

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Full Town Council** held on **Monday 21st May, 2012** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT	Councillor Mrs E. Fogg Councillor S.R. Dobson Councillor G Francis Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor N. Fogg Councillor A. Ross Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor Mrs M. Rose Councillor A. Spranger Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor R Pitts Councillor Mrs C. Jackson. Councillor N. Barrett-Morton	Town Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mr. Derek Wolfe Mrs Linda Chapman Mr. N. Kerton Mrs. V. Compton Mr. G. Isaaman Revd. Heather Cooper 2 Members of the Public	Town Clerk Civic Secretary Wiltshire Gazette Adviser Marlborough News Online

PRAYERS

Revd Heather Cooper opened the meeting with prayers.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs V Compton – said that she had presented the Town Council at the last meeting with a request concerning the re-painting of the yellow lines in Kennet Place which have been invalidated due to wear. she had been directed to do this by Wiltshire Highways Officers because the new system does not allow her to approach Wiltshire Council but to go through Town Council.

If this detailed request is not discussed by Marlborough Town Council, Wiltshire will not even know of its existence and therefore our yellow lines will be re-painted as they used to be and it will be too late. She understood the “January applications” rule and was grateful to Councillor Nick Fogg for the work he is now doing on addressing the wider parking problems. However, instead of lumping this very specific request which

has already been looked at on site by Wiltshire officers in with all the other parking discussions, could the Town Council consider it in isolation to get the ball rolling?

Councillor Pitts read from a prepared statement as follows -

“Yesterday saw the arrival of something Fantastic in Marlborough – a community market. It was however tinged with an element of Sadness for me in that one stall was missing, Helena and Nick Venters were not present. They were great supporters of the initial idea's and came to our test market in the spring at the St John's Science Fair, being massively supportive of the original farmers market in the Town Hall it would have been great to see them at the market yesterday. Sadly, Helena died in June due to cancer. Once again I would like to offer my sincere condolences to Cllr Stewart Dobson, Helena's brother.

Helena's woollens business is the exact model this community market is aimed at, and for the next three markets I am personally going to sponsor a table for a Tenner in Helena's memory to encourage a micro woollens business to follow in Helena's footsteps.

In the past I have had the dubious honour of being Helena's male model at the old farmers markets. This jumper I am wearing to night was created in Town Mill by one of Helena's knitters. I would wear it manning my wife's fair trade stall opposite Helena's, she would point it out to prospective sales. Oh how I would loved to have seen her and Nick there yesterday so I could have modelled it for her again. Sadly it was not to be.

Yesterday was an outstanding success! We had 23 stall holders out of 32 on our books, with 5 on the waiting list and 7 new applications yesterday. The AONB had the vision to support Transition Marlborough and our guide and mentor Ellie Preston-Gill to get this off the ground on a shoe string. The Marlborough community is totally behind it, there was unambiguous support for the market. This is set up as a not for profit community organisation, Marlborough Communities market <http://marlboroughmarket.org.uk/> have a membership scheme anyone can join and help run and take part. £10 is the joining fee. All profits will be ploughed back into the community.

If disaster did strike and the company folded I and the other directors would see to it the equipment was put to good use as the assets of the company are effectively owned by the community. I took great delight yesterday explaining to the members of Manton Fest our Marquees would be available for use at hopefully a slightly drier “Fest”, at no hire charge.

Ellie is a highly skilled transition and market towns consultant who we have been very lucky to have found and persuaded to work with us to develop our town. She is doing roughly the same thing for Trowbridge for a fee of £5000.00. They are not a transition town, yet. Ellie has put in a HUGE amount of work to get this off the ground for which she is only charging £250 a month because she BELIEVES in what we stand for and the way we are doing this. The Marquees need care and attention our only other salary out going is their controlled putting up and taking down, for which we are paying £100. Eventually I see the company creating 2 or 3 new jobs within the town.

The Company needs further pump priming to help promote Marlborough. I feel this is a really exciting vehicle to do this and I hope councillors you will support this when I leave the room, thank you.

CRIME AND DISORDER

Sgt Logue thanked the Mayor for presenting the Jubilee medals. He provided Councillors with a typed report comparing reported crime during the 12 months to May 2012 with same period in 2010-2011.

Councillor A Ross – asked to what extent does crime come into town rather than from within the town.

Sgt Logue – replied that purse theft and theft from motor vehicles seemed to come from out of town.

Val Compton - was concerned at the growing graffiti problem and alarmed at what appears to be graffiti bullying.

