i) Land at Slipper Lane, as his home was nearby

MTC98/2019 Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 17th September 2019 as a true and correct record including payments of **£3165.09**.

Cllr Brown **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record Cllr Naisbett

Seconded Vote: 10 in favour Cllr Taylor Abstained

7.35pm Clerk arrives.

MTC99/2019 Matters Arising From The Minutes:

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

1. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett on Christmas Light Switch On and agree any costs or action necessary – Cllrs discuss details of the event. Cllr Naisbett reports himself and Cllr Ibberson will source the banners and leaflets. Clerk to apply for event licenses and check if Kirklees will be providing a Christmas Tree for the town. Cllr Guy **Proposed** should Kirklees not provide a Christmas Tree, MTC provide one for the town Cllr Tolson **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2. To receive an update from Cllrs Roberts & Nottingham on Mirfield Riverside Project & agree any action or costs necessary – Cllr Roberts reports that volunteers are required to remove the Japanese Knotweed and that spraying will commence shortly. River Steward meeting with James Walkers to discuss their current Japanese Knotweed programme on their land. Map of allotments is shown by Cllr Brown and it appears that the land does not reach the riverbank.
3. To receive an update regarding Transpennine Route upgrade, for members to report on their attendance at the Network Rail information session and for Mirfield Town Council to submit its collective response to proposals – Cllrs discuss the proposals made by Network Rail. The following motion is resolved: This Council welcomes the investment by the current Conservative Government in our infrastructure, to improve rail journey times and capacity for passengers and eventually freight. Mirfield Town Council welcomes the opportunity to improve our rail station but with caveats as the information from Network Rail did not show facilities befitting this station with its patronage, and as the only station in Kirklees with a direct link to London.
 Mirfield Town Council having debated the matter requests Network Rail to ensure that these items are included in the plans for Mirfield station.
 Specific items: TOC = Train Operating Company TRU = TransPennine Route Upgrade. It is essential Mirfield has step free access to all platforms, suitable for all abilities, luggage carrying and those with mobility aids. Platform canopies and heated waiting shelters considered to be an enhancement above existing facilities. But Mirfield is the 3rd busiest station in Kirklees and so should be prepared as such through TRU. Greater seating provision. Once facilities are improved it will release the suppressed demand for the station and so the upgrade needs to account for the projected demand and ambition to reduce car journeys. Higher-spec platform furniture/ finishes. Higher-spec footbridge/covered. Mirfield needs a covered and step free means to get between platforms on the current design. Additional Car Parking: Parking at stations is considered to fall under the responsibility of the local authorities and TOC or Station Facility Owner (SFO). However, the land may belong to Network rail or be secured under the transport works order. Therefore, optimum car parking provision needs to be allocated in TRU designs. Mirfield needs sufficient, secure off-road parking to remove the congestion and dangers we see today, a parking provision of around 250 spaces should be sought. Retail facilities: Provision and management of retail facilities and tenants are the responsibility of the TOC. However, Network rail should ensure that provision of the utility connections and allocation of space is within TRU so that these can be provided by the train operators or others. Ticket office: A staffed service should be provided at Mirfield to help, advice and benefit passengers. Mobile phone charge points and Wi-Fi: A modern station should ensure passengers have access to all facilities. Electric vehicle charge points: (EVC) should now be included in car park design and provision and Ebike charging should be provided to prepare for the growth in this sector. Toilets and 'changing places' toilets: Provision and

management of toilets and changing places facilities are the responsibility of the TOC. However, unless Network rail builds them the TOC will not manage them, it is unthinkable that passengers should not have facilities at Mirfield station when others are having them provided now. Baby changing facility: Provision and management of baby changing facilities are the responsibility of the TOC. However, these should be incorporated in the toilet provision. Enhanced cycle parking/ storage: Kirklees and West Yorkshire have targets to increase short cycle journeys, the train operators do not allow, or encourage cycles on trains so the TRU should provide secure cycle lockers at Mirfield. Automated ticket vending machines: If the station is not to be staffed then these are essential to increase passenger numbers. Additional Station Entrance: Non-essential customer service element – opportunity. Green space/gardens: Recognising the tremendous work of Mirfield in Bloom, the TRU works should ensure provision of gardens and green facilities. Art installations: Many stations have murals and artworks to reflect local character, Mirfield has started this and space needs to be provided for the new station to enhance this. Drinking Water Provision: To reduce use of single use plastics and help passenger health, these should be provided. Local Community Boards: Mirfield Town Council strongly requests the provision of community notice boards. Solar Power/Renewables: To reduce carbon footprint, running costs and benefit the environment Mirfield station should be fitted with renewable energy means. Suicide Prevention: Given previous sad cases, if the station is not to be staffed then it must have some means to monitor and help Cllr Bolt

Proposed the above motion Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC100/2019

Outside Bodies: (Updates via email from Cllrs)

To receive information on the following items and decide any action where necessary. Reports to be submitted to Clerk and circulated by email with the agenda. **Cllr Nottingham circulated an update on Mirfield Community Hub prior to the meeting - Noted**

MTC101/2019

Mirfield Matters:

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

1. To update & Progress Mirfield Matters Survey and to receive reports from Portfolio Leads & discuss – Cllr Bolt reported that initial portfolio feedback had been received from some areas and urged Cllrs to send any reports to Cllr Connell.

