



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Tuesday 1st September 2015 at 7.30pm
Held at: Council Offices, Huddersfield Road, Mirfield

Councillors Present:

V Lees-Hamilton (Chairman), D Pinder, J Nottingham, S Guy, M Bolt, A Burton, J Hirst, K Sibbald, M Ibberson, P Tolson

In Attendance:

Clerk: Lisa Staggs
Public: R Hartley, M Connell, P Blakeley, G Forster, A Wilkinson, R Walker, A Harrison, A Phillips, R Southon
Press: None

MTC66/2015 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Lees-Hamilton welcomed everyone back after summer recess and welcomed new member Cllr Ibberson.

Cllr Ibberson read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office
Cllrs all welcomed and congratulated Cllr Ibberson

MTC67/2015 Public Question Time:

None

MTC68/2015 Apologies For Absence:

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

Cllrs: M Burton, G Bunton, K Taylor, J Taylor, S Benson

MTC69/2015 Declaration of Interest:

Councillors to declare an interest, if applicable to any item on the agenda or not declared on the members register of pecuniary interests.

Cllr D Pinder – Royal British Legion, Mirfield Rifle Volunteers & Mirfield Community Partnership (other)

Cllr S Guy – Royal British Legion, Mirfield Rifle Volunteers & Mirfield Library (other)

Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to suspend standing orders and bring forward MTC76(1), MTC74(3), MTC76(3) and add extra agenda item

MTC74(5) Travellers Cllr Pinder Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC70/2015 Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 21st July 2015 as a true and correct record including payments of £4652.06

MTC61(2) amended to Cllr Pinder to facilitate a meeting

MTC65 amended to Tuesday 1st September 2015

Cllr Bolt **Proposed** once the amendments were made the minutes were a true and correct record Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC71/2015

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 defibrillators (Cllr Guy) – Cllr Guy reports that he has tried to contact Derek Adkins without luck on 2 occasions. Cllr Ibberson states that he has no objection to a defibrillator located at Brookes Deli. Defer to next meeting
2. To uphold the decision taken previously Mirfield Matters Survey – Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC upholds the decision made in the meeting 21st July Cllr Tolson **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To uphold the decision taken previously Car Park Limits – Cllr Pinder **Proposed** MTC upholds the decision made in the meeting 21st July Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. To uphold the decision taken previously Neighbourhood Plan Guide – Cllr Pinder **Proposed** MTC upholds the decision made in the meeting 21st July **Cllr Bolt Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt reports that Kirklees do not send an officer to a public meeting and that Locality are no longer working with Kirklees. He confirms that he has obtained 2 quotations for support and advice at a public meeting and is awaiting a third. **Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to suspend standing orders and add item 4(a) To approve a sum of money for advice & support at public meeting for Neighbourhood Plan Cllr Bolt Seconded Vote: All in favour**
- 4a. To approve a sum of money for advice & support at public meeting for Neighbourhood Plan– Cllr Bolt **Proposed** £500 excluding VAT Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed to reinstate standing orders Cllr Guy Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC72/2015

Finance:

To approve the following accounts for payment.

1.

SEPTEMBER		
Payee	Description	Amount
Spirul	Mirfield Matters Survey	£ 12,759.84
Just Gardens	July Maintenance	£ 80.00
Just Gardens	Bankfield Hedges	£ 120.00
Yorkshire Internal Audit	Full Audit	£ 4 00.00
TOTAL		£ 13,359.84

2. Transfer of funds to cover Spirul Survey

Cllr Bolt **Proposed** payment en block and transfer of funds to cover Spirul Survey Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC73/2015

Planning:

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council.
No Comments/Noted
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council **No Comments/Noted**

3. To consider potential controversial planning applications.
2014/91282 **No update reported**

MTC74/2015

Mirfield Matters:

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

1. To consider installation & maintenance of sanitary bins in public toilets (Clerk) – Clerk reports that the quotation received from Initial Services for 3 sanitary bins in the public toilets is £52 per toilet per year with a monthly empty. Cllr Ibberson **Proposed** the lease of the 3 sanitary bins at a cost of £52 per year per bin Cllr **Guy Seconded Vote: All in favour** Clerk to obtain confirmation on price and terms and conditions
2. To update on opening and closing of public toilets (Eastthorpe Cllrs) – Clerk reports that the toilets have been left open several evenings. Cllr Pinder stated he was organising a rota for the Eastthorpe councillors as the cleaner opens them at 7.00am Mon-Fri and currently Cllr Pinder is opening and closing them Saturday and Sunday. He also confirms that he is looking at other options for closing the toilets on an evening. Defer to next meeting.
3. To receive presentation from Spirul regarding Mirfield Matter Survey – Ruth Southon & Anthony Philips from Spirul discuss the survey with councillors. Cllr Bolt confirms a meeting was arranged and Cllrs Tolson, Nottingham, Guy & Bolt were present and reviewed the original survey and agreed amendments. Cllr Bolt to circulate this via email for all Cllrs to agree. Ruth asks Cllrs to decide what is most useful from the survey and what is the most useful way to present the final data. Last time 26% replied, but this time there will be a reminder sent. The survey will be mailed 19th October, a reminder 2 weeks later with 13th November the last date to return questionnaires. Ruth asks for a press release the week before so that residents are prepared for the survey. The results will be collated and presented at the January meeting. Cllrs to agree amendments and bring to next meeting for final sign off with Ruth & Anthony.

