

UNADOPTED

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

**held in the Council Chamber, Malvern Hills District Council, Avenue Road, Malvern
on Thursday 8 July 2021 at 6.00 pm**

Present

Councillors

C Palmer (Chairman)
D Watkins (Vice Chairman)
L Lambeth
J Leibrandt (6.03 pm)
N Morton
P Smith
S Taylor

Also in attendance

L Blake - Town Clerk
L Wall – Minute Clerk
C Porter – Operations Manager
C Lawrence- Events Officer
Cllr N Houghton (Mayor)
Cllr Clive Hooper
Cllr Jack Satterthwaite
Two members of the public

Absent

C Bovey (apologies)
S Charles (apologies)

27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

29. 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 1 June 2021.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dean and Justine Cartwright presented their proposal for a micropub to be located on Church Street, in the former premises of Mountain Warehouse. They already run a micropub in Kidderminster called The Weavers, which has proved very popular and successful and their wish is to open a micropub in Malvern on a similar basis, providing real ales in a friendly ‘front room’ atmosphere. Micropubs do not have music or entertainment, or serve any food other than cobs, but instead try to promote friendly conversation over a pint of ale with a target age usually around 40+. Dogs are made welcome, with a ‘Woof Wall’ displaying photographs of customers’ dogs and the micropub will support local breweries by selling their beers. It is hoped that if the planning application is approved, the pub will open during the first week of October 2021. Photographs of the proposed interior of the Malvern micropub were left for distribution and Dean and Justine Cartwright left the meeting at 6.10 pm,

Cllr Josephine Leibrandt joined the meeting partway through the presentation at 6.03 pm.

30. REFURBISHMENT OF GRAVE OF CATHERINE FRANCES SEVERN BURROW

UNADOPTED

Report OC01/21 was received and accepted.

The Town Clerk briefly explained that an approach had been made by the Barnleigh Association, asking for permission to tidy up and restore the grave of Catherine Frances Severn Burrow, their founder.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the restoration of the grave of Catherine Francis Severn Burrow be carried out by volunteers of the Barnleigh Housing Association, under the guidance of the Operations Manager.

31. PROVISION OF BIKE RACKS

Report OC02/21 was received and accepted.

The Town Clerk explained that following the Full Council decision in December 2020 that bike racks be installed within the town in various locations, some of these locations had subsequently been found to be unsuitable, and therefore some amended options were being presented to the committee.

The locations discussed would entail ten racks being fitted, and it was hoped that other businesses would then be encouraged to agree to bike racks outside their premises.

Committee **AGREED** the revised locations for the provision of bike racks as follows:

- Graham Road, outside Mackenzies (2)
- Malvern Link outside St Richards Hospice bookshop – (2 to replace existing racks)
- Northern side of Barnards Green bus shelter (2)
- Outside the Cats Protection Charity shop, eastern end of Barnards Green (2)

Abbey Archway, opposite Mac & Jac's café, was not agreed due to its proximity to the listed Priory Gatehouse.

32. THE MAYOR'S BONANZA 29 AUGUST 2021

Report OC03/21 was received and accepted.

The Town Clerk reminded members that there had not been a Mayor's Bonanza last year due to the Covid pandemic. It was proposed that this year's event should be held in Victoria Park, as it is bigger than Priory Park, and would therefore afford the opportunity for more spacing between attractions, ensuring public safety. There would, however, be extra costs associated with this, such as provision of a marquee, power and staging. Therefore, it was requested that the budget be increased from £4,500 to £7,000 to help cover these costs and put on some extra activities at the bonanza.

The Events Officer noted that the bonanza was a very popular event with the public and that she was very keen to make this year's bonanza one of the best ever, in celebration of coming out of Covid restrictions. It would be a fun day for all the family at little or no cost to them.

Committee **NOTED** that the Mayor's Bonanza will be held on Victoria Park playing fields, on 29 August from 11.00 am until 5.00 pm.

Committee **RECOMMENDED** that additional funding of £2,500 be allocated to the Mayor's Bonanza to allow a larger event with additional activities to celebrate the end of social distancing.

Clare Lawrence left the meeting.

33. REFURBISHMENT OF BARNARDS GREEN BUS SHELTER

UNADOPTED

Report OC4/21 was received and accepted.

