

UNADOPTED

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
MALVERN TOWN COUNCIL

held on Wednesday 16 October 2019

Council Chamber, Belle Vue Terrace, Malvern at 6.00 pm

Councillors

Present

N Morton (Chairman)
S Charles
J Dallow
C Hooper (arrived 6.25 pm)
N Houghton
L Lambeth
J Leibrandt (arrived 6.04 pm)
P Mewton
C Palmer
D Roberts
P Smith
S Taylor
J Thomas

Absent

C Bovey (apologies)
L Lowton (apologies received after the meeting had closed)
R McLaverty-Head (apologies)
N Mills (apologies)
J O'Donnell (apologies)
P Tuthill
D Watkins

In attendance

Linda Blake - Town Clerk
Louise Wall - Minute Clerk

78. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from:

- Cllr C Bovey - illness
- Cllr R McLaverty-Head – work commitment
- Cllr N Mills – MHDC meeting
- Cllr J O'Donnell - illness

79. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr P Smith – item 5, Special Grant application, Autumn in Malvern Festival

80. 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 25 September 2019

Cllr J Leibrandt arrived at the meeting at 6.04 pm

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was **AGREED** to adjourn the meeting for public participation and the Mayor invited members of the public to present their questions, statements or petitions submitted under the Council's Public Participations Procedure.

UNADOPTED

Tania Robertson, a local artist, wished to introduce herself to Full Council having written to Pickersleigh Ward Councillors regarding her ideas for a contemporary art project in Malvern. She has recently met with Cllr Lambeth to discuss her plans.

Tiffany Hosking spoke in support of the special grant for Reaction Theatre Makers. She explained that Reaction Theatre Makers are artists in residence at Malvern Cube that run workshops for people with learning impairments and mental health issues. They have applied for a special grant to help fund the FEAST Festival, an ambitious project which started four years ago. It is held over a weekend in November, in Malvern, and has previously attracted approximately 700 people over three days. The grant will be used for three elements of the festival: About Face Theatre Company from Hereford, helps people with learning disabilities grow in confidence through performance-based skills; Peddlars Tales, a puppet show that draws its audience into a fantastical world of tales based on folk-lore of Herefordshire and Shropshire Inclusive Dance, an inspirational dance workshop that will attract many students with learning disabilities from a wide area.

The Mayor announced that agenda item 4 would now be taken and public participation was suspended.

81. **SPECIAL GRANT – REACTION THEATRE MAKERS**

It was **RESOLVED** that Malvern Town Council awards a Special Grant of £1,500 to Reaction Theatre Makers towards the FEAST Festival.

The Mayor then adjourned the meeting in order that public participation could continue. Cllr Peter Smith retired to the public gallery.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Peter Smith, Director of Autumn in Malvern Festival, explained that the classical music-based festival has run continuously for thirty years and brings artists of international importance to Malvern, not just from the musical field, but also from literature, education and visual art.

Cllr Clive Hooper joined the meeting at 6.25pm

The grant applied for would be £1,250 per year for three years, and this would go towards a different project or concert each year. In 2020 it would sponsor an afternoon concert by the Aldwyn Voices and in 2021 and 2022, concerts of similar cost and artistic excellence would be presented.

The Mayor announced that agenda item 5 would now be taken and public participation was suspended.

82. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

It was **RESOLVED** that Malvern Town Council supports the Autumn in Malvern Festival 2020, 2021 and 2022 in the sum of £1,250 per annum with an additional clause that his amount can be reviewed each year if required, should costs increase.

Cllr Peter Smith rejoined the meeting.

The Mayor once again adjourned the meeting in order that public participation could continue.

Mel Akers, Chair of the Management Board of Maggs Day Centre addressed the Council in support of the special grant application for Maggs Day Centre. The established centre in Worcester, operational for thirty years, would now provide

UNADOPTED

the model for a pilot project in Malvern. The drop-in centre will have trained staff working with volunteers and will be open to all who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Malvern area, especially those who are isolated geographically or socially from other people and/or services.

The cost of the project is £37,000. £10,000 has been received from the National Lottery towards salaries, with the balance to be raised from a local funding campaign. The grant of £2,400 applied for from the Town Council would be to purchase a shower, washing machine and drier, to be installed in the Salvation Army Hall in Newton Road. It is hoped that this project will be operational by February 2020 and that 8-10 people would attend the centre each day.

The Mayor announced that agenda item 6 would now be taken and that public participation had ended.

83. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

It was **RESOLVED** that Malvern Town Council supports Maggs Day Centre with a special grant of £2,400.

