



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Tuesday 7th July 2015 at 7.30pm

Held at: Council Offices, Huddersfield Road, Mirfield

Councillors Present:

K Taylor, J Nottingham, S Guy, S Benson, M Bolt, J Hirst, G Bunton, K Sibbald, A Burton

In Attendance:

Clerk: Lisa Staggs
Public: Cheryl Tyler, Christine Sykes, Brian Thornton
Press: None

MTC43/2015 **Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:**

The Deputy Chairman Cllr Sean Guy welcomed everyone in attendance to his first meeting as chair.

MTC44/2015 **Apologies For Absence:**

Members are reminded that apologies should be sent to the Clerk or Chairman if they are unable to attend.

Cllrs: P Tolson, J Taylor, V Lees-Hamilton, C Walker, D Pinder, M Burton

Cllr Bolt **Proposed** a leave of absence for Cllr Pinder Cllr Taylor

Seconded Vote: All in favour.

MTC45/2015 **Declaration of Interest:**

Councillors to declare an interest, if applicable to any item on the agenda.

Cllr K Taylor – Heavy Woollen Planning

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

Cllr S Benson – Project Mirfield & McInerney Homes

Cllr Guy **Proposed to suspend standing orders and bring forward MTC48(3) & MTC49(2) Cllr Bolt Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC47/2015 **Confirmation of Minutes:**

- i. To approve minutes of the ordinary meeting of 16th June 2015 as a true and correct record including payments of £2539.45
Cllr Bolt **Proposed** the minutes were a true and correct record
Cllr Burton **Seconded All in favour**
- ii. To receive information on the following on going issues and decide further action where necessary.

Cllr Bolt asked that action points be put on the bottom of the minutes and to accredit tasks to individuals to enable an easier transfer to the Worksheet.

MTC48/2015

Planning:

1. To consider planning applications received from Kirklees Council
2015/91853 2 Stocks Bank Drive – **Noted**
2015/91923 35 West Royd Ave – **Noted**
2015/91818 109 Nab Lane – **Noted**
2015/91885 38 Westfields Rd – **Noted**
2015/91919 53 Park Drive - **Noted**
2. To consider planning decision notifications from Kirklees Council
No Comments/Noted
3. Balderstone Hall Lane – Cheryl Tyler from Save Mirfield updates MTC on the latest developments. She informs MTC that Save Mirfield intends to stand behind Kirklees if the plans are rejected by Strategic Planning, which could cost £6-7K. Cllrs agree that a grant to 'Save Mirfield' towards legal fees would not be prudent, but that MTC would possibly instruct their own barrister for appeal. Cheryl states she wanted to update MTC not ask for money. Cllr Benson states an objection has been sent to the coal authority by Project Mirfield plus video footage to Kirklees. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC continues to support action against unwarranted developments and having previously funded a consultant up to Planning Committee stage, MTC will continue to carry this forward to appeal in conjunction with other parties for shared resources Cllr Taylor
Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC49/2015

Mirfield Matters:

To receive information (if available) on the following items and decide any action where necessary.

1. Mirfield Public Toilets – The Clerk updates Cllrs on the wall hung bins and invoice received from Extra Mile for repairs to the disabled door. Cllr Guy **Proposed** the clerk continues with the purchase of the bins via the estimates from Cllr Burton and defer the invoice until Cllr Pinder is present to clarify the position Cllr Benson
Seconded Vote: All in favour
2. Cllr Benson requests authorisation from MTC to take forward and complete the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Mirfield – Christine Sykes, who helped to produce the Mirfield Design Statement 2002, states the document had support of the Kirklees planning department. She states that parts need updating and would be happy to help in any way. Cllr Benson states that a Neighbourhood Plan is different to a Design Statement as it's not just development. Doctors, parks, railway stations etc can be included in it. Cllr Bolt states where there is a Parish or Town Council, that body is responsible for the plan, but there are many phases involved. A public meeting should be held to engage the community, Kirklees approval, full referendum paid for by Kirklees (51% in favour). He states it can be expensive and needs to know what resources it demands of the clerk etc. MTC need to know costs as this has not been allocated in the budget. Cllr Benson mentions that grants are available. Cllr Taylor states that the design statement stopped certain things with Tesco as it is

a recognised planning document. Cllr Taylor refers to an email from YLCA regarding the updating of the design statement as a starting point for a plan. Clerk to check exact wording. Cllr Taylor **Proposed** Cllr Benson has a mandate to publicise and organise a public meeting, liaise with planning department and report back for the next phase Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

8.15pm Public Leaves

Cllr Guy Proposed whilst standing orders were suspended that MTC51(1) be brought forward Cllr Bolt Seconded Vote: All in favour