8.25pm Ruth & Anthony leave.

4. To receive an update on the Great British High Street (Cllr Burton) – Cllr Burton reports that somebody will be viewing the town in the next 2-3 weeks and confirms he is updating social media sites. He states the bunting is slightly more expensive than previously agreed as more is needed at a cost of £350.00. Cllr Pinder **Proposed** to approve £350 for bunting Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**. Martyn Connell & Cllr Ibberson agreed to support and offered £50 each towards the cost. Cllr Burton stated he welcomed any contributions from local traders.
5. Travellers – Cllr Bolt begins by informing council that travellers had been camped on Knowl Park. He stated Kirklees has no formal policy for dealing with travellers and that although the Criminal Justice Act gives police powers, they are reluctant to enforce. Section 61 of the Criminal Justice Act gives the police powers to evict from Urban parks. Cllrs agree that the local MP should be contacted to drive this. Cllr Pinder **Proposed** the clerk contacts YLCA to find out how other councils deal with travellers Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Councillors in favour of preparing a plan that can be used in future. Investigations with Kirklees, local councils, local MP and PCC with a view to collating a pack that can be enforced for future encampments.

MTC75/2015

Outside Bodies: (Updates via email from Cllrs)

To receive updates and decide any action where necessary.

None

Internal Matters:

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

1. To receive meet & greet from allotment society & discuss the 3 sites – Alan Wilkinson begins by thanking MTC for inviting members of the allotment society.

Fires on allotments: He confirms that a resident close to Lowlands has complained about the size and frequency of fires. Cllrs agree that there is nothing within Kirklees preventing bonfires and no other complaints have been received. Alan Wilkinson confirms that in Rule 14 he will include a small section to allotment holders asking them to be mindful and careful with bonfires.

Bankfield Hedges: After complaints regarding the lack of cutting to the top half of the hedge, Cllr Burton confirms that the previous gardener has been instructed to cut the hedge annually at the beginning of July.

Quarry Top: Alan reports that youths are climbing up the side and vandalising one of the plots. He is concerned if there is a health and safety issue. Cllr Lees-Hamilton & Cllr Burton to visit site.

Rubbish Lowlands: Dick Walker reports that many years ago a section was fenced off for a compost area. However, this has festered over the years and needs removing with a cost of £300 for a digger. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to pay for this from the allotment fund Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

Fallen Tree Lowlands: Dick Walker reports on the overhanging tree confirming MTC Clerk had contacted the relevant agencies who had denied ownership of the riverbank. Cllr Pinder states that the guide is 3m from waterside. Clerk to collate pictures of tree and send off to the various agencies.

Nab Lane Manhole cover: Alan reports that this is now indented and needs scalping laying over it at a cost of £100. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to pay for this from the allotment fund Cllr Pinder **Seconded Vote: All in favour** The Allotment Society invite all Cllrs to visit the 3 sites and Alan to send dates via the clerk for circulation.

8.10pm Alan Wilkinson, Dick Walker, G Forster & A Harrison leave

2. To appoint Christmas Lights Working Party – Cllr Ibberson agreed to head a working party and mentioned the possibility of a sponsored light from Mirfield Show. Member of the public Richard Hartley agreed that he would help Cllr Ibberson. Clerk to provide Cllr Ibberson with Christmas Lights file and contact Ben Hardcastle for a quote for 2015.
3. To consider formal complaint from M Wilby regarding the cutting of the grass at Knowl Park by residents – Cllr Lees-Hamilton confirms that Cllrs did reply to Mr Wilby's emails and reads her reply email. Cllrs all agree that it was discussed in a previous meeting and decided it was not MTC remit. Cllr Pinder **Proposed** MTC write to Mr Wilby stating the complaint has been investigated, Kirklees were aware of the matter and a representative was there on the day, to confirm that Kirklees are responsible for the upkeep not MTC, thank Mr Wilby for his interest and confirm no further action is required Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote All in favour** Cllr Bolt stated that on behalf of MTC he would like to thank & commend the community group for their efforts.

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

Correspondence:

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

1. YLCA Grants and Funding – **Noted**
2. RAY News - **Noted**
3. White Rose Update – **Noted**
4. Fields In Trust – **Noted**
5. Rural Community Hubs - **Noted**
6. YLC A Rural Action Good Neighbours Scheme - **Noted**

MTC78/2015

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 public tennis courts in the memorial park cannot be used and that a sign was erected by Kirklees stating the public can use courts at MFG. Clerk to contact Joanne Bartholomew to check situation.

Cllr Guy reports that sadly Keith Crosby has passed away and that his funeral is 2nd September. Cllr Guy praised Mr Crosby for his hard work and time.

Cllr Bolt reports that the area forum takes place at St Andrews on 16th September.

MTC79/2015

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:

Cllr Lees-Hamilton thanked Cllrs for their attendance

Date of next meeting **Tuesday 15th September 2015**

Time Meeting Closed.....**9.50pm**.....