Sgt Logue – suggested that it would be best to simply remove it. He offered to inspect benches in Coopers Meadow

Councillor A Kirk Wilson – asked about the detection rate and whether most of our crimes were solved quickly.

Sgt Logue – advised he did not have the information to hand.

The Mayor thanked Sgt Logue for his and his officers policing the Olympic Torch relay on the 23rd May when thousands turned out to watch.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS TO AND FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Councillor Mrs P Dow – requested that the Council write to the owner of the now boarded up building which used to be the Asia Grill, London Road to get his assurance that this property would not be left in it's current poor condition.

Councillor Mrs C Jackson – asked if those lorries which parked overnight in George Lane car park purchased tickets.

Councillor N Fogg – understood that they were supposed to purchase tickets. However, it was a designated lorry park and he would rather see HGV's there than parking on-street.

Councillor Fogg – reported that the Town Clerk, Councillor Loosmore and Paul Shimell, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce had attended a meeting with Wiltshire Council Highways officers regarding proposed resurfacing work in 2012. Council representatives had asked Wiltshire officers to carry out work in the following priority order: (1) London Road, (2) High Street, (3) George Lane. It was noted that

Wiltshire Council would take these local preferences into account as a result of this consultative meeting, when determining their priorities.

Councillor Fogg - informed the meeting of proposed County Council cuts in the existing bus service connecting commuters with trains to London at Bedwyn Station. he asked all concerned to make representations about this. He added that he had had a meeting with Sir Stuart Hampson, Chief Executive of the Crown Estate who had confirmed the intention to build an hotel on the Salisbury Road site being developed for housing purposes. Finally he advised that he had completed his promised report on car parking and waiting restrictions, prior to its consideration by the Working Group he had previously offered to establish.

132/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

133/12 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

Councillors A Ross and R Pitts declared prejudicial interests in Agenda Items 7 (Applications for Financial Assistance) and 14 (Call-In Procedure)

The Town Clerk Derek Wolfe declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 7 (Applications for Financial Assistance)

Councillor G Loosmore declared prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 14 (Call-In Procedure).

134/12 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor stated that she would like to thank everyone who took part in organising and supporting the Marlborough Summer Celebrations, to all the voluntary organisations and community groups, to her hard working Jubilee Action Group and to members of the public who came in their hundreds to the 21 events on offer. Highlights were difficult to name but included Sir Roy Strong's lecture, Skate and Scoot, the Marlborough Choral Society, the Beacon lighting, the visit by school children to the Town Hall, self portraits, 1953 photos, cells and jubilee mugs. She said that she had been robed, as was her Ceremonial Officer, when she heard one little boy say to his friend – "that's the Queen".

Two unexpected events which dropped into Marlborough were the Olympic Torch and Stonehenge. All this feeds into promoting Marlborough and encouraging visitors to come and see what the town has to offer. She announced that the waits badges mentioned in her Mayor Making, have been awarded to minstrels and musicians who play or sing for the Mayor, has been awarded to the Marlborough Community Choir and the bell ringers at St Mary's.

At her request, Peter Page a goldsmith based in Ramsbury has kindly agreed to report on the condition of the maces, the Mayor's dress chain and the day chain.

Finally ahead of discussions regarding the casual vacancy she commented on the report which appeared in the Gazette and Herald in which former Councillor Robin

Notton was quoted as having been subjected to bullying by members of Marlborough Town Council. It is an allegation she had taken very seriously and as such she had written to Robin on June 11th to ask for details: a few days ago she had emailed him. So far no response had been received. If it is she will investigate this as a possible Standards Board issue.

135/12 MINUTES

RESOLVED: to receive, approve and sign as a true record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 21st May, 2012 with the following amendment – minute no 35/12 the spelling of defibrillators was incorrect and was amended.

136/12 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR NOTTON – CASUAL VACANCY

Following a discussion it was –

RESOLVED: unanimously to advertise the vacancy on the Town Council's notice boards and website with a view to seeking candidates within the next 3 weeks then to convene a Special Town Council meeting on the 30th July to interview candidates so that the successful co-optee can attend the Full Town Council meeting of the 13th August.

137/12 ANNUAL RETURN & STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Councillor A Ross gave a short explanation of the Council's Annual Return and Statement of Accounts for 2011-2012, following their initial consideration by the F&P Committee at its special meeting on 25th June.

Following a discussion is was –

RESOLVED: by 14 votes for with 1 abstention that the Annual Return and Statement of Accounts be approved, following which the relevant documents would be signed and sent to the Council's external auditors.

