

MALTBY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 18 September 2002

Present were Councillors Mrs G U Mercer (Chairman), G S Bates, C Beaumont, A Garner, D A Gayton, D M Kellum, J C Kirk, G B Robinson, Mrs S N Robinson, Mrs A L Rushforth, K A Smith, and K F Stringer.

110/02 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following matters were raised:

- A question about the future use of the car park at the Progressive Club. Councillor G B Robinson commented on the planning application for a conservatory submitted by the club and how this affected car parking arrangements
- A question about a water tap in the cemetery. Councillor G B Robinson responded on this borough council matter
- A question about spring water in Maltby. Councillor G B Robinson responded on this borough council matter
- A question about the content of an election leaflet. The questioner was advised to take the matter up with the Electoral Registration Officer, Rotherham MBC
- Comments on traffic calming on Addison Road. The Chairman agreed to follow this matter up with the highways engineer
- Comments on how the borough council should respond to issues arising from the community plan
- A question about how the council would deal with a prolonged period of illness of the Clerk & Financial Officer
- Comments about car parking on High Street

111/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A D Crompton and D Thorpe.

112/02 COUNCILLOR D M KELLAM

The Chairman welcomed Councillor D M Kellam as a new Town Councillor. The Clerk & Financial Officer confirmed that Councillor Kellam had signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

Councillor Kellum responded and, on behalf of all three candidates, thanked all those who voted on 8 August 2002.

113/02 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 JULY 2002

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24 July 2002 be confirmed and a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

114/02 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) 226/01 Maltby Coat of Arms

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported on a reply received from Buckingham Palace confirming that the Queen was unable to intervene in the day to day running of the College of Arms.

It was agreed to discuss this matter at the next meeting.

(b) 100/02 Youth Inclusion Programme

Councillors Beaumont, Russell and Stringer commented that they were not Town Council representatives on the Steering Group. The Clerk & Financial Officer apologised for the misunderstanding.

115/02 PETITIONS

Two petitions were received which expressed (a) no confidence, and (b) full confidence, in the Chairman.

RESOLVED: that both petitions be received.

116/02 ACCOMMODATION WORKING PARTY

(a) Bede Church Development

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported that he had met the Bede Church Funding Consultant as requested, and on behalf of the Town Council had agreed to pay his fees – to be divided 3 ways with the Church, Sure Start, and the Town Council.

(b) Acquisition of Land at Tickhill Road/Walters Road

Councillors G B Robinson and Mrs A L Rushforth (also Borough Councillors) each declared a personal interest in the possible acquisition of the Edward Dunn site. After taking advice from the Monitoring Officer, they confirmed they would act solely as Town Councillors in respect of this acquisition, and would withdraw from any meeting of Rotherham MBC at which the issue was being considered.

The Clerk & Financial Officer confirmed details of his actions following previous minutes of the Council including (a) he had appointed Messrs Drewery and Wheeldon as the Town Council's Chartered Surveyors, and (b) discussions between the solicitors acting for Sure Start and for the Town Council.

Concern was raised about the intentions of Sure Start regarding its partnership with the Town Council to purchase the land.

RESOLVED: that (a) the Town Council hold steady on its intention to acquire land at Tickhill Road/Walters Road and (b) Councillors G B Robinson and K F Stringer, along with the Clerk & Financial Officer, meet representatives of Sure Start to clarify their position on occupation of the part of the site under consideration.

117/02 MALTBY METHODIST CHURCH

RESOLVED: that (a) possible acquisition of the Maltby Methodist Church be referred to the next meeting of the Accommodation Working Party for further consideration, and (b) a visit be arranged to view the premises.

118/02 ALLOTMENTS WORKING PARTY

The Clerk & Financial Officer reporting.

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported on discussions with several allotment holders, at which several minor items of concern had been resolved.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk & Financial Officer be noted.

119/02 HORTICULTURAL SHOW

RESOLVED: that the Town Council agree in principle to run a Horticultural Show in 2003, and delegate the Allotments Working Party to agree details.

