

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Marlborough Town Council** held on **Monday 5th June 2006** in the **Council Chamber, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm**

PRESENT

Councillor B. Castle
Councillor S. R. Dobson
Councillor M. P. Cooper
Councillor W. B. Cavill
Councillor G. Francis
Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford
Councillor Mrs P. Dow
Councillor N. Fogg
Councillor Mrs C. V. Jackson
Councillor M. Curtis
Councillor D. L. Parker
Councillor R. J. Allen
Councillor A. R. W. Ross
Councillor A. Kirk Wilson

Town Mayor

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs P. Dobson
Mrs S. Fry
Mrs L. Chapman

Town Clerk

Councillor A. Skittrall
Councillor C. Humphries
Revd. M. Cripps
Inspector J. Dawson
Mr Nigel Kerton
Mrs Ann Outtrim
Mr A. Nellis
Mr M. Aldham

Kennet District Council
Wiltshire County Council
Mayor's Chaplain
Wiltshire Constabulary
Wiltshire Gazette & Herald
The Adviser
Mouchel Parkman
Wiltshire County Council

8 Members of the public

PRAYERS

The Revd. M. Cripps opened the meeting with prayers.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr R. Devenish – Treasurer of Marlborough and District Junior Athletic Club.

Mr Devonish gave the Town Council a brief description about the Athletic Club and invited Councillors to come along and support a Quadrathon at Marlborough College athletics track on Sunday 11th June between 11am and 1pm. There will approximately 20 teams taking part.

The Mayor stated that he would attend and urged Councillors to spare some time to support this event.

Councillor N. Fogg arrived at the meeting at 7.07pm.

Town Clerk read a question from Marlborough Tennis Club, Mrs. Carroll was present to hear the response.

“ We note with concern that the Town Council has recently rejected the application by the Golf Club to embark on a feasibility study to develop tennis courts in conjunction with Marlborough tennis Club on land leased by the Golf Club. Marlborough Tennis Club continues to be committed to the development of sport for the town and surrounding communities, providing no barriers to access for those wanting to enjoy tennis. In order to provide this to the residents of Marlborough and in particular offer the development and coaching programmes needed by the children, it is essential that the tennis Club has its own permanent facility. What support and assistance can and will the Council give to the club to find a suitable location for a permanent base?”

The Mayor – stated that he would give the Tennis Club all the support and assistance his Office will allow and that there is no reason why this cannot be brought back to the table in October or November when the 6 month period is up. It was also suggested that they should increase their efforts in public relations.

Councillor S. Dobson – If a new location can be found then this can be discussed within the 6 months.

Mr R. Devonish – Can Councillors inform the Town Clerk within the next few days if they are able to attend the Quadrathon on Sunday.

CRIME AND DISORDER

Inspector J. Dawson – Apologised for not attending the Town Council Meeting in May. The end of year figures 2005/06 shows that crime detection rate was 30% comparing this to 2003 where the figure was 16.9%.

The Priory Gardens and George Lane Car Park – the problems have subsided at this time which has been helped by the teachers patrolling the areas at lunchtime. Although we are mindful that the school holidays are yet to come. It has been noted that they now seem to be congregating in the Recreation Ground and this will be monitored.

An operation was carried out in Savernake Forest last weekend where a group of people were successfully stopped from entering the forest, to mark the anniversary of the “Battle of the Bean Field”, with the help of the Earl of Cardigan and the local Parish Council.

Councillor S. Dobson – Mindful that we are supportive of the police there is some concern over the heavy-handed approach to the local firemen, which caused upset to members of their families and the community. How can this expense be justified?

Inspector J. Dawson – was unable to comment as Police Headquarters dealt with the operation and any questions should be addressed to them.

Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford – I have been waiting for answers to my questions sent to the Chief Constable for the last 7 weeks with no response.

Inspector J. Dawson – Until the matter is resolved it will remain sub-judicic.

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

There were no questions asked.

Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford updated Councillors on – Skips for plastic and cardboard – the complimentary skips have been very successful and I have spoken to Kennet to see if anymore free skips will be available, they are not sure if this will continue, but they will offer them at £40 per skip.

Perhaps the new Chairman of Finance could put this on his Agenda.

Councillor R. Allen asked if any special provisions would be made for people who are either disabled or without cars.

Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford stated that she would look into this and write to Councillor Allen.

In response to Councillor Mrs P. Dow's query over the condition of the road in Barn Street, this has now been patched up. George Lane has been resurfaced and the crossing was reinstated within 24 hours. Wiltshire County Council did very well to complete this so quickly.

Councillor R. Allen – agreed it was a speedy job but the road surface has raised causing pooling and flooding with water from the pavement.

Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford – will look into this and respond in writing.

Following Mrs Siddle's question about the yellow lines on the corner of Frees Avenue and Back Lane I am pleased to announce that the yellow lines have now been extended making this much safer.

Councillor A. Skittrall – thanked Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford for the new direction sign in Salisbury Road.

58/06

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P. Cossey.

59/06

DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

60/06

TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FROM CANDIDATE SELECTED FOR CO-OPTION.

The Council formally welcomed Mr A. Kirk Wilson to serve on Marlborough Town Council.

61/06

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the invitation to attend the Athletic Clubs event on Sunday June 11th at Marlborough College.

The Chairman announced that the second meeting of the PCT will be held on 26th June at the Memorial Hall, Marlborough College at 6.30pm and would urge all Councillors to show their support.

