



MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

24th July 2017

Marlborough's Mill Wheels turn a corner!

Over the weekend of 22nd and 23rd July, Marlborough's former mill wheels have been taken from where they were being stored to a new temporary home at The Old Ropeworks where owner, Mike Fernley, has agreed to store them for safekeeping. This is all thanks to a small group of local volunteers, headed up by Rob and Angie Dickens, who arranged to move the two wheels back close to their original riverside home. This will certainly resurrect many memories of the Town Mill which ceased to be a working mill in 1922 and was demolished in the 1980s to make way for a housing development of the same name.

Over two days the volunteers helped move the equipment together with transport company, R.J Lampard & Co. Ltd, from where it was at the Salisbury Road Recreation Ground to Kennet Place. A short journey but not an easy one – this equipment weights around 4 tons!

The machinery had been stored for many years alongside the Town Council's workshop, not ideal and using up much needed space which can now be used for equipment for the increasing workload being taken on by the Council's hardworking Grounds Team.

To take the initiative forward, a Project Group is being constituted and the community kept involved through a Facebook campaign - [The Watermill, Marlborough, Wiltshire](#) Val Compton said: "Not in my wildest dreams, did I think this project would ever get off the ground. Seeing these beautifully engineered mill workings arrive in Kennet Place was an extraordinarily emotional moment!"

Mike Fernley has confirmed that anyone wanting to view the machinery is welcome to have a look at it The Old Ropeworks during opening hours. Needless to say, engineering enthusiasts will be welcomed onto the new project group.

Town Mayor, Cllr Hall said: "This is a great step forward and our thanks go to Rob and Angie Dickens, Malcolm Lampard and Val Compton for taking this forward. Also, of course, to Mike Fernley for storing it. We are all looking forward to the time when the mill wheels will again sit proudly in Marlborough to remind us all of our magnificent and varied history."

More information about the project at:
Facebook campaign - [The Watermill, Marlborough, Wiltshire](#)
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