



## **Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting**

**Held on:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30pm

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

### **Councillors Present:**

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

### **In Attendance:**

Clerk: Lisa Staggs  
Public: Members Mirfield In Bloom  
Press: None

### **MTC146/2019 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:**

The Chairman Cllr Bolt welcomed Cllrs and MIB. It was confirmed there was no intention to record the meeting. Cllr Bolt reports that MIB & Friends of Mirfield Library were successful in funding bids from "It's up to you". He reported that he attended Birstall Woodturners Open Day and also attended the unveiling of a dedication to Sikh Faith in Greenhead Park. He reports that Cllr Guy is now the official standard bearer for RBL. He reports he attended a Safe Anchor Trip and that at a community meeting with Riverside Stewardship, concerns were raised regarding Weil's Disease. It was confirmed that there is no major risk.

### **MTC147/2019 Apologies For Absence**

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

**Cllrs:** Cllr M Ibberson, Cllr Lees-Hamilton, Cllr Benson, Cllr Kath Taylor, Cllr Burton, Cllr Guy

**Cllrs sent apologies & it was resolved the absences were accepted  
Cllr Hinchliffe was absent but did not send apologies to the Chairman or Clerk**

**Cllr Ibberson has an extended leave of absence.**

### **MTC148/2019 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 under the Council's Code of Conduct or Members Register of Pecuniary Interests.

Cllrs Bolt declared an other interest MTC156(3i) property close by but not an adjoining property

Cllr Brown declared an other interest in Mirfield Allotments  
 Cllr Tolson declared an other interest MTC151(5) Member Mirfield Team Parish

**MTC149/2019**

**Confirmation of Minutes**

To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 19th November 2019 as a true and correct record including payments of **£13,904.49**. Minutes were circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**MTC150/2019**

**Matters Arising From The Minutes:**

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

1. To receive a report from Cllr Naisbett on Christmas Light Switch On – No report received defer to next meeting.
2. To receive a report from Cllr Taylor on Sporting Honours Board – No report received defer to next meeting.
3. To receive a report from Cllr Connell on Lamp Post Banners – No report received defer to next meeting.

**MTC151/2019**

**Finance:**

To approve the following accounts for payment:

<b>DECEMBER</b>		
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Clerk L Staggs	December salary	£ 854.54
HMRC	December PAYE	£ 324.96
Clerk L Staggs	Nest Pension December	£ 81.52
Clerk L Staggs	Home Working Allowance	£ 18.00
St Mary's	December Room Hire	£ 21.00
Just Gardens	December Maintenance	£ 40.00
Orange Design Studio	Memorial Park Entrance (Armistice Committee)	£ 21,678.00
EJ Events	VE75 (Armistice Committee)	£ 2,000.00
Brighthouse & Lightcliffe Band	Remembrance Parade (Armistice Committee)	£ 400.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£ 25,418.02</b>

Cllr Tolson **Proposed** items 1-9 payment en block Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

10. To receive a bank reconciliation to 30/11/19 – **Noted** Cllr Bolt stated that there were still enough funds for MTC obligations and safeguarded items, with £7k unallocated remaining.

11. To receive a spend/income comparison with the adopted budget – **Noted**

**MTC152/2019**

**Grant Applications:**

1. To consider grant applications submitted: Mirfield In Bloom – 2 members of MIB are present. They report that they have been approached by different areas to help and that in 2020 Mirfield will be representing Yorkshire in Britain In Bloom. They report that they will be approaching the local high schools this time to get involved with “Love where you Live & beyond” being the focus of 2020. Clerk to add Chairman’s report to the minutes as an

appendix. Grant application was circulated prior to the night and it was confirmed that funds were not required until 2020. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC support the grant application for £15,000 and as funds are not required until 2020, MTC to allocate this amount in the 2020/21 budget Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

7.44pm Members MIB leave.

2. To receive updates from previously approved grants: **None**

### **MTC153/2019**

#### **Internal Matters:**

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

1. To appoint 2 Cllr Signatories on the MTC bank account – Cllr Brown **Proposed** Cllr Connell and Cllr Bolt as 2 further signatories on the MTC bank account Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2. To inform the community of our adoption of the Kirklees Code of Conduct and place information/link on website – Cllr Bolt reports that a current complaint has cost Kirklees £40k with no outcome. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** the link be added to the website confirming adoption of Kirklees Code of Conduct Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

### **MTC154/2019**

#### **Community:**

To receive an update/discuss/note on the following items.