The Operations Manager reported that following the request by committee at the last meeting that further research be carried out on the interior of the bus shelter, Carly Tinkler, who was Design and Conservation Officer at Malvern Hills District Council in the late 1990s, had made contact and provided evidence of the shelter's Art Deco interior decoration and other details.

With the information in mind, Committee was asked to consider three options on the refurbishment.

Option 3 was **RECOMMENDED** as follows:

To change the colour scheme to that of 1998: white with dark blue banding and an interior of pale yellow. This would require listed building consent before any works take place. Additionally, a Perspex fronted detachable mural would be commissioned with a theme linked to the bus shelter's role as a war memorial.

It was **AGREED** to consult Barbara Hartley-Woolley and Carly Tinkler over the design and content of the panel, as both have extensive knowledge of the history of the bus shelter, and Malvern in general. Cllr Peter Smith also volunteered to assist with the project which was noted with thanks by the committee.

34. TREE PLANTING IN VICTORIA PARK – U3A 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Report OC05/21 was received and accepted.

It was **AGREED** that members of the U3A be allowed to plant a Worcester Black Pear tree in the old orchard at Victoria Park.

A date for the planting ceremony would be arranged for late autumn 2021.

35. TRANSFER OF ASSETS – PUBLIC AREA ADJACENT TO 231 WORCESTER ROAD

Report OC06/21 was received and noted.

Committee **NOTED** the transfer of assets on the public area adjacent to 231 Worcester Road and that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor would sign the deed of transfer on behalf of the Town Council.

36. ROSEBANK GARDENS

The Town Clerk reported that an engineering contractor had been engaged, with the agreement of the householder, to investigate the cause of the landslip in Rosebank Gardens. It is hoped that the investigations will be able to identify the cause and solution, with the initial scope of work to be a cost of £4,000.

37. REVIEW OF OPERATIONAL MATTERS REFERRED TO WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report OC07/21 was received.

Committee discussed the two issues referred to Worcestershire County Council, being a 20 mph speed limit request and concerns about the state of the town.

Committee was disappointed with the lack of a satisfactory response from County Council on either matter and suggested that a meeting be set up with County Councillors from the Malvern divisions, as well as the Chief Executive and the Cabinet member with responsibility for Highways and Transport from WCC, and the relevant portfolio holder from MHDC, to be attended by Cllr Jack Satterthwaite, Cllr Clive Hooper and the Town Clerk.

UNADOPTED

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Satterthwaite would organise two separate meetings to address the issues.

38. WORK PROGRAMME AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Work programme OC08/21 was presented to the meeting and the Operations Manager reported that the delivery of some new play equipment had been delayed slightly but otherwise, projects were on schedule. Bedding and path edging at Rosebank Gardens was finished, and one goal post had been left up at Dukes Meadow for a charity event. Members noted the high standard of hanging baskets and other planting this year and thanked the Operations Team for their hard work in keeping the town looking so nice.

39. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

Report OC09/21 was received and accepted and members discussed the following planning applications:

21/01014/FUL United Reformed Church, Queens Drive, Malvern – conversion of church into three dwellings

The church is not currently listed but members agreed that if listed, potential developers could be put off by the limitations imposed and the building may then fall into disrepair.

Cllr Satterthwaite left the meeting at 7.30 pm

The proposed application includes the removal of stained-glass windows, to be replaced with clear glass for light entry, but members felt this was sensible and acceptable. However, it was agreed that the exterior appearance should otherwise remain the same.

It was **AGREED** that no comments should be submitted at this stage.

20/00074/FUL Land to the rear of the Foley Arms Hotel, 14 Worcester Road - Demolition of four buildings and the erection of 17 dwellings, including 11 dwellinghouses and 6 flats, and 3 commercial units (flexible uses within Use Class E - commercial, business and service) alongside access, landscaping and other associated works.

This planning application was approved at MHDC's Southern Area Planning Committee meeting on 30 June but a member of the Town Council's Operations and Planning Committee had raised concerns over the preservation of the Theatre of Convenience and tile screen.

The meeting was informed that this matter was now resolved, with tree preservation orders placed on the three large trees adjacent, and the reassurance given that the theatre and screen would be protected.

40. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of Operations and Planning Committee would be Wednesday 22 September 2021 at 6.00 pm.

The meeting finished at 7.40pm.

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(Chairman)