120/02 ENVIRONMENT WORKING PARTY

The Clerk & Financial Officer reporting.

The Clerk & Financial Officer commented on various on-going projects including Christmas Illuminations, the forthcoming bonfire & firework display, and provision of hanging baskets.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk & Financial Officer be noted.

121/02 ANNUAL TOWN GALA

RESOLVED: that the Town Council agree in principle to run a Town Gala in 2003, and delegate the Environment Working Party to agree details.

122/02 CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS

RESOLVED: that (a) the purchase of additional illuminations Irvine Martin Ltd (to match existing units) at an approximate cost of £6000.00 be authorised, (b) the Clerk & Financial Officer be authorised to negotiate an arrangement with the contractor on the basis of the quality of work undertaken last year, and (c) the Clerk & Financial Officer be authorised to make arrangements for the storage of the additional illuminations to be purchased.

123/02 COMMUNITY PLANNING

The Clerk & Financial Officer reporting.

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported on receipt of a letter inviting 2 Town Councillors to the Delivery Conference to be held on Friday 1 November 2002.

RESOLVED: that consideration be given to the matters raised by the Clerk & Financial Officer.

124/02 IDP STEERING GROUP

The Clerk & Financial Officer referred to a letter from the IDP Manager requesting a Town Council representative on the IDP Steering Group.

RESOLVED: that the matter be considered by Councillors, and confirmed at the next meeting.

125/02 STAFFING WORKING PARTY

The Clerk & Financial Officer expressed his disappointment that the Staffing Working Party had not met since May. He reported on a number of matters of concern including (a) an enquiry from Unison which had been outstanding from early July, (b) an enquiry about his contract of employment documentation which had been discovered to be incomplete, (c) immediate and looming workload issues which needed to be addressed, and (d) an update on the latest pay round.

The Chairman agreed to speak to the Chairman of the Staffing Committee with regard to these matters.

RESOLVED: that the Staffing Working Party meets before the end of September.

126/02 RISK ASSESSMENTS

Councillor K A Smith agreed to review what risk assessments needed to be completed by the Town Council.

RESOLVED: that the kind offer by Councillor K A Smith be accepted.

127/02 PURCHASE OF AMPLIFICATION EQUIPMENT

RESOLVED: that (a) an amplification system be purchased from Communique Audio, (b) that Councillor G S Bates and the Clerk & Financial Officer be authorised to agree details with the company, (c) that permission from Rotherham MBC to fix the speakers in the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall be requested, and (d) consideration be given to extending the quotation to include a loop system.

128/02 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Clerk & Financial Officer confirmed that an internal audit of the accounts for year ended 31 March 2002 had been completed on behalf of the Council by Yorkshire Audit.

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported that Yorkshire Audit were generally satisfied with the financial procedures of the Council, but had raised the following specific points:

- The payments schedule does not provide a detailed analysis
- A payments schedule will be included as a separate page in the minutes to be initialled by the Chairman
- A risk assessment policy should be adopted after an analysis has been completed

RESOLVED: that the recommendations of the Internal Auditor be noted by the Council.

129/02 NOTICE OF AUDIT

The Clerk & Financial Officer reporting.

The Clerk & Financial Officer confirmed receipt of the formal notice of audit of accounts for financial year ended 31 March 2002.

RESOLVED: that the information reported by the Clerk & Financial Officer be noted.

130/02 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Councillors G S Bates and K F Stringer declared a personal interest in this item. They did not take part in the discussion or vote thereon.

RESOLVED: that grants be awarded to the following local organisations, as follows:

- £150 – Birks Holt Residents Association
- £150 – Zion Evangelical Church
- £150 – Little London Community Association

- £150 – Cliff Hills Community Association
- £100 – Queens Nursing Home Residents Support Group
- £100 – Friends of Green Arbour School

131/02 AREA ASSEMBLY REPORT

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported that he had given feedback on the Town Council's activities over the last 12 months. He had also raised concerns about the profile of Community Planning and these comments were currently under investigation.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk & Financial Officer be noted.