1. To receive an update on Mirfield Library & Library Services and discuss – Clerk reports that there will be an update from Kirklees & Friends of Mirfield Library on 7<sup>th</sup> January on the building and library provision.
2. To receive an update on Mirfield Matters Survey Portfolio area and agree any action or costs necessary – Cllr Bolt reports the Project Team met to discuss & collate the reports. It was found that there was a lot of cross over in the various portfolio areas and that a better format of the report is needed. There would probably be a cost involved to get this from Spirul. Cllrs Tolson & Naisbett to meet and look through the report and target crossovers. If this proves too big an exercise, Clerk to use delegated powers to instruct Spirul. Cllrs to report back to Clerk.
3. To discuss the idea of a Mirfield Town Council Youth Forum and agree a course of action – A report from a member of Upper Hopton clergy was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllrs discuss and decide to invite the writer of the report to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting January to discuss further.

### **MTC155/2019**

#### **Correspondence**

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

1. NALC Chief Exec Bulletin (For Information) – **Noted**
2. YLCA Consultation Strengthening Police powers to tackle unauthorised encampment (For Information) – Consultation ends 5/3/20. MTC needs to read through & speak to residents in order to put forward our points/comments. Defer to later meeting.
3. YLCA Legal Topic note 22 'disciplinary & grievance arrangements' updates & revised templates (For Information) – **Noted**
4. NALC Spring Conference (For Discussion) – Cllrs to let Clerk know if they wish to attend
5. NALC Newsletter (For Information) – **Noted**
6. YLCA Councillor Training (For Information) – Cllrs to let Clerk know if they wish to attend

### **MTC143/2019**

#### **Planning**

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council.

2019/93643 – Cllrs discuss the application at length and view the application in detail. Cllr Connell **Proposed** MTC send a holding comment to Kirklees to explore the detail: MTC welcome investment but it has concerns for plans of more housing with access issues from Greenside Estate. It has concerns for amenities and especially the use of a private driveway as a highway. MTC has concerns that the application is stating item 10) Are there trees or hedges on the proposed development site? No. When clearly after viewing the site there are and item 8) 1. Is a new or altered vehicular access proposed to or from the public highway? This states No. But clearly access will be required on Greenside Road. MTC has concerns that applicants are making inaccuracies on applications and the planning department are validating these. In addition, MTC has concerns regarding the access of extra 10 cars, what means are Kirklees using to mitigate the impact of these extra vehicles on elderly residents living in the surrounding bungalows? **Cllr Hirst Seconded Vote: All in favour** Clerk to send holding objection & comments to Kirklees for a response

2019/93897 – **Noted**

2019/93691 – **Noted**

2019/93881 – **Noted**

2019/92897 – **Noted**

2019/93591 – **Noted**

2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council:

**No Comments/Noted**

3. To consider potential controversial/controversial applications:

i. **2019/90756/91971/93367/93202/93526** Land at Slipper Lane – Cllr Bolt reports that he has notified Kirklees of the inadequacies of the fencing surrounding the Caddick site. As Caddick's are using rubber poles to hold the Heras fencing, which is blowing down and onto the highway. Taylor Wimpey site has used wooden poles, which hold the fencing.

ii. **2019/93659 Land at Kitson Hill Crescent** – Cllr Bolt states that the response from Kirklees regarding these 2 sites is inadequate as the response does not make note of the questions asked in addition to the objection. MTC need responses from Kirklees. Cllrs agree that greater building standards are required and the new Kirklees policy needs to conform.

iii. **2019/93660 Land at Fox Royd Drive** – As above

iv. **2017/94124** Land at Dunbottle Lane – Clerk confirms a meeting with Kirklees at 6.30pm on 7/1/20 prior to the public meeting.

v. Dewsbury Riverside Development – No update

**MTC157/2019**

### **Matters for Report and Information**

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

1. To note the minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group - **Noted**

**MTC158/2019**

### **The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:**

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.27pm**.....

