



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Tuesday 14th April 2015 at 7.30pm

Held at: Council Offices, Huddersfield Road, Mirfield

Councillors Present:

V Lees-Hamilton (Chairman), D Pinder, K Taylor, J Nottingham, S Guy, S Benson, M Bolt, E Armitage, J Hirst, T Hirst, M Hamilton

In Attendance:

Clerk: Lisa Staggs

Public: C Tyler, K Bullivant, M Ibberson, R Hall, P King, J Tomlinson Walsh, A & W Falkingham, I Hinchliffe, J Brooke, B Thornton, R Hartley, C Sykes

Press: None

MTC245/2014 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed everyone in attendance and stated it was good to see so many members of the public

MTC246/2014 Apologies For Absence:

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

Cllrs: A Burton, A Mapplebeck, J Taylor, A White

MTC247/2014 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 K Taylor – Heavy Woollen Planning

Cllr S Guy – Royal British Legion & Mirfield Library

Cllr S Benson – Project Mirfield

Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to suspend standing orders and hear and update from Friends of Mirfield Library and bring forward MTC251 (3) & MTC249 Cllr T Hirst Seconded Vote: All in favour

Jenny, Rochelle & Peter are present to update MTC on Friend of Mirfield Library. Jenny begins by stating that in 2 weeks 5 members have managed to get 3000 signatures on the petition. She states the town is very concerned. Cllr Bolt confirms that MTC will show its

support but do not have control over the destiny of the library. Cllr Lees-Hamilton reads a letter of thanks to MTC from Mr & Mrs Schiff regarding the petition. She confirms that MTC spoke to David Sheard and has informed him the MTC fully supports the Friends of Mirfield Library. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** a letter to D Sheard, A Lythgo & S Reeve MTC recognises and supports the benefit of Library Services and congratulates the Friends of Mirfield Library and requests that Kirklees maintain library provision in Mirfield Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Peter asks about a possible grant application and Cllr Lees-Hamilton refers him to contact the clerk regarding this. She states that there are external funding sources also available and to contact Jackie Ingham at Kirklees. Cllr Guy states that some banks also do match funding. Cllr Lees-Hamilton refers the 'Friends' to Locality who facilitate Friends of Libraries and asset transfer.

7.50pm Friends of Mirfield Library leave

MTC248/2014

Confirmation of Minutes:

- i. To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 24th March 2015 as a true and correct record including payments of £988.13 Cllr Pinder **Proposed** the minutes were a true and correct record Cllr Nottingham **Seconded All in favour**
- ii. To receive information on the following on going issues and decide further action where necessary.
Cllr Bolt informs MTC that David Eastman has been awarded Rank of Brigadier. Cllr Bolt to forward contact details to Clerk and letter of congratulations to be sent out. Cllr Pinder also confirms that he passed Cllr Taylor's comments on to Crossley Fields regarding appointing a local company to supply gardening goods. He also confirms that Just Gardens have collected the flagstones.

MTC 249/2014

Grant Applications:

1. To consider grant applications submitted: Mirfield Agricultural Show Karen Bullivant and Martin Ibberson are present to present the application. Karen begins by thanking MTC for their assistance in previous years and states that the amount they are applying for is £4000 towards the cost of the £5728 for the marquee. Cllr Lees-Hamilton asks Karen if the show committee are definitely installing drainage systems for the showground. Karen confirms that this is the case and that lots of surveys and negotiations have taken place and that as Kirklees have no inclination or budget to do so, that the committee will burden the cost. Cllr Lees-Hamilton congratulates the committee on putting something back into the Showground. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** that MTC sponsors the main marquee to the full value and becomes partners of the show rather than a grant Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt states that the show brings visitors and revenue to the town. Karen thanks MTC for their confidence and states that the sponsorship is greatly received. Cllr Lees-Hamilton thanks the show committee for their efforts year in year out and for the investment in the drainage.
2. To receive updates from previously approved grants: **None**

MTC250/2014

Finance:

To consider and decide any action where necessary on the following matters:

APRIL		
Payee	Description	Amount
Kirklees	Hanging Baskets	£ 1562.40
Just Gardens	February Maintenance	£ 40.00
Just Gardens	March Maintenance	£ 80.00
Zurich Insurance	Renewal	£ 1354.22
YLCA	Annual Membership	£ 1496.00
TOTAL		£ 4532.62

Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** that while standing orders were suspended to add an extra agenda Item 6 to MTC250 Transfer £10,000 from Deposit account to current account Cllr Pinder

Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC251/2014

Planning:

