

# MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

## FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Full Town Council** held on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2014** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.00 pm.

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<b>PRESENT</b>	Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor S. Dobson Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor N. Fogg Councillor A. Ross Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor Mrs M. Rose Councillor N. Barrett-Morton Councillor Ms. L. Farrell Councillor J. Cook Councillor B. Lam Councillor M. Hall Councillor A. Light	Town Mayor
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Mrs. S. Parker Mrs S. Fry Ms. A. Mauremootoo Mr. N Goodwin Mrs S. Pryor Insp. M. Thompson Sgt B. Reed Crew Manager Carl Barber Revd Cannon A Studdert-Kennedy Plus 3 members of the public	Town Clerk Office Manager Wiltshire Gazette & Herald Marlborough News Online The Adviser Wiltshire Constabulary Wiltshire Constabulary Wiltshire Fire and Rescue

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Prior to the start of the meeting the Council received a presentation from Dr. Nick Stedman about District Heating.

### **PRAYERS**

The Mayor opened the meeting with Prayers.

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**Mr. C. Winchcombe** – these questions are in no way a criticism of Town Council staff but would it be possible to supply stools and webbing for burials and replace the grass matting? There are also pot holes that need attention on the access road to and in the cemetery itself. Also, if the Town Council does not already have a sponsorship policy, could it look at establishing one?

**The Mayor** – replied that Town Clerk will look into the issues raised and then reply to Mr. Winchcombe.

**Mr. G. Francis** – could the proposal for erecting a bus shelter in front of ‘One Stop’ be resurrected?

**The Mayor** – replied that the Town Clerk would investigate this item further and ensure that it is placed on the A & OS Agenda for the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> February.

## **CRIME AND DISORDER**

The Mayor welcomed Inspector Mark Thompson and Sgt. Barry Reed.

Sgt Reed reported the following –

- Throughout December 2013, Marlborough Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) had participated in Operation Dasher. This focused on crime prevention, crime detection and community confidence over the Christmas period
- During December, the Town Centre saw an increase in high visibility policing, with over 75 additional hours spent on foot patrol by officers
- Crimes such as shoplifting and theft from the person remained very low
- Anti-social behaviour reports saw a decrease
- Theft from motor vehicles also fell and other theft related offences also saw a decrease
- There were slight increases in criminal damage and violence against the person
- Marlborough NPT’s Drink Drive campaign saw an increase this year with 5 drivers arrested, compared to 3 in Dec 2012.
- New Year’s Eve saw no reported incidents with Marlborough having the lowest demand for police in the county
- In the New Year, attention has turned to Road Safety

**Cllr. M. Hall** – were the spate of accidents that occurred on Christmas morning due to the fact that the roads had not been salted ?

**Sgt B. Reed** – they were due to unfortunate weather conditions that occurred very quickly.

**Cllr. Mrs P. Dow** – in the past the Police have given out purse chains so that people can attach their purses to their handbags, are these still available ?

**Sgt B. Reed** – replied that this was probably a Community Safety Partnership initiative but he would enquire as to whether they are still available and at what cost.

**Cllr. Mrs M. Rose** – enquired as to who was responsible for removing debris from the roads ?

**Sgt Reed** – replied that it was Wiltshire Council’s responsibility but during the last period of bad weather local farmers and contractors had helped.

**Cllr L. Farrell** – thanked Sgt Reed for his assistance at the Christmas Day lunch in the Town Hall.

**The Mayor** – thanked Inspector Thompson and Sgt Reed for attending the meeting.

## **WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

The Mayor welcomed Crew Manager Carl Barber.

**C. Barber** – explained that things were changing within the Fire Service due to financial cuts. One way in which this was being dealt with was the opening up of retained stations and manning them with full-time fire fighters from 9.00am to 6.00 pm,

Monday to Friday. This change was to enhance the excellent work that retained crews already carried out. The Hub for the area now incorporated Ramsbury, Wootton Bassett and Marlborough. A recruiting program was underway. Risk reduction and community engagement would also be carried out.

Crews had attended a number of recent flooding incidents and had been working closely with the Environment Agency on these.

