

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

Held in the Council Chamber, Belle Vue Terrace, Malvern on

Wednesday 6 July 2022 at 6.00 pm

Present

Councillors

C Palmer (Chairman)
L Lambeth
J Leibrandt
L Lowton
D Mead
P Smith

Absent

C Bovey

Apologies

D Watkins

Also in attendance

L Blake – Town Clerk
C Porter – Operations Manager
L Wall – Minute Clerk

Five members of the public representing
Malvern Civic Society

12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from Cllr David Watkins were noted.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr David Mead – item 10, Planning consultations, 41 Geraldine Road. Cllr Mead lives on the boundary of the proposed development.

14. 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 7 June 2022.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Andrew Huntley spoke on behalf of the Malvern Civic Society to express their wish to carry out various works in Great Malvern Cemetery, including restoration of graves, and paying for a cemetery management plan by Caring for God's Acre. He said that the society was keen to work with the Town Council and its required guidelines.

Elizabeth Adlam said she would like to see a tree trail of the trees in the cemetery to help with identification, similar to the Dudley Brook Tree Trail in Priory Park, and that she had concerns over the preservation of various trees. The Operations Manager assured the meeting that as the cemetery is in a conservation area, trees are only removed if dead and/or unsafe, and with the permission of the district council's tree officer.

Roger Sutton mentioned that the society were hoping to secure £15,000 from a crowd funding scheme and that this could be for works in the cemetery. He also mentioned that the society had some bird boxes they would like to put up in the cemetery and some modest planting they would like to carry out and understood that these would both require liaison with the Operations Manager.

Members of the Civic Society were reminded that these items had been discussed at the last Operations and Planning Committee meeting, and it had been agreed that whilst grave restoration was of interest, the usual permissions had to be

sought, and that the cemetery management plan from Caring for God's Acre was not required.

The Chair summed up by reminding the members of the society present that further information had been requested by the Town Clerk on behalf of the council to answer various questions, and this information was awaited.

15. HEALTH AND WELLBEING FAIR AND MAYOR'S PEAKS CHALLENGE 2023

Report OC01/22 was received and accepted.

The Town Clerk outlined the successes of the 2022 event, along with some suggestions for improvements in 2023. Officers felt that a change of venue would be beneficial so that both events could be run directly alongside one another.

- i. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Health and Wellbeing Fair and The Mayor's Peaks Challenge are held on Saturday 29 April 2023 as part of the well-dressing and water festival weekend.
- ii. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Health and Wellbeing Fair should be held in Priory Park alongside the registration and finish point for the Mayor's Peaks Challenge.

16. HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM, JULY 2022

The Operations Manager outlined the route that the judges would take on 22 July. Malvern was judged last year on the portfolio alone, but this year the same judges will make their first visit to Malvern.

17. TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS 2022

The Town Clerk reported on various events as follows:

Bands in the Park – this has been very well received by members of the public so far and a questionnaire is being compiled to get feedback on the choice of bands and music.

Armed Forces Day – was well attended in Priory Park, a venue that participating groups have said they prefer. However, it proved difficult to get all of the cadet groups involved and Officers hope this will improve in 2023.

Mayor's Bonanza – the Events Officer will be off work for several weeks following an accident and Lyndsey Davies will take over the running of this event. Councillors will be needed to help on the day. The programme so far includes zorbing, tug of war, bumper carz and inflatable football darts. The Worcester Wolves will run a basketball fun day and Malvern Cycle Sport will set up a track for taster sessions. Refreshments will be in a food village catering to a variety of tastes.

Mayor's Charity Ball - this is booked for 2 September in aid of Guide Dogs, and will be held at Worcestershire Golf Club.

Mayor's Charity Quiz – on 14 October at the Mount Pleasant Hotel, ticket prices will include a fish or halloumi supper.

18. WORK PROGRAMME AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Report OC02/22 was received and accepted.

The Operations Manager reported that works were going well, all bedding had now been changed over and hanging baskets were up; prices were being sought for refurbishment and repairs at play areas, and preparations for Malvern in Bloom were underway. The pavilion at Victoria Park was in the process of being demolished.

19. ROSEBANK GARDENS

The Operations Manager reported that repairs to the bus shelter at Rosebank Gardens continued following the damage caused by a passing vehicle. Metalwork fabrication was nearly complete and once erected, quotations for the glazing will be sought. The tin sheeting that will be fixed to the wall is expected to have a 25-year lifespan and should eliminate the need for constant repairs as in the past.

20. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS – REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

Report OC03/22 was received and accepted.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that a task and finish group be set up to review the Environmental Policy and Environmental Strategy, consisting of the following councillors:

- Cllr Lou Lowton
- Cllr Josephine Leibrandt
- Cllr David Mead

The reviewed documents would be presented to the Operations and Planning Committee for consideration at its October meeting.

21. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

Report OC04/22 was **NOTED**.

21/01512/FUL 41 Geraldine Road, Malvern

Cllr Mead informed members that although further information had been submitted to the district council, it was difficult to find out exactly what amendments had been made, if any. However, it had been agreed to retain two trees previously marked for removal.

The Town Clerk updated committee that the council had already submitted an objection to this application and whilst amendments had been made, they did not affect the Town Council’s response which still remains in place. Cllr Clive Hooper has been nominated to speak at the Southern Area Planning Committee when this application is placed on the agenda.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **AGREED** the next meeting of the Operations and Planning Committee would be held on Wednesday 24 August 2022 at 6.00 pm.

The meeting finished at 7.30 pm.

.....(Chairman)