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council.
None Received
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council
No Comments/Noted
3. Balderstone Hall Lane – Cheryl Tyler from Save Mirfield gives an update. She states that Save Mirfield appointed a planning and highways consultant over 1 year ago and recently a planning lawyer and has had meetings with Steve Hopwood (Planning) and Steve Sampson (Highways) who have stated that the application will go to strategic planning June at the earliest or as late as July. The main issue being the highways. 16 years ago an application was rejected on this basis. She states the consultant has picked several flaws in the application one being the traffic survey that is not being run over a long period and is more favourable to the developer. She states that the plans show extra double yellow lines on Woodward Court and Jenny Lane, inconveniencing residents for the developers benefit. Cllr Bolt states that it is against policy to put in restrictions to alleviate problems. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states that it is all well and good putting yellow lines but without police presence to enforce this parents will continue to park illegally, as they do not follow rules regarding lines outside the school. Cheryl states they are putting together a summary and objections, as more parking restrictions, will mean an increase in speed. She says that the proposed car park is too small and will cause more traffic and problems. There have been no discussions with the school regarding this from the developer; she states the school governors refuse to take ownership of the proposed car park. She states that the National Day of action was a success and that the petition from the day will be handed to the new housing Minister. Cllr Bolt states that until the application goes before strategic planning that the developer can be questioned and you can ascertain details. Cllr Taylor states that Kirklees are terrified of an appeal, so they allow the applications i.e. Mirfield 25. Brian Thornton mentions the planning restrictions on Lockwood Ave, Wellhouse Lane and Jenny Lane and asks where the developers think the cars will park if not here? Cllr Lees-Hamilton reads the email from Robert Halstead

regarding appointing a highways consultant. Cllr Bolt asks if MTC should instruct a different consultant if Save Mirfield has instructed a planning and highways consultant. Cllr Taylor **Proposed** MTC ring-fence £1300 for a Highways Consultant, £1200 for environment or other consultant and £220 for general overview/comments from R Halstead Cllr Armitage **Seconded**

Vote: All in favour

8.45 Public Leave Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed a 10 minute comfort break Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour

8.55 Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to reinstate standing orders Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC252/2014 **Mirfield Matters:**

To receive information (if available) on the following items and decide any action where necessary.

1. Asset Transfers – Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that she has a Business Plan offer of help. Defer to May meeting
2. Benches Eastthorpe Gardens and Wards - Defer

MTC253/2014 **Outside Bodies:** (Updates via email from Cllrs)

To accept updates (if received) and decide any action where necessary. Cllr Pinder informs MTC that Mirfield Rifle Volunteers presented a cheque for £900 to the Blind Veterans

MTC254/2014 **Internal Matters:**

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

1. Appoint Internal Auditor – Cllr Bolt **Proposed** the clerk appoint Yorkshire Internal Audit Service Cllr Taylor **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2. Discuss Facebook comments by member of the public regarding MTC minutes and agenda – Cllrs discuss the publication of agendas and minutes, taking account of advice from YLCA. Cllr Pinder states he would like the residents to attend the meetings so that they can hear first-hand what is discussed. Cllr Bolt states that circulation of the local papers has decreased and that more people are viewing via the internet or social media. Cllr Bolt states that he will be happy to upload a copy of the agenda to Mirfield Matters and Cllr Pinder agreed to place the agenda in the public information board outside the old post office. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** the agenda be published on Mirfield Town Council website, Mirfield Matters, Council office window and community notice board and that the minutes once approved will continue to be uploaded on the MTC website Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC255/2014 **Correspondence:**

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

1. Strategic housing market assessment slides – **Noted**
2. Rural Action Yorkshire News – **Noted**
3. Fields In Trust Update – **Noted**

MTC256/2014 **Matters for Report and Information:**

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

Cllr Pinder reports that the Disabled Toilet was vandalised, he confirms

that a resident tried to report this to 101 but was unable to do so as public cannot report damage to public property. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states this has already been raised with Tim Kingsman as the 101 operators are misinterpreting the policy. She also confirms she has taken photographs of the damage to the toilets. Cllr Pinder states he will obtain quotations for the repairs to the toilet door and action this under the clerks delegated powers. Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms to MTC that the actual running cost of the public toilets was £4379.59 for 2014/15 and not £10k as reported in the Examiner; she states she will contact Martin Shaw to confirm this.

MTC257/2014

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:

Cllr Lees-Hamilton thanked Cllrs for a very good productive and proactive meeting.

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 28th April 2015**

Time Meeting Closed.....**9.35pm**.....