

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the **Full Town Council** held on **Monday 14th January, 2008 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 8.40 pm**

PRESENT	Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor S.R. Dobson Councillor G. Francis Councillor N. Fogg Councillor A. Ross Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor Mrs E. Fogg Councillor R. Notton Councillor Mrs M. Rose. Councillor A. Spranger Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor S. Radnedge Councillor R. Pitts Councillor A. Sycamore	Town Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs Pam Dobson Mrs Sue Fry Mrs Linda Chapman Mr. N. Kerton Plus 14 members of the public	Town Clerk Office Manager Civic Secretary Wiltshire Gazette & Herald

NOTICE OF MEETING – Public Notice of the Meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12, paragraph 10 (2) of the Local Government Act 1972

The Mayor opened the meeting with Prayers.

423/07

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson and B. Castle.

424/07

DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

Agenda Items 6 (a), (b) and (c)	Councillor S.R. Dobson – Personal
Agenda Item 7	Councillor S.R. Dobson – Prejudicial
Agenda Item 8	Councillor S.R. Dobson – Personal

425/07

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

I am sorry that we have to be here this evening but I am not prepared to deny my responsibility to this Council and the residents of Marlborough.

Proposed by Councillor N. Fogg, seconded by Councillor A. Sycamore and –

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 2 against and 2 abstentions to receive, approve and sign as a true record the Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on the 17th December, 2007 with the following amendments –

Page 719 – TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS to and from COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS and MADT representatives should read - **TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS to and from COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS and representatives on outside organisations** (not to exceed 10 minutes).

Page 719 – **Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson** – replied that 3 members from this council this should read -

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson – replied that 2 members from this council.....

Page 724 – **Councillor A. Sycamore to Councillor S.R. Dobson** – Councillor Sycamore stated that he intended to ask 3 questions relating to past planning matters this should read –

Councillor A. Sycamore to Councillor S.R. Dobson – Councillor Sycamore stated that he intended to ask 3 questions in the context of their recent planning application.

Page 725 – to be added after paragraph 10 –

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson – stated that she would have to leave the room if questions were asked.

Councillor S.R. Dobson requested a recorded vote –

FOR – Councillors Mrs P. Dow, G. Francis, N. Fogg, A. Ross, A. Kirk Wilson, Mrs E. Fogg, A. Spranger, G. Loosmore, R. Pitts and A. Sycamore.

AGAINST – Councillors S.R. Dobson and Mrs M. Rose

ABSTAINED – Councillors R. Notton and S. Radnedge.

TAPE RECORDING OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS.

A discussion took place regarding the recording of meetings, Councillor Mrs E. Fogg asked if this procedure was used by other councils and what the legal aspect were, the Town Clerk read out a response from the Legal Department at KDC. Councillor Dobson said that he was fully in favour of this as he felt that it would save the Council money as there would be no need for a Minute Secretary to be present at meetings. This was not agreed by all members present. Councillor S.R. Dobson stated therefore that he wished to be named as voting against this proposal because he felt that it should be used in conjunction with saving the Council money.

Proposed by Councillor A. Sycamore, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and -

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 4 against that this Council resolves to tape record all meetings of the council and that recordings are kept by the Town Clerk for as long as is reasonably practicable.

Councillors S. Dobson, R. Notton, M. Rose and S. Radnedge be recorded as voting against this Resolution.

Councillor S.R. Dobson left the room at 9.10 pm

428/07

REPRESENTATION ON MCASP

a) Letter from MADT

The committee received a letter from MADT regarding action relating to funding at the MCASP meeting held on the 15th October, 2007.

Councillor R. Notton asked what MCASP and MADT stood for, the Town Clerk gave a brief explanation.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor A. Ross, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for, with 1 against and 1 abstention that we write a letter to MADT supporting the work they do, regretting MCASP's recent funding decision, explaining that it did not have the Town Council's approval and hoping that it can be reversed.

b) Representation

The committee considered the representation of the Town Council at the last MCASP meeting.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor A. Sycamore, seconded by Councillor A. Kirk Wilson and –

RESOLVED: by 9 votes for, with 2 against and 2 abstentions that we write a letter to the Police stating that we value their voluntary attendance at Town Council meetings as this gives us all the opportunity for both negative and positive feedback and that statements made to them at the recent MCASP meeting by our representative had not had the Town Council's approval.

