

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the **Full Council Meeting**

Held in Malmesbury Town Hall on **Tuesday 20th July 2021** at 7.00pm.

Note: The Mayor Cllr P Smith, Cllr F Smith and the Acting Town Clerk, Claire Mann attended the meeting via zoom due to Covid self-isolating restrictions and took no part in discussions.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Gill Davie (Minutes)

MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS were presented by the Deputy Mayor, K Power

- The High Street Regeneration Working Party has had a meeting over Teams with Wiltshire Council Highways Department to discuss the removal of the bollards and the planters. Originally their removal was scheduled for w/c July 26th but that has been brought forward to Weds July 21st. Athelstan House has been able to take the plants from the planters for use around their site.
- The Head of Economic Recovery in Wiltshire has offered a meeting at the beginning of August to discuss Malmesbury's Regeneration plans and needs.

FC/21/37 **Declarations of interest:** None

FC/21/38 **Apologies:** Cllrs G Davies, K Davies, J M Exton

FC/21/39 **Public Questions on items of business included on the agenda:** None.

FC/21/40 **To receive and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on June 15th, 2021.**

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

Proposed: Cllr Power

Seconded: Cllr Grant

FC/21/41 **To receive and note the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on June 2nd, 2021.**

Resolved: the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on June 2nd, 2021 were received and noted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr W Jones

Seconded: Cllr Grant

FC/21/42 To receive and note the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings held on June 1st & 22nd, 2021.

Resolved: the Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on June 1st, 2021 were received and noted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr P Exton

Seconded: Cllr W Jones

Questions were raised over MTC's response to the Public Bus Network Survey. It was agreed that it was important to make a representation in response to the survey to open a dialogue with Wiltshire Council to ensure their plans fit the needs of the town.

Action: the Acting Town Clerk to put this item on the next P&E agenda to revisit and agree a response from the Council

Resolved: the Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on June 22nd, 2021 were received and noted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr P Exton

Seconded: Cllr R Sanderson

FC/21/43 To receive and note the minutes of the Community & Town Promotion Committee meeting held on June 10th, 2021

Resolved: the minutes of the Community and Town Promotion Committee meeting held on June 10th 2021 were received and noted as a true record

Proposed: Cllr Power

Seconded: Cllr Vandelli

FC/21/44 To receive and note the minutes of the Town Hall & Facilities Committee meeting held on June 16th, 2021

Resolved: the minutes of the Town Hall & Facilities Committee meeting held on June 16th 2021 were received and noted as a true record

Proposed: Cllr Grant

Seconded: Cllr P Exton

FC/21/45 To consider the report from a meeting with James Gray MP, Cllrs Paul Smith and Frances Smith and the Acting Town Clerk

The apology received from James Gray was welcomed but after some discussion about the chronology and accuracy of events contained in the report it was agreed that more work needed to be done on the report before it could be accepted.

Resolved: to note the apology made by James Gray MP. Also, to withdraw the report, to ask Cllrs P Smith and Ritchie to work with the Acting Town Clerk to correct the errors in the chronology of events within the report so that it can be adopted at the next Full Council meeting

Proposed: Cllr W Jones

Seconded: Cllr Grant

FC/21/46 To confirm membership of the Town Hall & Facilities Committee

Cllr J Exton would like to resign from the Town Hall & Facilities Committee

Resolved: to accept the resignation of Cllr J Exton from the Town Hall & Facilities Committee and to seek to find a replacement by the Acting Town Clerk writing to Councillors asking for nominations to be considered at the next Full Council meeting

Proposed: Cllr Grant

Seconded: Cllr W Jones

FC/21/47 To confirm membership of the Planning & Environment Committee

Cllr Doody confirmed she would like to stand down from this committee

Action: to seek to find a replacement by the Acting Town Clerk writing to Councillors asking for nominations to be considered at the next Full Council meeting

FC/21/48 To confirm membership of the Policy & Resources Committee

It is believed that the Mayor would like to become an ex-officio member of the Policy & Resources Committee

Resolved: to defer a decision on this until the next Full Council meeting as no formal proposal has been brought forward

Proposed: Cllr W Jones

Seconded: Cllr Vandelli

FC/21/49 To receive a verbal update from the Acting Town Clerk with regard to Welcome Back Funding as discussed at Town & Parish Clerks meeting on June 17th, 2021

This is deferred to the next Full Council meeting due to the Acting Town Clerk not being able to attend this meeting

FC/21/50 To note the request from Wiltshire Council to respond to the Climate Strategy Consultation which goes live on 1st September for six weeks

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/green-economy

Resolved: to defer consideration of this item to the Planning & Environment Committee

