



MIDSOMER NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

held in the Beauchamp Room at the Town Hall, Midsomer Norton on
Monday 1st October 2012 Commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Mayor: Cllr P Myers

Councillors: Cllr L Dunford, Cllr B Lawrence, Cllr S Plumley, Cllr L Robertson, Cllr R Robertson, Cllr S Wellington
Cllr Evans, Cllr P Moccock & Cllr J Slade

Also Present: 8 members of the public including one member of the press

In Attendance: Michael Curry - Town Clerk

74. Fire Safety – Evacuation Procedure

The Officer present explained the fire evacuation procedure as detailed in the Agenda.

75. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given.

Apologies were received from Cllr J Lewis who was on holiday.

Resolved

To accept the apologies with the reasons given.

76. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor, Councillor P Myers explained that he had received a letter from a pupil injured by an accident crossing the road to school. The writer stated that this was not an isolated incident and that some form of control was desperately needed. The Mayor suggested that this was an appropriate item for the Council to consider and that there were other sites in the Town needing crossings.

Cllr Myers congratulated St John's Church on the restoration and re-ordering of the Parish Church. A service of thanksgiving celebrated the completion of the last phase of a project that started eighteen years ago.

The Mayor attended the Scout AGM which this year was an Open Afternoon where the members gave short presentations on their experiences scouting during the year.

Contact has been made with the Area's Town Crier Adrian Dando about the Town Crier and a meeting is being arranged to discuss the provision in Midsomer Norton.

Cllr Myers thanked Richard Look B&NES Business Continuity & Emergency Planning Manager for the workshop Councillors attended on Sunday 30th



September. The workshop was interesting and something that would be taken forward.

He also thanked the Silver Street Nature Reserve Volunteers for arranging an informative visit for the Council. He reminded Councillors of an invitation to visit the Somerset & Dorset Railway on Sunday 21st October at 2:30pm.

Finally he thanked those involved in setting up the Allotment Association – Allotment Holders Nick Hall, Martin Peter and Adele Draper; and Councillor R Robertson and the Town Clerk.

Resolved

To include an item on the agenda for the next Council meeting covering the provision of pedestrian crossings in the town.

77. Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Dunford declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 82 Rock Hall Girl Guiding.

Cllr Myers declared a personal interest in item 81 as an officer of the Sarah Ann Trust, who are giving non-financial assistance to the proposers.

78. Minutes of the Midsomer Norton Town Council Meeting – Monday 3rd September 2012

Resolved

That the Minutes of the Midsomer Norton Town Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd September 2012 be signed and adopted as a correct record.

79. Standing Committees

To receive minutes of proceedings of the following Standing Committee to consider any recommendations contained therein:

a) Planning Committee Meeting – Monday 17th September 2012

Resolved

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 17th September 2012 be noted.

80. To Receive Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies

To receive verbal reports from Councillors who have represented the Council at meetings of outside bodies.

Cllr Plumley reported that the scheduled meeting of Welton Rovers had been changed and now clashed with this evening's council meeting. Cllrs Plumley and Wellington will be assisting the Club on their planning application for a new stand.



Cllr Lawrence attended a meeting of the Midsomer Norton Society where talks were given by Mrs Monica Evans on the Old Vestry Book that recently came to light and John Chard on the Knight.

81. Culture Programme

A proposal for a programme of cultural events in Midsomer Norton and the management of the programme was received with the support of the Operations Working Party.

Cllr Myers confirmed that the proposal would meet B&NES criteria for their grant subject to the submission of a project summary. The programme consisted of local acts with the exception of one from Bath. Venues and dates have been confirmed after minor changes and the Sarah-Ann Trust has agreed to assist by providing a banking facility.

Resolved

To accept the culture programme proposal from Culture Vultures.

82. Determine Grant Applications received in the 2nd Round of 2012 Grant-making Programme

The Council received recommendations from the Finance Working Party on the determination of the applications received in the current round of grant-making. Each recommendation was considered separately. In approving the grant to Camvale Tennis Club the lack of tennis facilities in Midsomer Norton was noted.

