

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the
Full Council Meeting
Held via Zoom on **Tuesday 20th October 2020** at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Councillor C M Ritchie

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

Richard Spencer-Williams (Town Clerk), Gill Davie (Minutes)

Brendon Rice Secretary of Malmesbury Victoria Football Club gave a short presentation, explaining the club's current issues, why they had arisen, future aspirations of the club and possible solutions to inform discussion of a later agenda item at the meeting.

MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The virtual Friendship Civic Reception was held on Friday Sept 25th with Malmesbury's twin and friendship towns which proved to be a good bonding experience
- The Mayor's Charity Event is on Sat Oct 31st at 6pm – Virtual Halloween Extravaganza. Tickets are going well
- Invitations for Remembrance Day have been sent out. It will be held outside this year at 11am. Inside the Abbey will be a contingency if the weather is poor
- E-cards will replace the usual Mayor's Christmas cards this year. The saving on cards and postage means a donation can be made to the Mayor's charities.

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

2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr C Hardwick

3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** There were no public questions

4. **To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 22nd September 2020.**

Resolved the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 22nd September 2020 were received and adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Ritchie **Seconded:** Cllr Smith

5. **To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on the 2nd September 2020**

Resolved the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 2nd September 2020 were received and adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Jones **Seconded:** Cllr Grant

6 To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee Meetings held on the 15th September 2020

Resolved: the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on the 15th September 2020 were received and adopted as a true record

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

7. To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Burial Committee held on the 24th June 2020

Resolved: the Minutes of the Burial Committee Meeting held on the 24th June 2020 were received and adopted as a true record

Proposed: Cllr Smith **Seconded:** Cllr Vandelli

8. To receive and adopt the minutes of the Community and Town Promotion Committee held on the 17th September 2020

Resolved: the Minutes of the Community and Town Promotion Committee Meeting held on the 17th September 2020 were received and adopted as a true record

Proposed: Cllr Vandelli **Seconded:** Cllr Power

9. To consider and agree a leave of absence until 31st March 2021 as requested by Cllr Hardwick

Resolved: to agree to the leave of absence as requested by Cllr Hardwick until 31st March 2021

Proposed: Cllr Ritchie **Seconded:** Cllr Grant

10. To appoint a Council representative to act as the Flood Co-ordinator until May 2021

The Town Clerk explained what was required. The representative would be the official liaison point between the Council and the Wardens. Cllr D'Arcy volunteered to take on this role and this nomination was approved by the Full Council

11. To consider the matter arising from Malmesbury Victoria Football Club's presentation and agree the Council's response as appropriate

All appreciated the quality of the presentation given at the meeting. Questions were raised on the likelihood of achieving a new site for the club. The limitations of the current site were recognised given the club's aspirations. The Council is keen to support the Club but recognises more

discussion is needed to see what role the Council can have in supporting the Club. This will be done through the Town Hall & Facilities Committee.

Proposal: to engage in further discussions with Malmesbury Victoria Football Club to ascertain how Malmesbury Town Council can support the Club

Proposed: Cllr Ritchie

Seconded: Cllr Jones

12. To update on the operation of the Covid-19 related High Street Safety Scheme including parking arrangements at Station Yard, the Old Bell, and Cross Hayes (Report No 1, Town Clerk)

The Town Clerk provided an update on the status of the proposed scheme, which has been reviewed by the P&R committee and has the support in principle from Wiltshire Council. No commitment to funding has been agreed to date although it is possible the European funding for support of the High Street could be used. Urgent discussions are taking place with Wiltshire Council to get this resolved as quickly as possible to ensure it is in place in time for Christmas shopping on the High Street.

The Council noted the work which had been achieved so far and the funding which needs to be in place for this to proceed

13. To receive a report on the activity of the Malmesbury Town Team and Malmesbury Town Council Task Group related to the promotion of Malmesbury High Street and local businesses in response to the impact of Covid-19 (Report No 2, Mayor Ritchie)

Cllr Ritchie gave a brief update explaining the Council had been working on plans for the High Street, CT&P Committee were working on plans for the run up to Christmas, so the Town Team were focusing on the shop local campaign and Malmesbury Gift Card. He gave an update on the social media campaign and the plans for banners on the by-pass and by the Town Hall

The report was received and noted

Agenda item 14 was deferred until the end of the meeting

15. To agree a response to Wiltshire Council's Area Board Boundary Review consultation. (Report No 4 Town Clerk)

Cllr Grant informed the meeting that the review had been no change to the Area Board Boundary

Proposal: to note there had been no change because of the review and to support the proposal

Proposed: Cllr Grant

Seconded: Cllr Jones

16. To receive a short verbal update report from the Council's representatives

Wiltshire Association of Local Councils – the Town Clerk reported they had provided some recent training which was useful for the team and he would continue to maintain a relationship with them

Market Town Forum – Cllr Power reported limited contact with WCC

Malmesbury Conservation Group – Cllr Ritchie had nothing to report

Malmesbury and District Community Transport- Cllr Grant reported the decision to make the salaried staff redundant. Discussions were now taking place with Cartmell Community Bus trustees

Malmesbury Town Team- it will be the first anniversary for the Gift Card shortly. 35 retailers are now on board. Development of Explore Malmesbury is going well. Lack of funding for the High Street from the Aldi development is being progressed with Wiltshire Council

Malmesbury and District Twinning Association: virtual friendship evening went well. Aim to build stronger links with S Africa in future

Community Area Transport Group – Cllr P Exton reported £16500 in the current budget

Local Youth Network Management Group – the next meeting is on Nov 5th

Movies@Malmesbury – has been running in a Covid safe way since Sept 1st and is effectively breaking even

Malmesbury Climate Action Network (inc Malmesbury Against Plastic) – is undertaking a large amount of work including cycle paths and local power generating schemes

Athelstan Statue Project Group – Cllr Ritchie reported that not much action had taken place on funding this project

All the above demonstrates the reach of Malmesbury Town Council and the wide variety of activities across the town

17. To receive an update from the Wiltshire Councillor Gavin Grant

- The Council is working on a response to the White Paper on the future of planning. Quite a lot of the contributions so far have been critical of the White Paper
- Attention has been drawn to footpaths and cycleways on new and existing housing developments
- The Area Board have organised half term activities in the Cloister Gardens and sponsored a film being made in the week
- There has been recent anti-social behaviour in the town. The police are taking action against this. The possibility of setting up a Community Safety Forum has been raised with the police
- Wiltshire Council's finances are still in a difficult position. A decline in Council Tax revenue is not helping and this could have an impact on budgeting for the precept for Malmesbury

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

Proposed: Cllr Ritchie

Seconded: Cllr Grant

14. To consider and agree the submission to be made by Malmesbury Town Council concerning the potential future use of the site subject to Planning Application 20/05470/106 Whychurch Farm aka Filands Malmesbury (Report No 3 Mayor Ritchie)

Cllr Ritchie provided the background to the current position. Cllr Grant explained the potential outcomes of the planning process and procedures. It is unlikely that a decision will be made before mid-November. Members of the Council recognised the hard work that had gone in to drawing up this submission.

Proposal: to note and support the draft submission and to delegate to Cllrs P Exton, Power and Ritchie authority to make changes to the submission if and when conditions change

Proposed: Cllr Ritchie

Seconded: Cllr Doody

Cllr Grant abstained from the vote

The meeting ended at 9.20pm

Date of next Full Council Meeting: **24.11.20**