

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held in Malmesbury Town Hall on Tuesday 29th October 2013 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor A J Gundry
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor S J Poole.
Councillors: R E Budgen, F E Caton, C C Doody, J E Exton,
A Kettleby, S J Killane, V L Penfold, K Power,
S J Shape and A C R Woodcock

APOLOGIES: Councillors S Cox and C C Doody on holiday, Shape on business and M H Snell due to illness.

IN ATTENDANCE: five members of the public and one member of the press.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Goldstone enquired if an email from Councillor Cox was going to be read before the meeting. The Mayor responded that it would not be read but a copy had been forwarded to all councillors in advance of the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor S Poole declared an interest in the item concerning the Athelstan Players.

61. CLOSURE OF BRISTOL STREET

His Worship the Mayor advised that the speaker was unable to attend and this item would be deferred to the next meeting.

62. TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27th AUGUST AND 24th SEPTEMBER 2013 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS HELD ON 11th SEPTEMBER AND 7th OCTOBER 2013.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 17th August and 24th September 2013, and those of Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 11th September and 7th October 2013, as circulated, be received and adopted.

63. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN PROMOTION & TOURISM COMMITTEE HELD ON 3rd OCTOBER 2013

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Promotion & Tourism Committee held on 3rd October 2013 be received and noted.

64. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 2nd SEPTEMBER 2013.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Joint Burial Committee held on the 2nd September 2013 be noted.

65. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 11TH SEPTEMBER AND 2ND OCTOBER 2013

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environmental Issues Committee held on the 11th September and 2nd October 2013 be received and noted.

66. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH SEPTEMBER AND 16TH OCTOBER 2013

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Hall Management Committee meeting held on 18th September and 16th October 2013 be received and noted.

67. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE & YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1ST OCTOBER 2013.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Youth Committee held on the 1st October 2013 be received and noted.

68. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 6TH OCTOBER 2013.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 6th October 2013 be received and noted.

69. EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS

Councillor Power reported that she and Councillor Budgen had examined two months of payments and found all to be in order.

70. KATIFER LANE PARKING AREA

Councillor Power outlined the background of the proposal made by the previous administration to lease an area of land in Katifer Lane for the purposes of providing private off-street parking. She explained the financial implications now facing the Town Council following the changes in the method of benefit payments. It was proposed by Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor Penfold that the Town Council no longer proceed with the Katifer Lane scheme but invite the owner of the site to take the scheme forward using the work already done by the Town Council and which would be provided free of charge.

Considerable debate ensued at the conclusion of which the proposal was put to the vote with Councillor Sanderson demanding a recorded vote.

In favour: Councillors Budgen, Caton, Exton, Gundry, Kettleby, Killane, Penfold, Power.

Against: Councillor Woodcock

Abstentions: Councillors Blake, Poole, Sanderson.

The proposal was therefore RESOLVED by eight votes to one with three abstentions.

71. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT QUESTIONNAIRE

Councillor Power together with the Town Clerk presented the background to the current situation concerning the impact upon town and parish councils following last year's change to the payment of benefits. Councillors debated upon the

suggested responses to be made to the Wiltshire Council questionnaire and a copy of the document submitted is attached to these minutes.

72. LOAN OF SCULPTURE

Councillor Gundry advised the Town Council of the implications associated with the offer of a loan of a piece of sculpture to be placed in a public area adjacent to the Town Hall. The Council welcomed the very kind offer and authorised the Town Clerk to make the necessary planning applications and enter into agreement with the provider.

73 USE OF MARKET CROSS

Councillors Power and Poole presented a report on the use of the Market Cross by charities and local groups. It was RESOLVED that in future the booking fee for use of the Market Cross would no longer be levied on charities or local groups and no unnecessary restrictions would be placed upon the items for sale.

74. NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

His Worship the Mayor advised councillors that another news letter would need to be produced and requested support for the usual method of distribution. Councillor Blake advised that he would be not be available in early December and Councillor Caton advised that she would be unable to assist. Councillor Poole agreed to collate copy and arrange for printing.

75 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Killane informed the Council that the independent examination and assessment of the plan would soon commence.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.