



MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the
Extraordinary Full Council Meeting
Held in Malmesbury Town Hall on Wednesday 9th July 2024 at 7.00pm.

Present; Cllrs P Exton, S James, L Crawford-Price, S D'Arcy, C Doody, K Drake, G Grant, R Hastings, RP Jones, K Power, C Ritchie, R Sanderson, J Slade, F Smith & I Wallis.

Also present: Claire Mann (Town Clerk)

FC/24/92 To receive declarations of interest.

Cllrs Power and Doody declared an interest in the Riverside Centre item as trustees. They will leave the meeting for that section of discussion but will remain during the Planning Function discussions.

FC/24/93 To receive apologies for absence.

None received.

FC/24/94 Public questions on items of business included on the agenda.

None received.

FC/24/95 To approve statement for press release on Malmesbury town Council's vote of no confidence in Wiltshire Council

It was agreed that the statement would be set out in three sections to allow Cllrs Power and Doody the opportunity to vote on the Planning Function discussions.

The first section addressed by the statement,

Allowing the appeal period, following approval by an Inspector of the Self Build planning permission, to lapse before a review was put in place as requested by local Malmesbury and Sherston Wiltshire Councillors Gavin Grant and Martin Smith and agreed by the Northern Area Planning Committee.

The proposed response was approved with minor amends.

The second section addressed by the statement,

Incompetent and untimely handling of yet another planning application for development on the land behind Waitrose that sits in the designated Malmesbury Conservation Area, meaning that an appeal has been lodged by the applicant to be heard by a Government appointed independent Planning Inspector on the grounds of the failure by Wiltshire Council to determine the application within the defined legal time limit.

The proposed response was approved with minor amends.

Cllrs Power and Doody left the meeting

The Town Clerk brought Mike Dawson's email that had been previously circulated to the attention of Members with an offer to Malmesbury Town Council by Wiltshire Council (subject to authority) to transfer the lease or to offer acquisition of the property.

The third section addressed by the statement,

The failure to consult and engage with Wiltshire Councillor for Malmesbury Gavin Grant and Malmesbury Town Council prior to any decision being made by Wiltshire Council to exercise the break clause in their lease on the building that houses both the Riverside Community Centre and the town's Indoor Skatepark.

The proposed response was approved with minor amends.

It was further resolved that the statement would be sent to Cllr Clewer (leader of Wiltshire Council) and the CEO of Wiltshire Council instead of an immediate press release to allow Wiltshire Council the opportunity to consider its response.

Cllrs Ritchie and Grant will prepare a draft letter on behalf of the Mayor due to his impending Twinning visit to be forwarded with the statement requesting a response within four days before sending to the Press.

Meeting closed at 7.35pm