

MIDSOMER NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held in the Beauchamp Room at the Town Hall, Midsomer Norton on Monday 6th August 2012
Commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Mayor: Cllr P Myers

Councillors: Cllr L Dunford, Cllr B Lawrence, Cllr Miss J Lewis, Cllr S Plumley, Cllr Mrs L Robertson, Cllr R Robertson, Cllr S Wellington

Also Present: Eight (8) Members of the Public and One (1) Member of the Press

In Attendance: Michael Curry – Town Clerk
Mrs Carole Sims – Administrative Officer

44. Fire Safety – Evacuation Procedure

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

45. Apologies for Absence and to Consider the Reasons Given

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Evans who was with his family after the birth of his grandson.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Slade who had suffered an injury to his hip.

Resolved

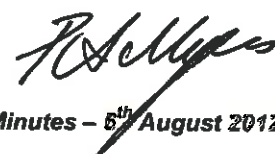
To accept the apologies with the reasons given.

46. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor, Councillor P Myers advised the Council that David Evans had suffered a stroke and was currently in hospital. Councillor P Myers requested a card be sent on behalf of the Town Council wishing David a speedy recovery.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor M Evans and his wife Monica on the birth of their new grandson. Councillor P Myers informed Members that a card congratulating the grandparents on the new arrival was being circulated.

The Mayor on behalf of the Council wished to convey thanks to Nicola Ware, her husband Glen and staff of Flowers by Nicola on the superb floral displays in the High Street. The Mayor advised Members that a lot feedback had been received from the public complimenting the displays.



The Mayor on behalf of the Council wished congratulations be expressed to Miranda Wood the Town Warden on the fabulous job she is carrying out and for her work initiative. The Mayor wanted to personally thank Miranda for taking over the management of the Community Payback and giving him back his Sunday mornings.

47. Declarations of Interest

Councillor L Dunford declared a personal interest in Agenda Item Number 53 as an Officer of the Sarah Ann Trust.

Councillor P Myers declared a personal interest in Agenda Item Number 53 as an Officer of the Sarah Ann Trust and also Agenda Item Number 54 as a Bath & North East Somerset Council Ward Councillor.

48. 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 59 be treated as confidential and dealt with after the Public (including the Press) had been excluded.

49. Minutes of Midsomer Norton Town Council Meeting – Monday 9th July 2012

Resolved

That the Minutes of the Midsomer Norton Town Council Meeting held on Monday 9th July 2012 be signed and adopted as a correct record.

50. Standing Committees

The Minutes of the Council's Standing Committee had been circulated in the Agenda:

a) Planning Committee Meeting – Monday 16th July 2012.

Resolved

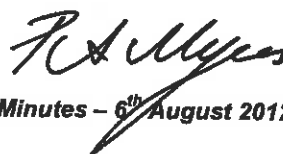
That the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 16th July 2012 be noted.

51. To Receive Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies

Representatives to Outside Bodies and Organisations were asked if they had any reports to submit.

Councillor S Plumley reported that after the purchase by the Town Council of 50 shares (the minimum shareholding necessary); the Council could now be represented on the Board of Welton Rovers.

Councillor S Plumley advised Members that the new signage had now been put up at the West Clewes Recreation Ground site.



Cllr S Plumley also informed Members that Welton Rovers had been turned down for the funding of a new mower. However, Dave Dixon and Alison Wells from Bath & North East Somerset Council had put Welton Rovers in touch with an alternative funding source and had offered their assistance in completing any paperwork.

Cllr J Lewis advised the Council that she had attended a meeting of the Midsomer Norton Community Association. She reported that correspondence and a meeting with Ian Alexander had taken place to clarify the Somer Centre's position with regard to the Town Councils Community Buildings project. Representatives of the Midsomer Norton Community Association had been made aware of tonight's council meeting.

Cllr J Lewis advised Members that the Community Association had discussed their concerns regarding the paving on the Martin's side of the High Street. She will report back to Council on the Community Association's plans for the award from the Community Empowerment Fund set up by Bath & North East Somerset Council once there is clarity on their intentions.

Cllr S Plumley advised the Council that the Twinning Party would be arriving on Monday 20th August 2012 and that the signing of the new Civic Charter would be signed in the main hall in the Town Hall on Tuesday 21st August 2012 at 1.30pm.