## APPENDIX:

### Mirfield In Bloom Chairman's Report

Chairman's report 2019

Following Mirfield in Bloom's huge success of 2018 one couldn't help wondering how that very high standard could be maintained. After much discussion the decision to adopt 'Love where you live' as the theme for 2019 was taken. These four simple but powerful words were so appropriate for what we as a group hoped to achieve in 2019. The group has met weekly throughout the year for a friendly chat and planning purposes.

The Spring Clean Mirfield, held in April, was the first event planned to involve the whole community and was an undoubted success. Paula Sherrif, our local member of Parliament, took part on the day and even gave MIB a mention in the House of Commons: Following on from this weekend two further litter picks were organised one to take place before judging day and the other in the Autumn in preparation for Winter. The judges mentioned, in their comments, that they had not seen any litter or graffiti anywhere when they visited Mirfield on the two judging days in July.

This year Mirfield in Bloom had ten separate entries in the Yorkshire in Bloom competition and it's fair to say that the results were outstanding. This year we received two additional special awards for community involvement. As a result of our success MIB has been asked to represent Yorkshire in Britain in Bloom 2020. This will obviously need much careful planning but I'm sure that we'll do our utmost to do a good job. Of course, all this would not have been possible without a lot of hard work from various groups of people. I'd like to thank the hardworking committee who have put in a huge amount of time and energy to make things work and run smoothly. Mirfield in Bloom has been fortunate to have substantial financial backing from Mirfield Town Council for the second year running and we are really appreciative of that support. Much of what we have achieved would not have been possible without their help. A special mention must be given to our very own Mayor of Mirfield, Mr Martyn Bolt, who gave his support on both judging days, joined us on awards day at York Racecourse and has continued to act as our ambassador ever since.

I'm happy to report that during this year we have developed an excellent working relationship with the five junior and infant schools in our town. So much so that two Schools and one preschool entered the competition in their own right and all received gold awards. One school in Lower Hopton made a very important contribution to their Neighbourhood entry. This year we welcomed the community of Lower Hopton as they became part of Mirfield in Bloom. Their efforts in Up park along with Hopton primary school and Sarah Jane Mason from the RHS were really amazing.

Fund raising is an essential element in all our plans for MIB as we wouldn't be able to function without adequate funds. My sincere thanks go to everyone who has helped in any way possible to raise these much-needed funds. During this year we were lucky to receive a number of grants from various grant bodies and I fully appreciate the hard work that went in to making the applications.

Thank you to the Cooperative Supermarket and its manager, Mr John Marsh, for allowing us to hold promotional and fund-raising events on their premises. We are currently awaiting funds from their customer

1% fund which we expect to be a substantial amount.

Much shoe leather was worn out by the volunteers walking the streets to enlighten the people of Mirfield about MIB's activities and I'd like them to know that their efforts are appreciated.

Mirfield railway station, the first port of call for many visitors to Mirfield, has been further improved during this year. The hard work and dedication that's gone in to the care and maintenance of the three platforms is truly amazing. Well done to all involved. The necessity to establish a base for MIB became obvious during this year and a request was made to the PCC of Mirfield Team Parish for St Mary's Community Centre to become that base. Our thanks and appreciation go to the PCC for granting their approval to our request.

Looking back, I'd like to reflect on what we have or consider to have achieved this year. In my mind we have encouraged the people of Mirfield to adopt our theme 'love where you live' by helping to keep Mirfield litter and graffiti free. Through working with the school children we have encouraged our community to care for the environment including the provision of suitable habitats for our wildlife.

Through our efforts this year we have tried to encourage people to have a Civic pride in our town of Mirfield. The mural completed this year by a local artist relates a lot of what is good about our town and includes the

Mirfield coat of arms.

Encouraging civic pride along with keeping our identity as part of a huge metropolitan borough will continue to be an important aim.

Well I'm sure you like me will be thinking what now? Where do we go from here? Just to give you a clue Mirfield is a fair trade town, the first in Kirklees. So how about

**LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE AND BEYOND!**

You've plenty of time to get your thinking caps on.

Sincere thanks