

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Malting Hall, Malmesbury on Tuesday the 8th November 2011 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor S Cox
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R F Sanderson
Councillors: W G Blake, A Carnegie, Mrs M J Dennis, Mrs C C Doody,
P J Goldstone, A J Gundry, S Killane, Mrs S J Poole,
Mrs K Power, M H Snell, A Stamp, C M Vernon and
A C R Woodcock.

ALSO PRESENT: Eight members of the public and a representative of the press

Prayers were offered by Councillor A C R Woodcock

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Cox, informed members of the engagements he had fulfilled since the last Council meeting and reminded Councillors of the service to be held on Remembrance Sunday.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R F Sanderson, having just returned from South Africa gave greetings on behalf of the Mayor and the Councillors of Malmesbury, South Africa.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public asked about the consultation process involving other businesses in the application for the change of use of the Old School Room. Councillor Vernon responded that the decision was made by the Town Council to seek a commercial tenant for the room and a local agent suitably instructed. Only one interested applicant came forward with proposals and the change of use was applied for in the process.

Another member of the public referred back to the occupation of the Old School Room by the Pre School and requested that in future no further comment be made about the Pre School in connection with the vacant space. A discussion then ensued between the member of the public and Councillor Vernon about the level of fees paid to the Town Council by the Pre School.

Councillor Killane stated that he felt he had no option but to call the decision in as there were a number of local concerns.

In view of the number of agenda items His Worship the Mayor requested that the presentations be taken before any further business.

41. WILTSHIRE POLICE

Sergeant Martin Alvis presented a report on crime and disorder issues within Malmesbury over the last few months. He advised that the latest Crime Survey Results had shown Wiltshire to have experienced the largest fall in violent crime in the country at a level of 17%. His team had been piloting a new initiative using the Domestic Violence Protection Notice which provided the opportunity to separate the two parties for up to 30 days. Following information supplied by the community a successful Drug Warrant was executed resulting in a conviction for possession with intent to supply and an exercise involving the use of a specially trained dog led to 3 cases of possession, all within the same public house. Although the play parks had

recently been targeted the level of anti social behaviour in Malmesbury had shown the largest fall within the county.

42. JUBILEE WOODS

Hamish Thomson of the Woodland Trust explained the background to the Trust and their aim to work in partnership with landowners and public bodies to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee by planting six million trees, creating sixty iconic "Diamond Woods". He had visited areas in and around Malmesbury and advised that smaller areas could be included within the scheme. His Worship the Mayor indicated that this was an important topic and he would investigate the potential for holding a public meeting early in the New Year.

43. DARK SKY INITIATIVE

Bob Mizon of the Dark Sky Initiative gave an illustrated presentation on the impact that lighting was having upon the night sky. He provided examples of what was happening in Dorset where the council had commenced a programme to change the street lights so as to direct all light in a downward direction. The action taken would assist in reducing the impact upon the night sky and potentially provide a financial saving through reduced use of energy. The Mayor thanked him for attending and directed him to the Wiltshire Council concerning street and highway lighting.

44. WILTSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Councillor C M Vernon had previously circulated his report and advised that at the meeting he attended an address was given on the Localism Bill which should be receiving Royal Assent by the end of the month. The revised National Planning Framework would follow, probably before the end of March.

45. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING PROCESS

Councillor P J Goldstone informed the members about the recent meeting held to discuss the terms of reference. The minutes of the meeting will be provided by the Spatial Planning team at Wiltshire Council but these were not yet available. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the member representing the Malmesbury Town Council be elected by a ballot. His Worship the Mayor called for those interested to indicate their willingness to stand. Councillors Blake, Goldstone, Power and Snell expressed an interest. The ballot was then taken by a show of hands and Councillor P J Goldstone was elected as the representative of the Town Council.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL COUNCILS (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2007

There were no declarations of interest.

46. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th SEPTEMBER 2011

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 13th September 2011, as circulated, be received and adopted.

Mayoral Announcements - Councillor Goldstone enquired what had happened about the meeting with Wiltshire Council on the subject of changes to the system for delivery of care. Councillor Mrs Doody and the Town Clerk advised that the Deputy Leader of the Wiltshire Council had declined the request to attend a meeting there being nothing to add to the presentation made at the Area Board. Councillor Killane suggested that any issues or concerns should be sent to him for direction to the

relevant officer or member and indicated that there would be a review following the initial period of transfer of service.

47. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 27th SEPTEMBER AND 18th OCTOBER 2011

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environmental Issues Committee held on the 27th September and 18th October 2011, as circulated, be received.

Councillor Goldstone advised that the meeting with Westlea to discuss the parking area would be held on 25th November at 2.00pm.

Min 97 – Councillor Mrs Doody drew attention to the deadline for providing a transport plan. The deadline date of December 2011 was only for requests for funds in the current year.

48. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN PROMOTION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE HELD ON 22ND SEPTEMBER 2011.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Promotion and Tourism Committee held on 22nd September 2011, as circulated, be received.

Councillor Mrs Doody expressed her thanks to the two Town Council employees responsible for looking after the floral displays in the town. Their efforts had enabled the displays to be maintained in such a manner that they had enhanced the town throughout the entire summer and into the autumn.

49. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE AND YOUTH COMMITTEE HELD ON 29TH SEPTEMBER 2011

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure and Youth Committee held on 29th September 2011, as circulated, be received.

50. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11TH OCTOBER 2011.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 11th October 2011, as circulated, be received.

Min 26 - Councillor Sanderson informed the members that he was seeking the assistance from a local auctioneer before arranging an event to dispose of the memorabilia.

Min 27 - Councillor Woodcock enquired about progress with repairs to the Market Cross. The Town Clerk advised that negotiations had been concluded with English Heritage and tender documents had been sent to contractors.

51. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 20TH OCTOBER 2011

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Hall Management Committee held on the 20th October 2011, as circulated, be received.

Councillors indicated a desire to produce a newsletter before the end of the month and a working group consisting of Councillors Cox, Gundry and Power would undertake the preparation.

52. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION OF THE ACCOUNTS

Councillor C M Vernon, Chair of Policy and Resources Committee, reported that he had met earlier with the Vice-Chair to examine the accounts and had found all to be in order.

53. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A question was asked about the review of parking charges undertaken by Wiltshire Council. Councillor Killane reported that he had attended a Council meeting earlier in the day and a report had demonstrated that Cross Hayes was experiencing no significant impact with an 80% occupancy rate. However the use of Station Yard had fallen by 75%. The Wiltshire Council had agreed to retain charges at the current level and introduce a 20% reduction for season ticket holders and residents.

Meeting closed at 21.35 hrs.