Cllr Dunford left the meeting at 7:42 for the application from Rock Hall Girl Guides was considered, returning at 7:44 when it had been determined.

Resolved

To make the grants as recommended by the Finance Working Party under section 137 of the Local Authorities Order 1995 but limiting the grant to PEOPLE to the funds to purchase the laptops required.

83. Section 106 Agreements

Details of Councillor nominations of projects or community needs suitable for funding under Section 106 agreements when they arise were circulated prior to the meeting.

The Council welcomed the explanatory note from the Clerk on B&NES's Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document. This will be kept with the list of potential projects.

Resolved

To maintain the list of potential Section 106 projects as presented, adding new nominations once they have been noted at a council meeting.

84. Updating the Town Council's Website

Cllr Slade explained the proposal put to Council on enhancing the Council's website emphasizing the importance of change control, and ownership of the sites URL. He suggested 1st January 2013 as a target date for completion of the project.



Resolved

To approve the proposal as presented to enhance the Council's website.

85. Formation of an Allotment Association

Recommendations from the Allotment Working Party on the formation of an Allotment Association to take-over the day-to-day management of the Radstock Road allotments were considered.

Comments received during the public session prior to the meeting were noted as was the unanimous support for the proposal from the allotment holders who attended the annual allotment holders meeting held on 27th September.

Resolved

- To approve the formation of Allotment Association as outlined in the Allotment Working Party's recommendations.
- The draft constitution of the association be changed so that the balance of any funds revert to the Council for use with regard to the allotments.

86. Floral Decorations - Winter/Spring Planting

Proposals were received for the winter/spring work by the Horticulture contractor. The proposals, which include work throughout the town, have been discussed with the contractor and the proposals will be within budget.

There was general agreement within the Council on the high quality of the contractor's work and how it had engaged people positively.

Resolved

To approve the proposal as presented for winter/spring planting.

87. Updates on Items in the Council's Project Programme

Verbal updates were received on the following elements of the Council's programme of projects.

a) Public Properties and Open Spaces

- Two meetings have been held with B&NES and a project group formed.
- Target dates set aiming for agreement on heads of terms by Christmas for completion by 31st March.
- Thatcher & Hallam have been briefed and are preparing a proposal for the formation of the Charities to form the governance structure.

b) Community Alcohol Partnership

- Meetings are well attended and actions progressing.
- An application for a Designated Public Place was supported by B&NES and a working party is in place to progress the order.
- A meeting is scheduled with Safe & Sound to initiate the trial of Street Marshals. Cllr Myers asked that clothing and other branding opportunities should be investigated.



The Council recorded their thanks to Cllrs Dunford and Evans for their work

c) Retail Feasibility Study

- The draft findings of the retail feasibility study were presented to the last meeting of the Midsomer Norton Economic Development Partnership.
- An Executive Summary has now been produced. This will be presented to the next meeting of the MSNEDP on 4th October.

d) Licensing

- A meeting with B&NES' officers from each of the various departments involved will be held on 4th October. The aim will be to produce a briefing paper on the licensing process on the lines of the one for section 106 agreements.

88. Gateway Sign at Charlton Park – correspondence received from Westfield Parish Council

The letter from Westfield Parish Council on the gateway sign at Charlton Park was considered.

Resolved

For the Clerk to respond including the following points

- Thanking Westfield for the letter. Their difficulties in defining their boundaries was acknowledged.
- Noting that the sign was a response to parishioners and historically that a sign had been there.
- The position of the sign had been considered, hence the angled position at the entrance to Charlton Park.

89. Annual Christmas Social

The proposals for the Annual Christmas Social were considered.

Resolved

To approve the proposal as presented for the Annual Christmas Social.

Meeting finished at 8:21 pm

Signed:

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P. S. Myers

Dated:

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5 November 2012