

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Marlborough Town Council** held on **Monday 13th March, 2006** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall at 7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT	Councillor B. Castle Councillor S.R. Dobson Councillor M.P. Cooper Councillor W.B. Cavill Councillor G. Francis Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor N. Fogg Councillor M. Gray Councillor M. Curtis Councillor R. Allen Councillor P. Cossey Councillor A. Ross	Deputy Town Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs Pam Dobson Mrs S. Fry Councillor A.W. Skittrall Councillor C. Humphries Revd. Father Philip Thomas Sergeant Mark Freeman Mr. Nigel Kerton Ms. A. Outrim Plus 12 Members of the Public	Town Clerk Office Manager Kennet District Council Wiltshire County Council Wiltshire Constabulary Wiltshire Gazette and Herald The Advisor

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.

PRAYERS

The Revd. Father Philip Thomas opened the meeting with prayers and then asked all those present to observe a 1 minute silence in remembrance of the Mayor Councillor Mrs Hilary Cripps and Mrs Thelma Feather whose deaths had occurred since the Council last met in full.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr. S. Rudd – Elcot Lane

As Councillors are aware Village Green Status has been applied for at Elcot Lane Playing Fields are all Councillors willing to give this application their support?.

Deputy Mayor – Councillor B. Castle

This Councillor are only receiving notification of this application this evening but it will be placed on the next Agenda of the Recreation and Amenities Committee which will be held on Monday 27th March, 2006.

Ms. V. Compton – Kennet Place

In March 2005 a Residents Parking Survey was undertaken and they were promised a more detailed survey would follow, why has this not been carried out?

Town Clerk

Stated she was not aware of the commitment but that she will take this to the Town Council and will also liaise with Kennet District Council

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford

Kennet District Council will be taking over the responsibility for parking in September, 2006 and residents parking will be looked at.

Mr. M. James – Elcot Lane

Will the East Ward Councillors who received a letter regarding the Village Green Status at Elcot Lane be supporting the application?

Deputy Mayor – Councillor B. Castle

Individual Councillors have the right to respond to letters received but as stated before this will be discussed at the next meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

Councillor G. Francis

Councillors will respond at the correct time once they have received more information as to the application.

CRIME AND DISORDER

Sergeant Mark Freeman was present to answer questions regarding Crime and Disorder.

Councillor N. Fogg

Had any progress be made regarding the vandalism of rubbish bins at the rear of the Indian Restaurant?

Sergeant Mark Freeman

One arrest had been made in connection with this incident and another was imminent.

Ms. V. Compton

Is there anything that the police can do regarding the abandoned shopping trolleys in the Town?

Sergeant Mark Freeman

Every effort is being made by the local supermarkets to collect all trolleys that are abandoned but they are not liable for them the people who dump them are ones who are liable and if adequate proof is received the police can in fact prosecute these people.

Town Clerk

A letter has been received from Waitrose regarding the trolleys a copy of which will be given to Ms. Compton.

Ms. J. Evans – Elcot Lane

The Elcot Lane Pavilion is in a state of disrepair and was vandalised again this weekend would it be possible for the police to keep a check on this area?

Sergeant Mark Freeman

The police would do their best to carry out checks on this area.

Town Clerk

Reported that a second letter had been sent to the Elcot Lane Pavilion Trust regarding the state of disrepair but to date no answer had been received.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND MADT REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson

Reported that drop kerbs are now in situ at College Fields and the Acres and that if there are any others needed in the town please let her know.

Councillor N. Fogg

Reported that Councillor B. Twigger – Kennet District Council would be more than happy to attend a meeting with Councillors to explain how the proposed new wheelie bin system will work.

Deputy Mayor – Councillor B. Castle

The Town Clerk has been in contact with Kennet District Council and is trying to arrange a mutually convenient date for Councillor Twigger to attend a meeting of the Council

477/05

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs C. Jackson and D. Parker. Councillor M.P. Cooper made an apology for arriving late.

478/05

DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

Agenda Item 9b – Councillor M. Curtis – Employee of Marlborough College
Will stay in room but not take part in debate.

479/05

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/TOWN MAYOR

Councillor S.R. Dobson stated that he proposed Councillor B. Castle be elected Mayor for the interim period until the 15th May, 2006 he felt that Councillor Castle had carried out his duties as Deputy Town Mayor during the time that the late Mayor had been ill and following her death commendably.

Proposed by Councillor S.R. Dobson, seconded by Councillor Mrs P. Dow and -

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 1 abstention that Councillor B. Castle be elected Town Mayor for the interim period until 15th May, 2006.

Councillor S.R. Dobson invested Councillor B. Castle with the Chain of Office.

Councillor B. Castle thanked Councillors for their vote of confidence and support, he stated that in respect to the late Mayor he would only wear the day chain and would not wear the red robe of office (copy of speech attached).

480/05

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT'S

a) The Mayor thanked all those who have supported him following his sad loss of Mrs Thelma Feather whom he can only describe as a remarkable lady.

b)The Mayor reported that he had attended a MADT meeting where presentations had been made by various businesses in the community. The Area Manager for Barclays Bank had made a presentation in which it was stated that they had money set aside to help in the community, when approached they said that they would be more than willing to help with funding towards the Christmas Lights.

c) The Mayor informed members that he would be attending the Mayor's Debating Cup at Marlborough College on Wednesday 15th March, 2006 should any other Councillors wish to attend.

d) The Mayor informed Councillors that there was a copy of the Halcrow Flood report in the office should they wish to look at it.

481/05

MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor S.R. Dobson and –

RESOLVED: unanimously to receive, approve and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Marlborough Town Council held on the 30th January, 2006.

482/05

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND TO SIGN AS A TRUE RECORD THOSE MINUTES NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED.

a) Proposed by Councillor S.R. Dobson, seconded by Councillor P. Cossey and –

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Policy Review Committee held on the 6th February, 2006 be Received.

b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor M. Curtis and -

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on the 13th February, 2006 be Received.

c) Proposed by Councillor P. Cossey, seconded by Councillor A. Ross and -

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 27th February, 2006 be Received with the following amendment Councillor M. Gray be recorded as being present.

d) Proposed by Councillor A. Ross, seconded by N. Fogg and –

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 27th February, 2006 be Received.

483/05

TO DISCUSS THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING – and make Resolutions on the Recommendations therein where necessary –

a) **Policy Review Committee – 6th February, 2006.**

437/05 The Committee felt that Option A would be favourable as this would enable the Council to run at a more manageable level with Committees having limited delegated powers.

438/05 The Committee felt that for the timetable of meetings Option A would be preferable.

439/05 The Councils present Standing Orders would have to be amended to accommodate the new Committees.

The Chairman Councillor S.R. Dobson thanked the Town Clerk for all the hard work she is doing regarding the amending of the present Standing Orders.

The Town Clerk reported that the Special meeting of the 6th March, 2006 has been re-scheduled for the 27th March, 2006 to be held before the Planning and Recreation and Amenities Meeting and the Policy Review meeting to discuss the remainder of the Standing Orders will be held on Tuesday 18th April, 2006.

b) Recreation and Amenities Committee – 13th February, 2006.

450/05 (c) There has not been time to progress the footpath inspections, but this will be done in due course

453/05 A Risk Assessment has been received and is available in the office for Members perusal if required.

454/05 The following dates have been ascertained as possible dates for a meeting to be held 27th or the 31st March, 2006. A formal letter to be sent to the Golf Club stating that the 31st March, 2006 would be preferable.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor M. Curtis and –

RESOLVED: that the Recommendations of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on the 13th February, 2006 be Received and Adopted.

Councillor G Francis Declared an Interest in Minute No.471/05 but stayed in the room.

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee – 27th February, 2006.

469/05 A response has been received this item will now be referred back to the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

471/05 Councillor W.B. Cavill reported that the Marlborough Players had received a grant of £300.00 from Kennet District Council

472/05 A meeting will be arranged as soon as possible to progress this item

475/05 Due to a lack of clarification this of a number of issues this will be referred back to the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Proposed by Councillor A. Ross, seconded by Councillor P. Cossey and –

RESOLVED: that the Recommendations of Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 27th February, 2006 be received and Adopted.

CLERK'S REPORT – to receive information where necessary from the Town Clerk on the following and give consideration to make comment where necessary.

a) Casual Vacancy

The Town Clerk reported that the casual vacancy left by the recent death of Councillor Mrs H. Cripps had been notified to Kennet District Council and that the Notice of Casual Vacancy will be advertised in accordance with statutory requirements. Should there be an election the Town Clerk asked for clarification regarding the Councils policy for the issuing of polling cards. The Council decided against the issuing of polling cards for a by-election.

b) Abandoned Waitrose Trolleys

The Town Clerk reported that a letter has been received from Waitrose concerning abandoned trolleys (all Councillors have received a copy) a copy will also be sent to Ms. V. Compton as she raised the original complaint.

c) Marlborough Welfare Trust

A self explanatory letter was attached to the Agenda and Councillors are ask to nominate a Trustee to serve on this Trust from June 2006.

Councillor N. Fogg proposed that Councillor Mrs P. Dow be nominated, this was unanimously agreed. Councillor Mrs P. Dow thanked the Council for their support and confirmed that she would be happy to accept this appointment.

d) Kennet Citizens Advice Bureau

Kennet Citizens Advice Bureau have approached this Council requesting that they make a presentation at a future Council meeting. The Committee agreed that this would be beneficial and ask the Town Clerk to arrange a mutually convenient date.

TO RECEIVE MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) **Minute 350/05** the Internal Auditor has requested that the actual amount of **£200,279.00** be recorded in the Minutes as the Precept for 2006/2007.

b) **Minute 421/05** to receive a response from Wiltshire County Council to the Council's comments on the A4 Bath Road/Bridewell Street (letter attached).

