

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Full Town Council** held on **Monday 1st September, 2008** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.00 pm

PRESENT	Councillor N. Fogg Councillor S. Dobson Councillor G. Francis Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor A. Ross Councillor Mrs E. Fogg Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor S. Radnedge Councillor R. Pitts Councillor A. Sycamore	Deputy Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs Pam Dobson Mrs Sue Fry Mr. L. Cowen Acting Inspector A. Noble Councillor Chris Humphries Plus 3 Members of the Public	Town Clerk Office Manager Wiltshire Gazette & Herald Wiltshire Police

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

Father Philip Thomas opened the meeting with prayers.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor N. Fogg thanked Father Philip for being the Mayor's Chaplain for his dedication and hard work. Councillor Fogg said that Father Philip has earned the love and respect of the whole community during his time in Marlborough.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr. D. Stoker – stated that he owned a garage at 1 Axholm, London Road, due to the increase of traffic, for safety reasons would it be possible to erect a convex mirror on the opposite side of the road ?

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson – said that she would investigate this possibility and report back to Mr. Stoker.

Mr. J. Young – would it be possible to post the Town Council agendas on the notice boards both sides of the Town Hall.

The Town Clerk – said that she would make sure that this was done.

CRIME AND DISORDER

The Deputy Mayor welcomed Acting Inspector Andy Noble.

Acting Inspector Andy Noble – reported that overall crime in the area is stable. The service for non urgent calls when crimes have been reported has been improved with better follow-up and updates being made to those who have logged a call.

Councillor A. Sycamore – asked if Inspector Noble would be prepared to attend CCTV meetings as to date he had not received much support.

Acting Inspector Noble – replied that he would be interested and ask that details are passed to him.

Mr. D. Sherratt – asked if it was necessary to reply to the questions on ethnic origin that were posed when reporting a non-urgent crime?

Acting Inspector Noble – although you do not have to answer these questions they are asked to try and ensure that all calls are dealt with equally and consistently.

Deputy Mayor, Councillor N. Fogg – I believe that this was implemented by the Home Office.

Councillor B. Castle – now that the enquiry office is open again is it being used to its full extent by the public ?

Acting Inspector Noble – stated that he was pleased that the enquiry office has re-opened, the hours will not be extended but the current ones are safe. All callers are being surveyed to ensure that they are satisfied with the service they are receiving.

Councillor A. Ross – asked if the telephones are answered after 5 pm?

Acting Inspector Noble – replied that all calls after 5pm go through to the central desk, but that the police station is still operable.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS to and from COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.

Councillor Mrs E. Fogg to Councillor S. R. Dobson.

Due to problems that have been experienced by Aster Housing Management, one tenant has been waiting in excess of 2 years to have works and repairs carried out on their accommodation could this please be investigated?

Councillor S. Dobson – agreed to investigate this problem.

Councillor A. Sycamore – over the Bank Holiday weekend the rubbish that had been dumped around the recycling area in George Lane was horrendous. Kennet District Council said that this area is monitored, could our District Councillors please follow-up on this as it needs to be done more regularly.

Deputy Mayor, Councillor N. Fogg – could we write as a Council to the District Council expressing our concern over this area.

Councillor A. Ross – stated that he had highlight this problem before but that the situation had not improved.

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson – stated that this service was not a statutory requirement and that we should be mindful of this when we write to the District Council.

The Town Clerk – replied that although this was not a statutory requirement it did help the District Council to boost their recycling figures.

Councillor G. Francis to Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson.

Was there anything to report on the incorrect signage at George Lane?
Did the County Councillor have anything to report regarding the inclusion of funding for the Railway in the Local Transport Plan?

Councillor Mrs Hannaford-Dobson – replied that the replacement sign was in hand and that a smaller sign will be erected to take the place of the incorrect one.

Councillor Mrs Hannaford-Dobson – reported that she had received a reply regarding the inclusion of the railway, but that it was unlikely that any provision for a major rail scheme would be approved.

Councillor A. Sycamore – stated that even if the funding was not available this item should still be placed within the Local Transport Plan.

Councillor G. Francis – stated that if this item was included within the Local Transport Plan even if funding was not available it would prevent the land from being built on.

Councillor C. Humphries – suggested that the Town Council should write as a body regarding this subject.

Councillor S. Dobson – reported that the issues raised at the previous Full Town Council meeting regarding the building on London Road were being investigated.

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson – reported that she and Councillor Mrs E. Fogg had attended a MENCAP meeting where discussions had taken place regarding the closure of the resource centre. A feasibility study is to be carried out to see if the Youth Centre could be used as a possible replacement should it be possible to adapt the building to the needs of those who currently attend the resource centre. It was stressed that the resource centre will not close until a replacement building has been found.

