

**MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
FULL TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the **Full Town Council** which was held on **Monday, 24th July 2017** in the **Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor M. Hall	Town Mayor
Councillor B. Castle	
Councillor Mrs P. Dow	
Councillor N. Fogg	
Councillor A. Kirk Wilson	
Councillor G. Loosmore	
Councillor L. Farrell	
Councillor N. Barrett-Morton	
Councillor P. Cairns	
Councillor M. Cooper	
Councillor A. Wilson	
Councillor D. Heath	

**ALSO
PRESENT**

Mrs S. Parker	Town Clerk
Mrs D. Whitehall	Administrator
Fr. J. Blacker	Mayor's Chaplain
Mr G. Brickell	Marlborough Area Development Trust
Mr R. Holman	Marlborough Area Development Trust
Councillor S. Dobson	Unitary Councillor – East Ward
Mr T. Millett	Marlborough.News
Plus 1 member of the public	

The meeting was preceded by a presentation by Bob Holman and Geoff Brickell from the Marlborough Area Development Trust (MADT) about the town's free Community WiFi and the need for it to be better promoted

PRAYERS

Fr. Blacker opened the meeting with prayers

Fr. Blacker left the meeting

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

CRIME AND DISORDER

No officer was able to attend the meeting, but a written report was provided and circulated to Members.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS TO AND FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Fogg (West Ward) referred to a question at a previous meeting concerning the disposal of plastics at Wiltshire Council recycling centres. He would be meeting with a representative of the managing group of the Marlborough facility in the near future in order to pursue the enquiry.

Cllr. Dobson (East Ward) was pleased that an Area Board grant of £10,000 had been secured towards the renovation of the Marlborough Community & Youth Centre (MC&YC) and that there would be some flexibility on how the money could be spent. He confirmed

that to his knowledge Wiltshire Council had no plans to turn the building into a hub or health & wellbeing centre, but that both he and Cllr. Fogg would continue to press for funding for similar facilities in Marlborough. There was some debate about the lack of investment in community facilities in Marlborough.

Cllrs. Loosmore and Kirk Wilson asked Unitary Councillors to press Wiltshire Council to take action over the poor state of the Pewsey Road (A345), where in particular the edges were deeply rutted and overhanging vegetation was causing a hazard for drivers.

172/17

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Ross, Forbes, Northeast and Price.

173/17

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no declarations.

174/17

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The first ever Marlborough Puppetry Festival on 8th and 9th July had been a very successful event. The Puppet Parade to open the festival had created a real carnival feel and the magnificent finale by the Marlborough Academy of Dance and Drama closed the weekend beautifully. Thanks were passed to David Leech and the British Puppet and Model Theatre Guild as well as the local events committee for bringing it all together. The next step was to work towards erecting a blue plaque to Bob Pelham.

On 13th July, Marlborough in Bloom had welcomed the RHS judges for the town's entry in this year's South West in Bloom competition. Thanks were passed to Town Council staff who worked alongside the MiB team. Everyone looked forward to results day in Torquay on 5th October.

The Chairman thanked Marlborough Cricket Club for their recent hospitality in hosting the Mayor's annual cricket match. Thanks were passed to all players who stepped forward to represent the Town Council which included members of 4MI Battalion and congratulations went to the home team for their win. Approximately £300 was also raised towards equipment for the new Marlborough St Mary's School. Appreciation also went to the Bowls Club for hosting an enjoyable skittles evening the previous Saturday.

Thanks were passed to Rob and Angie Dickens and Val Compton for arranging to move the mill wheels from the Salisbury Road Recreation Ground to The Old Ropeworks and also to Mike Fernley who had agreed to store them whilst a project group was established to restore the machinery for display. Thanks also to volunteers from MJ Lampard & Co for an excellent job in transporting the 2 wheels from the Recreation Ground at Salisbury Road, no easy task as the equipment was extremely heavy. Anyone could view the machinery at The Ropeworks during normal working hours.

The Mayor expressed gratitude to the Area Board (through Cllr. Dobson) for the grant of £10,000 towards the refurbishment works at the Marlborough Community & Youth Centre. To allow more time for competitive quotes to be gathered for works at the Centre there would be an Extraordinary meeting of the Full Council on Monday, 31st July at 7pm. Item 17, therefore, had been withdrawn.

Councillors were reminded that the Wiltshire Council Site Allocation consultation had started. Though this did not greatly affect Marlborough, it would be discussed at the next Planning Committee meeting.

175/17

MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting of Full Town Council held on Monday, 26th June 2017 were approved and signed as a true record by the Town Mayor

176/17

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report was noted and she answered questions about CCTV and the Scheme of Delegation.

Cllr. Dobson and Messrs. Brickell and Holman left the meeting

177/17

MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY & YOUTH CENTRE

Members noted an update report from the Town Clerk and considered recommendations about funding and taking the project forward. Discussion points included:

- With donations, the project fund currently totalled £11,000.
- Whether grants could be pursued, and how that might affect the project timescales
- Whether to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to pursue funding opportunities in order that works could be progressed as quickly as possible
- That more investigation was needed around the legalities of Crowdfunding by a parish council and that it may need to be organised through a Friends of the MC&YC group
- Whether to hold an open day early to engage the local community. This could include a hog roast, tours of the building prior to work commencing and celebrate the beginning of the project
- Whether part of the building, such as the first floor, could be made available to community groups whilst works were ongoing
- Whether to launch a fund-raising campaign, perhaps with the support of local media, using social media and by acknowledging donations in the form of a plaque or names on specific donated items
- Whether the installation of CCTV monitoring of the car park would be an adequate deterrent to anti-social behaviour
- There would be an Extraordinary Full Council meeting on Monday, 31st July to consider competitive quotes for the agreed works.

