Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Malmesbury Town Council held in the Town Hall, Malmesbury on Tuesday 21st February 2017 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor W R Jones

Deputy Mayor Councillor A C R Woodcock

Councillors: R E Budgen, S Cox, C C Doody, L G Grant, A J Gundry,

S J Poole, K Power, R F Sanderson and F Vandelli.

APOLOGIES: Councillors: V L Penfold, J E Exton and H Webb.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

A public question was received from Councillor Power who stated that she had seen the Notice of Vacancy in the Office of Town Councillor due to the non-attendance of Ken Wright. She asked whether the Council had been properly informed of this vacancy.

It was noted that members of the Policy Resources Committee were informed of the development after their last meeting and that the Mayor was informed prior to a letter being sent to Mr Wright.

Councillor Jones stated that he would look into what took place and report back to Councillors.

Councillor Power stated that there was quite a few broken pages/links on the Town Council website. She added that there was lots of information which was not up to date and that the contents of the website should be regularly reviewed by the Policy & Resources Committee.

This issue was dealt with under item 8, Communication.

67. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24th JANUARY 2017

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 24th January 2017, be received and signed as a correct record.

68. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 17th JANUARY 2017 AND 7TH FEBRUARY 2017

Council noted that the Planning & Environment Committee had submitted its representations to Wiltshire Council on the Proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

A discussion took place about the scheme in St Johns Street. It was noted that local residents still had the opportunity to make their views known.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee meetings held on 17th January and 7th February, as circulated, be received.

69. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN PROMOTION COMMITTEE HELD ON 2nd FEBRUARY 2017

Hare Trail: The Council was informed that the Hares are being unveiled at an event in Burford on 9th March (6-8pm). It was pointed out that there was a typo in the Minutes at Min Ref 8 where the budget for the Hare Trail should read '£300'.

Malmesbury in Bloom: A discussion took place about the decision to not run the children's painting competition this year. It was pointed out that letters were sent out too late last year to garner sufficient interest.

Resolved:

- 1) That the Community & Town Promotion Committee be invited to revisit their discussion about the Children's painting competition.
- 2) That the Minutes of the Community and Town Promotion Committee meeting held on the 2nd February 2017 be received and noted.

70. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 6^{TH} FEBRUARY 2017

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Joint Burial Committee held on 6th February 2017 be received and noted.

71. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 8^{TH} FEBRUARY 2017

A discussion took place about the possibility of losing income from hall hire to the Riverside.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held on 8th February be received and noted.

72. COMMUNITY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP

The Council received a Report from Councillor Budgen on the work of the Community Area Transport Group.

Councillors noted that Whychurch Hill had now become a Priority 1 project for the area. Council was also informed that the resurfacing of Tetbury Hill had been moved forward thanks to the efforts of the Chair of the CATG and the Highways Officer.

Resolved: to receive and note the Report.

73. COMMUNICATIONS

The Council received a Report from Councillor Cox concerning the Council's communications with its' residents. He stated that opportunities to promote the Town and the Council were being lost; the Town Council's website features numerous broken links and out of date information, events such as the Citizen of the Year were not adequately publicised and that little was being done to address the problem (the communications working group had not even had its first meeting). He suggested that communication was

a topic which councillors should be more involved in and that the Mayor should have a presence on social media.

Councillor Gundry stated that some problems with the website had been caused by a revamp in October. He stated that he had been expecting Councillor Cox to call the first meeting of the working group. He suggested that if councillors identified faults with the website, to report them to C Mann.

A discussion took place about the staff resources allocated to the website/communication and whether the training budget was being properly used.

Resolved:

- 1) That the matter of updating and fixing broken links on the website is discussed by the Mayor, Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk.
- 2) That Councillor Cox's Report is considered by the Communications Working Party who will then bring their recommendations back to Full Council.
- 3) To note the Report.

74. PREMISES LICENCE - WOMAD FESTIVAL

The Council noted that the application sought to encompass all the hours and activities which are currently covered by Temporary Event Notices. There was no dramatic extension of alcohol hours.

Resolved: that a response be sent to the licensing Department, stating that Malmesbury Town Council has no concerns about the application.

The meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Note: Following the meeting the assembled Councillors expressed their thanks to Councillor Cox for his eight years of service to the Town.

They also noted that Councillor Sanderson was due to visit Malmesbury, South Africa and asked him to pass on the Councillors good wishes. Councillor Jones stated that he would provide Councillor Sanderson with a letter to that effect.