

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Malting Hall, Malmesbury on Tuesday the 20th July 2010 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor P J Goldstone
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor S Cox
Councillors: W G Blake, A Carnegie, Mrs C C Doody, P Dove,
I Henderson, S Killane, J R Lawton, Mrs R Miles,
R F Sanderson, M H Snell, C M Vernon and
A C R Woodcock.

APOLOGIES: Councillors A Stamp and J E F Poole

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

Prayers were offered by Councillor A C R Woodcock

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor P J Goldstone reported on the engagements he had attended during the month, including the ceremony at Salisbury. He then read a letter received from the Commanding Officer at Buckley Barracks thanking the town for the award of the Freedom.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Bryn Rowlands, a local resident, asked a question about the policy on responding to emails, when the minutes from the Annual Meeting would be placed on the website and when would the date of the Annual Meeting for 2011 be announced. The Town Clerk advised Mr Rowlands that he would respond by email in the morning.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

19. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25TH MAY 2010

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 25th May 2010 as circulated, be received and adopted.

20. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 1ST AND 22ND JUNE 2010 AND 13TH JULY 2010

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environmental Issues Meetings held on the 1st and 22nd of June and 13th July 2010 as circulated, be received and adopted.

Min 45 - Councillor C M Vernon drew member's attention to the application submitted to rebuild the wall at Abbey Row.

Min 50 - Councillor J R Lawton expressed the view that the questionnaire may raise expectations. Councillor S Killane advised that the Chair of the Area Board had stated that finances were limited.

21. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN PROMOTION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25TH MAY, 17TH JUNE AND 8TH JULY 2010.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure and Youth Committee held on the 25th May, 17th June and 8th July 2010 as circulated, be received and adopted.

Min 2 - His Worship the Mayor raised the issue of the cancellation of Beating the Bounds. Councillor Mrs C C Doody agreed to contact other local councils and enquire about their arrangements.

Min 5 - Councillor Mrs C C Doody commended Andy Dawson and Jon Caton for the display of kites in the Town Hall and Information Centre.

22. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25TH MAY AND 9TH JUNE 2010.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Hall Management Committee held on 25th May and 9th June 2010 as circulated, be received and adopted.

23. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 8TH JUNE 2010

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on the 8th June 2010 as circulated, be received and adopted.

Min 11 – Councillor C M Vernon proposed that the Town Council exclude members of the press and public whilst the content of a code of conduct was discussed. The proposition was seconded but it was RESOLVED that discussion be held at the end of the meeting but in public session.

24. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE AND YOUTH COMMITTEE HELD ON 25TH MAY AND 1ST JULY 2010

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure and Youth Committee meeting held on the 25th May and 1st July 2010, as circulated, be received and noted.

25. EXAMINATION OF THE ACCOUNTS

Councillor C M Vernon, Chair of Policy and Resources Committee, reported that he had examined the payments in the company of the Vice-Chair and found all to be in order.

26. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON CONCURRENT POWERS

Councillor C M Vernon, Chair of Policy and Resources Committee, presented his report on concurrent powers and it was RESOLVED to support the proposals to take over more functions as appropriate.

27. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO NAME THE GALLERY SPACE

Councillor Mrs C C Doody put forward a proposal that the Gallery space be named the John Bowen Gallery in memory of Town Councillor John Bowen who conceived the idea of using the area for a gallery.

It was reported that the Bowen family would prefer the space to be named the Bowen Gallery and in view of the family wishes it was RESOLVED that the space be named the Bowen Gallery and that a suitable formal naming ceremony would be held during the autumn.

28. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Wiltshire Council - Councillor S Killane reported on issues from Wiltshire Council including the consultation on recycling, reduction in street lighting and resident's permits. He also advised that the Special Educational Needs unit at Malmesbury School had been granted a reprieve and would continue for the time being. He thanked the Town Council for the support provided.

Wiltshire Association of Local Councils - Councillor C M Vernon reported that at the last meeting a presentation had been given by Steve Milton from Wiltshire Council on the subject of Area Boards.

Closure of Lynham – Councillor A C R Woodcock reported from the meeting that had taken place at Wootton Bassett and confirmed that at the moment it was proposed that all activity at the base will cease by 31st December 2012.

Twinning Association – Councillor R F Sanderson reported that there would be a trip to Malmesbury South Africa at the end of November until 13th December. He thanked the Town Council for the use of the Town Hall for the recent celebrations.

M&VCAP - Councillor R F Sanderson reported that there would be a trial of CCTV in the Station Yard area conducted at the expense of Wiltshire Council.

Councillor Mrs C C Doody advised the Activity Zone had not invited her to attend any meetings.

His Worship the Mayor enquired if there had been any progress on the proposed Skateboard Park. Councillor A Carnegie declared a personal interest as Chair of the Committee which attends in his private capacity and informed the members of progress with a commencement date proposed for November 2010. The Mayor instructed the Town Clerk to write to the Skate Park Committee to enquire if the Town Council could be of assistance and provide support to the committee. Councillor J R Lawton volunteered to represent the Town Council if support was invited and in the absence of other nominations it was agreed that his offer be accepted.

29. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk reported that there had been no items of relevant correspondence.

30. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions raised.

31. CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillor C M Vernon opened the debate and explained that a model code of conduct did exist but there was little guidance on what was meant by bringing the council into disrepute. It was agreed that the Working Party was to consider a Code of Publicity to specify who can speak on behalf of Council.

Concern was also expressed by several members about the use of emails for communication and whether or not these should freely be forwarded to other parties or blind copied to other recipients without the knowledge or consent of the author. His Worship the Mayor was urged to specifically consider these issues so that members may feel at ease when communicating one with another. It was recognised that there needs to be a balance between freedom of speech and freedom of information and that adherence to normal etiquette should be sufficient to meet the requirements.

Meeting closed at 21.10 hrs.