



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 6th April 2022 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

M Bolt (Chairman), M Sullivan, M Brown, S Naisbett, P Tolson, J Roberts, J Hirst, J Nottingham, C Mallinson, M Connell, K Taylor, S Guy

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: 2 members of the public & former Cllr A Burton

Press: None

MTC380/2019 Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Mayor Cllr Bolt welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

MTC381/2019 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 & J Hinchliffe have a leave of absence & Cllr Lees-Hamilton sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Mallinson **Seconded**
Vote: All in favour
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr Mallinson **Seconded: Vote: All in favour**

MTC382/2019 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.

None declared

MTC383/2019 Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 23rd March 2022 including payments of £379.39. Cllr Brown **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Naisbett **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour**

MTC384/2019 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 Mirfield Library and agree any action necessary – Clerk reports that Kirklees are hoping to send an update by the end of the week
2. To receive an update on Eastthorpe Gardens Tender from the Clerk – Clerk

reports that she received 2 tenders which were circulated prior to the meeting. The first from Able Gardens which was a detailed tender itemising the maintenance required, proposed maintenance and also photographs of the current state at £900 per annum. The 2nd from Mirfield In Bloom which was a short email with minor detail at £800. Clerk reported that she had reminded MIB to forward the tender, having not received one in writing. Clerk stated that the tender from Able Gardens gave more detail and based on the tenders would recommend this, however the decision was that of Cllrs. Cllr Hirst stated she had read the 2 tenders and was in favour of Able Gardens as it was a reputable company with all the required equipment and the company was known to her and had good recommendations. Cllr Connell agreed that Able could provide a good service without the use of volunteers. Cllr Hirst **Proposed** MTC approve the tender with Able Gardens on a 3-year contract, to review costings annually and following issues with other contractors, the Clerk to apply a penalty/break clause to the contract Cllr Connell **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour.** Clerk to thank both parties for tendering and inform them of the outcome.

3. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett removal of Christmas Lights – Cllr Naisbett reports that the lights have still not been taken down despite him speaking to the contractor and forwarding the message from the Clerk regarding liability being the onus of the contractor if anything was to fall. Cllr Naisbett has been assured that they will be taken down as soon as there are 2 people to carry out the task with a cherry picker. Clerk to send an email to contractor informing him of the urgency to remove the lights.
4. To receive a report from Cllrs Naisbett & Connell on lamppost survey – Cllr Naisbett reports again that they are waiting until the lights are taken down to carry out a full survey. Cllr Connell reports that despite Impact Education stating they would attend a council meeting; he has not had contact from them or Community Partnership who printed their banners. Again, Cllrs state that if any of the banners were to fall, the liability for this would be that of the contractor that had installed them. Cllrs are concerned that there appear to be banners on the brackets from Mirfield In Bloom, but MTC has never received a request from MIB to install these. Cllr Connell to contact MIB and inform them that they need permission from MTC to install any banners on the brackets. Cllrs Naisbett & Connell to meet on Saturday to survey the brackets.
5. To receive an update on the Riverside Project from Clerk – Clerk reports that Cutting Edge will be commencing the project in the next week. Cutting Edge have offered to litter pick the riverbank along Lowlands FOC, but they will be charged to dispose of this so have asked if MTC could provide a skip or alternative. Cllrs discuss options. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC take Cutting Edge up on their offer and contact Tiger Skips to arrange a suitable sized skip for the litter Cllr Tolson **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour** Cllr Bolt reports that Kirklees agreed to resolve the riverbank by Battyeford Playing Fields as it is their land, but this is still ongoing and not completed.

MTC385/2019

Finance:

To approve the following accounts for payment:

1. To agree payment of Monthly Zoom Pro at £14.39 per month by Bacs
2. To agree payment of £1894 YLCA Membership by Bacs
3. To agree Wel-Medical Cabinet MCC Match Fund £594
4. To agree Wel-Medical Defibrillators x 2 Match Fund £2067
5. To agree Zurich Insurance renewal £1255.14
6. To agree Trinity Methodist Room Hire March £60

Cllr Bolt **Proposed** to pay items 1-6 en block Cllr Tolson **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour**

Cllr Guy reported that Mirfield Cricket Club had instigated the match funding of the defibrillator but that all the user groups had contributed in a joint venture. He reports that the cabinets are on a 12-week minimum delay but it is now installed and MCC are eager to have positive publicity with MTC and the user groups. The defib will be registered on Circuit hosted by BHF which is a National Database. He reports that defibs around the town are being used as he gets alerts when the code is used and has to re-set the defib. He reports that a resident contacted MTC asking to match fund a defibrillator at Whiteley Garden Centre as her father had passed away from a heart attack there and no access defibrillator in that area. He stated that the form had been sent to the Clerk and approved as per the delegation and that she had raised enough to provide 2. She approached MFG who agreed for it to be installed outside on the Sports Centre building. He states what an asset these are to the town and how the groups have pulled together with MTC to provide access to them in all wards.

MTC386/2019

Internal Matters:

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

1. To receive and approve a motion from Cllr Bolt Antisemitism & Hate Crime & adopt. Link below.

<https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism> - Cllr Bolt circulated the motion (attached below). Cllr Bolt reported that the motion had been agreed by the Governments of all the devolved Nations and councils nationwide. Kirklees however, had not yet adopted it, although it was on the agenda at the last cabinet meeting it was not discussed. Cllr Bolt refers to the point of genocide and states that it is poignant at the moment with the events unfolding in Ukraine. Cllr Bolt asks Cllrs for any comments. Cllr Nottingham asks what percentage of the residents within Mirfield are from the Jewish Community, Cllr Bolt states that it is irrelevant on demographics or voting it is the right thing to do. Former Cllr Burton circulates images taken last year in Lower Hopton of antisemitic graffiti on walls. He reported this to the Community Security Trust who then report to the Police and Kirklees. Cllrs Tolson & Connell agree that MTC need to show that we will not stand for antisemitism within the town. Cllr Brown asks how soon was the graffiti erased as she believes Kirklees have a duty to remove within 48 hours. Former Cllr Burton states 2-3 weeks before it was erased. He states that Community Security Trust are in London & Manchester but when you report to them it is not instantaneous. Cllr Guy states CST provide volunteer security at schools and Synagogues in Jewish communities. Cllr Bolt **Proposed** MTC adopt the motion (below) Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
Clerk to enquire with WYP & Kirklees formal process for reporting hate crime & antisemitism.

MTC387/2019

Public Question Time:

NONE

MTC388/2019

The Date Of The Next Town Council Meeting.

Date of next meeting **Wednesday 20th April 2022**

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.10pm**.....

Appendix:

Motion:

This council notes with concern that the Community Security Trust has reported a huge increase in antisemitic hate crime in 2021.

The Council therefore welcomes the UK Government's announcement on December 11th 2016 that it will sign up to the internationally recognised

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines on antisemitism. The Council also notes that the new definition has been adopted by the Government, Labour Party, Scottish and Welsh Assemblies, Greater London Authority and Greater Manchester Combined Authority along with numerous other Councils across the country.

The Council notes the definition reads as follows:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

The guidelines highlight manifestations of antisemitism as including:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g., gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.”

This Council believes that everyone is equal irrespective of their race or religion. This means that all forms of hate crime must be condemned.

This Council welcomes the cross-party support within the Council for combating antisemitism in all its manifestations. This Council hereby adopts the above definition of antisemitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and pledges to combat this pernicious form of racism.