The Town Clerk advised the Council that invites had been sent out to Community Groups and Councillors.

The Town Clerk also informed Members that the advert for the next round of Grants would appear in the 9th August 2012 editions of the Somerset Guardian and The Journal.

52. Definitions of the Different Forms of Financial Community Support

Members of the Council received a report from the Town Clerk regarding the Finance Working Party's recommendations on definitions for the various forms of financial support at the Council's disposal in order to assist budgeting.

Resolved

That the Town Council adopts the following nomenclature:

- a. A 'grant' to apply to financial support to organisations in support of their initiatives and
- b. Commissioning funding' to apply to finance resources given to an organisation to carry out its (The Council's) own initiative.

53. Community Buildings

The Council received a paper from the Operations Work Party on:

- a. A Policy Framework for Progress
- b. Community Development Commissioning Funding

Resolved

- a. That the Town Clerk seeks legal advice on Indemnity Insurance regarding Trustee protection.
- b. That the Town Council proceed with negotiations (Conducted by Cllrs Myers and Plumley supported by Cllrs Evans and L Robertson) with Bath & North East Somerset Council using the proposed methodology to guide the Council's work to secure community facilities.
- c. That the Operations Working Party develop detailed proposal for the use of the £15,000 community development commissioning funding.

Councillor L Dunford thanked the Councillors involved in producing a clear and precise document to carry forward.

54. Additional Detail to the Ground Services Budget

Members of the Council received a paper from the Finance Working Party giving an update on the services being provided from the Ground Services Budget and a breakdown of the total ground services budget to reflect these services.

Resolved

- a. That the budget detailed in the Agenda be adopted.
- b. That the quote given by Bath & North East Somerset Council for the inspection of play equipment and litter picking in West Clewes be accepted.
- c. That the Town Clerk seeks clarification from the Council's legal advisors on the position of responsibility of playground equipment accidents.

Councillor S Plumley wished to take this opportunity to echo the Mayor's early thanks to Miranda Wood (Town Warden) for doing a fantastic job and for being such an asset to the Council.

55. Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP)

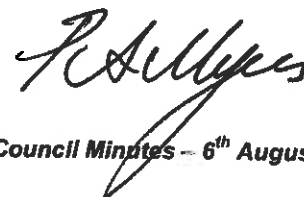
The Council received a paper from Councillor M Evans and Councillor L Dunford updating Members of the work currently being undertaken by CAP and to consider a proposal to trial for six months jointly with Bath & North East Somerset Council a street marshal's scheme.

Standing Orders were suspended at 8.21pm for Dave Dixon, Stronger Communities Manager, Bath & North East Somerset Council to answer questions regarding the street marshal scheme.

Standing Orders were reinstated at 8.26pm.

Resolved

That the Town Council if Bath & North East Somerset Council are prepared to match the £3,900 funding go ahead and trial the street marshal scheme for a period of 6 months.



56. Application for a Designated Public Place Order

Members of the Council were asked to consider, in light of the findings of the anti-social behaviour survey, a proposal for an application to be made for a Designated Public Place Order.

Resolved

That the Town Council assist in the work to enable Bath & North East Somerset Council to make part of Midsomer Norton a Designated Public Place Order.

57. Enhancing the Town Council Web Presence

Members of the Council received a proposal on the basis by which to upgrade the Town Council's website.

Resolved

- a. That Councillor P Myers, Councillor J Slade and the Town Clerk prepare the tender specification.
- b. That local firms be approached to quote for the initial design set-up work.

58. Financial Risk Assessment

Members of the Council received a copy of the Audit Risk Assessment.

Resolved

- a. That the Council adopt the Auditor's recommendation to review procurement processes as part of the work of the Finance Working Party, leading to an internal audit noting the suggested timescale.
- b. That the Clerk negotiate a three year internal audit plan with IAC.

At 9.00 the members of the public and press departed from the meeting.

- 59. 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. That the circulation of Confidential Papers be reviewed including consideration of a separate agenda for such items.

Meeting finished at 9.48pm

Signed:

P. A. Myers

Dated:

3 September 2012