Proposed: Cllr W Jones

Seconded: Cllr Doody

FC/21/51 To discuss the next steps for CCTV installation in the Town

CCTV has already been installed in the cemetery. A meeting needs to be convened now to review the recent presentations for CCTV in the town and to put together an action plan to take this forward. More information is still awaited from the companies who presented

Resolved: that the Acting Town Clerk should follow up and obtain answers to all the outstanding questions and then to call an extraordinary Full Council meeting with CCTV as a single item on the agenda to bring this item to a conclusion

Proposed: Cllr W Jones

Seconded: Cllr Vandelli

FC/21/52 To note the request from the Carnival Committee with regard to Councillors' participation in the Carnival Procession

Agreed: that Councillors would represent Malmesbury Town Council in the procession in the normal manner

FC/21/53 To appoint Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group

Based on the last jubilee this could involve a significant amount of work. It is recognised that work needs to begin in getting the town involved in the jubilee.

Cllrs Doody, R Jones, Power, Sanderson, and Vandelli volunteered to be part of the working group

Action: the Acting Town Clerk to write to all the Councillors to see if anyone else wants to join the working group

FC/21/54 To receive updates from representatives of Malmesbury Town Council on the following organisations:

Wiltshire Association of Local Councils & Society of Local Council Clerks – nothing to report.

Market Town Forum - nothing to report

Malmesbury Conservation Group – nothing to report.

Malmesbury Town Team – Cllr Ritchie reported that a lot was happening with all projects progressing well. The number of retailers accepting the Gift Card is likely to increase. A High Street property is being sought for Malmesbury Made

Resolved: to give a vote of thanks to the Town Team for promoting the High Street in these difficult times for retailers

Proposed: Cllr Power

Seconded: Cllr Vandelli

Malmesbury and District Twinning Association – a meeting is to be held next week

Operational Flood Group – nothing to report.

Community Area Transport Group – Cllr P Exton explained that a meeting had been held last week

Local Youth Network Management Group – Cllr Vandelli reported funding had been given to the Rise Trust

Movies at Malmesbury – Cllr Doody has stood down from this group

Action: the Acting Town Clerk to send a note to all Councillors to seek a replacement on this group.

The cinema is up and running with some capacity audiences (given the Covid restrictions) for some shows. The hall is not ideal in this hot weather. Audience numbers will be reviewed over the next few months with perhaps an increase to 45.

Malmesbury Climate Action Network (inc Malmesbury Against Plastic) – Cllr Vandelli reported that the Library of Things is due to have a Sept launch with the library being happy to make space for it in the courtyard. The theatre project is finished, and a film has been made which will be shown as part of the Carnival schedule. An "Apple Day" has been agreed with Abbey House for the end of September. The Transport group is being revitalised. The Community Fridge and Freezer is a joint project between the Town Council, HEALS and the Co-op.

Athelstan Statue Project Group – Cllr Ritchie reported that the planning application had been withdrawn. A meeting will be held with English Heritage to discuss the plinth. Also, the strong local opposition to what might happen to the silver birch trees needs to be considered.

Joint Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Power reported on the work of the Joint Neighbourhood Plan Working Group who have been reviewing the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. She stressed it is important to look at the plan and make sure it is still viable

Resolved: that the Council agrees the amendments to the Malmesbury Area Neighbourhood Plan as per the draft reviewed Plan; that the Council delegates authority to the Chair of the Joint Neighbourhood Plan Working Group to amend wording and prepare documentation in respect of the review and the proposals, as considered appropriate by them, in order to ease the process; that the Council authorises the Chair of the Joint Neighbourhood Plan Working Group to instruct the Acting Town Clerk to notify Wiltshire Council and others of these amendments; that the Council agrees for the Joint Neighbourhood Plan Working Group to continue the process and in due course to scope the preparations and costs for a public consultation of the amended Neighbourhood Plan at a date in the future.

Proposed: Cllr Power

Seconded: Cllr Grant

FC/21/55

To receive an update from the Wiltshire Councillor, Gavin Grant

- Cllr Grant explained the implications of a meeting being held the next day on the proposed Chippenham expansion and what it could mean for Malmesbury
- As previously highlighted the social distancing measures on the High Street are being removed. The parking arrangements will remain for the time being as they are pending Wiltshire Council acting on the requests made by the Town Council
- As previously highlighted the meeting with the Head of Economic Recovery in Wiltshire Council offers an important opportunity for the Town Council, business and the wider community in Malmesbury.
- Cllr Grant has been elected as Vice Chair of Wiltshire Council's Elections Review Committee and will shortly be meeting with the relevant Officers to draw up the committee's initial work programme, which could include consideration of the boundaries between MTC and St Paul Malmesbury Without. Strategically, this is a very important project and the P&R committee will need to consider how MTC responds to these deliberations.

The meeting closed at 20.58pm