

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held in Malmesbury Town Hall on **Tuesday 18th January 2022** at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors C Doody, P Exton, L G Grant, R P Jones, W Jones, K Power, C Ritchie, R Sanderson, P Smith, F Smith, F Vandelli, E Whatton

ALSO PRESENT: Claire Mann (Town Clerk), Gill Davie (Minutes)

MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A presentation of £1200 was made to Maggie's charity after the recent Sri Lankan dinner
- The Mayor attended a service in the Abbey on Jan 2nd to sing in the New Year
- The Mayor's Ball will be held on April 2nd this year. It will be a black-tie event. There will be no complimentary tickets to help raise as much money as possible for Heal's and the Rise Trust

FC/22/01 **Declarations of interest:** None

FC/22/02 **Apologies:** Cllrs D'Arcy

FC/22/03 **Public Questions on items of business included on the agenda:** None.

FC/22/04 **To receive and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on December 15th, 2021.**

A question was asked about the Freedom of the Town event, and it was confirmed that a response was due from Buckley Barracks

Resolved: the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on December 15th, 2021, were received and adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr P Smith

Seconded: Cllr Power

FC/22/05 **To receive and note the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings held on November 17th & December 7th, 2021.**

Resolved: the Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on November 17th 2021 were received and noted.

Proposed: Cllr P Exton

Seconded: Cllr W Jones

The proposal for the Market Cross was deferred on December 7th until the next meeting.

Action: the results from the previous public consultation on the Market Cross to be circulated to all Committee members before the next meeting

Resolved: the Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on December 7th, 2021 were received and noted.

Proposed: Cllr P Exton

Seconded: Cllr W Jones

FC/22/11 To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (verbal report Cllr Power)

The first unofficial consultation has been completed and the group is ready to start on the next part of the process. That requires a Strategic Environment Assessment and a Habitat Assessment and this can only be undertaken by Wiltshire Council. Moving ahead without this could undermine the process. The Cabinet member with responsibility for Planning has been alerted to the need for this to be done but no progress can be made until it has been done

Action: the Mayor to raise this with James Gray MP

FC/22/12 To receive a verbal update on the Community Governance Review (Cllr Smith)

Cllr Smith reported that several hours of discussion had taken place with the parish and the conclusions were explained with reference to the map. A report with clear maps would be sent to the Electoral Committee of Wiltshire Council by 20/1/22 and that Committee would make recommendations to Wiltshire Council for a decision.

FC/22/13 To consider the way forward for Councillor vacancies

It will be confirmed next week whether an election is required for the current two vacancies. As G Davies is no longer a Councillor there will be three vacancies to fill now.

Resolved: to await confirmation whether an election is required. If not, then to re-run the advertisement but this time offering a drop-in session when Chairs of the Committees can explain what is involved.

Proposed: Cllr W Jones

Seconded: Cllr Power

FC/22/14 To receive updates from representatives of Malmesbury Town Council on the following organisations:

Wiltshire Association of Local Councils & Society of Local Council Clerks – Katie Fielding, who has been MTC's contact, is moving on

Malmesbury Conservation Group – Cllr R Jones will report back at the next FC meeting.

Malmesbury Town Team – Cllr Ritchie reported that the Malmesbury Gift Card could now be used electronically, Explore Malmesbury was performing well with new developments planned this year, support is being given to the commemoration of Malmesbury Witch Trials

Malmesbury and District Twinning Association – the trip to Gien is going ahead. Tickets need to be booked by the end of January

Operational Flood Group – funds have been secured to work with Atkins to produce a business plan to go to the Environment Agency and the Wessex Regional Flood Committee for approval and funding. A further presentation will be given when work has been completed on this

Community Area Transport Group – Cllr P Exton explained that the No Entry sign has been put up in Cross Hayes Car Park and the 20 mile per hour signs have gone up in Bristol Street

Local Youth Network Management Group – Cllr Vandelli reported that recent meetings have been cancelled so monthly meetings are not taking place

Movies at Malmesbury – Cllr D'Arcy was not present to report

Malmesbury Climate Action Network (inc Malmesbury Against Plastic) – Cllr Vandelli reported that the recent success story was the Repair Café which is now in the library. Fruitful Malmesbury have completed the planting by the library.

To receive an update from the Wiltshire Councillor, Gavin Grant

- Cllr Grant explained that Wiltshire Council was looking to make £20m in savings in the next year and these need to be made despite the maximum allowable Council Tax increase of 2.99%
- He drew attention to some increased costs as a result of the financial challenges, particularly highlighting the increased car parking charges which could have negative impact on businesses in the town

Resolved: the Mayor to make representation to Wiltshire Council in the strongest possible terms explaining MTC's concerns over these increased charges. These concerns to be shared through social media and the website asking residents to support these concerns to Wiltshire Council

Proposed: Cllr Power

Seconded: Cllr W Jones

- The Community Safety Forum had a well attended meeting with action plans developed around tackling anti-social behaviour. A key message must get out to residents to report anti-social behaviour to the police rather than on social media.

The meeting closed at 21.02pm