

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

**Held in the Council Chamber, Belle Vue Terrace, Malvern on
Wednesday 5 April 2023 at 6.00 pm**

Councillors

Present

C Palmer (Chairman)

F Matthews-Jones

D Mead

D Watkins

Absent

K Aksar

C Bovey

L Lambeth

J Leibrandt (apologies)

L Lowton (apologies)

Also in attendance

L Blake – Town Clerk

C Porter – Operations Manager

L Wall – Minute Clerk

79. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from Cllrs Lou Lowton and Josephine Leibrandt were noted.

80. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda item 11, Planning Consultations – Cllr David Mead is an affected neighbour of the planning application at 41 Geraldine Road.

81. 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 25 January 2023

82. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

83. BUDGET FOR LAND ADJACENT TO ADAM LEA PLAY AREA

Report OC01/23 was received and accepted.

The Town Clerk explained that no funding had been included within the budget for 2023/24 for initial grounds maintenance works to the land adjacent to Adam Lea play area and therefore a working budget of £2,000 was suggested. This funding would be for:

- Installation of drainage to the eastern boundary of the ground to alleviate the flooding from the north-eastern corner
- Running repairs to the wooden post and rail fencing, particularly the methods of fixing the rails
- Installation of a litter bin

A working budget of £2,000 was **AGREED** for initial grounds maintenance works to the recently acquired green and open space adjacent to Adam Lea play area.

84. PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC TOOL PACKAGE FOR OPERATIONS TEAM

Report OC02/23 was received and accepted.

The Operations Manager informed members that the Operations Team had been trialling various electric tools and found them to be much quieter and with less hand and arm vibration.

A tool package had been selected and quotations sought but only two dealers in Worcestershire were able to provide this type of machinery.

It was **AGREED** that the purchase of an electric tool package for the Operations Team would be made using Company A (Leigh Sinton Garden Machinery Ltd) and the exception to Financial Regulations was **NOTED**.

85. GAS LAMP ON MALVERN COMMON

Report OC03/23 was received and accepted.

Members were asked to consider options for the future of the gas lamp on Malvern Common, following damage sustained when a member of the public accidentally drove into it.

Members acknowledged that the lamp would be costly to repair and reinstate, and that there were no other lamps in that particular area. However, the gas lamps are a well-known feature of Malvern and members felt that it was important to support the part they play in the town's Victorian heritage.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the gas lamp on Malvern Common be repaired and reinstated, subject to the costs being recoverable through an insurance claim.

It was also **AGREED** that if there were any problems with gaining the insurance company's agreement, or there were any problems with the repairs, then this item should be brought back to Operations and Planning Committee to reconsider.

86. PERMISSION TO REPAIR, REINSTATE AND REFURBISH THE MEMORIAL OF DR ARCHIBALD WEIR IN GREAT MALVERN CEMETERY

Report OC04/23 was received and accepted.

This was the second application by Friends of Malvern's Cemeteries to repair a grave in the cemetery. The works to the grave of Dr Archibald Weir will be carried out by Steve Allard and Sons Stonemasons and all required paperwork had been submitted correctly.

It was **AGREED** that permission be granted for the repairs to the memorial of Dr Archibald Weir in Great Malvern Cemetery, works to be co-ordinated by the Friends of Malvern's Cemeteries, with the stonemason being Steve Allard and Sons.

87. HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM COMPETITION 2023

Report OC05/23 was received and noted.

The Town Clerk reported that Cllr Palmer and Cllr Hooper had attended a seminar at which the theme of "Plant, Grown, Eat" was announced. Initial interest from schools to take part was encouraging and the steering committee would meet soon.

A date for judging has been announced as 20 July. The route will go through the new wards of Great Malvern, Chase and Pound Bank.

Committee **NOTED** that an entry had been submitted for the Heart of England in Bloom Campaign 'Town' category.

88. WORK PROGRAMME AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Report OC06/23 was received and accepted.

The Operations Manager reported that repairs to the bus shelter at Rosebank Gardens were almost complete.

All other projects scheduled for 2022/23 had now been completed.

89. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Report OC07/23 was received and noted.

The Town Clerk reported that signs purchased following a notice of motion by Cllr Lowton were now ready to be installed at all Town Council sites of green and open spaces.

No other matters were raised.

90. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

Report OC08/23 was noted.

21/01513/FUL 41 Geraldine Road, Malvern

Cllr Mead reported that the Guarlford Road residents' group had submitted a statement ahead of the planning appeal and hearing.

No other planning applications were raised.

91. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **AGREED** the next meeting of the Operations and Planning Committee would be held on Wednesday 31 May 2023 at 6.00 pm.

The meeting finished at 6.55 pm.

.....(Chairman)