

**MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
FULL TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of a **Meeting of Marlborough Town Council** which was held on **Monday, 23rd January 2017** in the **Court Room, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 6.30 pm

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| PRESENT | Councillor N. Barrett-Morton | Town Mayor |
| | Councillor B. Castle | |
| | Councillor Mrs P. Dow | |
| | Councillor N. Fogg | |
| | Councillor A. Ross | |
| | Councillor Mrs M. Rose | |
| | Councillor G. Loosmore | |
| | Councillor L. Farrell | |
| | Councillor J. Cook | |
| | Councillor M. Hall | |
| ALSO PRESENT | Mrs S. Parker | Town Clerk |
| | Mrs D. Whitehall | Administrator |
| | Revd. Dr J. Blokland | Mayor's Chaplain |
| | Mr N. Goodwin | Marlborough.News |
| | Mr R. Mills | Gazette & Herald |
| | Plus 6 members of the public | |

PRAYERS

The Revd. Dr Blokland opened the meeting with prayers.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Sylvia Card, Resident – As Wiltshire Council was cutting back on funding and services, Mrs Card asked whether this Council would make representations to central government as many other councils had already done. The **Town Clerk** responded that Marlborough Town Council had responded to a consultation around the Local Government Finance Settlement 2017-2018, particularly about extending referendum principles to town and parish councils as had more than 1,200 other town and parish councils.

CRIME AND DISORDER

No report was available.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS TO AND FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Fogg – residents of Silverless Street and other areas in the town were concerned about people parking illegally, including restricting access to private properties. One resident had reported their belief that Parking Enforcement Officers had to begin and end their working day in Chippenham, limiting the time they were available to work in Marlborough. He asked whether an officer from Wiltshire Council could be invited to a future meeting to discuss on-street parking arrangements. The **Town Clerk** would invite someone to attend a future meeting.

- 446/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Dobson, Hannaford-Dobson, Kirk Wilson, Allen and Lam
- 447/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 448/16 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
The Mayor reminded Councillors that there was an Area Board Meeting on Tuesday, 24th January. All were welcome from 6pm onwards with the meeting starting at 7 pm. It would be following the important theme of poverty in the area.
- Councillors were aware of the Housing Surveys being delivered to all households via the Marlborough Area Neighbourhood Plan. There had been a very good response with almost 600 returns so far. He asked everyone to encourage residents to fill these in.
- The Mayor reminded Members that there would be a Civic Dinner on Friday, 24th February 2017 with 4 Military Intelligence Battalion as guests of honour.
- 449/16 MINUTES**
RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Full Town Council held Monday, 16th January 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor
- 450/16 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**
The Town Clerk's report was noted
- 451/16 TOWN MAYOR – 2017/18**
As 2017 was an election year the decision on the appointment of Mayor and Deputy Mayor would rest with the new Council following elections in May. However, by tradition in Marlborough these nominations had always taken place prior to the elections.
- The Town Mayor proposed Cllr. Hall for Town Mayor for 2017/18 and Cllr. Fogg seconded the proposal
- RESOLVED:** that Cllr. Hall shall be nominated as Town Mayor for 2017/18
- Cllr. Hall thanked Members. He was honoured to be selected to serve the town of Marlborough as Mayor and would do his best to get elected in order that he could serve. Cllr. Barrett-Morton had done an excellent job as Town Mayor in 2016/17 and he aspired to do the same.
- 452/16 DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR – 2017/18**
Cllr. Ross proposed Cllr. Farrell for Deputy Town Mayor for 2017/18 and Cllr. Loosmore seconded the proposal

RESOLVED: that Cllr. Farrell shall be nominated as Deputy Town Mayor for 2017/18

Cllr. Farrell thanked Members for their support over the past four years.

453/16

THE MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY PASSION PLAY

Members noted the Town Clerk's Report about the Marlborough Community Passion Play on Saturday, 15th April 2017 and considered requests for signage and the use of The Common as an overflow car park.

Members recognised this was a great occasion for the town and churches and hoped it would be fully supported. They urged the organisers to explore additional car parking venues as well as the Common (St Johns Academy and Marlborough College were suggested).

RESOLVED: to agree, subject to the usual requirements around public liability, etc, to the use of The Common as an overflow car park for the Marlborough Community Passion Play on Saturday 15th April 2017, the loan of signage and parking cones, and that the usual hiring fee could be waived in order to make a sponsorship contribution to this community event

Revd. Dr. Blokland and two members of the public left the meeting

454/16

PUBLIC WORKS LOAN

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk about borrowing approval from the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), and considered a formal application for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board for the refurbishment of toilets at George Lane.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk as Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) applies for a fixed rate annuity loan of £90,190 from the Public Works Loan Board in readiness for the start of the refurbishment works to the public toilets at George Lane.

