

UNADOPTED

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE OPERATIONS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MALVERN TOWN COUNCIL**

held in the Council Chamber at Malvern Hills District Council,

Avenue Road, Malvern on

Tuesday 1 June 2021 at 6.00 pm

Present

Councillors

C Palmer (Chairman)
L Lambeth
J Leibrandt
N Morton
P Smith
S Taylor
D Watkins

Absent

C Bovey (apologies)
S Charles (apologies)
P Mewton

Also in attendance

L Blake - Town Clerk
L Wall – Minute Clerk
C Porter – Operations Manager
Cllr N Houghton

In the absence of the previous chairman, the Town Clerk opened the meeting.

14. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Cynthia Palmer was elected Chairman of the Operations and Planning Committee for 2021/22.

Cllr Palmer took the Chair.

15. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr David Watkins was elected Vice-Chairman of the Operations and Planning Committee for 2021/22.

16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from Cllr Samantha Charles and Cllr Caroline Bovey were noted.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

18. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

- Operations and Planning Committee meeting 28 April 2021.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

19. LAND OFF GOODWOOD ROAD ALLOTMENTS

Report OC01/21 was received and noted.

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The Town Clerk explained that a resident had contacted the Town Council to ask if a piece of land currently used as part of their front garden but in ownership of the Town Council, could be transferred to them.

The resident will pay any costs associated with the transfer and access to the allotments will not be affected.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the area of land marked in blue on the map accompanying the report would be transferred to the resident.

20. **REFURBISHMENT OF GRAVE OF CAPTAIN ALAN CHARLES LORRAINE BATE**

Report OC02/21 was received and accepted.

The Operations Manager presented the report and informed members that a member of the public had expressed an interest in paying for the refurbishment of a memorial in Great Malvern Cemetery. Attempts had been made to contact any living relatives of the original grave owner to no avail so far.

If no living relatives are located, then ownership of a grave reverts to the burial authority which is the Town Council.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the restoration of the memorial on the grave of Captain Alan Bate in Great Malvern Cemetery be carried out, funded by external sources.

21. **REFURBISHMENT OF BARNARDS GREEN BUS SHELTER**

Report OC03/21 was received and accepted, and the Operations Manager updated members on the project to refurbish the bus shelter at Barnards Green.

English Heritage has given permission for the ceiling to be replaced as it was at the time of listing in May 2011. However, it is believed that the ceiling may once have been tongue and groove herringbone timber which would be more attractive. It was suggested that social media be used to ask if anyone has any photographs of the building at that time to help provide historical records to support any application to make changes to the current structure.

The interior has been painted black in recent years to combat graffiti, but this makes the interior very dark and discourages people from using the shelter. It was suggested that a lighter colour could be used to repaint the interior to make the shelter more inviting.

It was **AGREED** that efforts be continued to find evidence of the interior ceiling and design of the bus shelter from earlier days.

It was **AGREED** that further investigation would be carried out on this matter and a report would be made to the next meeting of Operations and Planning Committee.

22. **ROSEBANK GARDENS**

The Operations Manager updated the meeting on the progress of works in Rosebank Gardens:

- The sleeper wall is almost complete, subject to the purchase of some more sleepers – which are still in very short supply. The majority of the project was completed and more sleepers will be purchased when available at a reasonable cost.
- The diseased and dead tree at the entrance to the gardens has been removed and the bed replanted.
- All beds in the gardens are being planted with summer bedding.

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The Town Clerk then updated members on the recent landslip. This has moved slightly but the insurance company say there is still no financial loss at present and therefore no claim to be made.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk would appoint a surveyor to make a report on the current safety implications and the ongoing need for barriers within the gardens.

A response is still awaited from Worcestershire County Council regarding the 99 steps.

23. WORK PROGRAMME AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Work programme OC04/21 was presented to the meeting and the Operations Manager reported that although many materials were still in short supply, jobs were progressing.

24. BANDS IN THE PARK PROGRAMME 2021

The Town Clerk reported that some bands, especially the larger brass bands, had been reluctant to commit to performing, due to lack of practice time and/or concerns over the ability to socially distance in the bandstand. Malvern Hills District Brass Band had reluctantly pulled out of the Armed Forces Day performance and been replaced by Lydbrook Brass Band. It was hoped that the programme could still go ahead as planned.

The Alternative Bands in the Park slots were booked up quickly, but all of these performances will depend on the social distancing restrictions in force at the time and last-minute changes may be required.

It was **AGREED** that a table showing dates, performances and which councillors had offered to steward would be sent out for information.

25. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

Members discussed several planning applications in their respective wards.

21/01905/FUL – Northcot, Como Road, Malvern, WR14 2TH – demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 7 new residential apartments, and associated access, car parking and landscaping.

This application was notified as going to appeal and it was **AGREED** that comments submitted by the Town Council to the original application would be reinforced and re-submitted.

19/01298/FUL – Barrack Stores, Qinetiq, St Andrews Road, Malvern - Proposed development of 33 affordable dwellings

Cllr Morton reported that he continued to attend regular meetings with the developers to ensure that working hours were strictly adhered to and that any problems raised by local residents were quickly dealt with.

26. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted and agreed that the date of the next meeting of Operations and Planning Committee would be Wednesday 14 July 2021 at 6.00pm at a venue to be advised.

The meeting finished at 7.40pm.

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(Chairman)