

UNADOPTED

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

held in the Park View Meeting Room, Community Hub, Victoria Park

Wednesday 1 April 2026 at 3.30pm

Councillors

Present

D Mead (Chair)
A Cherry (Vice Chair)
S Austin
H Clements
M Jones
J Leibrandt (3.32pm)
D Watkins
W Whittaker

Absent

C Bovey (apologies)
E Green (apologies)
J MacLusky
N Wanklin

Also in attendance

L Blake - Town Clerk
C Porter – Operations Manager
J Winkworth – Minute Clerk
Cllr M Birks (3.34pm)

86. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were **NOTED** from Councillor Bovey who had substituted Cllr Clements and from Councillor Green who had substituted Cllr Jones.

87. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

88. 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 Chair:

- Operations and Planning Committee meeting Wednesday 28 January 2026.

Cllr Josie Leibrandt arrived at 3.32pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

89. REPLACEMENT JOHN DEERE MOWER 2026/27 BUDGET

Report OC01/25 was received and accepted.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** to approve the purchase of a replacement John Deere mower X949 from Company A.

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Cllr Marilyn Birks arrived at 3.34pm.

90. **REPLACEMENT EVENT FOR MAYOR'S BONANZA**

Report OC02/25 was received and accepted.

Committee members noted the suggestion from Officers to refresh the events programme by introducing a new event to replace the Mayor's Bonanza.

The new event would be themed to fit with the Malvern in Bloom and Britain in Bloom entry and judging timeline for 2026.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to replace the Mayor's Bonanza in 2026 with a new event called "Malvern in Bloom: Community in Colour" to take place on Saturday 11 July 2026.

91. **MAYOR'S PEAKS CHALLENGE 2026**

Report OC03/25 was received and noted.

The Town Clerk updated the committee regarding the event taking place Saturday 2 May 2026.

The start and finish meeting point has moved to Rose Bank Gardens due to the ongoing works within Priory Park.

Volunteers are required for the meeting points at:

- Hollybush
- British Camp
- Lower Beacon Car Park

Officers had secured sponsorship for T-Shirts, medals and dog goodies so proceeds from this event will go to the Mayor's Charity, Malvern Special Families.

92. **REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR PARK VIEW COMMUNITY ROOM**

Report OC04/25 was received and accepted.

The Town Clerk updated the committee regarding the income from the Community Room bookings for the current financial year.

Following Councillors discussions, it was **AGREED** that further information regarding staffing costs for room bookings would be provided at the next meeting with a view to discuss further.

93. **WORK PROGRAMME AND OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Report OC05/25 was received and accepted.

The Operations Manager confirmed that works had commenced on Victoria Park Play Area refurbishment.

The Lodge refurbishment is due to start week commencing 7 April 2026.

There were no further updates.

The Chair thanked the Operations Manager and the team for their continued hard work.

94. **SKATEPARK AT VICTORIA PARK**

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on the progress of this project.

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The Town Clerk is in receipt of the updated design, location and plans following a recent meeting between the contractor and skateboard users. The Bowling Club comments have also been taken into consideration.

Cllr Newbigging, Cllr Cherry, the Operations Manager and the Town Clerk are due to meet with the Bowling Club in the near future to discuss the amended plans.

Cllr Helen Clements left the meeting at 4.25pm

95. VICTORIA PARK PLAY AREA

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on the progress of this project.

Work has commenced on the play area, with additional works commencing mid-May for a period of 6 to 7 weeks. The toddler play area will remain open along with the swings, but all other areas will be closed due to health and safety requirements.

Visual displays of the new play area will be signposted in the café and the notice board within Victoria Park.

96. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

Report OC06/25 was received and accepted.

None.

97. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and input, and it was **AGREED** the next meeting of the Operations and Planning Committee would be held on Wednesday 29 April 2026 at 6.00pm.

The meeting finished at 4.30pm.

.....(Chair)