Councillor S.R. Dobson left the room at 7.58 p.m.

NO SMOKING POLICY – TOWN HALL

Councillor S.R. Dobson returned to the room at 8.00 p.m.

The Committee received a proposal from Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor S.R. Dobson to introduce a "No Smoking" policy for the Town Hall (copy attached)

Councillor N. Fogg stated that it is important that this proposal is accurate, because at this present time there is no Government "No Smoking" Policy.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor N. Fogg and –

RESOLVED: by 3 votes for with 9 against that this item be referred back to the next Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting.
This Proposal failed.

Proposed by Councillor W.B. Cavill, seconded by Councillor S.R. Dobson and –

RESOLVED: by 9 votes for with 3 against that a decision is made regarding this proposal at tonight's meeting.

Proposed by Councillor W.B. Cavill, seconded by Councillor S.R. Dobson and –

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 2 against that the proposal should be amended to read as follows –
“IT IS PROPOSED THAT IN THE LIGHT OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS RECENT VOTE ON NO SMOKING THAT THIS COUNCIL WILL INTRODUCE WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT A NO SMOKING POLICY THROUGHOUT THE TOWN HALL”

487/05

2004 WORKING GROUP

a) 20th February, 2006.

Councillor Fogg stated that in the report of this meeting it states that Mr. Wilson is an acquaintance of his through the Jazz Festival, this is incorrect and should read Showmen's Guild.

b) 24th February, 2006.

As there are still a number of questions which have not been answered one further attempt will be made by the Working Group to gain answers to these questions, the report will then be submitted to the next meeting of the Full Town Council.

488/05

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS (IF ANY)

There were no reports to be received.

PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR B. CASTLE, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR S. R. DOBSON AND AGREED UNANIMOUSLY THAT ITEM 13 SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN PART 2 AND BE DISCUSSED AFTER ITEM 17 ON THE AGENDA.

489/05

GOAL POSTS – COMMON

The committee considered a report that had been previously circulated by the Town Clerk. After discussion it was agreed that a decision should be made at this meeting regarding the installation of a Goal Post on the Common and that Goal Posts at Salisbury Road, Recreation Ground should be placed on the next Recreation and Amenities Committee Agenda

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford, seconded by Councillor N. Fogg and –

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for with 1 against that this Council purchase a single goal post to be erected on the Common.

**SELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR FOR THE MAYORAL YEAR
2006/2007**

The Mayor read the two nominations for the position of Deputy Town Mayor 06/07 –

1. Proposed by Councillor S.R. Dobson, seconded by Councillor R.J. Allen that Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford be nominated.
2. Proposed by Councillor A.R. Ross, seconded by Councillor P.B. Cossey that Councillor Mrs P. Dow be nominated.

The Mayor asked Members to vote as per Standing Order 12 Voting on Appointments states that voting will be by written ballot.

RESOLVED: by 7 votes to 6 that Councillor Mrs P. Dow be selected for the position of Deputy Town Mayor for the year 2006/2007

Councillor Mrs P. Dow thanked the Councillors for their support.

MEMBER'S QUESTION TIME – provided questions have been submitted to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

No questions were submitted and no comments made.

PART 2

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor S.R. Dobson and RECOMMENDED unanimously that the Public and Press be asked to leave the meeting due to the fact that legal and confidential matters were to be discussed.

Before leaving the meeting Mr. N. Kerton ask that he be supplied with a statement from the Town Clerk outlining the Councils decision on this item.

The Town Clerk agreed that he would be supplied with a statement.

FORMER TENNIS CLUB SITE – RECREATION GROUND

Members discussed a letter which had been received from the Order of St. John's Trust. After discussion it was decided that the Town Clerk should write to the Order of St. John's outlining the Councils concerns regarding the siting of the cabins for storage and that they should be kept to single storey and that planning approval is sought for change of use. The Town Clerk also to seek an independent valuation on the proposed site

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor N. Fogg and -

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for with 1 abstention (Cllr. Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson ask that her name be recorded as an abstention) that the Town Clerk proceed to the next stage with negotiations.

493/05

SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Proposed by Councillor S.R. Dobson, seconded by Councillor M.P. Cooper and –

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

The meeting closed at 8.48 p.m.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON DISCUSSIONS THAT TOOK PLACE WITHIN PART 2 FOR COUNCILLORS INFORMATION ONLY.

PART 2

Members discussed a letter which had been received from the Order of St. John's Trust After discussion it was decided that the Town Clerk should write to the Order of St. John's outlining the Councils concerns regarding the siting of the cabins for storage, that they should be kept to single storey facing west and that where possible all windows should face over the Recreation Ground. That planning approval should be sought for a Change of Use. The Town Clerk also to seek independent valuation regarding the proposed premium of £10,000 by the Order of St. John's.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, Seconded by Councillor N. Fogg and –

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for with 1 abstention (Cllr. Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson ask that her name be recorded as an abstention) that the Town Clerk proceed to the next stage with negotiations.