

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Full Town Council** held on **Monday 14th December, 2015** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT	Councillor M. Rose Councillor S. Dobson Councillor Mrs. E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs. P. Dow Councillor N. Fogg Councillor A. Ross Councillor N. Barrett-Morton Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor L. Farrell Councillor J. Cook Councillor M. Hall Councillor A. Light	Town Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs. S. Parker Mrs. D. Whitehall Ms. A. Hicks Mrs. S. Pryor Mr. T. Millett Plus 20 members of the public	Town Clerk Administrator Gazette & Herald The Adviser Marlborough News Online

PRAYERS

The Mayor opened the meeting with prayers.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Sylvia Card, resident - it looks almost certain that the Sure Start Children's Centre in Marlborough will be closed. What have Councillors done to defend this valuable resource for the children of parents in this town?

Cllr. Fogg had great sympathy but, confirmed that Sure Start had not asked Marlborough Town Council for help in this matter.

Cllr. Dobson - the minutes of the last Full Town Council on 2nd November made reference to this matter and he was satisfied that Councillors were aware that the consultation was taking place (*Minute No. 352/15: Written Motion from Councillor S. Dobson about an Asset Transfer*). He had further discussed the matter with the Wiltshire Council Cabinet Member (Cllr. Laura Mayes) who had assured him that consultation feedback would be key in the decision making process. Also, that the centre in Pewsey was likely to remain open and that officers would be providing a similar service to outlying communities.

Rev. Studdert-Kennedy, St Mary's Church - took the point that the Town Council had received no direct requests for help but, asked whether it should be the responsibility of the Town Council to keep itself abreast of such developments.

Dr Sam Page, resident - Cllr. Hannaford-Dobson had written a good letter (*5th November 2015, published on Marlborough News Online*) and it was surprising that such a letter had not been addressed to Wiltshire Council.

CRIME AND DISORDER

No representative from the Neighbourhood Policing Team was available to attend the meeting. A written report had been circulated.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS TO AND FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Cllr. Fogg – Some books had been despatched from Marlborough, New Zealand for the Library. There had also recently been a video link of about an hour between St John’s School and Marlborough New Zealand, further strengthening ties between the two towns.

A proposal to move forward a solution to the HGV problem in Silverless Street had been received for consideration at the CATG meeting on Thursday, 17th December. **Cllr. Dobson** added that many residents felt it would work better if the proposed one-way system went the opposite way to the current proposal.

The Town Mayor asked Cllr. Dobson to pursue the repainting of the pedestrian crossing in the High Street, which had become very faded.

398/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Allen and Acting Inspector Mawson.

399/15 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST AND AGREED DISPENSATIONS

Cllr. Ross – Agenda Items 11 – Marlborough Golf Club – and 12 – Marlborough Rugby Club Lease – non-pecuniary. Cllrs Hall and Barrett-Morton – agenda item 11 – Marlborough Golf Club – non-pecuniary.

400/15 MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed to the meeting young people who were hoping to be part of the Youth Council under the guidance of Cllrs. Farrell and Cook, both of whom were thanked for all their hard work in this matter.

Congratulations went to Mrs Jenny Smithers on being named Citizen of the Year 2015. The award was well-deserved following years of dedicated service to Mencap.

There had been positive feedback from the general public on the Christmas Lights Switch-on on 21st November with everyone enjoying the performance by Scouting for Girls. The Mayor thanked Councillors and all those who had supported the event. A wash-up meeting would take place in the New Year.

The Mayor had suggested to the Town Clerk that it would be good to find ways to mark HM Elizabeth II’s 90th birthday, and asked Members to put forward their suggestions. It was hoped that Marlborough could take part in the national “Clean for the Queen” event.

The Mayor invited Councillors and journalists to join her for wine and mince pies in the Court Room following the evening's meetings.

Members were asked to again note the office hours over the Christmas break (*closed from 12.30 pm on 24th December, re-opening at 10.00 am on Monday 4th January*).

401/15

MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on Monday, 2nd November be approved and signed as a correct record.

402/15

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The Town Clerk's report was noted. Cllr. Castle asked the Town Clerk to discuss with him the release of land at Churchill Court back to the owners as he was concerned at the length of time this had been ongoing (Mins 514/12, 258/13). The Town Clerk explained the likely cause of the delay and that the land and river bank were still legally in the ownership of the Town Council. Furthermore, the trees also remained in the same ownership and had been included in the recent Tree Survey.

Cllr. Hannaford-Dobson asked for clarification that Marlborough Town Council was also involved in the discussions between ARK and Marlborough Town Football Club (Min 632/13). The Town Clerk confirmed that there would be a meeting in January or February between all three parties and the text of the next report would be updated to reflect this.

403/15

ENGLISH CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT

During a Suspension of Standing Orders, Ian MacDonald Watson of the English Civil War Society (ECWS) gave a presentation and proposed staging a Civil War re-enactment in Marlborough in 2018/19.