MTC102/2019

Internal Matters:

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

1. To discuss taking part in Trinity Christmas Tree Festival at a cost of £18.00 and providing the prize of £25.00 (29th November – 1st December) – Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC takes part in the Tree Festival at a cost of £18 and provides the prize of £25 Cllr Nottingham **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2. Cllr Guy Proposer Cllr Connell Seconder the following motion: To Propose that Mirfield Town Council purchases a snowplough. The snowplough to remain the property of MTC but to be stored and maintained by Mirfield Rescue Services who have previously provided invaluable support to residents during extreme weather. This snowplough will enable MRS to do even more great work in the community. Cllr Guy reports that MRS are a group of volunteers helping rescue residents during inclement weather and have even made the National News in a recent rescue. Members of Mirfield Rescue Service are present and explain the plough blade and details to Cllrs. Cllr Guy **Proposed** MTC purchase the Snow Plough blade at a cost of £829.16 plus VAT for the benefit of the community under

General Powers Section 137. In the absence of Cllr Connell, Cllr Bolt
Seconded Vote: All in favour. MRS to provide proof of PL to MTC. Clerk to obtain gritting routes from Kirklees and Cllrs to identify blocked gully's in their wards. 7.49pm MRS leave.

3. To consider the information received in the recent planning training and agree any actions necessary – Following the recent training a Planning Policy had been circulated by Cllr Bolt and checked by the Clerk prior to the meeting. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC adopt the Protocol for Planning as circulated with no amendments Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. To receive a report on approved Grants and discuss and agree any action necessary – A report of approved grants was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Bolt states that very little/no feedback was received over the past 2 years for approved grants. Cllrs agree it is good etiquette to let MTC know how the funds were used and a brief update as the grants are made from public funds. Cllrs discuss the present Grant Criteria. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** the following be added to the Grant Criteria: Feedback in the form of either a presentation at a Full Council Meeting by the group or a written report to be given to MTC either 3 months maximum following the allocation of funds or after the event, whichever the greater. MTC to receive an invitation to the event if it has sponsored/gifted a grant Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour.**

Clerk points out Item 14 of the Grant Criteria

The grant scheme is unlikely to cover:

Organisations that previously have received Mirfield Town Council grant aid but failed to adequately comply with grant conditions, unless evidence is sought and given that this will not re-occur

5. To receive a report on resolutions sent to Kirklees for action and discuss and agree any action necessary - Defer
6. To receive an up to date Decisions Summary and agree any action necessary – Decisions summary circulated prior to the meeting. Cllrs discuss the 27 outstanding resolutions and agree to delete 8 as now resolved (1,2,5,9,11,13,23,25) to leave on 9 and nominees to progress (6,7,10,12,15,16,21,22,26) and to transfer 10 to Kirklees spreadsheet (3,4,8,14,17,18,19,20,24,27). Item 1 Clerk to speak to Just Gardens regarding upkeep of gardens. Item 2 Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC supports formal groups with a constitution, bank account and committee, be it environmental groups, neighbourhood watch groups or anything MTC sees fit to benefit the community Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC103/2019

Correspondence:

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

1. NALC Chief Executive Bulletin (For Information) – **Noted**
2. NALC Annual Conference (For Information) – **Noted**
3. BT Consultation Removal of Payphone (For Information) – **Noted**
4. NALC Election Survey Deadline (For Information) – **Noted**
5. YLCA Launches Webinar Training (For Information) – **Noted**
6. YLCA White Rose Update (For Information) – **Noted**
7. YLCA Seminar Community LED Housing (For Information) – **Noted**
8. YLCA South Pennine Branch Meeting (For Information) – **Noted**

MTC104/2019

PLANNING:

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council 2019/92897 – Following comments to be submitted: MTC requests Kirklees impose parking implications if application passed.
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council
No Comments/Noted

3. To consider potential controversial planning applications
 - i. **2019/90756 & 2019/91971** Land at Slipper Lane to receive an update and agree any action or costs necessary – Cllr Bolt reports Taylor Wimpey have fitted a retaining pond which is very close to overflowing. 3-4 utility companies have been fitting pipes causing congestion with 20mph limit, as not allowed to use the same trench to fit pipes. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC write to Kirklees: MTC have concerns regarding the current 20 mile per hour speed limit due to the laying of utilities etc. Why in the interest of air pollution are the utility works not being coordinated in a better and more sustainable way when laying pipes Cllr Roberts **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
 - ii. Dewsbury Riverside Development – No Update

MTC105/2019

Matters for Report and Information:

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

Clerk reported that the first tranche of Grant Funding had been received from Locality for the Neighbourhood Plan.

MTC106/2019

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 15th October 2019**

Time Meeting Closed.....**9.00pm**.....