Marlborough College have renewed their invitation to attend the new Art College on Friday 30th June at 6pm. The Chairman urged Councillors to go along.

On 2nd July St Peter's Church will be holding their Annual Evensong I have accepted as the Town Mayor and it would be nice if other Councillors attended.

62/06

MINUTES

a) Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor S. Dobson and –

RESOLVED: unanimously to receive and approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Marlborough Town Council held on the 15th May 2006 be taken as a true record

b) Proposed by Councillor N. Fogg, seconded by Councillor S. Dobson and –

RESOLVED: unanimously to receive and approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Town Council held on the 31st May 2006 be taken as a true record.

63/06

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS – and to sign as true record those minutes not previously received.

a) Proposed by Councillor G. Francis, seconded by Councillor D. Parker and –

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Staffing Committee held on 17th May 2006 be received and signed as a true record.

b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford, seconded by Councillor S. Dobson and –

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Property Committee held on 17th May 2006 be received and signed as a true record.

c) Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor Mrs C. Jackson and –

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces held on 17th May 2006 be received and signed as a true record.

d) Proposed by Councillor Mrs C. Jackson, seconded by Councillor S. Dobson and –

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 23rd May 2006 be received and signed as a true record.

e) Proposed by Councillor A. Ross, seconded by Councillor D. Parker and –

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on the 23rd May 2006 be received and signed as a true record.

64/06

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

a) Finance and Policy Committee – 23rd May 2006.

Proposed by Councillor A. Ross, seconded by Councillor D. Parker and –

RESOLVED: by a majority vote with one abstention that the Minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee be Received and Adopted.

65/06

PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS – Kingsbury Street and Herd Street.

Following a presentation by Mouchel Parkman on the proposed pedestrian improvements. The following points were raised –

- Large vehicles may encounter problems turning from Kingsbury St. into Silverless Street especially lorries coming down the hill.
- Note that there will be a loading bay by the Town Hall could this be used in the evening for disabled parking.
- Possibly pedestrianisation of the area by the Town Hall
- Could the pavement be raised by the side entrance to the Town Hall to improve disabled access?
- Disappointed that Oxford Street not mentioned as traffic might increase there.
- Could cause problems with HGV stopping at the crossing being unable to get going again.
- Barn Street should have been considered with the scheme for Herd St as the pavement there is extremely narrow and only on one side of the road.
- Could signs be put further up the hill to warn road users of the crossing?
- Concerned about the effect on narrowing lanes for traffic turning right into St. Martins and exiting to turn left.

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor S. Dobson that Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

The following points were raised by members of the public –

- Concerns were raised over the lack of consultation with local people, especially areas of Herd St.
- Deeply suspicious of this scheme and what effect will be on the overall traffic flow in Marlborough.
- With the new crossing traffic coming up Herd Street may have a problem, especially large vehicles which could lead to traffic backing up along by St Peter's school.
- Could a 3.5 tonne weight restriction be imposed on traffic using Kingsbury Street and Silverless Street?

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor G. Francis that the Chairman reinstated Standing Orders.

Following a lengthy discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor, A Ross, seconded by Councillor G Francis and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Marlborough Town Council would not wish to object to the principle of the pedestrian schemes but felt they should be considered in the light of the overall traffic flow in Marlborough and that all the comments by Councillors and residents should be submitted in writing to Wiltshire County Council.

66/06 **SPEED LIMITS 2006 – To consider proposal from Wiltshire County Council in respect of speed limit changes to A4 Marlborough East.**

Following a discussion, several failed proposals were put on the table and it was eventually –

Proposed by Councillor R. Allen, seconded by Councillor P. Dow and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Marlborough Town Council is unable to reach a consensus and therefore would leave the decision to Wiltshire County Council.

67/06 **ABANDONED SHOPPING TROLLEYS**

Marlborough Town Council considered the proposals by Kennet District Council on the abandoned shopping trolleys and –

Proposed by Councillor R. J. Allen, seconded by Councillor Mrs.P. Dow and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Marlborough Town Council agree with the proposal.

68/06 **CLERKS REPORT**

a) **Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2006/07 – 2010/11**

Marlborough Town Council noted this.

b) **Neighbourhood Policing Areas**

This information was noted and Councillors can respond direct.

c) **Courtesy notification of a change to the public payphone service.**

At this point a number of Councillors were holding a conversation, the Mayor asked for members to come to order whilst Councillor M. Cooper was speaking, as everyone wanted to progress as time was moving on. Councillor N. Fogg took exception to this intervention and criticised the Mayor's Chairmanship of the meeting. The Chairman asked for Councillor Fogg to apologise for his outburst. Councillor Fogg refused on two occasions. The Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order 33 put a proposal that Councillor Fogg should leave the meeting. Before a vote could be taken:-

Councillor N. Fogg left the meeting at 9.18pm

Marlborough Town Council considered BT's intention to remove the call box on London Road.

Following a discussion it was –

Propose by Councillor R. Allen, seconded by Councillor Mrs C. Jackson and -

RESOLVED: by 8 votes for with 2 against and 1 abstention that the removal of the payphone should postponed until after the school has moved to its new location.

69/06 **SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS**

April 2006

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Accounts for April 2006 in the sum £24,267.68 including reimbursement to the No. 2 Account in the sum of £6,690.35 be Received and signed by the Chairman.

70/06 **TOWN COUNCIL BALANCES**

RESOLVED : The Town Council balances at the 30th April 2006 be received.

71/06 **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.**

There were no reports.

72/06 **SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

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

RESOLVED: 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.

73/06 **MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

