



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 24th November 2021 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

M Bolt (Chairman), J Roberts, S Guy, J Hirst, K Taylor, J Nottingham, S Naisbett, C Mallinson, P Tolson, J Hinchliffe, V Lees-Hamilton, M Sullivan

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: M Commons, Member of GLAAG, Member Mirfield CC, Kirklees Head of Integrated Partnerships

Press: None

MTC332/2019 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Mayor Cllr Bolt welcomed Councillors to the meeting. He reported it was a busy time with Armistice & Memorial events and a good turnout at the Remembrance Parade. He thanked the Parade organiser and all the Marshalls. He mentioned a Field of Remembrance, with local schools researching and writing the names of the fallen on the wooden crosses that are placed in the ground. He reported that he had been invited to the National Memorial Arboretum and spent a full day looking round. He mentioned the possibility of a coach trip for schools in 2022 for the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands conflict.

MTC333/2019 Apologies For Absence:

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

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs Kath Taylor & M Burton have a leave of absence & Cllrs M Connell & Brown sent apologies with reasons for absence
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to accept the apologies and reasons for absence Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded: Vote: All in favour**

MTC334/2019 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 Naisbett Declared a Pecuniary Interest MTC339(3)

Cllr Guy Declared an Other Interest MTC336

MTC335/2019 Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 10th November 2021 including payments of Nil. Cllr Tolson **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Nottingham **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC336/2019 Mirfield Library:

1. To receive an update from Kirklees Library Services on the future of Mirfield Library & decide any action necessary – Head of Integrated Partnerships is present. Cllrs introduce themselves. She reports that she believes library services to be relevant and is passionate to continue the 24 Kirklees libraries. She is looking at capital investment for Mirfield. The previous offer to build a new library by a local builder has been rejected as she doesn't believe it to be the best offer for Mirfield, the builder has been informed and she is looking to develop the current building. She has sent a bid to Kirklees for Capital Funds to develop libraries for the next decade. Her idea is to have a Community Hub with Kirklees offices upstairs in the library to enable local officers to work locally. This will reduce the carbon footprint and create revenue for the town and have local officers working locally. She is hoping to have decent office space upstairs, a decent sized community room downstairs and better toilet facilities. She is considering a link to the existing public toilets, making this much more accessible. There will be a further bid for this, to bring them up to date and inclusive. Cllr Davies is in support of this ambition for Mirfield and other areas. 7.51pm Cllr Hincliffe arrives. Cllrs ask if any 106 monies can be used for this? Answer No allocation, but she is looking at a bid for the toilets from Changing Places. Cllr Nottingham states it is sad the developer bid didn't go through but Cllrs Bolt & Lees-Hamilton remind Cllr Nottingham that Eastthorpe Lodge would have been lost to the town, memorial garden, toilets & land for parking. In addition, the library facility may have been lost. Carol confirms there is space upstairs for 15-20 desks. There is Government funding for the regeneration of small town centres and this would enhance the town, £200K - £300K investment needed. She confirms a 3 Phase Bid. 1. Building & removal of front cover 2. Inc Bid 1 and toilets 3. Bid 1 & 2 and accessible lift. She is keen to get this started and looking at costings by April. She confirms to Cllrs that this is a long-term recovery plan on how to move library services forward. Cllr Bolt thanked Carol for the update and **Proposed** This council welcomes the decision to maintain and enhance facilities & services at Eastthorpe Lodge. As an iconic & centrally located building we agree with the vision as outlined to combine a community hub and flexible workspace. MTC wishes to be involved with the future development Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Carol confirms that she will come back in the New Year with a further update. 8.10pm Carol leaves.