RESOLVED: (i) that the minutes of the Working Party held 28th June 2017 were noted

RESOLVED: (ii) that project delivery should be moved back with the intention of completion by the second week in November which could be reviewed, as necessary

RESOLVED: (iii) to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to apply for external grants and that, as a fall-back position and should external or other funding not meet costs, then a 'virement' be considered from another budget line

RESOLVED: (iv) to introduce a campaign inviting local businesses and traders to contribute furniture and other equipment

RESOLVED: (v) to defer a decision on whether there should be some sort of controlled access to the car park until CCTV was in place and the situation could be more closely monitored

RESOLVED: (vi) to hold an event on 23rd September to mark the commencement of the project

178/17

SALE OF CHANTRY LANE TOILETS

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk about the recent sale of the public toilets at Chantry Lane and were delighted that the auction had achieved a higher price than indicated in original estimates (the sale achieved £164,000 before fees).

They also noted the obligations set out in a Deed of Release entered into with Wiltshire Council which released the Town Council from various restrictive covenants thereby enabling the sale to go ahead. This meant that any remaining proceeds from the sale after ring-fenced use for the completion of the George Lane renovation project would be split 50:50 with Wiltshire Council. As the renovation project was not yet completed then there was no payment to be made at this stage but, the Town Clerk would write to Wiltshire Council with a project update.

179/17

TOWN COUNCIL SMALL GRANT SCHEME

RESOLVED: to award a grant of £2,244.00 to Marlborough St Mary's CE VC Primary School towards the purchase of one Ctouch board and mount for the KS2 Complex Needs Resource Base

This was granted under the General Power of Competence.

180/17

PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY WiFi IN MARLBOROUGH

Following a presentation from MADT about free community WiFi in Marlborough, Members considered how the Town Council could help promote this. Discussion points included:

- Members acknowledged the success of the scheme, particularly at such a relatively low cost in comparison to other towns, and that this was a credit to the volunteers behind the project
- Whilst WiFi was available in many places such as pubs and cafes, the free Community WiFi provided a seamless connection as users moved around the High Street
- Those businesses supporting the scheme had already been provided with window stickers to advertise the availability of the service
- Whether an access point could be provided at the MC&YC once broadband had been installed
- Whether an access point and/or signage could be provided during phase 2 of the George Lane project
- It appeared the scheme was well supported by independent businesses, with fewer large chains providing access points
- There was general support for discreet signage, for example to be added to existing finger posts or on benches, but less appetite for larger signs that might add to street clutter
- Whether to promote the service on the Town Council web site and Town Council notice boards

RESOLVED: to thank the Marlborough Area Development Trust for their presentation and delegate to the Town Clerk to investigate signage options with MADT and bring these back for consideration at a future meeting

181/17

FLYING THE RED ENSIGN FOR MERCHANT NAVY DAY

RESOLVED: to support the request from Seafarers UK to purchase and fly a Red Ensign from 1st to 4th September in support of Merchant Navy Day (Sunday, 3rd September)

182/17

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED: that Cllr. Barrett-Morton be elected to the vacant position on the Staffing Sub Committee

183/17

COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED: that in accordance with para. 3.1 of the Scheme of Delegation, the approved minutes of the following Committees were noted: **Planning** – 12th June and 3rd July, **Amenities & Open Spaces** – 12th June and **Property** – 3rd April

184/17

LIAISON WITH OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. Dow asked the Town Clerk to contact the Fire Station in order that regular liaison with the Town Council be re-established.

Cllr. Kirk Wilson issued an open invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting of Kennet Community Transport (KCT) at 7pm on Wednesday, 26th July at the Jubilee Centre.

Members noted that several groups, including KCT, The Merchant's House, The Jubilee Centre and the Marlborough and District Link Scheme were finding it increasingly difficult to recruit volunteers. The **Town Mayor** was considering introducing a 'volunteer exchange' scheme in order to promote opportunities and match them to volunteers.

Cllr. Cairns gave a verbal update of a wide number of topics covered at a Transition Marlborough meeting held on 29th June which had included the 20mph metro counts at various roads throughout the town, the lack of cycle routes, a rail link, a campaign to encourage large national retailers to use bio fuels, the current permaculture course and the Apple Day celebrations in the autumn.

185/17

MEMBER'S QUESTION TIME

No questions had been submitted.

186/17

FIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL

Proposed by Cllr. Castle and seconded by Cllr. Dow and

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

187/17

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 following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

188/17

WORKS AT THE MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY & YOUTH CENTRE (MC&YC)

To allow more time for competitive quotes to be gathered for works at the Centre there would be an Extraordinary meeting of the Full Council on Monday, 31st July at 7pm. This agenda item was, therefore, withdrawn.

189/17

STAFFING MATTERS

Members considered a report by the Town Clerk and a recommendation from the Staffing Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED: that there be a confidential minute recording this agenda item.

Cllr. Farrell left the meeting at 8.15 pm

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Signed:
Town Mayor

Date: