



mirfield  
town council

## Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

**Held on:** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm

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

### Councillors Present:

M Connell (Chairman), S Naisbett, J Roberts, M Sullivan, J Hirst, D Hirst, I Ali, I Ali, M Bolt, S Guy, B Harrison

### In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: Members Mirfield Round Table

Press: None

### **MTC34/2023**

#### **Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:**

The Chairman Cllr Connell welcomed Cllrs & members of the public to the meeting. He began by thanking Cllrs J & D Hirst and Cllrs I Ali for attending the Suicide Memorial Quilt roadshow last week. Although there was not a huge turnout from members of the public, the play by Men's Talk Performance was very poignant and touching. He thanked Cllr Naisbett for attending the Morley Marching Bands event on his behalf and read out Cllr Naisbett's report on the day.

### **MTC35/2023**

#### **Apologies for Absence:**

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

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs V Lees-Hamilton, M Hamilton, M Brown & P Tolson sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr Naisbett **Seconded: Vote: All in favour**  
Cllr Hinchliff was absent but did not send apologies

### **MTC36/2023**

#### **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 MTC38(4)**

### **MTC37/2023**

#### **Confirmation of Minutes:**

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 including payments of **£738.68 plus Clerk Salary, pension & HMRC**. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

**Cllr Connell resolved to bring forward MTC38(3)**

MTC38/2023

7.38pm Cllr Bolt arrives

### **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

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

1. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett on Christmas Lights 2023 and decide any action necessary – Cllr Naisbett reported that he had emailed Kirklees regarding the lampposts on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, but had not heard anything. The additional 6 lamppost features have been ordered and the hire of the standing angel. He has contacted the members of St Pauls Makers Market via Whats App and 6 have replied to date to show their interest. He has spoken to Mirfield Roundtable regarding bands and hire of a stage and will speak to some food concessions at the Mirfield Show regarding attending the switch on.
2. To receive an update from Cllr Connell on Lamppost Banners and decide any action necessary – Cllr Connell reports that the outstanding payment of £1917.60 has been made by CP Media and this will go towards the RBL Banners. Cllrs discuss the design of the banners and Cllr Bolt states that the designs used for the Welcome signs and Memorial entrance be kept for continuity. Cllrs mention a possible school competition that could be showcased in the library. Cllrs discuss the Remembrance Parade and Cllr Guy states he will circulate the spreadsheet from last year to build a timeline of events for this year. Cllr Connell **Proposed** to give Cllr Guy a mandate to contact schools regarding a poster/banner competition for the remembrance parade Cllr Roberts **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To receive an update on Eastthorpe Gardens possible use for Beer Festival and decide any further action - Mirfield Round Table are present. MRT state that this is the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> year of the Beer Festival, with uncertainty with St Pauls, they were to hold it in Dewsbury, but this did not prove to have much interest. The event will be held at St Pauls and has been advertised but no temporary license has been applied for until MTC approved the use of the gardens. Clerk reports that Able Gardens have estimated a cost of £250 for any damage to the gardens. Cllr Connell states that MTC would look to take this in a deposit from MRT for use of the gardens and would also request they fence off the paved areas. MRT agree to these terms. Cllr Connell **Proposed** MTC allow MRT the use of the gardens for the Beer Festival subject to £250 deposit and the fencing of the paved areas Cllr Roberts **Seconded Vote: 10 in favour** Cllr Bolt did not vote as he was not present through some of the discussion. 7.43pm MRT leave and Cllr Connell resolved to reinstate standing orders
4. To receive an update on Mirfield Library – Clerk had circulated an email from Kirklees with some answers to questions asked at the previous meeting. However, Cllrs stated that they still need to know who is on the Capital Board.
5. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett on CCTV and decide any further action – Cllr Naisbett states that some months ago additional CCTV cameras were discussed. Cllrs discuss the pros and cons of installing CCTV. Cllrs discuss obtaining funds from 106 monies. Clerk to ask for availability at CCTV centre, arrange a visit and then make a decision afterwards.

MTC39/2023

### **Community:**

To receive an update/discuss/note the following items

1. To discuss the potential of an asset transfer of Mirfield Showground from Kirklees to MTC and decide a course of action – Clerk had circulated the Asset Transfer policy and accompanying documents prior to the meeting. Cllr Connell stated that he believed the Showground could and should be used more for commercial and community use, a great space that could be used for events throughout the year. He stated that the drainage had been

improved by the show committee and new gates put on 2 entrances. MTC could look at commercial partnerships with cost for maintenance picked up by user groups. Cllr Bolt recalls that a group was set up previously Friends of Mirfield Showground, but MRT were not interested after several meetings with Kirklees, leaving just the show committee. He states that MTC would be looking at £1000 per tree for any issues alone, not even considering other costs and possibility of travellers on the site and any costs associated with this. He stated that the showground was showing a £5K deficit with Kirklees, with no admin costs factored into this, which would mean and increase in rent to the current user groups or an increase in the precept to cover it. He states that the Clerk does not have enough time to manage this in the hours she currently has, so that would have to be looked at. Cllr Naisbett states he will send the information to the Clerk from the Friends group as a starting point. Cllr Guy states there is a significant potential but a lot to take on and need to consider the annual management of the site. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC supports the principle of taking over the showground, seeks to work with existing & future user groups and members of the community and look to explore all opportunities Cllr Naisbett **Seconded Vote: All in favour**. Clerk to obtain costings over a 5 year period from Kirklees.

**MTC40/2023**

**Internal Matters:**

To receive information on the following and decide any action necessary

1. The Chairman to nominate his chosen charity for the year – Cllr Connell reports that given the performance at the Suicide Memorial Quilt Roadshow, he has decided that his 2 charities this year will be Mirfield Branch of Andy’s Man Club and Men’s Talk Performance.

**MTC41/2023**

**Public Question Time:**

**NONE**

**MTC42/2023**

**The Date of The Next Town Council Meeting.**

Clerk states that due to Kirklees attending the next meeting, it will commence at 7.00pm

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.00pm

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