165/08 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs P. Dow – Town Mayor, A. Kirk-Wilson, Mrs M. Rose and A. Spranger

166/08 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

There were no Declaration(s) of Interest.

167/08 CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Deputy Mayor reminded councillors that the Mayor was holding a meal at Il-Capricorno on Sunday 7th September in aid of her Mayors Fund any councillors, family and friends who wish to attend can purchase tickets from the Town Council offices at £12 per head.

The Deputy Mayor congratulated Councillor Sycamore on his recent marriage and wished he and his new wife health and happiness.

168/08 MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor S. Dobson, seconded by Councillor S. Radnedge and –

RESOLVED: unanimously to receive, approve and sign as a true record the Minutes of the full Town Council meeting held on the 28th July, 2008.

169/08 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF COMMITTEE AND SUB COMMITTEE METINGS AND TO SIGN AS A TRUE RECORD THOSE MINUTES NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED.

a) Proposed by Councillor G. Francis, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and -

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Minutes of the Planning Committee which was held on the 11th August, 2008 be received and signed as a true record.

b) Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Minutes of Amenities and Open Spaces Committee which was held on the 11th August, 2008 be received and signed a true record with the following amendment –

Minute 160/08 – Recommendation to read –

unanimously that the Town Council should go ahead with mapping of the Common and await the presentation of the findings of the survey to gauge public opinion at the Parish Meeting.

170/08

TO DISCUSS THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING AND RESOLUTIONS ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN WHERE NECESSARY.

a) Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and -

RESOLVED: by 10 votes for with 1 abstention that the Minutes of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee which was held on the 11th August, 2008 be Received and Adopted.

Councillor S.R. Dobson made the following statement regarding MINUTE NO. 164/08 (copy attached).

171/08

CLERK'S REPORT

a) Transfer of Kennet Land and Assets to Town & Parish Councils – KDC have written to advise that there will be no further discussion on transfer of assets until after the new Wiltshire Council is established.

b) Transfer of Land for Riverside Walk – KDC have also advised that no further action will be taken on the transfers for the Riverside walk however I will be taking issue with this as both items were agreed long before the unitary proposals were raised and could have been completed well in advance of the transitional arrangements.

c) Community First Newsletter and Notice of AGM on 8th October – for information.

d) Wiltshire PCT Stakeholder Assembly - 16th September 2008 for information and decision if someone wishes to attend.

e) WCC Magazine and Parish Newsletter – for information.

f) St John's School Language College Newsletter - for information.

g) Local Councils update. – for information

g) Hills Waste - Annual Service Review – for information

172/08

SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS

a) July, 2008.

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

RESOLVED: that the Schedule of Accounts for July, 2008 in the sum of £24,997.73 be received and signed by the Chairman.

173/08 TOWN COUNCIL BALANCES

Proposed by Councillor A. Ross, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

RESOLVED: that the Town Council balances as at 31st July, 2008 be received.

174/08 NOMINATION OF TOWN COUNCILLORS TO MEET WITH CROWN ESTATES AND KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNERS.

Proposed by Councillor N. Fogg, seconded by Councillor G. Francis and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Councillors S. Radnedge, A. Sycamore, G. Loosmore and A. Kirk Wilson be nominated to meet with Crown Estates and Kennet District Council Planners.

175/08 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS – where copies have not be circulated they are available in the office for Members perusal.

There were no reports.

176/08 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Proposed by Councillor S. Dobson, seconded by Councillor G. Francis 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.

177/08 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

Councillor S. Dobson - At the last meeting of the full council on the 28th.July 2008, Cllr Pitts stated on behalf of Cllr.Sycamore that there had been no response from members of the Steering Group regarding progressing the project using the promised grant from Kennet District Council for converting the Town Hall cellars.

Having been responsible for the original idea, and also responsible for making the council aware last year of possible financial help from Kennet District Council, I would like to know; What progress if any the steering group has made since the last meeting, and are they still considering withdrawing from the project and therefore losing the grant?

It would seem to be a disaster if the Town Council are not able to take advantage of this grant from Kennet District Council after all the hard work and expense that has already gone into this project, which if completed with a transfer of the council offices to the Town Hall would result in a long term financial benefit to the people of Marlborough.

Councillor A Sycamore – stated that it was true that there has been no response to the questions that have been posted on the website. As the grant from Kennet District Council was only £50,000 this would leave a shortfall of £540,000 for the project which should the project go ahead would result in this Council shouldering a considerable debt. Councillor Sycamore urged all Councillors to put their comments on the website.

Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson – how were the figures arrived at as they bore no resemblance to any of the figures that were produced when this project was visited 4 years ago.

Councillor S. Radnedge –agreed for this item to placed on the next agenda of the Property Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.17 pm