Proposed by Councillor A. Kirk Wilson, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that at the next Full Town Council meeting consideration be given to the appointment of a new MCASP representative.

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor A. Sycamore and –

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for with 2 abstentions that we write a letter to MCASP regretting their recent funding decision, and hoping that MCASP will continue to fund MADT, to the extent that is within their gift to do so.

Councillor R. Notton left the meeting at 9.35 pm

c) Conflict of Interests.

The committee considered possible conflicts of interest when discussing issues at MCASP, which could disadvantage the town and decide whether any action is necessary.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. Fogg, seconded by Councillor A. Sycamore and –

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for with 1 abstention that we ask Finance and Policy with advice from Kennet District Council's Monitoring Officer to propose a policy and guidance on avoiding and dealing with conflicts of interest that may arise from representation on outside bodies, dual roles and husband and wife partnerships.

429/07

PLANNING PROBITY

The committee considered the public perception of the Town Council's handling of planning application K/57655/F and decide whether any action is necessary.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor G. Francis, seconded by Councillor N. Fogg and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that with immediate effect the Planning Committee examines all future planning applications, including those of fellow members.

Councillor A. Sycamore then asked the Mayor for permission to read out the questions he had originally tried to ask at the Full Town Council meeting held on the 17th December, 2008, the Mayor gave her permission (copy of questions attached).

Proposed by Councillor A. Sycamore, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 3 abstentions that we write to Kennet District Council stating that some councillors have grave misgivings about the application but that the applicants withheld important information from the Town Clerk which meant that the applicants wife remained in the chair of the Planning Committee, from where she prevented any discussion.

Councillor R. Notton returned to the meeting at 9.55 pm

430/07

SELECTION OF MAYOR

The committee considered Minute 363/06 which effectively bars new Councillors from the selection of their Mayor for the Civic Year 2008 and decide whether any action is necessary.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by A. Sycamore, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore –

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 2 against and 2 abstentions that Appendix D of our Standing Orders be amended to read –

That all Councillors will be considered as eligible for nomination as Deputy Mayor, unless barred by a decision of the Council.

The Deputy Mayor will automatically be nominated for Mayor the following year, unless the member wishes to decline, and Councillors may also choose to make other nominations.

When making nominations, Councillors should give due regard to relevant experience.

Councillor Sycamore then stated that as he understood it under Section 77 this item now has to be adjourned to the next meeting of the Full Town Council for discussion.

The Mayor then read Section 77 to members and then asked them if they fully understood this.

Proposed by Councillor G. Francis, seconded by Councillor A. Sycamore and –

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 4 against that Minute 363/06 be revoked.

Councillor S.R. Dobson returned to the room at 10.10 pm

431/07

COMPLAINT FROM COUNCILLOR A. ROSS

The committee received notice of a request for a complaint to be dealt with under Appendix C of Standing Orders and to appoint a complaints panel and set a timetable for hearing the complaint.

The Mayor informed members that in fact two complaints had been received.

Councillor S.R. Dobson informed the Mayor that he had a statement that he wished to read.

Councillor S.R. Dobson read a statement in relation to this agenda item and left the room at 10.17 pm. (copy attached)

The Mayor then continued -

The Mayor informed members that in fact two complaints had been received but that only one would be considered for a hearing at this time as there is only one on the agenda the other one was submitted to late for inclusion on this agenda.

The Mayor asked the Councillors concerned if they wished to continue with the Town Council Complaints Procedure, if not then please withdraw them now.

Councillor Ross asked for guidance and clarification on some of the points raised in Councillor Dobson's statement.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor N. Fogg, seconded by Councillor A. Sycamore and -

RESOLVED: unanimously that The Town Clerk and The Mayor have discussions with the Monitoring Officer as to how we proceed with these complaints and that no further action be taken until these points have been clarified.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 10.25 pm

