

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Full Town Council held on Monday, 25th July 2016 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.00 pm

PRESENT	Councillor N. Barrett-Morton Councillor S. Dobson Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor N. Fogg Councillor A. Ross Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor Mrs M. Rose Councillor L. Farrell Councillor J. Cook Councillor R. Allen Councillor M. Hall Councillor A. Light	Town Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs S. Parker Mrs D. Whitehall Rev. Dr. J. Blokland Mr T. Millett	Town Clerk Administrator Mayor's Chaplain Marlborough News Online

PRAYERS

The Revd. Dr. Janneke Blokland opened the meeting with prayers

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions

CRIME AND DISORDER

No representative from Wiltshire Police was able to attend and there was no written update available

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS TO AND FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Fogg – noted a recent press article concerning the prospective sale of St Peter's School in the Parade for development. A number of people had expressed concern about what might become of this iconic building and Cllr. Fogg wondered whether some sort of forum could be set up to allow local people and Members to share their views.

Cllr. Dobson – informed Members that contractors starting work on the new school in George Lane would, for the first couple of weeks, be using an entrance from Van Diemens Close and then George Lane and Ducks Meadow as access for taking away soil. This was to avoid disturbing the area identified on the ecology study as a habitat for slow worms.

At a recent site meeting at St John's Park, Cllr. Dobson had learned that Wiltshire Council would likely be adopting the road before the end of the year and there was a good chance the developers would install a traffic calming scheme prior to this.

Cllr. Dobson was disappointed that the Rabley Wood View outline planning application had been allowed by the Planning Inspector on appeal against the wishes of the Town Council and local residents. The issue of flooding in the water meadow area of the site had been regarded by the Inspector as a result of recent drainage works rather than a natural and regular occurrence typical to meadow land. **Cllr. Cook** had discussed the matter with Claire Perry, MP to ask for her support. Also, recent archaeological work on the site had left the Wiltshire Council owned land in a poor state. Contractors were being urged to return the surface to a usable recreation area as soon as possible. (The play area and youth shelter at the site were maintained by the Town Council under licence.) It was difficult to see that this repair work could happen during the school holiday period. It was believed the developers were liaising with a third party organisation concerning ongoing maintenance of the new casual area of public open space (formerly referred to as a country park) which was part of the proposed development.

172/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Loosmore and Lam

173/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr. Dow – agenda item 10 – Bowls Club – non-pecuniary

174/16 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Another well done to the Marlborough in Bloom (MiB) team for everything done towards judging day for South West in Bloom. The results would be released on 6th October 2016.

The Mayor hoped Councillors would be able to support his classical concert to be held in St Peter's Church on 23rd September at 7 pm in aid of his charities, Swift Medics and the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

175/16 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Town Council held on Monday, 27th June 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record.

176/16 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report was noted.

177/16 WRITTEN MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR S. DOBSON ABOUT THE PLUME OF FEATHERS GARDEN

RESOLVED: under Standing Order 11a(vi) to move this item to just ahead of agenda item 18 in the confidential session

178/16 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED: that Cllr. Allen be appointed to the vacancy on the Finance & Policy Committee

179/16

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFERS AND DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk about future Community Asset Transfers (CATs) and devolution of services.

180/16

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Members noted the Town Clerk's report and agreed that it was unacceptable that the likely delays in the sale of the Chantry Lane toilets should hold up the reinstatement of the public conveniences in George Lane car park.

RESOLVED (i): that due to the delay in the sale of Chantry Lane toilets, it is agreed that an application for approval for a Public Works Loan for the refurbishment of the George Lane toilets is made through the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils for up to £125,000. Also, that the Town Clerk begins a public consultation exercise on this.

RESOLVED (ii): that Members note that the budget for the revenue funding for the completed George Lane toilets will include that already set aside for Chantry Lane following its closure. This is currently £10,000 and will need to be reviewed during the autumn precept setting round. It is advised that though the new toilets will be chargeable (possibly 20p), this would best be forecast with zero income in the first year

181/16

BOWLS CLUB

Members noted the Town Clerk's report and that the Bowls Club would like to add works to improve the surface of the bowling green as part of the S106 Agreement funding for a number of projects at the Club.

RESOLVED: that work goes ahead as a legitimate charge to the S106 funding to improve the bowling green on the proviso that the Bowls Club meets any remaining balance itself and that the Town Clerk is happy that the quotes received meet Wiltshire Council's criteria for releasing the money.

