

UNADOPTED

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
MALVERN TOWN COUNCIL

held on Wednesday 6 November 2019

Council Chamber, Belle Vue Terrace, Malvern at 6.00 pm

Councillors

Present

N Morton (Chairman)  
J Dallow  
C Hooper  
N Houghton  
L Lambeth  
J Leibrandt  
L Lowton  
R McLaverty-Head  
P Mewton  
N Mills  
J O'Donnell  
C Palmer  
D Roberts  
P Smith  
S Taylor  
J Thomas  
P Tuthill  
D Watkins

Absent

C Bovey (apologies)  
S Charles (apologies)

**In attendance**

Linda Blake - Town Clerk  
Louise Wall - Minute Clerk  
Charles Porter – Operations Manager

**93. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from:

- Cllr C Bovey - illness
- Cllr S Charles - work

**94. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**95. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the following meeting be approved and adopted as a correct record of the proceedings and they were signed by the Mayor:

- Full Council meeting 16 October 2019

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A resident of Lower Howsell Road expressed his concerns over several issues relating to the traffic and vehicles using this road: the amount of traffic is ever-

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increasing as more houses are built locally; many lorries do not obey the speed limit; vehicles that belong to the building site workers are poorly and dangerously parked, often blocking pavements. He said that he felt some frustration at not knowing who to contact to try and rectify these problems and would be grateful if councillors could help.

Cllr Mills, for Link ward, reported that the District Council was aware of these problems and he has been raising the issues on a weekly basis. A District Council Enforcement Officer has visited the site and would be taking action.

Members agreed that although a number of different agencies were involved, it was important for decisions to be enforced and action taken where necessary.

The Chairman thanked the resident for voicing his concerns and asked ward members present to take these comments away to the relevant departments in MHDC and WCC so that some answers could be provided in due course.

### **96. PRESENTATION FROM PAUL ROBINSON, WCC**

Mr Paul Robinson, Chief Executive of Worcestershire County Council, had been invited by the Town Council to address concerns over the state of pavements in and around Malvern.

Mr Robinson gave a brief overview of his employment background that has seen him working for several authorities in various roles around the country before coming to Worcestershire, which is the first time he has worked for a county council. He felt Worcestershire County Council could do more to promote itself and should become more innovative in its methods, whilst agreeing that communication was key between the various tiers of local government.

However, the county council is facing increasing year-on-year demands for funding. Certain services are statutory and therefore these have to take priority over other services, as statutory services take first priority in expenditure.

Whilst adult and children's social care is the biggest expense for the council with over £700 million spent on just 2% of the population of Worcestershire, services for the remaining 98% of the population have been constantly stretched over the past few years. This has led to the reduction in services such as highways, countryside services, libraries etc.

Mr Robinson recognised that WCC had been somewhat insular in the past and it is his aim to improve communication between councils and also in making information more readily available to members of the public.

### **97. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had attended the opening of the Christmas charity card shop at ARCOS where 19 charities have their cards for sale and encouraged everyone to support them.

The Mayor reminded everyone of the details of the Remembrance celebrations on Sunday 10 and Monday 11 November.

Other events that the Mayor would be attending over the coming weeks included the unveiling of a green plaque at Malvern College, the Malvern Christmas lights switch on event, the Victorian market in Worcester and he would be judging competitions for the best-dressed elf and fairy at Barnards Green Christmas event on 30 November. He also reminded everyone of the quiz to be held the following evening at Malvern Victoria Bowling Club in aid of the Mayor's charities.

98. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

Operations and Planning committee meeting

The next meeting has been re-scheduled for 4 December at 6.00 pm.

Basketball Courts at Victoria Park

It is hoped that the Decision Notice will be issued by the end of the week. If the application is approved, the order for the surface will be able to be made but works will not commence until weather becomes suitable for groundworks to take place which should be early spring.

99. **REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE**

County Councillors – Cllr Lucy Hodgson had submitted a written report and this had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

District Councillors

No reports.

100. **TOWN COUNCIL WARD REPORTS/REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Ward Councillors

Cllr Palmer reported that her visit to Jeseník with Dr John Harcup had been most interesting, as they had seen where the concept for the Malvern water cure originated. The trip was to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Vincent Preissnitz, who invented the water cure.

Town Council representatives on Outside Bodies

No reports.

101. **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

There were no Members' Questions.

102. **OPERATIONS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Report CL01/19 was received and accepted.

In the absence of Cllr Samantha Charles, Cllr Lynne Lambeth presented the recommendations from the Operations and Planning committee meeting held on 23 October 2019 and these were voted for separately:

***Cllr Houghton left the chamber.***

It was **RESOLVED** that the task of suggesting two new street names for the new development of 63 properties on land at Mill Lane, Malvern, be delegated to Chase ward members.

It was **RESOLVED** that Malvern enters the large town category of the Heart of England in Bloom campaign for 2020, giving full environmental consideration as far as practically possible and ensuring that any outcomes from the Environmental Panel are taken into account when reviewing procedure and policies.

***Cllr Houghton re-entered the chamber.***

It was **RESOLVED** that the budget for Bands in the Park 2020 be increased to £6,200 to cover the increases in band fees.

It was also **RESOLVED** that MTC funds refreshments for band members by way of an external mobile caterer.

It was **RESOLVED** that a five-week "summer" Alternative Bands in the Park programme should take place in 2020.

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It was **RESOLVED** that Officers should seek further quotations for the works to the flats at the rear of Belle Vue Terrace.

**103. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Report CL02/19 was received and accepted.

Cllr Jeremy Thomas, Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, presented the recommendations from the minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2019 and these were voted for separately:

It was **RESOLVED** that an annual Community Support Grant of £10,900 be awarded to Community Action Malvern and District and included in the 2020/21 Annual Budget, with the amount being increased to cover the annual rent of the third floor offices if increased in the lease review in December 2019.

It was **RESOLVED** that Council approves the Quarterly Accounts for the second quarter, ending 30 September 2019.

Cllr Thomas proposed that thanks be given to the Town Clerk for providing an accurate and clear set of accounts for the quarter ended 30 September 2019 and this was agreed by council.

**104. ENVIRONMENTAL PANEL**

Cllr Sharon Taylor, Chairman of the Environmental Panel, reported that at the recent meeting it had been agreed to split into four groups to work under the following headings: energy, ecology, education and waste. The next meeting, on Thursday 14 November at 6pm would include people who had expressed an interest in being on the panel and any other members of the public who wishes to attend.

**105. SWDP REVIEW**

Report CL03/19 was received and accepted.

The report presented four options for a response to the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review. Option ii) was amended and the Council **RESOLVED** to seek input and advice from the Council's Neighbourhood Plan consultant within an initial budget of £1,000, to ensure consistency and policy progression from the plan. A draft response should then be circulated to all members prior to its submission.

It was **AGREED** that the following Councillors would meet with the Neighbourhood Plan Consultant: Cllrs Lambeth, Lowton, Morton, Smith and Taylor.

The Town Clerk had been to a briefing session at County Hall on the day of the Full Council meeting, at which notification was given that a six-week consultation period would start on 4 November.

**106. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of Full Council would be Wednesday 18 December 2019 at 6.00pm.

The meeting finished at 8.05 pm.

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(Chairman)