



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Thursday 8th May 2014 at 7.30pm

Held at: Council Offices, Huddersfield Road, Mirfield

Councillors Present:

V Lees-Hamilton (Chairman), D Pinder, J Nottingham, S Harding, T Hirst, M Hamilton, K Taylor, J Taylor, M Bolt

In Attendance:

Administrator: Lisa Staggs

Public: Peter Morgan, Cheryl Tyler, Keith Andrews, B Thornton, Tim Connelly, Save Mirfield, Members Plantation Developments, Christine Sykes.

Press: None

MTC273/2013 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed everyone in attendance

MTC274/2013 Public Question Time:

None

Apologies For Absence:

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

Cllrs: E Armitage, A Burton, J Fearn, C Walker, A Mapplebeck, A White, J Hirst

MTC275/2013 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 S Harding – Tax Assist, Mirfield

Cllr K Taylor – Heavy Woollen Planning

Cllr M Bolt – Mirfield 25 (Moor)

MTC276/2013 Confirmation of Minutes:

i. To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 29th April 2014 as a true and correct record including payments of £3452.47

MTC272 to be amended to Cllr White thanked everyone for their attendance.

Cllr Hirst **Proposed** the minutes were a true and correct record when this was amended Cllr Nottingham **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

- ii. To receive information on the following on going issues and decide further action where necessary. **NONE**

MTC277/2013

Planning:

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council.
2014/91166 114A Huddersfield Rd Formation of terrace to front providing unfixed seating area with temp cover, access ramp and steps Cllr J Taylor states he fully supports this application as the proposed access ramp will help access to other businesses on the site Cllr J Taylor **Proposed** MTC support the application Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2014/91173 272 Huddersfield Rd Erection single storey front extension – **NOTED**
2014/91275 32 Sunny Bank Rd Erection single storey front extension & 2 storey rear - **NOTED**
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council
No Comments/Noted
3. Plantation Developments – Jim (Architect) explains that original ideas for the site were apartments for over 55's. However, he felt that this age group would not benefit due to the distance to local amenities. He had therefore prepared plans for 3 detached dwellings utilising local materials, craftsmen and maintaining the meadowland setting. Cllrs viewed the plans. Cllrs all agreed that this was a much better proposal than apartments, that the dwellings conform to the Mifield Design Statement and that small scale development is preferable.
4. Mirfield Moor – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to defer to 20th May Cllr K Taylor **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
5. Balderstone Hall Lane – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to discuss this in MTC282 Cllr K Taylor **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
6. Ben Bailey Kitson Hill Rd – Peter explains that the application for houses had been approved despite the appeal made by LHAC on BE12 and a site visit by Kirklees. He confirmed sending an email to Kirklees Cllrs after the meeting but had not had a reply. Cllr K Taylor confirms Vanessa Redfearn had emailed the Chief Executive regarding this email. Peter states that LHAC are still fighting this and that they are pursuing other channels. Keith Andrews states that this has been so well fought by LHAC and it needs to be taken further. Cllr Bolt asks if LHAC have contacted The Secretary of State who has the right to revoke for any reason. Peter confirms that they have already contacted Simon Reeve to pursue this. Cllrs Bolt & J Taylor mentioned 2 applications that The Secretary of State had overturned.

MTC278/2013

Mirfield Matters:

To receive information (if available) on the following items and decide any action where necessary. **NONE**

MTC279/2013

Outside Bodies: (Updates via email from Cllrs)

To accept updates (if received) and decide any action where necessary. Cllr Pinder confirms Mirfield Community Partnership had cleaned the area, painted the seating and planted bushes beside the canal at the bottom of Hurst Lane. He also informed MTC that the stone from the seating area of the sunken garden at St Pauls had been stolen.

MTC280/2013

Internal Matters:

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

Cllr Pinder confirms receipt of the contract for the Public Toilets and that he will read through and bring to the next meeting.

MTC281/2013

Correspondence:

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

1. Kirklees Local Development - **NOTED**
2. NALC Harrogate Conference – **NOTED**
3. NALC Policy Review – **NOTED**
4. Rural Action Group ebulletin – **NOTED**
5. Local Works – **NOTED**
6. Zurich LCAS – **NOTED**

Cllr Lees- Hamilton **Proposed** all correspondence is noted **Cllr Bolt Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC282/2013

Local Plan:

To discuss Local Plan Early Engagement Process.

Cllr Lees-Hamilton begins by asking if Cllrs and members of the public know about the Local Plan. Cheryl Tyler states her concerns for the over development in Mirfield, she states that North Kirklees is the 4th highest populated area in the country at 14.1 against national average of 10.1. Cllr Lees-Hamilton reads from the Local Plan Timeline.

8.30pm Cllr Hamilton arrives. Cllr Lees-Hamilton reads the email from YLCA regarding changing Mirfield Design Statement into a Neighbourhood Plan and administrator confirms the timeline and process involved to do this. Christine Sykes states that MTC should 'crack on' with this and get input from local action groups and that she will help update the Design Statement that she originally helped create. Keith states that Redrow put together SHLAA in 2012 and that Kirklees have adopted this and that it is a 'wish list' for developers. He mentions the possibility of using land near the canal and railway lines for alternative building land. Cllr J Taylor states that any land approved by MTC for Local Plan is not necessarily for houses, could be for schools, doctors etc. Cheryl states that SHLAA shows 15% Brownfield but 85% Greenfield and states this is the wrong balance. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states that if Mirfield sits back and does nothing Kirklees can do whatever they want with the Local Plan. Cllr Pinder states that in a recent survey there is enough Brownfield available to build all the housing that is needed. Cheryl agrees but states that it costs builders more, hence why they prefer Greenfield and she also states at present approx. 300 houses are for sale in Mirfield. Cllr Bolt confirms that land already in UDP cannot be taken out. Cllr J Taylor states that any build over 8 or 10 houses should include a grit bin due to the cost of this to MTC. Cllrs and public agree that the 2 Mirfield High Schools are oversubscribed and that children out of the area as far as Earlsheaton and Huddersfield are attending. Cllrs Lees-Hamilton and Pinder agree MTC should make a Neighbourhood Plan to Protect Mirfield and make firm deadlines. Cllr Bolt confirms to the members of the public that MTC will investigate a Neighbourhood Plan together with timings, costings and the benefits to Mirfield. Cllr Lees-Hamilton agrees and confirms MTC will let the public know the timescale ASAP. Keith & Cheryl ask if Cllrs and members of the public will attend the Save

Mirfield Rally on 18th May.

9.25pm Public leaves.

MTC283/2013

Matters for Report and Information:

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

Cllr Bolt mentions a road safety meeting at Crowlees School regarding a possible car park in Mirfield Showground. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states this should be included on the agenda of 10th June 2014.

Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms the dates and times of the Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Council Meeting as 7.00pm & 7.15pm Tuesday 20th May 2014.

MTC284/2013

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 20th May 2014**

Time Meeting Closed.....**9.40pm**.....