Cllr Dan Roberts left the meeting at 6.40pm

84. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that he had attended the opening of a new barbering academy in Malvern Hills College, when he had also enjoyed a haircut by one of the students. The academy will provide training for those wishing to enter the industry and will also be open to members of the public.

The Mayor had also attended the formal launch of the MHDC/Heartstart Malvern Enigma Business Park project at Malvern Rugby Club, which aims to install defibrillators in business parks in and around Malvern.

Councillors were reminded that a quiz night had been arranged for 7 November at Malvern Victoria Bowling Club, raising funds for the Mayoral charities. He thanked Cllr Houghton for agreeing to be quizmaster on the evening and urged everyone to go along for an evening of fun and facts.

Finally, the Mayor asked for volunteers for Remembrance Sunday (11 November) and the Christmas Lights switch on event on 23 November, names to be given to the office.

85. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

Christmas Lights – Great Malvern

Further to Council's decision to spend £15,000 on new Christmas Lights for Great Malvern, the Operations Team had been erecting them in the town this week. Local traders have been very supportive in providing power for the lights.

Basketball Courts – Victoria Park

The planning officer's latest update was that a response from local district councillors was still being awaited.

Environmental Panel

The first meeting of the environmental panel is scheduled for 24 October and will be for Town Councillors and Julie Wood (Chair of MHDC environmental panel). It will be decided at this meeting how best to progress this group and when and how to involve members of the public. Thanks to the article in the Malvern Gazette last week, a number of interested parties had contacted the office, asking to be a part

UNADOPTED

of the panel and if any Councillor knows of anyone else interested, they should let the office have their details.

Worcestershire Highways Department

Paul Robinson, chief executive of Worcestershire County Council has agreed to attend the November Full Council meeting; a reply from Alan Amos is awaited.

Self-Closing Gate at Lower Howsell

Following the petition presented at the last meeting, a fastener has been ordered and will be installed on a three-month trial period, and if successful it will be left in place.

Malvern Hills Trust Public Consultation

A Task and Finish group meeting was held with Cllrs Hooper, Morton, Smith and Tuthill who put together a response which was then circulated to all Councillors. Following one comment received from a Councillor, the response was amended slightly and submitted online ahead of the deadline.

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

County Councillors – no reports

District Councillors

Cllr Cynthia Palmer mentioned that at the recent SWDP review meeting, 900 sites had been put forward for development with 14,000 houses to be built by 2041, there are plans for 880 new homes and 55 hectares of employment land within Malvern.

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

There were no reports from Ward Councillors or Town Council representatives on Outside Bodies.

88. **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

There were no Members' Questions.

89. **PLANNING CONSULTATION**

Report CL01/19 was received. The Town Clerk explained that planning application number 19/01298/FUL had been omitted from the weekly list and therefore was to be considered at Full Council, so that comments could be submitted.

Cllr Charles reported that she had requested that the application be heard at an SAPC meeting, rather than delegated to Officers. This had been agreed and would probably go to an SAPC meeting before the end of the year.

Cllr Clive Hooper left the meeting at 7.10pm

It was **RESOLVED** that Malvern Town Council would object to planning application 19/01298/FUL based on the following: the density of dwellings is unacceptable having been increased in number from 28 to 33; concerns over the flawed design of the access from Thirlstane Road, being on a dangerous bend and therefore being unsafe; the public footpath in the location of the site should not be closed or restricted at any time and the land being on the former DERA site must be fully investigated to ensure there is no risk of contamination.

UNADOPTED

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Nick Houghton would speak on behalf of the Town Council at MHDC's Southern Area Planning Committee meeting when this application was tabled for hearing.

90. REMEMBRANCE OBSERVATIONS

Report CL02/19 was received and noted.

It was **NOTED** that Councillors were required to assist with road closures on the day and that they should contact the office.

The member of the press left the meeting at 7.15pm.

91. OPERATIONS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Report CL03/19 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 2 October 2019 and these were voted en bloc:

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- i. It the next Mayor's Bonanza be held on Sunday 2 August 2020.
- ii. the budget for the 2020 Mayor's Bonanza be increased by £200 to £3,500.
- iii. the Health and Wellbeing Fair should be held on Saturday 2 May 2020.
- iv. the budget for the 2020 Health and Wellbeing Fair should be increase to £900.
- v. a VE Day commemoration event should be held in Priory Park on Sunday 10 May 2020.
- vi. a VE Day-themed traders' window competition should also be held as part of the commemorations.

92. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of Full Council would be Wednesday 6 November 2019 at 6.00pm.

The meeting finished at 7.17 pm.

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(Chairman)