455/16

PUBLIC TOILETS AT GEORGE LANE

Members noted a progress report by the Town Clerk and considered minor decorative options and future maintenance of the public toilets.

Members noted the tender included works to remove tree branches that overhung the building. Longer term decisions on trees could be discussed at a future meeting of the Amenities & Open Spaces Committee in line with Phase 2 of the project.

RESOLVED: (i) the preferred style of door was for a British Racing Green finish with a round panel, the railings to be painted black and external timber to be wrapped, also in black

A member of the public left the meeting

Members agreed the maintenance proposal appeared to represent good value for money, was comparable to current costs to maintain public toilets and would remove the need for day-to-day involvement of Town Council staff.

RESOLVED: (ii) to go ahead with the maintenance agreement as proposed

It was noted that the cost of installing the MOXI unit could be covered by the contingency budget and that installing it would extend the warranty from two to five years

RESOLVED: (iii) to install the monitoring MOXI unit

456/16

CONSULTATION ON DRAFT WILTSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY AND WILTSHIRE OPEN SPACE STUDY COMMUNITY AREA PROFILES

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk and noted and accepted the comments within it from the Town Clerk and Grounds Manager. Local sports organisations including Marlborough Rugby Football Club (MRFC) and Marlborough Cricket Club (MCC) were actively participating in the Countryside & Recreation Working Party as part of the Marlborough Area Neighbourhood Plan (MANP). Comments from Councillors, including those involved with the Neighbourhood Plan, were:

- MRFC and MCC had sounded their interest in either upgrading their own facilities and/or looking to ground share, and MRFC were in the process of looking to find their own 18-20 acre site for a new facility and were open to possible ground sharing facilities. More sports organisations were interested in their future and it was expected that more organisations would be also seeking facilities. The trend of big youth take-up of sport within the MANP area would need increased capacity over the next ten years
- Marlborough Town Football Club were looking to expand
- Sports organisations were already planning to access funding for future expansion should suitable sites become available
- Members and the MANP supported a pressing need for a new cemetery for the town of Marlborough and agreed that space must be found for this important facility. Ear marked reserves had been set aside for this
- Members agreed with the statement in the document that provision should be made for more allotments and they suggested these might be sited within the curtilage of planned future developments
- Whether the designation of sites as Village Greens would restrict access to sports organisations for playing pitches.
- Whether suitable sites for playing pitches, allotments and/or a new cemetery could be identified in the four parishes that made up the Neighbourhood Plan area rather than being restricted to the parish of Marlborough

RESOLVED: that the comments in the Town Clerk's report together with those above should be included in a response to the consultation to meet the deadline of 24th January 2017.

457/16

ITALIAN FOOD MARKET

Members considered a request from Wiltshire Council to hold an Italian Food Market in Marlborough High Street on Friday, 16th June 2017. Members noted that costs, resources and any income would be between the market organiser and Wiltshire Council with no demands on Marlborough Town Council staff.

It was also noted that it was likely that Wiltshire Council would be passing the management of the Christmas Market to the Town Council. Details around this would be for discussion at the next Full Town Council meeting.

RESOLVED: to agree to the request to hold an Italian Market on Friday, 16th June 2017.

458/16

LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTION TIMETABLE 2017

Members noted the Election Timetable issued by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), and the Town Clerk drew their attention to changes and key points. Wiltshire Council would be issuing its own timetable shortly.

Two members of the public left the meeting

459/16

TOWN COUNCIL CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2017/18

RESOLVED: to adopt the proposed Calendar of Meetings for 2017/18

460/16

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk and considered how Town Council Minutes should be bound and stored in future.

RESOLVED: that a full quote is obtained and samples brought to the next Full Town Council meeting

470/16

HONORARY FREEDOM OF MARLBOROUGH

Members noted the Town Clerk's report and considered whether to put in place procedures around conferring the honour of the Freedom of the Town of Marlborough. This was covered by of the Local Government Act 1972, S248.

RESOLVED: to prepare a draft protocol in line with legislation for conferring the honour of the Freedom of the Town of Marlborough for a future Full Town Council meeting with a view to enabling future nominations.

471/16

COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED: that in accordance with para 3.1 of the Scheme of Delegation, the approved Minutes of Committees be noted as follows: **Planning Committee** – 21st November and 5th December 2016 and **Property Committee** – 10th October 2016

472/16

LIAISON WITH OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no updates

473/16

MEMBER'S QUESTION TIME

No questions had been submitted

474/16

TO AUTHORISE THE FIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL OF THE MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL TO ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

Proposed by Cllr. Castle and seconded by Cllr. Dow and

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

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Signed:

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Town Mayor

Date