MTC337/2019

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 Christmas Lights and decide any action necessary – Clerk reports that she finally received the information from the contractor and sent the permits to Kirklees today and is awaiting confirmation. Cllr Naisbett reports that the contractor may not be able to fit the festoons. Clerk reminds Cllr Naisbett that council resolved to fit a full light display, so all festoons and placards need to be installed. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** the Clerk be delegated with full authority to act as she sees fit regarding the Christmas lights, inline with her delegation and the resolution made by council Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC338/2019

Clerk's Report:

1. To note the following decisions made between meetings by the Clerk under Delegated Powers as agreed in the Full Council Meeting 12th May 2020 & upheld 5th May 2021.
 - Payment of Clerk Salary, Working Allowance, NEST Pension & HMRC for October
 - Payment of Just Gardens Maintenance of Eastthorpe Gardens October £40.00

- Payment of Monthly Zoom Pro at £14.39 per month
- Payment of refreshments MTC meetings £8.85
- Payment of Nemesis Pyrotechnics £3500.00
- Payment of Printer Ink £20
- Payment of Ben Preece PA System Remembrance £200.00
- Payment of Wreath for 11/11/21 £20.00

Cllrs noted the above items in line with the Clerk's delegation. Clerk reported that she had asked Cllr Mallinson to investigate the Mirfield Remembers website. Cllr Mallinson reports that he is having trouble accessing the site through Go Daddy but will continue and report back to council.

2. To receive and note Bank reconciliation to 31/10/21 – Bank reconciliation was circulated prior to the meeting with an update to show Cllrs what committed expenditure the council has. £208K committed with a balance of £4054.45 uncommitted. Cllr Bolt stated that there were still monies in the various budget columns and hopefully these will start to be used. **Noted**
3. To receive and note monthly budget to 31/10/21 - **Noted**

MTC339/2019

Mirfield Matters/Community:

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

2. To consider match funding a Defibrillator for Mirfield Cricket Club at a cost of £750 & revision of council policy on match funding – A member of MCC is present and match funding application was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Bolt states that match funding is in place 50/50 split for Community groups fundraising for a defibrillator. Cllr Guy **Proposed** to grant the application on a 50/50 split with MCC Cllr Sullivan **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Clerk to order defib and cabinet to be delivered together, MCC to send payment to MTC. Cllr Bolt asked Cllrs to consider the current policy. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to delegate to the Clerk to liaise with lead Cllr and to approve on completion of match funding application form and receipt of all relevant information. Defibrillators to remain the property of MTC and MTC to insure accordingly, replace batteries and pads Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt **Proposed** Cllr Guy continue as lead Councillor Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Guy to check which areas of Mirfield do not have an accessible defibrillator and Cllrs to check each ward and report back to Cllr Guy.
3. To receive an update from Save Mirfield & GLAAG regarding the appeal hearing for Planning Application 2019/91467 as per MTC resolution MTC304/2019 (*Cllr Lees-Hamilton Proposed MTC underwrites the shortfall of costs to enable GLAAG & Save Mirfield to retain specialists with the understanding that Save Mirfield and GLAAG continue fundraising. Barrister's clerk to invoice MTC Cllr Roberts Seconded Vote: All in favour*) and discuss forthcoming costs and agree any action necessary (Subject to provision of all information from Save Mirfield) – Clerk reports that she has not received the relevant paperwork in time for the meeting. Cllr Bolt reminds Cllrs that it was resolved at the previous meeting to amend the grant criteria, although MTC are supportive of the appeal by GLAAG & Save Mirfield, the criteria relating to finances of the group must be adhered to. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to approve funding in line with previous delegation agreement to the Clerk Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt reported that all information for the hearing would be shared with the inspector in advance and that this would be the final stage unless a judicial error was found. GLAAG member confirms that the majority has been funded by residents. Cllr Lees-Hamilton suggests the group try a Go Fund Me page on social media to raise more funds. 8.31pm GLAAG member leaves.
4. Cllr Bolt added an item - Update from M Commons Mirfield Music Festival –

M Commons updates MTC stating that she intends to move the event to 2023, this being the Kirklees Year of Music and giving her more time to complete her degree, look at other resources, funding and networking. Cllr Bolt confirms MTC support in principle and hope that the festival will be a bigger success moving it to the Kirklees Year of Music.

MTC340/2019 **Public Question Time:**

NONE

MTC341/2019 **The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting.**

Date of next meeting **Wednesday 15th December 2021**

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.35pm**.....