138/12 APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Councillors A Ross, R Pitts and the Town Clerk declared prejudicial interests in both applications and left the room at 8.00pm

Councillors received applications for financial assistance from the following –

a)Marlborough Communities Market - £3,000

Proposed by Councillor S Dobson, seconded by Councillor Mrs E M Hannaford-Dobson that a one off payment of £2,000 be awarded to MCM.

The motion was voted upon with 4 votes for 5 against with 4 abstentions. The motion was declared LOST.

It was then proposed by Councillor Mrs P Dow, seconded by Councillor A Kirk Wilson and -

RESOLVED: by 8 votes for with 4 against and 1 abstention that Marlborough Communities Market be awarded financial assistance in the sum of £3,000.

b)Transition Marlborough - £500.00.

It was proposed by Councillor G Francis, seconded by Councillor Mrs P Dow and

RESOLVED: unanimously that Transition Marlborough be awarded financial assistance in the sum of £500.00.

Councillors A Ross, R Pitts and the Town Clerk returned to the room at 8.15pm.

139/12

KENNET PLACE FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME – BUDGETARY CONSIDERATION

The Committee considered recommendations made by the Finance & Policy Committee at its special meeting held on 25th June.

Following a discussion it was -

RESOLVED: that the Flood Alleviation Scheme be funded via £6,000 from within the A&OS Committee's 2012-2013 budget and that a loan in relation to the remaining sum of £30,000 be obtained via the Public Works Loans Board subject to first obtaining loan consent.

A named vote was requested in respect of the above decision:-

For – Councillors N Fogg, A Kirk Wilson, A Ross, R Pitts, Mrs C Jackson, B castle, G Francis, G Loosmore, Mrs E Fogg (9)

Against – Councillors S Dobson, Mrs E M Hannaford-Dobson, Mrs M Rose, A Spranger, N Barrett-Morton (5)

Abstention – Councillor Mrs P Dow

140/12

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

a) **Localism Act 2011 – Adoption of New Code of Conduct.**

Following a discussion it was proposed by Councillor S Dobson, seconded by Councillor Mrs EM Hannaford-Dobson that the Town Council adopt the Wiltshire Code of Conduct

The motion was voted upon with by 7 votes for with 8 against. The motion was declared LOST.

It was therefore proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED:-** that the Town Council adopt the NALC Model Code of Conduct as its own local code of conduct.

141/12 CHANGE OF DATE FOR ST MARY'S CIVIC SERVICE

The Town Mayor stated that Canon Studdert-Kennedy had spoken to her regarding the Civic Service held in St Mary's Church. This year it had been moved to coincide with the Jubilee Celebrations and was extremely successful. Therefore the Canon had asked if we would consider holding the Civic Service in conjunction with the Harvest Festival Service, which this year would take place on Sunday 7th October.

The Mayor agreed to speak to Father Blacker to see if he was happy to move the date of the St Thomas More Service.

RESOLVED: that this revised invitation be accepted.

142/12 CALL-IN PROCEDURE

a) In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 34, the decision set out at the end of Minute No. 62/12 of the Property Committee's meeting held on Monday 28th May 2012 has been called in by Councillor S R Dobson.

RESOLVED:

143/12 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

144/12 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public be now excluded from the remainder of the meeting, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

145/12 CALL-IN PROCEDURE

a) In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 34, the decision set out at the end of Minute No. 606/11(a) of the Property Committee's meeting held on Monday 10th May 2012 has been called in by Councillor S R Dobson.

b) In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 34, the decision set out at the end of Minute No. 66/12 of the Property Committee's meeting held on Monday 28th May 2012 has been called in by Councillor S R Dobson.

Councillor Mrs E M Hannaford-Dobson asked questions relating to the purchase of additional equipment for the Town Hall.

Councillor G Loosmore responded.

RESOLVED: by 9 votes for with 3 abstentions that the Town Council support in principle to purchase additional equipment.

146/12 QUOTATIONS FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE TOWN HALL TOILETS

The Town Mayor reported that she had spoken to a company who specialise in refurbishing public toilets who were willing to take a look at the Town Hall Toilets and report back with suggestions and possible plans. They are able to design them to our particular needs.

A special meeting could be called to discuss the way forward.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council should accept their offer and invite them to attend meeting.

147/12 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Proposed by Councillor S Dobson, seconded by Councillor G Francis and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Common Seal of Marlborough Town Council be affixed to all documents necessary to give effect to the decisions of the Council.

148/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next ordinary meeting of Marlborough Town Council is scheduled for Monday 13th August, 2012 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.32pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date