The Mayor thanked Mr MacDonald Watson for his presentation. There was agreement that previous re-enactments had been successful events and the proposal was generally supported. Members recognised this would be of interest to the wider community and appreciated that more time was needed to plan and fully understand the financial implications.

RESOLVED: to set up a committee including organisations and members of the community to consider a preferred date and financial implications with a view to making a recommendation to Full Town Council in 2016.

404/15

MARLBOROUGH – A FAIRTRADE TOWN

Members considered a resolution to support Fairtrade status for Marlborough, and to serve Fairtrade products. Fairtrade coffee and biscuits had been served at the meeting.

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council fully supports a submission for Fairtrade Status for Marlborough, will serve Fairtrade products and encourage its suppliers to do so.

405/15

MARLBOROUGH YOUTH COUNCIL

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk. A number of potential Youth Councillors were present at the meeting. A few meetings had taken place and the group was progressing well in terms of interaction, communication and developing a structure. Cllr. Farrell suggested that Youth Councillors could be included as part

of the Civil War Re-enactment Committee. The first formal meeting would take place on Wednesday, 13th January 2016.

RESOLVED: that the Youth Council had the full support of the Town Council. Cllrs. Farrell and Cook would lead on this with support from the Town Clerk and potential items for inclusion on the agenda would be the design of the new play area at Cooper's Meadow and the possible Civil War Re-enactment in 2018/19.

Cllr. Farrell and some members of the public left the meeting

406/15 SHOPMOBILITY FOR MARLBOROUGH

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk. There was strong support for a Shopmobility scheme from Members. The Town Clerk highlighted that some initial capital start-up costs would be covered by the Area Board such as moving disabled car parking spaces and lowering the kerb at the store entrance leading out into the car park. The project may also attract business rates and the Town Council's insurance would cover part of the scheme.

RESOLVED: that the Shopmobility scheme go ahead as a collaborative project with the Marlborough Area Board and the associated revenue cost of £2,000 be included in the precept for 2016/17.

407/15 BUDGET/PRECEPT 2016/2017

Members considered final budget and precept figures for 2016/17 recommended by the Finance & Policy Committee. Further to the Town Clerk's report, in introducing the figures Cllr. Ross (*Chair, Finance & Policy*) advised that an additional £3,000 be added as a budget line to cover some of the costs of devolution of services from Wiltshire Council in 2016/17 as well as the charges of any by-elections, a cost no longer covered by the Unitary Council. The Mayor thanked Cllr. Ross and the Town Clerk for their hard work in preparing the budget.

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for with 2 against that the net budget expenditure for 2016/17 be £512,483 and that the precept (excluding Wiltshire Council's Top-up Grant of £2,669.30) be £509,813.70. This represents a rise of 4.96% in the average Band D annual charge and an annual charge of £156.73 (an increase for Band D of £7.40).

Some members of the public left the meeting

408/15 MARLBOROUGH GOLF CLUB

The Town Clerk's report was noted.

RESOLVED: that permission is granted to Marlborough Golf Club to sublet land to the Marlborough Tennis Club and that the appropriate deed be drawn up.

Cllrs. Ross, Barrett-Morton and Hall did not vote.

409/15 MARLBOROUGH RUGBY CLUB LEASE

The Town Clerk's report was noted about the lease and a signage request was noted.

RESOLVED: by 11 votes for with 1 against to agree to the requests for rental payments as proposed by the Rugby Club as follows:

Increase to be phased in over two years, e.g. £400 in 2015, rising to £500 in 2016

Next review 2022, increase to be capped at CPI (i.e. prevailing rate of inflation)

Cllr. Ross did not vote.

RESOLVED: to agree to the request for a board with pitch details to be erected to the side of the building facing the car park. The request for a recruitment banner on the side of the Clubhouse facing the road was agreed in principle subject to the appropriate details being submitted to the appropriate Committee

Some members of the public left the meeting

410/15

CCTV – CODE OF PRACTICE

The Town Clerk’s report and draft Code of Practice was noted.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk should work with Wiltshire Constabulary to finalise the draft Code of Practice, clear it with the Surveillance Camera Commissioner’s Office and then re-submit to Full Town Council for adoption.

411/15

COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED: that in accordance with para 3.1 of the Scheme of Delegation, the approved minutes of the following Committee meetings be noted: **Planning Committee** – 19th October, 2nd and 16th November. **Finance & Policy Committee** – 21st September. **Staffing Sub-Committee** – 30th June.

412/15

LIAISON WITH OUTSIDE BODIES.

There were no reports and no nominations were put forward for representatives to the Local Youth Network Committee.

413/15

MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

No questions had been received.

414/15

SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

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

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

415/15

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the last two items of the meeting, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted

Remaining members of the public, press and Mrs Whitehall left the meeting.

416/15

STAFFING ISSUES

RESOLVED: unanimously that the recommendation from the Staffing Sub Committee be agreed.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date