



Midsomer Norton Town Council

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Mayor: Cllr Paul Myers BEM

Town Clerk: Clive Stilwell MILCM

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held in the Beauchamp Room
at the Town Hall, Midsomer Norton on Monday 8th January 2018
Commencing at 7.00pm**

Present: Town Mayor: Cllr P Myers

Also Present: Cllr G Davis, Cllr G Mackay, Cllr A Purchase, Cllr A Slade, Cllr M Evans, Cllr S Plumley, Cllr M Rich, Cllr B Lawrence, Cllr L Robertson & Cllr R Robertson.

5 members of the Public and Press

A presentation of a cheque for £800 was made by Nick Waton of the Midsomer Norton Society for the purchase of a bench in memory of Norman Voake.

In Attendance: Clive Stilwell – Town Clerk

Fire Safety – Evacuation Procedure / Recording Protocol

The Officer present explained the fire evacuation procedure and the Town Council's recording protocol.

144.	<u>Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given</u> There were no apologies to be considered.
145.	<u>Mayor's Announcements</u> The Mayor wished everyone present a Happy New Year. He also congratulated Terry Taylor, a long-standing community figure who had done much to support groups in the town, on his award of the BEM. The Christmas Party for senior citizens had been very successful again as were the Carol Services and the non-religious music concert. Finally the Mayor looked forward to another busy year for the Council.
146.	<u>Clerk's Report</u> The Clerk reported that the draft budget had been loaded on the Council's financial systems and the tax base figures had been received from B&NES Council. Proposals for the budget and Precept would be developed by the Finance Working Party and brought to Council in February. An advertisement had been placed calling for tenders to be submitted for the contract for the Council's Street Marshal service which would begin in April 2018.

	<p>The first meeting of the Client Project Team for the Town park had taken place in December and the second meeting would be on 30th January 2018 at 2pm which would include a site visit. Members were invited to attend if they wished to.</p>
147.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest.</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
148.	<p><u>Exclusion of the Press and Public</u></p> <p>To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) has been excluded under Standing Order 28.1.</p> <p>Resolved: That the Public (including the Press) be excluded under Standing Order 28.1 for items 159 (due to commercial issues and the position of the Town Council in negotiating terms) and 161 (due to the personnel issues to be discussed in connection with recruitment of a new clerk).</p>
149.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting of the Midsomer Norton Town Council held on Monday 4th December 2017 had been circulated in the Agenda.</p> <p>Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Midsomer Norton Town Council held on Monday 4th December 2017 be signed and adopted as a correct record. The Mayor subsequently signed the minutes.</p>
150.	<p><u>Accounts for Payment – November 2017</u></p> <p>Members reviewed the ‘Schedule(s) of Accounts for Payment’ for November 2017 and authorise the payments.</p> <p>Resolved: That the ‘Schedule(s) of Accounts for Payment’ for November 2017 be approved.</p>
151.	<p><u>Working Parties</u></p> <p>Operations Working Party – Members received a verbal account of the meeting of the Operations Working Party held on Tuesday 12th December 2017 from Councillor Paul Myers. The OWP was planning to bring proposals for the future structure of Committees etc to Council in the near future.</p> <p>Resolved: That the verbal report from the Ops Working Party be noted.</p> <p>There had been no Finance Working Party in December.</p>
152.	<p><u>To Receive Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies</u></p> <p>Members received verbal reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies.</p>

	<p>Resolved: That the verbal reports from Outside Bodies be noted.</p>
153.	<p><u>Midsomer Norton High Street Regeneration</u></p> <p>Resolved: To note the update from Cllr P Myers on Regeneration.</p>
154.	<p><u>The Local Government Boundary Commission for England</u></p> <p><i>Electoral Review of Bath & North East Somerset: Draft Recommendations</i></p> <p>Members considered a response to the Electoral Review of Bath & North East Somerset, draft recommendations.</p> <p>Resolved: That the Clerk respond to the draft recommendations making a strong case for the Town Council warding arrangements to remain as they are – one ward for the whole Town Council.</p>
155.	<p><u>Midsomer Norton Town Council Table Covers</u></p> <p>Members considered a quote that had been received from the Forbes Group for the purchase of table covers.</p> <p>Resolved: That Officers should proceed and purchase table covers at a cost of £683.68.</p>
156.	<p><u>Town Park Update</u></p> <p>Members received an oral update on the Client Project meeting on the Park from Councillor Myers and Plumley.</p> <p>Resolved: To note the report.</p>
157.	<p><u>Historic England Proposal to list the War Memorial</u></p> <p>Members noted a report from the Clerk on the intention of Historic England to list the town's War Memorial</p> <p>Resolved: That the Clerk should determine any implications of proceeding with the planned survey of the War memorial and that the intentions of Historic England be noted and monitored.</p>
158.	<p><u>West of England Joint Spatial Plan and the new B&NES Local Plan</u></p> <p>Members agreed the final comments that were to be submitted by the Town Council on the West of England Spatial Plan and the B&NES Local Plan from a report from Councillors Evans, Myers and Lawrence.</p> <p>Resolved: That the Clerk should submit the agreed comments to B&NES Council and the West of England Spatial Plan team.</p>

160.	<p>CONFIDENTIAL</p> <p>Resolved: That in view of the confidentiality of the business remaining to be discussed, Town Clerk Recruitment, the public and Press be excluded from the meeting.</p>
159.	<p><u>Asset Transfer</u></p> <p>Members received an update from Councillor P Myers on the current proposals for Asset Transfer and agreed on the way forward ahead of formal consultation in early 2018.</p> <p>Resolved: That the project Team should continue with negotiations as set out in their presentation and seek Full Council approval before any contracts are signed.</p>
161.	<p><u>Town Clerk Recruitment – Sift Results</u></p> <p>Members considered a report from the Councillors who had carried out a sift of applications and agreed which candidates should be interviewed.</p> <p>Resolved: That the three candidates recommended by the Recruitment Panel be invited to interview and that the Panel be delegated the authority to negotiate starting pay in line with the terms of the advertisement.</p>

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

A signed copy of the minutes can be viewed at the Town Council Offices

Signed:

(Mayor)

Dated: