

## Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Malting Room, Malmesbury on Tuesday 22 July 2009 at 7.00pm.

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**PRESENT:** Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Mrs C C Doody  
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor P J Goldstone  
Councillors: W G Blake, S Cox, S Killane, J R Lawton, J E F Poole, R F Sanderson, M H Snell, and C M Vernon

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors: A Carnegie, P Dove, A Stamp, A C R Woodcock & J Thomson

**NON ATTENDANCE:** -

**IN ATTENDANCE:** One member of the public and one member of the press.

Prayers were offered by Councillor Blake.

### **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor C C Doody announced the following:

- The Malmesbury Alive & Kicking event on 3 October 2009 which has so far has more than twenty stalls.
- The Halloween Ball – being organised by Cllr Lawton – is set for 30 October and like the event above is being held at The Town Hall.
- Remembrance Sunday which this year is on 8 November and invitations will go out this week.
- In general terms, her recent engagements with particular emphasis on Carnival which had some 60 events this year and should be applauded on the range and number of activities made available. The Mayor will write a suitable letter. **ACTION MAYOR**

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No questions were asked.

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

No declarations were made – but see item 33 later in these minutes.

#### **29 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 JULY 2009**

Resolved that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 21 July 2009 as circulated, be received and adopted.

#### **30 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 29 JULY 2009**

Resolved that the minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on 29 July 2009 as circulated, be received and adopted.

**31 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 4 AUGUST AND 15 SEPTEMBER 2009 AND COVER THE NOTES FROM THE INQUORATE MEETING HELD ON 25 AUGUST 2009**

Resolved that the minutes of the Planning & Environmental Issues Meetings held on the 4 August 2009 and 15 September as circulated, be received and adopted.

Cllr Blake, as Chairman, made particular reference to:

- MALG issues are beginning to move to a conclusion and this was covered at last week's Area Board meeting. There was discussion about moving this under the "umbrella" of M & VCAP but Cllr Vernon and others felt the direction now being taken was more appropriate. Asked a question he also advised that there are sufficient planning guidelines available to aid the committee in making recommendations for plans being considered.
- The fact that two committee meetings this year had been inquorate including the one on 25 August when a speaker from Wiltshire Council had been in attendance. This tends to hinder the progress the committee can make.
- The progress, albeit slow, of the enforcement issues regarding Oxford Street.
- The need for more definitive information on planned road works over the next few years in the Malmesbury area.
- The progress on the allotments project at Cuckingstool Mead which will be taken over by the Leisure & Youth Committee which meets on 23 September. At this point the Mayor mentioned that she was aware that a local businessman had made land available for up to 30 allotments and the Mayor will write an appropriate letter. **ACTION MAYOR**
- Terms of Reference have been agreed for "making an Environmental Difference" which is being led by Cllr Stamp.

**NB FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS SINCE THE MEETING, PLEASE NOTE THAT AN OPEN MEETING (IE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE) IS TO BE HELD ON THE PARKING RESTRICTION ISSUES ON WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER AT 7 PM IN THE TOWN HALL - APPROPRIATE PRESS RELEASES ARE TO BE DONE TODAY ALONG WITH COVERAGE IN THE NEWSLETTER WHICH IS TO HOPEFULLY GO OUT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.**

**32 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2009**

Resolved that the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on the 11 August 2009 as circulated, be received and adopted.

Cllr Vernon, as Chairman, advised that following a meeting with the tenants of the Flying Monk, all outstanding issues have been resolved.

**33 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE TOWN HALL MANAGEMENT MEETING HELD ON 10 AUGUST 2009**

Resolved that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meetings held on 10 August as circulated, be received and adopted.

Cllr Blake, having declared a personal interest, was reassured by his question regarding increased charges for the Play School when Cllr Lawton advised that the negotiations had been conclusive. Cllr Blake felt that perhaps charging overall needs to be revisited.

Cllr Poole expressed concern about the rigidity etc of certain conference tables and chairs and Cllr Lawton advised that the furniture etc being used for this and other meetings are not the "finished article". However he felt that what we have is sufficient for our needs.

**34 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Resolved that the minutes of the Town Hall Management Committee Meeting held on 9 September 2009 as circulated, be received and adopted.

As chair, Cllr Lawton mentioned progress that had been made particularly with the internal CCTV project and Cllr Killane applauded for what he has put into both the project and the task itself.

**35 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN PROMOTIONS AND TOURISM COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Resolved that the minutes of the Town Hall Management Meeting held on the 18 March 2009 as circulated, be received and adopted.

Cllr Goldstone, as Chair updated members with a recent meeting with an officer from Wiltshire Council about improving the look of vacant shops as one of the tools to bring business to town.

He also covered the fact that we had declined to accept an Italian Market on the day after Christmas Late Night Shopping partly because there would be nothing in it financially but plans to speak to Wiltshire Council and/or the Market manager to see if this is something we can hold at another time. However the fact that there would be 18 stalls presents a barrier.

There was a brief inconclusive discussion about an official opening of the new internal toilets as the public ones.

**36 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ACCOUNTS SUB COMMITTEE FOLLOWING EXAMINATION OF THE CHEQUES**

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

**37 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ANY REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES**

- Cllr Sanderson mentioned that the M & VCAP is moving well under its newly elected chairman and a meeting is to be held on 29 October at the Kings Arms on community safety.
- He mentioned that next year's twinning visit from Malmesbury, South Africa schoolchildren will in March to avoid the football World Cup in that country.
- Finally Cllr Sanderson was able to announce that new Cartmell minibus was handed over last week.

- Cllr Killane announced that the yellow lining exercise deadline has been extended to the end of October and the Mayor urged members who field any concerns to get complainants to write to county and copy the town council in.
- Additionally he covered the information regarding the recent long stay car parking meeting and the notes of this are appended at the foot of these minutes.
- Having attended a recent WALC meeting, Cllr Vernon mentioned that there had been a move to form a sub group for larger councils which had been suppressed.
- The Mayor advised that county is looking to discontinue the public transport group which she feels will be resisted.

**38 TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING IN VIEW OF THE COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE ITEM UNDER DISCUSSION**

Resolved that the press and public be excluded from this part of the meeting.

**39 TO RECEIVE & CONSIDER A REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BUILDING CONTRACTOR CONCERNING THE FINAL VALUATION OF WORKS TO THE TOWN, ATTACHED AS REPORT NO. 2 IN THE AGENDA**

After a comprehensive briefing on recent discussions and the potential implications from Cllr Vernon, it was resolved that the recommendation outlined at paragraph 2.2 in the Town Clerk's report dated 9 September 2009 – previously circulated - be adopted. Members thanked Cllr Vernon for the work he had put into this.

**40 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**  
None

**41 ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

- We had received a letter re the late Ken Hudson who was a well known personality who left funds but no will. It is suggested that a bench be purchased from his estate and suitable placed in town perhaps in front of the library. Members felt able to support this suggestion and we will write appropriately to Mr Hudson's executor.

**ACTION MAYOR**

- We have received three copy letters re care of the elderly and the exclusion of local needy people from Athelstan House and it was agreed that we should write an appropriate letter and ensure that Cllr Thomson is similarly advised

**ACTION MAYOR**

**Meeting closed at 20.45 hrs.**

## **MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES MEETING RE STATION ROAD PARKING AND RELATED ISSUES**

HELD 11 SEPTEMBER 2009 IN THE TOWN HALL, MALMESBURY FOLLOWING SITE MEETING

AT 2 PM

**PRESENT:** Councillors: S Killane (Chair), Mrs C C Doody (Town Mayor), J Thomson, M Snell, Messrs R Budgen, I Hopkins, I Hunter, C Major, M Rippon, A Robb, J Stiddard, Sgt M Avis

P Rice - Deputy Town Clerk (Minutes)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor: W Blake

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- Initially the parties to this meeting representing the full range of interested parties toured the car park prior to returning to the Town Hall
- Sgt Martin Alvis outlined the police's perception namely that the so called "boy racers" had not been committing any criminal activities and despite the loudness of their car exhausts, there was no problem there either. There had been four instances of arson in the past 18 months but no locals were involved. The long stay car park is the most patrolled area in the town.
- Chris Major, lead officer for Parking Services outlined his area's responsibilities and the fact that his staff have no responsibility for dealing with any anti-social behaviour issues that may arise.

#### **SOLUTIONS**

- The meeting then looked at options and there was a far reaching discussion on what could be done. It was agreed that the following measures should be examined and hopefully implemented:
  - Place a bollard at the town end of the car park by the bridge but discussions would need to be held with local affected residents.
  - Put CCTV in place which would need to be supported by probably improved lighting in the car park. Wiltshire council officers and councillors will examine the finance and other issues here.
  - Get some of vegetation on the Station Road side of the car park to improve concerns about safety.
  - Have the parking bays repainted.
  - Try to reroute the town bus through the car park which would certainly be an aid to particularly older people and would encourage increased footfall in the car park.
  - Hopefully these measure would result in our being able to improve perception about safety and vandalism in the car park

Depending on the results of these actions, then concern could be given to bollarding park of the car park outside certain hours although this did not have universal support and hopefully would only be a backstop if the measures above did not succeed. It would however result in resident parking and the young motorists being squeezed closer together which could encourage young f=drivers way from the site although all were adamant that the problem should not be "pushed" elsewhere in or outside the town.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- The issues raised to be initially brought to the attention of the Area Board.