



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 5th June 2024 at 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

S Naisbett (Chairman), M Connell, V Lees-Hamilton, J Roberts, P Tolson, B Harrison, M Brown, S Guy, M Sullivan

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: 1 resident, 1 x Member Mirfield Round Table

Press: None

MTC28/2024

Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Naisbett welcomed Cllrs and members of the public. He reported that he had attended the Kirklees Civic Service and Civic Dinner in addition to opening and closing the 75th Anniversary event at Mirfield Library. A written report was sent to the Clerk.

MTC29/2024

Apologies for Absence:

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

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs M Hamilton, Itrat Ali, Imran Ali, M Bolt, D Hirst, J Hirst sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Harrison **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour**
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr Harrison **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour**
Cllr Hinchliffe was absent but did not send apologies nor reason for absence

MTC30/2024

Declaration of Interest:

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

Cllr Guy declared an other interest MTC32(4)

MTC31/2024

Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of the 15th May 2024 including payments of **£2338.81 plus Clerk Salary, Working Allowance, HMRC & NEST Pension**. Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Guy **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour**

To approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the 1st May 2024. Cllr Sullivan

Proposed the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Connell
Seconded Vote: All in favour

MTC32/2024

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 – Cllr Naisbett reported a Zoom meeting on 13th June had been arranged
2. To receive an update on Planning Application 2023/93539 at location Land adj, Ledgard Bridge Mill, Back Station Road, Mirfield, WF14 8NZ and decide any action necessary – Clerk updates that she sent Cllr Bolt's email regarding a Community Car Park to the Planning consultant
3. To receive an update on Town & Parish Liaison Group – Clerk updates that she has heard from Holme Valley & Kirkburton who are in favour, Meltham & Denby Dale to add to future agendas to discuss
4. To receive an update on Mirfield Library and decide any action necessary – Cllr Connell reports a conversation with the previous head of library services, who has agreed to help MTC FOC. They have looked at the cabinet papers and there are lots of issues with them, like not doing a deprivation & needs assessment for starters and they sent other recommendations which Cllr Connell reads out. Cllr Connell **Proposed** to send recommendations to R Parry & P Davies Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
5. To receive an update on D-day 80 and decide any action necessary – Cllr Connell gave an update for the event along with costs. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to accept the costs for Inflatable slides etc, Singer, Generator, Trailer and hire of field at a cost of £2245.00, plus toilets (Costs TBC) Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllrs discuss the lowering of the Flag of Peace on Sunday evening and the presence of a piper. Cllr Connell **Proposed** to contact the piper and hire at a cost of £150 if available Sunday evening for the flag lowering Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
8.19pm Member of the public leaves

MTC33/2024

Community:

To receive an update/discuss/note on the following items:

1. To receive an update from Mirfield Round Table on Mirfield Beer Festival and decide any action necessary – P Blakeley is present and reports the Beer Festival will take place in St Pauls on 28th & 29th June. He is present to ask permission from MTC to use Eastthorpe Gardens for the Beer Festival, stating that Mirfield Round Table will make good any damages or breakages. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to allow MRT the use of Eastthorpe Gardens under the terms of making good any damage or breakage that occurs during the festival Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
7.40pm P Blakeley leaves

MTC34/2024

Internal Matters:

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

1. To discuss the retention of an HR specialist to review HR policies and agree any action necessary – Cllrs discuss and Clerk confirms auditor has never mentioned this during audits, but she will ask her at the Internal Audit tomorrow. Cllrs agree that the retention of a HR specialist is not required, and if needed one can be contacted ad hoc. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** MTC do not retain a HR specialist, but appoint one if needed ad-hoc Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Cllr Lees-Hamilton stated that she would prefer the Employment Committee to be reinstated to review policies and

Clerk's health & wellbeing/contract/salary & annual review as without this, things are forgotten and not dealt with correctly, she stated that she would like to chair such a committee. Cllr Tolson agreed that he would feel more comfortable having an Employment Committee for fairness to the Clerk. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** to reinstate the Employment Committee and appoint 3 Cllrs to sit on the committee. Cllrs Lees-Hamilton, Harrison & Connell were nominated. Terms of Reference to be sought from YLCA and agreed at a future meeting Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

2. To discuss Civility & Respect Pledge and agree any action necessary:
 - By signing the Pledge, your council is agreeing that the council will treat councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, and representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles and that it:
 - Has put in place a training programme for councillors and staff
 - Has signed up to the Code of Conduct for councillors
 - Has good governance arrangements in place including staff contracts and a dignity at work policy
 - Will seek professional help at the early stages should civility and respect issues arise
 - Will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens
 - Will continue to learn from best practices in the sector and aspire to be a role model/champion council through for example the Local Council Award Scheme
 - Supports the continued lobbying for change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge including sanctions for elected members where appropriate

Cllr discuss the above and agree that this is to secure not just this current council but any future council and members Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to agree and sign the Civility & Respect Pledge Cllr Roberts **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

3. To discuss the support of the campaign Safety of Lithium ion Batteries and e-bikes and scooters and their disposal (Email circulated prior to the meeting) and agree any action necessary – Cllrs discuss and are concerned at the number of fires across the UK from these batteries, which burn fiercely and almost impossible to put out Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to support the campaign Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC35/2024

The Date of The Next Town Council Meeting.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19th June 2024 at 7.30pm

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.40pm**.....