



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 15th May 2024 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

S Naisbett (Chairman), M Connell, J Roberts, S Guy, M Bolt, M Sullivan, J Hirst, M Brown, V Lees-Hamilton, M Hamilton

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: 1 x Resident, 3 x Member Friends of Mirfield Library

Press: None

MTC18/2024

Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Naisbett welcomed Cllrs and members of the public. He reported that he had attended the Neighbourhood Plan consultation event.

MTC19/2024

Apologies for Absence:

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

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs Imran Ali, Itrat Ali, B Harrison, P Tolson, D Hirst & J Hinchliffe sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC20/2024

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 MTC22(1)

MTC21/2024

Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Annual Town Council meeting of 1st May 2024 including payments of Nil Cllr Bolt Proposed the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Sullivan **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC22/2024

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 decide any action necessary – Cllr Guy reports that he has looked at the statistics given regarding social deprivation, (report circulated prior to the meeting). The population of Mirfield is more than twice the other areas in the same category, London Park estate is 3,770th most deprived area of the UK with only Deighton at 5,034th in the group. Cllrs believe the decision to be political and not strategic. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** a vote of thanks to Cllr Guy for the report. As it is the only library in Spen Valley that has been selected for this category, MTC need to push the parliamentary candidate who needs to act and see measurable and tangible support and lobbying from him. Once the new Chief Executive is confirmed at Kirklees, MTC to send this document to support the objection Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Brown states that the schools take students from other areas and the lowest scoring for social deprivation, Dewsbury West, access Mirfield schools.
2. To receive an update on D-day 80 celebrations and decide any action necessary – Cllr Connell confirms that he has secured a coffee stall and will look to put up posters along the high street. Cllr Guy reports that RBL and veterans are in favour of lighting the beacon and will spread the word to other groups. Flag to be raised the Saturday prior to 6th and taken down the following Sunday. Clerk reports that the lamppost banners can be printed and installed on time. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC investigates the potential of a permanent viewpoint and ask the farmer if this would be possible to extend a lease Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett on Christmas Lights and decide any action necessary – Cllr Naisbett reported he had spoken to residents who attended the NP consultation who wanted to be involved. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** to have a Christmas Card competition with the local primary schools with the winning card being printed to sell and for the use of MTC Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. To receive an update on Lamppost Banners and decide any action necessary – Clerk updated MTC22(2)

MTC23/2024

Finance:

To approve the following accounts for payment

1. To agree Clerk May Salary by Bacs
2. To agree Clerk Working Allowance May by Bacs
3. To agree HMRC May PAYE by Bacs
4. To agree Clerk May pension contributions by D/D
5. To agree Trinity Methodist May Room Hire by Bacs £80.00
6. To agree Able Gardens May Maintenance by Bacs £110.00
7. To agree Zurich Renewal £1914.81
8. To agree Wel-medical cost of DPD collection loan unit Upper Hopton £234.00
9. To receive Bank Reconciliation to 30/04/24
10. To receive Monthly Budget to 30/04/24

Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to pay items 1-8 en bloc & note items 9 & 10 Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Due to the current funds held Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to adopt the Transparency Code for a council with a turnover exceeding £200,000 Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC24/2024

Grant Applications:

1. To consider grant applications submitted – Mirfield Library 75th Anniversary Event £1000. Documents circulated prior to the meeting – Members of the Friends group are present. Part of the grant is for PL Insurance £272, which has already been purchased in addition the grant had been reduced to £782. Clerk confirms that PL Insurance has to be excluded as retrospective costs. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC approve a grant of £510 Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
8.06pm 2 x members leave.

MTC25/2024

Internal Matters:

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

1. To discuss new website and costs associated and agree a course of action – Cllr Naisbett had provided 3 quotations. One for £18-£20k, Novus £6-7K and Site Wizard £3800. Cllr Bolt asked about accessibility, Clerk to send information from YLCA regarding this. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to accept the quotation of £3800 from Site Wizard and proceed with the new website Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllrs Sullivan and Naisbett to help with layout
2. To receive the following motion: Cllr Bolt **Proposed** This Council recognises that Mirfield will face a number of challenges in the future with threats to our heritage and community viability through the potential disposal of assets. This Council therefore resolves to investigate the establishment of a charity, with the Town Council as sole trustee, which can seek to take responsibility for any suitable asset transfers on the approval by the full council of a business case to show the financial impact of transfers Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**. Cllrs discuss the unforeseen liability issues that a council face but a charity could benefit, as could apply for grants and no financial liability costs incurred. If commercially viable a charity could look at grants to take over the showground and other assets in Mirfield currently under Kirklees. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC delegate to the Clerk to approach Williams & Co to look at setting up a charity Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To agree & pay Chair's Allowance of £1000 as per the budget – Cllr Bolt **Proposed** £500 allowance payment and any costs incurred and mileage to be reimbursed on production of receipts, as Civics are now being invited further afield Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. To discuss the policing of road closures at the Remembrance Parade and other community events and decide any action necessary – Cllr Bolt reports that a number of events in the media have had road closures that have taken place without organisers having to fund, with police manning the road closures during Eid and other occasions. Kirklees attitude is different to say Leeds. MTC need to look for support for Remembrance parade Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** MTC invite WYP to attend at least 1 meeting per month with a list of questions sent in advance Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC26/2024

Public Question Time:

None

MTC27/2024

The Date of The Next Town Council Meeting.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 5th June 2024.

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.34pm**.....