



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Tuesday 4th February 2020 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

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

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs
Public: Ben Hardcastle Harrison (Contractors)
Press: None

MTC184/2019 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Mayor welcomed Councillors. It was confirmed the meeting would not be recorded. Cllr Bolt reports that the Holocaust Memorial Day was webcast with a survivor and excellent attendance of schools from around the country. He thanks Cllr Tolson and ex Cllr Pinder for their attendance and ex Cllr A Burton for coordinating the event. He reported on the Memorial event for the anniversary of M62 bombing and also reported that no other VE75 event has been planned in Kirklees. He wished 868 squadron good luck on their nomination for the Morris Trophy. He reported that a local 98yr old ex member of Royal Artillery had sadly passed away. Cllr Lees-Hamilton commented that he had lived life to the full and was the end of an era. Everyone stands for a minutes silence in memory of the local man.

MTC185/2019 Public Question Time:

None

MTC186/2019 Apologies For Absence:

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

Cllrs: Cllr Ibberson was absent but no apologies received

MTC187/2019 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 MTC193(3i) Land at Slipper Lane, as his home was nearby

Cllr Brown declared an other interest in Allotments

Cllr Kath Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in Heavy Woollen Planning & Licensing & MTC193(1)

Cllr Hinchliffe declared a pecuniary interest MTC193(1)

Cllr Benson declared a pecuniary interest MTC193(3i) reluctantly confirming his employment by the parent company developing the site & MTC189(1) sanctions imposed on Cllr Benson

Cllr Roberts declared an other interest MTC193(1) 90148 Member of the Church

MTC188/2019 **Confirmation of Minutes:**

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 21st January 2020 as a true and correct record including payments of **£23,473.30**. Cllr Tolson **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record Cllr Naisbett

Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC189/2019 **Matters Arising From The Minutes:**

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

1. To receive confirmation that the sanctions imposed following a Code of Conduct complaint to Kirklees Monitoring Officer have been carried out and to decide any course of action – 7.43pm Cllrs Guy & Benson leave the room. Clerk reads the sanctions and confirms that at 7.43pm no apology had been received from Cllr Benson. She reports that it was suggested by the Monitoring Officer to allow until 11.59pm for the apology. Cllr Brown **Proposed** that if the apology is not received from Cllr Benson by 11.59pm on 4th February the Clerk is delegated to inform the Kirklees Monitoring Officer that Cllr Benson has further breached the Code of Conduct by not carrying out the sanctions recommended by Kirklees Monitoring Office and imposed by MTC Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**. 7.47pm Cllr Guy & Benson return. Clerk informs Cllrs of the decision of MTC. Cllr Benson states he has been told not to comment. Clerk states she doesn't expect a comment she is informing the 2 Cllrs of the decision.
2. To receive an update from Cllr Guy on defibrillator plaques – Cllr Guy reports that the plaques have all been installed by local contractor. He confirms that match funding is still available to local groups who are interested.

MTC190/2019 **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. **None Received**

MTC191/2019 **Internal Matters:**

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

1. To note Provisional Taxbase & Grant Allocations - **Noted**
2. To receive an up to date Decisions Summary and agree any action necessary (circulated prior to the meeting) – Defer as further reports required
Ben Hardcastle Harrison reps are in attendance and give a brief update on the bulbs for replacement Christmas Lights. They explain the differences of the bulbs and Cllrs agree to look at obtaining a quotation for the plastic coloured option due to the longevity. 8.03pm Contractors leave.

MTC192/2019 **Correspondence:**

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

1. YLCA White Rose Update (For Information) – **Noted**
2. NALC Chief Executive Bulletin (For Information) – **Noted**
3. NALC Spring Conference (For Information) – **Noted**
4. NALC Study Tour (For Information) – **Noted**
5. YLCA Governance & Accountability (For Information) – **Noted**
6. NALC Newsletter (For Information) – **Noted**

7. YLCA Yorkshire Day (For Information) – **Noted**

Cllr Hinchliffe leaves the room.

MTC169/2019

PLANNING:

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council 2019/92221 – Cllr Bolt reports that comments, other than access will not be carried forward, including all matters reserved. The questions originally posed by MTC have not been answered i.e. Impact on highways/right turn exit Huddersfield Rd/residents accessing site/signalised pelican crossing & pollution. Kirklees have changed highways design/protocol and maybe some frontage of the verge could be used to widen for better access and egress and also changes to the road layout at Doctor Lane. Clerk to email Kirklees for answers to these questions. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** MTC ask for the implication of these developments to the highways Cllr Benson **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Benson instigated a discussion on policing vehicle engine idling, stating action needed to be taken on Huddersfield Road. He also stated Kirklees should take action as air pollution would continue until all cars were electric. Cllrs highlighted issues relating to vehicles on the highway in standing traffic which were under police remit as a moving traffic offense, so drivers have to be stopped by police. Cllrs discuss Section 123 of the Highway Code. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states that traffic calming measures are bad for the environment as cars speed up between ramps and slow down when driving over them. Cllr Bolt stated it was proven that traffic calming also leads to heavy metals and dust from brakes caused by slowing down often sharply. Clerk to email Kirklees and ask of the possibility of a Moss Wall to absorb emissions/fumes and what Kirklees are doing to mitigate the fumes from traffic.
2019/94120 – **Noted**
2019/90148 & 2019/90147 – Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC support the application and welcome the reinstated use of a church & dwelling Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2019/94099 – **Noted**
2020/90157 – **Noted**
2020/90132 – **Noted**
2019/94165 – **Noted**
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council
No Comments/Noted
3. To consider potential controversial planning applications
 - i. **2019/90756/91971/93367/93202/93526/94152** Land at Slipper Lane to receive an update and agree any action or costs necessary – Cllr Benson leaves the room & Cllr Hinchliffe returns 8.35pm. Cllr Bolt reports that no replies have been received on issues raised. He reports that cleansing officers have additional cleaning in place and should reclaim the cost from the developer. He reports he has asked officers for confirmation of the wheel washing. 8.39pm Cllr Benson returns.
4. To consider the following **Proposal** by Cllr Bolt, **Seconded** by Cllrs Guy, Lees-Hamilton, Taylor, Naisbett, Hinchliffe & Connell: Mirfield Town Council recognises the concerns expressed by residents with regards to the lack of clarity in the planning process and that recent issues and applications have resulted in a reduction of confidence by residents in Kirklees planning systems. In order to try and restore public confidence in the Council and its processes Mirfield Town Council calls on Kirklees to set up a Community Commission to take evidence from residents and constituted community groups of their experiences with the remit to consider any changes

needed. That commission should be open to all in Kirklees but held in Mirfield – Cllr Bolt reports of a number of Community Commissions set up with the chance of local input & view. Cllrs in other areas are also infuriated with the planning process and Kirklees staff. Kirklees ignoring key factors like trees, flooding & traffic surveys carried out at quiet times or during school holidays. Following the Proposal and seconding of the motion **Vote: All in favour**

MTC194/2019 **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 Armistice Committee – **Noted**
2. To note the NP Skeleton Draft from Steering Group – **Noted**

MTC195/2019 **The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:**

Date of next meeting **Thursday 6th February 2020**

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