

## **Malmesbury Town Council**

Minutes of the  
**Full Council Meeting**  
Held via Zoom on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021** at 7.00pm.

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Councillor C M Ritchie

Councillors: S D'Arcy, C Doody, P Exton, L G Grant, W Jones, K Power, D Rogers,  
P Smith, F Vandelli

Claire Mann (Acting Town Clerk), Gill Davie (Minutes)

### **MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Greatest Malmesburian Debate took place on February 5th. As a result of the interest in Thomas Hobbes maybe more emphasis should be placed on his connection to Malmesbury in future
- March 20<sup>th</sup> will be the Mayor's Ball. Admission will be free, and it is hoped to raise money for Heal's. Invitations will be going out this week and then it will be advertised to the Malmesbury residents.
- Lloyds Bank has refused to reconsider its decision to close the Malmesbury branch. This response was disappointing, and Cllrs Ritchie and Grant are due to have a further telephone discussion with the bank. Lloyds will be providing a mobile branch in the town every 2 weeks.

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

**2. APOLOGIES:** Cllrs J M Exton, C Hardwick, E Hepworth

**3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** None

**4. To receive and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on January 19th 2021.**

**Resolved:** the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on January 19th 2021 were received and adopted as a true record.

**Proposed:** Cllr Ritchie

**Seconded:** Cllr Smith

**5 To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on January 12th 2021.**

This was a straightforward meeting with 6 applications considered and no objections. It was reported that the planning application for the "gabion" wall had been rejected by the Northern Area Planning Group. Discussion had also taken

place about the bins at Daniels Well and under the bypass and all agreed that these bins should be emptied and maintained by St Paul Without.

**Resolved:** the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on January 12th 2021 were received and adopted as a true record

**Proposed:** Cllr P Exton      **Seconded:** Cllr Jones

**6 To receive and adopt the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on December 2nd 2020.**

**Resolved:** the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 were received and adopted as a true record

**Proposed:** Cllr Jones      **Seconded:** Cllr P Exton

It was confirmed that interviews would be held for the Town Clerk appointment on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**7 To receive and adopt the minutes of the Burial Committee meeting held on October 14<sup>th</sup> 2020.**

A meeting had been held with residents from Tetbury Hill Gardens about granting a right of way, but this request was turned down. A meeting was also held to determine the positioning of new graves. A new bench has been installed.

**Resolved:** the minutes of the Burial Committee meeting held on October 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 were received and adopted as a true record

**Proposed:** Cllr Smith      **Seconded:** Cllr Jones

**8. To receive and adopt the minutes of the Town Hall and Facilities Committee meeting held on November 11th 2020.**

**Resolved:** the minutes of the Town Hall and Facilities Committee meeting held on November 11<sup>th</sup> 2020 were received and adopted as a true record

**Proposed:** Cllr Grant      **Seconded:** Cllr Smith

**9. To receive an update on matters relating to the COVID-19 situation and to consider any proposed actions (Report No 1 Acting Town Clerk, Cllr Ritchie)**

The Acting Town Clerk provided a summary of the items in the report confirming that the situation was unchanged in the Town Hall with the café open for takeaways, the toilets for key workers and the only booking was for the Blood Service. Another quote had been received for the CCTV proposal. The Lodge would be let from February 26<sup>th</sup>. Repairs were underway in the Cloister Gardens. Parking slots at Waitrose were being co-ordinated by the TIC staff. A question was raised about the outdoor gym being closed but it was explained that this was a legal requirement under the COVID-19 restrictions. The refurbishment of the Co-op and the impact that might have on Cross Hayes car park was also discussed.

The need to monitor the High Street as social distancing regulations change and the options for parking availability on the High Street in future were also discussed.

**Proposal:** to note the reports. To put the High Street on the agenda for the P&R Committee meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March with any proposals from that meeting to come to the next Full Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

**Proposed:** Cllr Ritchie

**Seconded:** Cllr Jones

**10. To receive an update on planning and related matters in relation to the Malmesbury Neighbourhood Plan, consultation on the Wiltshire Local Plan and recent planning applications and to consider any proposed actions (Report No 2 Cllrs Ritchie, Exton and Power)**

Cllr Power provided an update on the Malmesbury Neighbourhood Plan. A meeting had been held on January 18<sup>th</sup> with the chairs of St Paul Without and Brokenborough and a Wiltshire Council representative. With the land supply issue and current planning applications it is necessary to revise the plan in some format to protect the town. Another meeting will be held on February 17<sup>th</sup> to take this forward.

Wiltshire Local Plan will be discussed at P&E Committee next week and any comments from Cllrs would be gratefully received at that meeting. The five sites identified in the plan and the three close by to the town would be a concern if plans were to change. So, all councillors were exhorted to engage in the consultation.

Work is continuing with other Wiltshire town and parish councils regarding planning issues.

The updates were received and noted.

**11 To note the Local Elections due on Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and to confirm meeting dates and arrangements for the Town Meeting and Malmesbury Town Council meetings in May 2021.**

All agreed that the Town Meeting and Citizen of the Year would be held on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The annual meeting to elect Chairs and Committee members would be held on May 13<sup>th</sup> 2021. The Full Council meeting would be held on Tuesday May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and the Mayor Making would be on Thursday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. As usual the calendar for meetings for the next year would be agreed at the Full Council meeting in April.

**Action:** the Acting Town Clerk will inform all those standing for election on May 6<sup>th</sup>, of the date and nature of the meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> so that they can give some thought to their preferences.

**12 To receive a short verbal update from the councils' representatives by expressed invitation:**

**Market Town Forum** – will be on the next agenda for C&TP Committee  
**Malmesbury Team-** Cllr Ritchie said there had been plenty of activity, signposting available grants to local businesses, applying to the Area Board

for help to produce the next Town Guide, Explore Malmesbury is on target for launch at the end of March.

**Malmesbury & District Twinning Association** – the Niebull visit has been cancelled this year. The cultural event will not take place until next year. Thanks were given for the Council's support.

**Local Youth Network Management Group** – the next meeting is later this week.

**Movies@Malmesbury** – it is suspended with a review meeting in March.

**Malmesbury Climate Action Network-** the film 2040 will be shown this week and the Jackdaw will be producing a supplement with their next edition. Fruitful Malmesbury has now got the licence to plant the trees on land by the Activity Centre. The Last Baguette is running workshops with schools to focus on nature and when the library reopens there will be a hanging garden for fruit and vegetables there. Thanks were given to the Town Hall staff for their help in providing banking facilities.

**Athelstan Statue-** moving to raising funds as the design has been approved. This will go to the next P&E Committee meeting

### **13. To receive an update from the Wiltshire Councillor Gavin Grant**

Cllr Grant provided a summary of his report:

- An appeal may well be forthcoming regarding the “gabion wall” planning application.
- It would be helpful if the Town Council could consider the background information on the collapse of the wall at King's Wall and make representation to Wiltshire Council about it
- A decision on the £5k for the Cloister Gardens will be taken at the Area Board meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- An amendment will be lodged at the Wiltshire Council Budget meeting to impact on the 4.99% increase, to increase the hardship grants and to ringfence the business grants.
- Ollie Phipps is leaving his role on the Area Board and Inspector Doug Downing is also moving on. It will be prudent to meet with his successor.

### **14. To exclude the press and public on the grounds of commercial sensitivity and confidentiality for item 15.**

**Proposed:** Cllr Ritchie

**Seconded:** Cllr Vandelli

### **12 To receive an update report on the matter of Malmesbury Victoria Football Club facilities and adopt the Terms of Reference of the Flying Monk Working Group (Report No 3 Cllr P Exton)**

The Football Club want to flatten and rebuild the clubhouse with an upper storey and redesign the pitch. The Club are getting an architect to draw up plans before the next meeting. Questions were raised over Athelstan Players and the flood situation of the site.

**Proposal:** to accept the Terms of Reference and to ask the working group to report back to this Full Council or its successor when decisions need to be made

**Proposed:** Cllr P Exton

**Seconded:** Cllr Grant

The meeting ended at 8.53pm

Date of next Full Council Meeting: 23.3.21