Cllr. Dow did not vote

182/16

FORUM FOR THE DISABLED

Members noted from the Town Clerk's report that preliminary discussions had taken place about establishing a Forum for the Disabled in Marlborough. Some funding was available from Wiltshire Council's Health & Wellbeing Fund and there would be minimal impact on workload for Town Council staff. Cllr. Allen explained how the national Safer Places scheme operated having had some experience with similar schemes in other parts of the country. The first forum would hopefully be set for early October.

RESOLVED: that ongoing collaborative work to establish a much needed forum for the disabled be noted

183/16

FOOTBALL EQUIPMENT FOR SALISBURY ROAD RECREATIONAL GROUND

RESOLVED: that goalposts and nets (Quotation Option B) be obtained to provide additional facilities for young people at Salisbury Road Recreation Ground

184/16

COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED: that in accordance with para 3.1 of the Scheme of Delegation, the approved minutes of the following Committee meetings be noted: **Planning** – 13th June and 4th July – **Amenities and Open Spaces** – 6th June – **Property** – 4th April

185/16

LIASON WITH OUTSIDE BODIES

Members provided updates on their representational roles to outside bodies as follows:

- Marlborough Area Board – At the meeting held on 19th July, the issue of air quality had been acknowledged, although the Area Board was unable to take any action. Members noted the impact of new developments on air quality should always be considered and there may be opportunities to make small improvements working in collaboration with other groups, for example Transition Marlborough
- Community Emergency Volunteers – Cllr. Kirk Wilson reported that a new and enhanced Flood Plan had recently been produced
- Stonebridge Management Committee – Cllr. Castle reported that very good progress was being made. There had been some differences in view about grazing in various paddocks although the majority supported the scheme. A grant had been obtained to fund work to the new beach area. This generated some discussion among Members about the localised flooding near the new reed bed which could be a potential topic for a future Amenities and Open Spaces Committee agenda.
- Sports Forum – Cllr. Cook reported that as part of the work to develop the Neighbourhood Plan, a working party was being set up with the hope that all sports clubs be represented, and he asked Members who regularly liaise with local clubs to provide contacts
- Allotment Association – Cllr. Castle reported that this group was thriving and becoming more independent. He answered a question about uptake of allotments and noted the anticipated increase in demand for allotments as the population of the town continued to increase with planned development schemes
- Local Youth Network – Cllr. Rose noted changes in Wiltshire Council officers. The current focus was on a music festival to be held in September. Cllr. Rose expressed concern that monies were being allocated to one-off events which could perhaps better be used for longer term projects, for example lighting for the skate park
- Christmas Lights – Cllr. Light was planning two car boot sales in 2017 to raise funds.

186/16

MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

Cllr. Castle had submitted a question:

‘September 8th - 11th are scheduled as Heritage Open Days. Would the Mayor and Councillors consider it worthwhile to open the Town Hall cells as a one off promotion or our Secret Gardens at Wye House and Plume of Feathers?’

A member of the community had come forward to help with the preparation and opening of the cells. Cllr. Rose confirmed that work could be undertaken by the Friends of the Victorian Cemetery to make it safe for visitors if this was included in the Heritage Open Days.

RESOLVED: that Members supported the opening of the Town Hall cells and other suggestions as part of Marlborough's involvement in the English Heritage Open Days.

187/16 TO AUTHORISE THE FIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL OF MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL TO ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

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

188/16 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Mr Millet and Dr Blokland left the meeting

189/16 WRITTEN MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR S. DOBSON ABOUT THE PLUME OF FEATHERS GARDEN

RESOLVED: that the land known as Plume of Feathers, London Road be registered in the name of Marlborough Town Council forthwith

A second written motion proposed by Cllr Dobson and seconded by Cllr Hannaford-Dobson requesting registration of the land as a SHLAA site was not carried.

A recorded vote was requested.

For: Cllrs. Dobson and Hannaford-Dobson.

Against: Cllrs. Castle, Dow, Fogg, Ross, Kirk Wilson, Farrell, Allen and Hall

Abstained: Cllrs. Rose, Cook and Light.

190/16 COOPER'S MEADOW

Members noted the Town Clerk's report.

RESOLVED (i): to instruct the Town Council's solicitor to clarify with HM Land Registry, the Town Council's right of access at an entrance to Cooper's Meadow from George Lane.

191/16 TOWN COUNCIL-OWNED PROPERTY AT KINGSBURY STREET

RESOLVED (i): to go ahead with the offer for the property at the agreed price subject to satisfactory legal searches.

RESOLVED (ii): to accept the Surveyor's report as satisfactory

RESOLVED (iii): that the transaction is brought back to Full Council for final agreement ahead of exchange of contracts.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed

Date

Town Mayor