3. Great British High Street – Cllr Burton informs MTC that the deadline has been extended to 1st September; he confirms there are leaflets to place in the shops. He believes bunting and flags would cheer up the high street and that the event could be publicised in the local papers and on social media. He states there are 7 categories with a prize of £50k that would be awarded to the Town Council to distribute. All councillors agree it is a great idea that could bring people in to the town. Cllr Burton **Proposed** £250 spend by MTC and to partner with local traders for more funding Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. Defibrillator Update – Cllr Guy confirms he has been in touch with John from YAS and the exact costs are £490 per cabinet no VAT from ‘Start a Heart’ and AED £900 inc VAT from ‘Well Medical’. A provision of £3000 from Community Fund was allocated at the previous meeting.
5. Grass Cutting to open spaces – Cllr Bolt reports that Kirklees are trialling limited cutting to certain parks, the more important and better used will be cut and others partially. He reports resident Martin Connell has contacted him with the intention of recruiting other residents to cut the grass at Knowl Park. He informs MTC that Kirklees have no issue with this and asks the clerk if MTC PL Insurance would cover this. Clerk informs MTC that Zurich has advised against this on the council insurance, but confirms that a quote with Tennyson Insurance is available for such events. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** If a community group wants to undertake the grass cutting, MTC would support a possible partnership prior to MTC receiving a written risk assessment & time frame Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: 9 In favour 1 Abstained**
6. Mirfield Railway Station – Cllr Bolt reports on a meeting with WYCA, Northern Rail and Grand Central who want to move forward for funding a new car park and new station along the line. Cllr Bolt thanked Richard Hartley for making people aware of the situation.
7. Mirfield Library Update – Cllr Bolt reports of a well-attended meeting of Friends of Mirfield Library who are moving forward and meeting with library services & putting in volunteers. They are preparing a business plan and are aware of the deterioration of the building. They mentioned a possible move by MTC to Mirfield Library in the future.
8. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC notes the timetable, pays the full cost of the by-election and delegates powers to the clerk to deal with the election office on behalf of the council Cllr Nottingham **Seconded Vote: 9 in favour 1 Abstained** Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC asks

MTC50/2015

Kirklees for the count to be held in Mirfield possibly St Andrews as per previous years Cllr Nottingham **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
Outside Bodies: (Updates via email from Cllrs)
To accept updates (if received) and decide any action where necessary.
None

MTC51/2015

Internal Matters:

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

1. Julie Muscroft Code of Conduct/Induction new Councillors – Margaret Miller attended in Julie's absence and gave an update to Cllrs on the Code of Conduct

9.10pm Margaret leaves

Cllr Bolt Proposed to reinstate standing orders and have a 5 minute comfort break Cllr Guy Seconded Vote: All in favour

2. Report & Recommendation from Employment Committee – Cllr Bolt reports that the meeting took place on 25th June with Cllr Guy substituting Cllr Pinder. He reports the committee's recommendations are: An appraisal with the clerk to take place at a future date. A pay increase which is in line with NALC standard pay scale. The committee agreed the clerk was fulfilling her duties in a professional, confident and friendly manner. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC accepts the recommendations of the Employment Committee Cllr Taylor **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
Cllr Bolt **Proposed** an automated response to be added to the administrator@mirfieldtowncouncil email (along the lines 'Thank you for your email, this will be dealt with in due course, Clerks working days Tuesday & Thursday') and all correspondence to be sent to all Councillors to deal with Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC52/2015

Correspondence:

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

1. YLCA Training Events – **Noted**
2. YLCA Training Playground Inspection - **Noted**
3. RAY News - **Noted**
4. YLCA Joint Annual Meeting - **Noted**
5. Local Government News – **Noted**
6. Letter Hugh Bowden Received after agenda published – Cllr Guy reads the letter to councillors. Cllr Guy **Proposed** the clerk writes to H Bowden acknowledging receipt of his letter dated 3rd June but received 5th July, stating that due to the timescale all Councillors had not had time to read. Clerk to circulate letter. Cllr Bolt **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC53/2015

Matters for Report and Information:

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

Cllr Taylor reports that she has spoken to Kirklees regarding the 7 missing hanging baskets and confirms that they have reimbursed MTC via Bacs £334.80. She also reports that the 7 brackets have disappeared along with the banners from the lamp posts that were purchased by Area Committee, Kirklees to check with Highways if they have removed these and report back to Cllr Taylor.

MTC54/2015

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting:

Cllr Guy thanked Cllrs for their attendance
Date of next meeting **Tuesday 21st July 2015**
Time Meeting Closed.....**10.24pm**.....

- MTC49 (1) **Clerk** continues with purchase of bins from Cllr Burton's online quotation
- MTC49 (2) **Cllr Benson** mandate to publicise and organise public meeting for neighbourhood plan, liaise with planning & report back for next phase
- MTC49(3) **Cllr Burton** to take forward Great British High Street Competition, purchase of bunting, publicising and community engagement
- MTC49(4) **Cllr Guy** to take forward installation of defibrillator to 2 local points **Clerk** to liaise with John Spikings
- MTC49(5) **Cllr Bolt** to liaise with community groups to undertake grass cutting
- MTC49(8) **Clerk** to check with election office if count can be held in Mirfield
- MTC51(2) **Clerk** to add automated response to emails as proposed by Cllr Bolt
- MTC52(6) **Clerk** to send letter to Hugh Bowden as per Cllr Guy's Proposal and contact Julie Muscroft for clarification