



Old Railway Path through to the Business Park. The details would be forwarded via the **Town Clerk** but in summary:

- Wiltshire Council still had a clear intent to join up the Old Railway Path through to Marlborough Business Park, joining up with the tarmac path put in by Beechcroft Homes, subject to budget availability
- In order to build a path parallel with Salisbury Road two pieces of land would be needed. Landowners were Beechcroft Homes and the Business Park (but leased to Tesco). Negotiations about a transfer of land in return to the Business Park had not yet been concluded.
- Nearby residents had made a claim for part of the land in question with the Land Registry. Four had been unsuccessful but one claim was still ongoing. This legal process would need to be concluded before anything further could be done.
- A proposal would shortly be going before Wiltshire Council's Cabinet to change the process for land transfers. As part of this it is clear that Wiltshire Councillors should be included in consultations, which would allow them to discuss any potential issues with their local Council members.

**Councillor Cleasby** asked **Wiltshire Councillors** to progress her request to see details of the contract between Wiltshire Council and social housing providers.

**Councillor Waltham** would forward details to **Councillor Thomas** of a recent petition about safety at schools, which she believed was addressed to Wiltshire Council. She also referred to the planning stage for Marlborough St Mary's School, where promises had been made about "walking bus" and safe cycle routes for families on the school run, but none had yet materialised. Also whether the scheme to provide parents of children at both Marlborough St Mary's and St John's with parking permits for George Lane car park to alleviate congestion and improve road safety in nearby residential streets had been widely shared with parents?

**Councillor Loosmore** asked Wiltshire Councillors to try to re-establish discussions to secure a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the Youth Centre building at Salisbury Road Recreation Ground to the Town Council. The seven-year lease was now about halfway through and, having spent a great deal of money in renovating this much needed facility for the town, Marlborough Town Council was keen to assure its future. The **Town Clerk** would send the latest information he had received about the CAT plan review to Wiltshire Councillors.

**Councillor Thomas** suggested a rolling action log could be created to ensure resolutions from previous meetings and/or actions arising from public questions would be kept active and followed through.

**87/21**

#### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fogg, Farrell, Hillier and Davies.

**88/21**

#### **DECLARATIONS**

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

**89/21**

#### **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had been privileged, with fellow Councillors, to attend Bryan Castle's funeral earlier in the day. It was a beautiful service which had been a fitting way to celebrate his life, and had reflected Bryan's contribution to the town as a Councillor and as Mayor. He was not only an outstanding Councillor with a passion for open spaces who had served the town with dignity and pride, but privately had also been a fantastic supporter of charities in the town. He would be a huge loss to the town and the Mayor's sympathies went out to his family. Councillor Castle had been very kind to the Mayor when he had first joined the Council and he would miss him a great deal.

The Showmen's Guild was planning to go ahead with the Mop Fairs in October and were confident they could put on a covid-safe event, subject to Government guidelines in place at the time.

The Mayor extended his thanks to all the volunteers and staff at the Kennet and Avon Medical Partnership for its fantastic vaccination programme. He had visited the clinic on Saturday to thank people in person, and learned that prior to that 14,000 people had already been vaccinated.

On 21 June the Mayor, along with Danny Kruger MP and David Andrews, Chief Executive of VisitWiltshire had been very pleased to accept Coach Friendly Status on behalf of the town. This should be a great boost for the town with more tourism opportunities, and he thanked Belinda Richardson, the Tourism Officer, for all her hard work to bring this about.

It was disappointing that Barclays Bank was to close on 24 September. The loss of another bank and cash machine would be deeply felt by residents, particularly those who could not travel or use online banking. With Councillors' agreement he would write to Barclays to express disappointment at this loss to the town.

**90/21**

**MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held 24 May 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Town Mayor

**91/21**

**INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2020/21**

The internal audit report for 2020/21 was noted. **Councillor Thomas** questioned a statement on page 6 concerning inspections of play areas, which seemed to conflict with discussions at the Amenities & Open Spaces Committee about one play area in particular, and asked the **Town Clerk** to follow this up.

