



# Midsomer Norton Town Council

## Minutes of the ~~Annual~~ Town Council Meeting held in The Town Hall Midsomer Norton on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 Commencing at 7.00pm

**Present:** Mayor: Cllr P Myers  
Deputy Mayor: Cllr M Evans  
Councillors: Cllr B Lawrence, Cllr, J Lewis, Cllr S Plumley, Cllr L Robertson, Cllr R Robertson, Cllr J Slade,

**Also present:** 1 member of the public and 1 member of the press

**In Attendance:** Michael Curry – Town Clerk

### 17. Fire Safety – Evacuation

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

### 18. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given

Councillors L Dunford and P Mocock being on holiday. Cllr S Wellington due to a prior engagement.

**Resolved:** To accept the apologies with the reasons given.

### 19. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor, Cllr P Myers, thanked all those involved in putting on the Jubilee events. Feedback has been very positive and the day was something to remember. Personally, he was pleased to see how the events brought the community together to celebrate, echoing the Council's aim for an inclusive community.

He also thanked Ignyte and the Town's schools for their work to produce the Midsomer Norton Yearbook. Again comments have been very positive.

The latest bumper issue of Midsomer Norton Life was distributed in time for the Jubilee weekend.

Looking at the lessons learnt during the Jubilee 'experience', Cllr Myers highlighted the inherent difficulty of getting a large number of groups working together on a sizeable event.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor met the Chief Executive of Somer Housing. During the meeting there was a promising dialogue on the maintenance of Welton 'Green'.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Myers'.



**20. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Lawrence declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to the Longvernal School Association grant application to be considered in item 24

**21. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 28.1.

**Resolved:** That Agenda item 28 be treated as confidential and dealt with after the Public (including the Press) had been excluded.

**22. Minutes**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012 be signed and adopted as a correct record subject to an amendment to show Cllr Lawrence ~~was~~ in attendance

**23. Completion of the Annual Return**

The Annual Return was presented to Council for approval Section 1 – The Statement of Account and to complete and approve Section 2 Statement of Assurance

**Resolved:** In respect to the Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012:

- a) To approve the accounting statements made in Section 1
- b) To approve the annual governance statement made in Section 2
- c) To thank the Clerk & Administrative Officer for the diligence with which financial matters are dealt with

**24. Determination of Grant Applications**

Councillor Lawrence withdrew from the meeting at 7:30 pm for consideration of the Longvernal School Association application.

The Council considered the grant applications received.

Councillor Lawrence rejoined the meeting at 7:45 pm.

**Resolved:** 1a. To make the following grant awards under permitted powers:

- i) Norton Radstock Swimming Club £1,490
- ii) Exit Stage Left £5,000
- iii) Somerset & Dorset Railway Heritage Trust £ 750

1b. To make the following grant awards under Section 137:

- iv) Rock Hall Girl Guiding £ 200
- v) Working in Support of Holidays for the Disabled £ 500

2. To thank all those who submitted bids for the work put into their preparation.



**25. Brand Guidelines for the Town Council**

A paper on guidelines for use to the Town's Civic emblem was presented to Council.

The guidelines were approved subject to the following amendments:

- a) Road signs in mixed case are acceptable so all upper case will not be used
- b) Deviation from the guidelines may permitted but this should be the exception and the result of explicit consideration

**Resolved:** To adopt the amended brand guidelines

**26. Code of Conduct**

The NALC's template Code of Conduct was considered for adoption in light of the Localism Act 2011 provisions to replace the standards framework previously established.

**Resolved:** To adopt the NALC recommended Code of Conduct.

**27. Arts Development Match Funding Offer**

An offer of a £3,000 grant subject to match funding has been received to develop arts provision in the Town. Whilst the Council agreed in principle to accept the grant because the purpose of the grant matched the Council's aim of a vibrant town centre welcoming all, before committing the funds it needed to be satisfied that a viable, appropriate programme could be achieved with the funds and that resources could be found to plan and manage the programme.

**Resolved:** To refer consideration of an arts programme and its management to the Operations Working Party. Their recommendations then being presented to Council to guide determination of the match funding offer.

**28. Resolved – that in view of the confidential nature of the business transacted, the press and public were excluded during consideration of this item – Commercial in Confidence.**

- Resolved:**
- a) To appoint Strategic Planning Advice Ltd in association with Lunson Mitchenall & FSP Architects & Planners to conduct a retail feasibility study
  - b) To appoint W.S.Atkins (B&NES Approved Contractor) to install new gateway signs and relocate existing signs
  - c) To extend the coverage of the horticultural contract
  - d) To purchase a waterer to maintain the Council's flower beds around the town
  - e) To maintain the existing contribution for distribution of Midsomer Norton Life

**Meeting finished at 9:30 pm**

Signed: .....

Dated: .....

9 - 7 - 2012