



mirfield  
town council

## Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.45pm at the rising of the  
previous meeting

Held at: Trinity Methodist Church, 4 Trinity Street, Mirfield, WF14 8AD

### Councillors Present:

S Naisbett (Chairman), J Roberts, P Tolson, M Brown, S Guy, J Hirst, D Hirst, Itrat Ali, Imran Ali, V Lees-Hamilton, M Connell, M Sullivan, M Hamilton

### In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs  
Public: 2 x residents, 3 x members Mirfield Roundtable  
Press: None

### **MTC101/2024** Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Naisbett welcomed Cllrs and members of the public.

### **MTC102/2024** Apologies for Absence:

Councillors to send apologies and reasons for absence to the clerk or chairman for approval

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs Harrison & M Bolt sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Sullivan **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr Sullivan **Seconded: Vote: All in favour**

Cllr Hinchliffe was absent but did not send apologies nor reason for absence

### **MTC103/2024** Declaration of Interest:

Councillors to declare an interest, if applicable to any item on the agenda including any pecuniary interests whether or not they have been declared on the members register of pecuniary interests.

**None**

### **MTC104/2024** Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024 including payments of **£3504.00 plus Clerk Salary, Working Allowance, HMRC & NEST Pension**. Cllr Sullivan **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: 12 in favour, Cllr Lees-Hamilton abstained**

### **MTC105/2024** Matters Arising from the Minutes:

To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary

1. To receive an update on Mirfield Library and decide any action necessary –

No update

2. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett on website go live and decide any action necessary – Cllr Naisbett reports a few more tweaks are needed. He needs assisting with proof reading and editing. Cllr Lees-Hamilton agrees to help proof reading the site. Cllr Naisbett plays the Christmas Message video to Cllrs.
3. To receive an update from Cllr Naisbett on Christmas Light Switch On and decide any action or costs necessary – Cllr Naisbett updates on Christmas lights. He reports that both he and the Clerk have had numerous conversations with Kirklees regarding the weight of items on lampposts and lights across the highways. He states that MTC cannot put lights across the highway unless it is from building to building. All hanging baskets, lamppost banners and wires have had to be removed from lampposts in order for Kirklees to agree the license. In future years the lampposts must be strength tested; this could be a cost of £40k! This year there will be lights in the trees in Ings Grove and the library and all the lampposts have been fitted with timers. The Christmas tree has been ordered from Haigh's as per last year and Clerk reports that this year, for the first time, Kirklees will cover the cost of the electricity as they do with other groups. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** a vote of thanks to Cllr Naisbett Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
4. To receive an update on Speed Indicator Device for Stocksbank Road and decide any action or costs necessary – Cllr Lees-Hamilton reports that she has received a response from Kirklees. Clerk to forward to resident and Cllrs and defer to next meeting.

## **MTC106/2024**

### **Internal Matters:**

To receive information on the following items and agree/decide any action where necessary

1. To receive presentation from Mirfield Roundtable regarding purchase of fireworks for Mirfield Annual Bonfire at a cost of £5000, to discuss and decide whether to agree the costs as per legislation Local Government Act 1972 section 137, 144 & 145 (General powers, Tourism & Entertainment & Arts) retrospectively – 3 members of the Mirfield Roundtable are present. P Blakeley apologises for the misunderstanding and lateness of sending the invoice to the Clerk. Clerk explains what was agreed last year and why the event still needs to be an agenda item, even if it is included in the set budget. Questions are posed to the members – Total costs for event £15k plus £5k fireworks. Reserves are kept for future events, if cancelled for any reason they need a contingency. Any profits made are distributed to various charities and groups, with the volunteers that help with both the Beer Festival and Bonfire benefiting. Cllr Brown is concerned that residents pay the precept and then pay the entrance fee, Clerk states that for fairness, the same applies to the Mirfield Show, who MTC also support. Cllr Connell states that residents realise that they pay for the bonfire and that part of that goes to charities and local groups. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states she has had complaints regarding parking at Blake Hall and wonders if something can be done next year regarding parking for the event. Member MRT state that the further out they go with parking measures, the further the problem is, they have asked for road closures and coning orders but have been denied by Kirklees and WYP will not police the event. Cllr Itrat Ali **Proposed** MTC pay the £5000 for the fireworks as the event benefits the whole community, generates tourism within the town and by doing this the event can go ahead annually. MRT to make sure that next year, any quotations are sent to the Clerk at least 3 months prior to the event and certainly before summer recess Cllr Tolson **Seconded Vote: 12 in favour Cllr Lees-Hamilton abstained** Clerk confirmed she will pay the invoice sent by MRT.

2. To receive an update from the Clerk and Steering Group on Mirfield Neighbourhood Plan. Grant maximum with Locality has been reached and the latest estimates from Kirkwells will exceed the grant allowance and costs to complete the plan. To decide if MTC want to proceed with finalising the Plan and agree the costs to do so from the precept – Clerk updates Cllrs on the current balance of the locality grant and explains that with the latest quotations, MTC would be overspent. Clerk confirms asking the steering group to contact Kirkwells for a ball park figure to finalise the plan including costs for the referendum. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states MTC are so far down the line with this that it would be a shame not to complete, but must have costs before MTC can consider further. Cllrs Tolson & Naisbett confirm they are still waiting for a meeting to be called by the steering group to discuss next steps. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to defer until all costs are received Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To receive NALC Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024 and pay award to be agreed and implemented as swiftly as possible. These should be retrospectively applied from 1 April 2024, for the Clerk who's contract is on the National Joint Council terms and conditions (Circulated prior to the meeting) – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to accept the pay agreement & implement the back pay asap Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: All in favour**  
Terms of reference to be circulated for next meeting for Staffing Committee to progress.

**MTC107/2024**

**Public Question Time:**

**None**

**MTC108/2024**

**The Date of The Next Town Council Meeting.**

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at the rising of the Mirfield Armistice Committee Meeting

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.50pm**.....