

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Full Town Council** held on **Monday 24th January, 2011** in the **Court Room, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT	Councillor A. Ross Councillor S.R. Dobson Councillor G. Francis Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor N. Fogg Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor Mrs E. Fogg Councillor Mrs M. Rose Councillor A Spranger Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor R. Pitts Councillor Mrs C. Jackson Councillor M. Houlden	Town Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mr. Liam Costello Mrs Sue Fry Mr. N. Kerton Mr. G. Adams Plus 1 Member of the Public	Town Clerk Office Manager Wiltshire Gazette Advisor

399/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor R. Notton.

400/10 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

401/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed members that nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor have to be returned to the office no later than the 7th February, 2011. Forms are available from the office.

There will be a meeting on Thursday 27th January in the Court Room at 7.30 pm to discuss possible events for the Royal Wedding on the 29th April. The support of Councillors would be very welcome.

Councillor R. Pitts has resigned from the Liberal Democrats and now stands as an Independent.

The Colonel from the 4MI Battalion has requested that a detachment of 12 soldiers from another regiment be invited to the Freedom Ceremony to receive their campaign medals.

402/10 MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor G. Francis, seconded by Councillor A. Kirk Wilson and –

RESOLVED: by 13 votes for with 2 abstentions to receive, approve and sign as a true record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 10th January, 2011.

403/10 COUNCIL BUDGET FOR 2011/2012

The Council received a recommendation from the Finance and Policy Committee on the precept requirement for 2011/2012.

Proposed by Councillor A. Ross, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RESOLVED: by 12 votes for 1 against and 2 abstentions that the precept for 2011/2012 be set at £389,000.

For – Cllrs' A. Ross, A. Kirk Wilson, B. Castle, Mrs P. Dow, N. Fogg, Mrs E. Fogg, Mrs M. Rose, A. Spranger, G. Loosmore, R. Pitts, Mrs C. Jackson and M. Houlden.

Against – Cllr. S.R. Dobson

Abstentions – Cllrs G. Francis (not an elector of the Parish) and Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson.

404/10 BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Mayor invited Councillor Pitts to give a report on this item.

Councillor Pitts reported that he had attended a meeting with Town Clerk and the Chamber of Commerce regarding the Business Improvement District.

Councillor S.R. Dobson – do the Chamber represent the majority of the traders in the town, have they the thoughts of all their members or just those of the committee?

Councillor Pitts replied that there would be a democratic vote of all businesses in the area. The Company would be a Company Limited by Guarantee.

It was agreed that a small working group should be formed to assist with the initial discussion document. Councillors' G. Loosmore, R. Pitts and A. Kirk Wilson agreed to sit on this working group.

405/10

VISION 2015

The Mayor reported that there had been a previous Press Release regarding this item.

406/10

TOWN HALL REFURBISHMENT

The Council received an update from Councillor Loosmore, Chairman of the Property Committee regarding the Town Hall Refurbishment.

He highlighted the following points –

This will be a long term investment to improve the town's facilities.

To create a Town Hall fit for the 21st Century.

On completion the hall will provide a community centre open 7 days a week.

It will assist with the economic growth of the town by attracting new business and tourists to the town, with the potential benefit of increasing sustainable employment in the town.

The project draws on previous attempts to improve the Town Hall, including work done undertaken by Councillor Mrs Hannaford Dobson in regarding to the museum and public toilets.

It fits in to the broader vision for the town under the 'Vision 2015 for Marlborough'.

The project can be delivered to the people of Marlborough without the need to increase the precept.

A detailed presentation will be delivered to Councillors.

A public exhibition will be arranged.

407/10

PARKING

The Council considered the impact of the introduction of the Wiltshire Council Parking Strategy.

Following a discussion it was agreed that Councillor Pitts raise this issue with Jane Scott at the next Area Board meeting and ask for an explanation as to why Marlborough has been singled out to pay higher charges. The Town Clerk to write to Wiltshire Council expressing this councils dismay at these charges.

408/10

PEWSEY ROAD BRIDGE

The Council received an update regarding the Pewsey Road Bridge (copy attached).

409/10

SALISBURY ROAD RECREATION GROUND

The Council considered the approval of the Capital Funding Agreement between Marlborough Town Council and Wiltshire Council.

Councillor Pitts informed the Council that the Aiming High for Disabled Children Capital Grant projects have to be completed by March 31st, 2011, whilst the grant will pay for equipment the Town Council have to pay the installation fees.

Following discussion it was agreed that an additional meeting of the A & OS Committee be held on Monday 31st January to discuss the funding for this project.

410/10 MEMBER'S QUESTION TIME

Councillor S.R. Dobson – Mr. Mayor with regard to the proposed project 2015 involving major expenditure on their Town Hall, will you promise the people of Marlborough that before any legally binding decisions are made on the project that this Council will hold public meetings and circulate information sheets to ensure that the public are fully aware of what is proposed coupled with a full and detailed explanation of present and future cost implications on the Town's finances and will take all resulting public comment into consideration before any decision is made?

The Mayor - I can give no personal undertaking as I am only one member of the council. However, it is my understanding that it is the intention that there will be a public exhibition, and members of the public will have the opportunity to view the proposals and make any comments thereon.

411/10 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: unanimously that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, if it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

412/10 STONEBRIDGE MEADOW

The Council received an update on matters relating to the purchase of Stonebridge Meadows.

413/10 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Proposed by Councillor S.R. Dobson, seconded by Councillor G. Francis and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Common Seal of 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 8.50 pm