**92/21**

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020/21**

**RESOLVED:** that the Annual Governance Statement at Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was approved

**93/21**

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2020/21**

**RESOLVED:** that the Annual Accounting Statements at Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was approved

**94/21**

**CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

Councillors considered the draft Climate Emergency Policy Statement and the Council's continuing approach to responding to the declared Climate Emergency. Discussion points included:

- The policy statement was a good start but was it ambitious enough?
- Whether point (vii) in the draft policy should be reviewed to aim to do more than limit detrimental impact by defining actions to repair or mitigate environmental damage, and for it to be included in the recommendations
- Whether a practical action could be selected to engage the community

**RESOLVED:** (i) that the Environment and Climate Protection Policy Statement was readopted

**RESOLVED:** (ii) To reaffirm the Climate Emergency Working Group as part of the Council's Climate Emergency response with a role to advise, inform and monitor positive change within the Council in respect of Climate Emergency, reporting to Full Council

**RESOLVED:** (iii) To appoint **Councillors Loosmore, Hall, Heath, Waltham and Thomas** to fill vacancies on the Climate Emergency Working Group, and that external bodies should be invited to join

**RESOLVED:** (iv) To adopt an integral approach to the Council's Climate Emergency response and progress featuring Climate Emergency Response as a standing item on all Council agendas and as a standing consideration in all project developments, reviews of service delivery, policies and working practices, commissions and procurement of services

**RESOLVED:** (v) that Marlborough Town Council commits to a comprehensive appraisal of its current operations to assess and understand its environmental impact, and to outline its areas for improvement and subsequent actions; and will ensure the necessary resources are prioritized to ensure this happens at the start of a Council term and every subsequent year thereafter, to ensure that the Council is able to perform all its duties as required by environmental legislation

95/21

**LEISURE CENTRES TRANSFERRING TO WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**

Councillors noted an update briefing report from Wiltshire Council on Places Leisure Centres transferring to Wiltshire Council.

96/21

**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE BOUNDARY REVIEW**

**RESOLVED:** to confirm to Wiltshire Council that Marlborough Town Council wishes to proceed as requested and resolved in September 2020

97/21

**OPEN SPACES WORKING PARTY**

Councillors noted the Open Spaces Working Party Terms of Reference, and that the Amenities & Open Spaces Committee was keen that membership should not be limited to Committee Members.

**RESOLVED:** (i) that the Terms of Reference were noted and that proposed partnership members were agreed

**RESOLVED:** (ii) that **Councillors Barrett-Morton, Hall, Heath, Cleasby, Thomas, the Town Clerk and Grounds Manager** be appointed to the Open Spaces Working Party together with **Councillors Farrell and Davies** subject to their agreement (they were not present at the meeting)

98/21

**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that in accordance with para 3.1 of the Scheme of Delegation, the approved minutes of the following committee meetings were noted: **Planning** 26 April and 1 June 2021

99/21

**MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME**

No questions had been submitted.

100/21

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential or commercial nature of the business about to be transacted

*Mr Goodwin left the meeting*

101/21

**RUGBY CLUB TRAINING PITCH**

Councillors considered the matter of Marlborough Rugby Football Club's (MRFC) request and associated resolutions.

**RESOLVED:** (i) that the Common Working Party (CWP) be restated for the current Council term comprising **Councillors Fogg** (Chair), **Loosmore, Farrell, Hall, Heath, Hillier, Waltham, Cleasby** and **The Town Mayor** and that representatives of interested party groups/users of the Common be invited

**RESOLVED:** (ii) that the Common Working Party carries out a cost benefit analysis to assess the feasibility of the request for a new training pitch with a view, when ready, to make a recommendation to Full Council showing due regard to the findings of the flora and fauna survey; findings of the grounds survey; quotations; financial impact and risk; legal implications, cost and risk; health and safety and management issues arising; impact on other users of The Common, including if it reconciles with a 'fair settlement' as stated in the resolution at Full Council on 14 December 2020 and Community benefit and outcome

**RESOLVED:** (iii) that the Common Working Party considers the current governance arrangements of The Common with a view to making a recommendation to Full Council for any improvements in its safe and effective management for the benefit of all interested parties

The **Town Clerk** would be meeting with representatives of the Rugby and Youth Football Clubs soon to brief them on the outcome of this meeting.

**102/21**

**COMMON SEAL**

Proposed by **Councillor Ross** and seconded by **Councillor Loosmore** and

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

The meeting closed at 8.08 pm

Signed: .....  
Town Mayor

Date: .....