132/02 HAZEL ROAD WOOD

The Clerk & Financial Officer tabled comments on the Hazel Road Wood prepared by Councillor D Thorpe and a letter from Head of Economic Services, Rotherham MBC.

RESOLVED: that the matter be discussed in more detail at the October meeting of the Council.

133/02 CONFIRMATION OF LAND OWNERSHIP – LIMESWAY, MILTON ST, AND ROTHERHAM RD

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported receipt of copies of the Land Certificates confirming freehold ownership of allotment sites at Limesway, Milton Street and Rotherham Road. He confirmed that the original certificates were held in the deed store at Ilett & Clark Solicitors, 86 Bridge Street, Worksop, S80 1JF.

The Clerk & Financial Officer confirmed that he expected confirmation of ownership at Woodend in the next few weeks.

RESOLVED: that receipt of the Land Certificates mentioned above be noted.

134/02 27 BLYTH ROAD, MALTBY

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported that the Listed Buildings Officer of Rotherham MBC had now contacted the owners of the above property commenting on its poor state of repair and requesting that action be taken to remedy the matter.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk & Financial Officer be noted.

135/02 OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Councillor K F Stringer reported that he had now made arrangements for the outdoor Christmas Carol Concert. He agreed to check the timing of the Christmas Carol Concert at the Parish Church so as to avoid a clash.

RESOLVED: that the report of Councillor Stringer be noted.

136/02 GIFT OF NOTICE BOARD AND SEAT FROM SHEPPEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Clerk & Financial Officer reported that the Sheppey Community Association had recently ceased to function, and had offered a notice board and seat to the Town Council.

RESOLVED: that the items be received with thanks.

137/02 MEMBERSHIP OF YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

RESOLVED: that the Clerk & Financial Officer write to the Yorkshire Local Councils Association expressing disappointment at the response received to a recent enquiry.

138/02 YLCA MATTERS

The following YLCA documents were tabled:

- DIS Issue 532
- DIS Issue 533
- DIS Issue 534
- DIS Issue 535
- Country Air Issue 85 – July 2002
- Local Council Review Volume 54 – September 2002

139/02 PLANNING MATTERS

Planning List nos 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35 were tabled for comment.

It was agreed that no objection would be made to an application no RB2002/1133 by Coe-Crete Ltd.

The Clerk & Financial Officer confirmed that he had objected to application no RB2002/1079 (erection of mobile phone mast at the Co-operative car park.

140/02 ROUTINE CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of routine correspondence were tabled:

- Minutes of Community Planning Group for 4 September 2002
- Details of the Maltby 10 Road Race on 6 October 2002
- Maltby Messenger for September 2002
- Letter from DEFRA regarding Rural Service Standards
- Funding News Issue 59 – September 2002
- Minutes of a meeting of the IDP Steering Group held on 24 July 2002
- Minutes of a meeting of the IDP Steering Group held on 21 August 2002

141/02 FOOTPATH MATTERS

The Clerk & Financial Officer confirmed receipt of (a) a diversion notice in respect of footpath no 28, and (b) a newsletter entitled "Pathways" which informed readers of the latest footpath issues.

142/02 WARD BOUNDARY PROPOSALS

A copy of the latest proposals for Ward Boundary changes were tabled for information.

143/02 ROUTINE RMBC MATTERS

The following of RMBC routine correspondence were tabled:

- Letter confirming improvements to the signing of speed limits in Stone
- Update on motorcycle facilities in Maltby
- Update on a joint communications initiative with BT
- Area Assembly News Issue 23 – September 2002
- Changes to Refuse Collection rounds

- Papers for Standards Committee for 8 August 2002

144/02 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Councillor G S Bates commented on a local initiative to encourage British Telecom to bring Broadband to Maltby.

Councillor D A Gayton commented on the untidy condition of Somerfields car park.

145/02 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council was arranged for 7.00pm on Wednesday 16 October 2002, in the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Tickhill Road, Maltby.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.