

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Full Town Council held on Monday, 27th June 2016 in The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.00 pm

PRESENT	Councillor N. Barrett-Morton Councillor B. Castle Councillor N. Fogg Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor Mrs. M. Rose Councillor G. Loosmore 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 Mrs. S. Pryor Mr. T. Millett	Town Clerk Administrator Mayor's Chaplain The Adviser Marlborough News Online

PRAYERS

The Revd. Dr. Janneke Blokland opened the meeting with prayers and all stood for a minute's silence in memory of Jo Cox, MP

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions

CRIME AND DISORDER

No officer was able to attend the meeting but a written report had been submitted and circulated.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS TO AND FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Allen – it had been brought to his attention that the Marlborough Recycling Centre hours had changed to open at 9 am rather than 10 am. On-site signage did not reflect this and there had been no promotion of the new hours to the public. **Cllr. Fogg** had not been aware of this change, and would take the matter up with Wiltshire Council. He also hoped members of the press present at the meeting might take note and alert their readers to the increase in opening hours.

Cllr. Farrell – asked about grass/hedge cutting, noting a lot of dangerous areas

where new growth restricted visibility at road junctions for drivers and people crossing roads, particularly school children. **Cllr. Fogg** recognised this was an issue across the county and asked Cllr. Farrell to advise him of specific locations in order that he could follow up with Wiltshire Council.

107/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Dobson, Hannaford-Dobson, Dow, Ross and Lam. Cllr. Rose would be joining the meeting late due to a clash of meetings.

108/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr. Light – agenda items 19 (Priory Gardens) and 20 (Town Council-owned Property) – non-pecuniary.

109/16 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had written to the Queen on behalf of the Town Council to congratulate her on her 90th birthday. A letter had been received in return from the Clerk to Her Majesty which the Mayor read out.

The Neighbourhood Plan Open Day held at the Town Hall on 18th May had been well attended with over 150 local people viewing the displays and giving their feedback.

The Mayor thanked all those who helped to make the Civic Service on 12th June such a success both at St Mary's and the reception and exhibition at the Town Hall. Particular thanks went to Andrew Studdert-Kennedy, the Mayor's Chaplain, Janneke Blokland, Michael Gray, David Sherratt, Neil Goodwin and Town Council staff. Some of the material from the exhibition was still on display in St Mary's church.

110/16 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Town Council held on Monday, 16th May 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record

111/16 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report was noted.

112/16 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Members considered vacancies on Standing Committees. Two nominations (Cllrs. Farrell and Allen) were put forward to fill a vacancy on the Finance and Policy Committee and a ballot took place. There were no nominations for vacancies on the Staffing Sub Committee.

RESOLVED: that Cllr. Farrell be appointed to the Finance and Policy Committee

- 113/16 ANNUAL RETURN AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**
RESOLVED: that the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2016 was approved and signed as recommended by the Finance & Policy Committee.
- RESOLVED:** that Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement 2015/16) of the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2016 be approved and signed as recommended by the Finance & Policy Committee
- RESOLVED:** that Section 2 (Accounting Statements 2015/16) the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2016 was approved and signed as recommended by the Finance & Policy Committee
- 114/16 EAR MARKED RESERVES**
RESOLVED: that the Ear Marked Reserves for 2016/17 be approved and signed as recommended by the Finance & Policy Committee
- 115/16 STAFF SALARIES**
RESOLVED: that the new national pay scales for 2016/17 and 2017/18 be approved and implemented in line with National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) terms.
- 116/16 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**
RESOLVED: that the Financial Regulations be amended as advised by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).
- 117/16 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**
Members noted a report by the Town Clerk following a meeting with the British Toilet Association which had provided an advisory report with a number of recommendations.
- RESOLVED (i):** to agree to move ahead, as advised by the British Toilet Association, with 3-4 chargeable direct access unisex toilets to include, if possible, a personal care room, and that the project be dealt with in two phases so that the toilets can be ready ahead of the other facilities proposed at the site
- RESOLVED (ii):** that a Working Party is established taken from members of the Property Committee at its meeting on 4th July to draw up a project plan for both phases, set out funding and tendering proposals and a specification for the toilets
- RESOLVED (iii):** that a second meeting between the British Toilet Association and the Working Party is arranged as soon as possible
- RESOLVED (iv):** that a Project Manager is taken on to cover the project

118/16 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Members noted a report by the Office Manager and considered options for future festive light displays. Main discussion points included that:

- Councillors had met with the contractors for a walkabout to have a better understanding of the problems
- There may be grant opportunities to cover a move to LED lights, which would present a long term cost saving
- The lighting contractors had generously offered to spread the cost of LED lights over two years
- Cllr. Light offered to organise car boot sale(s) to raise funds for the Christmas Lights
- The likelihood of obtaining funding contributions from retailers or local businesses.

RESOLVED: to purchase the items recommended by the Town Council's contractors making use of fund-raising and grants where possible.

119/16 RUGBY CLUB

Members noted the reasons for the delay around the issue of this lease which involved only minor drafting points.

It was possible for members of the public to make use of the car park at the Rugby Club during certain times and it was recommended that the Town Clerk should look into the costs of permanent signage to better promote this.

RESOLVED: to delegate minor amendments to the Rugby Club lease to the Town Clerk and the Town Council's solicitor.

120/16 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 Committee** – 30th March, 13th April, 5th and 23rd May – **Amenities and Open Spaces** – 11th May – **Finance and Policy** – 21st March

121/16 LIAISON WITH OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. Allen updated Members on the recent CATG meeting:

- A proposed footway at Manton had been agreed. This was the lower cost option without coloured surfacing, and no financial contribution would be required by the Town Council
- Following a recent meeting, the Cabinet Member for Highways had agreed to look again at the Experimental Traffic Order in Silverless Street as feedback from local residents indicated that with entry prohibited from Kingsbury Street rather than Herd Street may provide a better solution.
- The potential for part of Stonebridge Lane to become a cycle route would be considered at the September CATG meeting

- A proposal for speed bumps in St John's Park could not be considered until the road had been adopted by Wiltshire Council
- Signage and potential fines concerning engine idling in the High Street would be discussed at the next meeting

Cllr Allen also reported on issues around membership of WALC (Wiltshire Association of Local Councils) which would be reviewed by its Finance and Policy Committee. A likely topic for the AGM in October would be ways to encourage more people, especially young people, to stand in the May 2017 local elections.

Cllr. Kirk Wilson – in order to keep the Kennet Community Transport minibus solvent, a service had been agreed to provide paid transport for students attending St John's Academy.

122/16 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

No questions had been received.

123/16 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

Proposed by Cllr. Castle and seconded by Cllr. Fogg 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

124/16 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

Members of the press and the Mayor's Chaplain left the meeting

Cllr. Rose joined the meeting

125/16 PRIORY GARDENS

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk and considered recommendations by the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee about ownership issues at Priory Gardens.

RESOLVED: to pursue, in the longer term, the creation of a new access into Priory Gardens and in the short term to negotiate a low cost licence for access via the Priory car park.

126/16

TOWN COUNCIL-OWNED PROPERTY

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk and considered recommendations about a Town Council-owned property.

RESOLVED: to go ahead with negotiating the purchase of the remainder of a building already partially-owned by the Town Council subject to a satisfactory survey to be commissioned by the Town Clerk.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed
Town Mayor

Date