**Cllr. A. Ross** – enquired as to whether Mr. Barber would be responsible for the other Hub stations.

**C. Barber** – replied that he would along with the Watch Manager. His main responsibility would be to carry out crew plotting to ensure that there was adequate cover at all three stations.

**Cllr. S. Dobson** – said that in past years the High Street had suffered some serious fires. Concern had been raised about the open attic spaces in many properties allowing fire to spread very quickly along the High Street. This was something that the Fire Brigade was investigating. Had any progress made on this?

**C. Barber** – replied that risk reductions had been carried out at the College and common roof space in some High Street buildings. Assessments were continuing.

**Cllr. Mrs P. Dow** – enquired as to why Marlborough was in a Hub with Wootton Bassett and Ramsbury ?

**C. Barber** – replied that it was probably based on the best way to establish effective crew plotting.

**Cllr. B. Lam** – enquired as to the level of cover when some full time fire fighters strike?

**C. Barber** - replied that some fire fighters were striking but that contingency fire cover was in place.

**Cllr. B. Castle** – stated that he would like to see the reinstatement of the Fire Forum which included members from the Town Council, Chamber of Commerce and Fire Brigade.

**C. Barber** – said that he would investigate this with a view to possibly taking it forward.

The Mayor thanked Crew Manager Barber for attending the meeting.

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

**Cllr. A. Ross** – requested that Wiltshire Councillors take forward a request for additional signage on Salisbury Road as when vehicles came off of the roundabout travelling south, they tended to accelerate quickly making it unsafe for vehicles trying to exit Savernake Court and other properties on that stretch of the Salisbury Road.

**Cllr. S. Dobson** – replied that he would take this forward but that it may be an issue best dealt with by CATG.

**Cllr. J. Cook** – asked if anything could be done about the property on London Road which was formally the New Asia Grill as it was such an eyesore.

**Cllr. S. Dobson** – replied that the Conservation Officer was monitoring the situation but that unless the building becomes unsafe, very little can be done.

**Cllr. N. Fogg** – stated that he felt that a letter should be sent to the owner regarding the condition of the building.

**The Mayor** – replied that the Town Clerk would send a letter to the owner of the property.

416/13

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor R. Allen.

417/13

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

418/13

**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Fogg on being awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours List.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Ross for his part in the organisation of the very successful Sports Forum Dinner held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January, an evening enjoyed by all who had attended.

In spite of bad weather, some balloonists took off at the Icicle Balloon meet over the weekend of 4/5 January. It would be good to welcome this event back in 2015.

The Community Clear-Up day at the Old Cemetery would take place on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00am. Everyone was welcome.

The Youth Council Working Party met with a number of young people at the Cosy Bean café on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. It was a successful evening, the next meeting would be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> January.

All those interested in being trained for Community Speed Watch, please let the Town Clerk know as soon as possible. Councillor Dow had already attended and found it very useful and informative.

Councillors wishing to attend a meeting for towns and parishes to be hosted by Claire Perry, MP on 7<sup>th</sup> February should let the Town Clerk know as soon as possible.

A skittles match had been arranged for the 1<sup>st</sup> March, Councillors should let the office know if they were able to attend.

A provisional date of 4th April had been set for a Barn Dance in the Town Hall to raise funds for the Mayor's Charities.

The Mayor thanked Cllr. Kirk Wilson for arranging a Councillors team to take part at a recent quiz night.

419/13

**MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 be approved and signed as a correct record.

420/13

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

**RESOLVED:** unanimously that the contents of the Town Clerk's report be noted and that she be thanked for a comprehensive report.

421/13

**TOWN MAYOR 2014/2015**

Only one nomination had been received it was -

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

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson be nominated by the Town Council as it's Town Mayor for the forthcoming year 2014/2015.

Councillor Mrs Hannaford-Dobson thanked Members for their nomination and support, stating that she would carry on the good work of Councillor Loosmore.

422/13

**DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR**

Only one nomination had been received it was -

Proposed by Councillor A. Kirk Wilson, seconded by Councillor B. Castle and -

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Mrs M. Rose be nominated by the Town Council as it's Deputy Town Mayor for the forthcoming year 2014/2015.

Councillor Mrs Rose thanked Members for their nomination, stating that she would support Councillor Hannaford-Dobson during her Mayoral Year.

423/13

**MAYOR'S CHAIN**

The Town Clerk's report was noted.

**RESOLVED:** that Members note the comments made by the former Mayor and that an additional Full Town Council meeting be held on 27<sup>th</sup> January to consider proposals put forward. Also, that Members agree that financial regulations are waived relating to contracts and tenders as this is a payment of an insurance claim for re-instatement of an insured item.

424/13

**CCTV**

The Town Clerk's report was noted.

**RESOLVED:** that Members note the update report and the outcome of the consultation exercise.

425/13

**ENGLISH CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT ON THE COMMON**

The Town Clerk's report was noted. Main points of discussion included:

- The short time frame for the event
- Other significant events taking place during the summer
- Associated costs falling to the Town Council
- Staffing implications
- Liaison with Chippenham Town Council
- Whether there were grant funding opportunities.

**RESOLVED:** i) that the Letter of Intent be amended to reflect that if sufficient funds are not secured then this event cannot go ahead and that the Town Clerk was not to be responsible for raising sponsorship

ii) That the final decision on whether to continue with the event weekend is taken at the Full Council meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> March

iii) That a committee is formed to take the event forward and that the Town Clerk approaches the History Society and others to consider this

iv) That permission is granted to the ECWS to use Priory Gardens.

426/13

**USE OF THE COMMON BY MARLBOROUGH RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB AND MARLBOROUGH YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB**

The Town Clerk's report was noted together with a recommendation made by the A&OS Committee at its meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> November. This concerned requesting agreement for further use of land at the Common by MRFC and MYFC together with proposals for improvements to the ground. Also, that a Working Party should be formed to take the issue forward. Main points of discussion included:

- Advice received by the Town Council's insurers
- The need for more facilities for sports clubs
- That the make-up of a Working Party should include representatives from the Town Council and Clubs

Proposed by Councillor S. Dobson, seconded by Councillor A. Light that a Working Party is formed between representatives of Marlborough Town Council, MYFC, MRFC and MTFC.

**For** – Councillors S. Dobson, Mrs. E.M. Hannaford-Dobson and A. Light.

**Abstentions** – Councillors J. Cook and Mrs. M. Rose

**Against** – Councillors G. Loosmore, B. Castle, Mrs. P. Dow, A. Ross, N. Fogg, A. Kirk-Wilson, N. Barrett-Morton, L. Farrell, B. Lam and M. Hall.

This proposal was lost.

**RESOLVED:** i) That a letter is written to MRFC and MYFC stating that as the land used has not been formerly adopted as a pitch or training ground, it may not be 'pitch' perfect and that the Clubs should ensure they are aware of any areas of concern and that this informal arrangement may continue for or up to 2 years and ii) that a Working Party is formed between representatives of the Town Council, MYFC and MRFC to work towards a formal agreement for use and the proposed improvements to the land.

Councillor who wished to form part of the Working Party were – Cllrs G. Loosmore, Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson, S. Dobson, B. Castle, Mrs P. Dow, A. Ross, A. Kirk-Wilson, Mrs M. Rose, L. Farrell,, J. Cook, M. Hall and A. Light.

427/13

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE.**

Due to other commitments, Councillor Cook was stepping down from the F&P Committee.

**RESOLVED:** as all other Members currently serve on 2 committees and as there remains only one further scheduled meeting for F&P (17<sup>th</sup> March) during the current Municipal Year then this place remains vacant until May.

428/13

**LIAISON WITH OUTSIDE BODIES**

Representatives to be appointed to the Community Area Transport Group and the Manton Traffic Group.

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Allen be appointed as the representative to CATG with Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson as substitute and Councillor B. Castle be the representative to the Manton Traffic Group.

**429/13 MEMBER'S QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

**430/13 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

**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.

**431/13 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

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

**432/13 SECURITY REVIEW**

The Town Clerk's report was noted and future security issues discussed.

**RESOLVED:** that professional advice is obtained and that then be taken to the meeting of the Full Town Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**433/13 CCTV**

The Town Clerk's report was noted and Councillor Hall summarised the outcome of the project specification, technical proposals and quotes put forward by competing companies.

**RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council enter in to a negotiated contract with the preferred Company.

The meeting closed at 9.08 pm.

Signed .....  
Chairman

Date .....