

# Midsomer Norton Town Council

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Mayor: Cllr Paul Myers

Town Clerk: Clive Stilwell

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council meeting held in the Beauchamp Room  
at the Town Hall, Midsomer Norton on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014  
Commencing at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Town Mayor: Cllr P Myers

Councillors: Cllr S Box, Cllr L Dunford, Cllr M Evans, Cllr B Lawrence, Cllr J Lewis, Cllr S Plumley, Cllr L Robertson, Cllr R Robertson.

**Also Present:** 4 members of the Press and Public

**In Attendance:** Clive Stilwell, Town Clerk

## **Fire Safety – Evacuation Procedure**

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

## **Recording Council Meetings**

The Mayor explained the Council's protocol for recording meetings

### **110. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given**

Cllr J Slade sent his apologies due to a holiday commitment.

**Resolved:** To accept the apologies and the reason given.

At this point in the meeting, the Mayor proposed that Standing Orders be suspended and that Item 125, the report from the Community Trust be brought forward to this point on the Agenda.

**Resolved:** To take Agenda Item 125 at this point and to suspend Standing Orders to allow the Community Development Manager to address the Council.

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.10pm.

### **125. Community Trust**

The Community Development Manager made a presentation on the Community Trust's achievements over the last year.

**Resolved:** To note the report from the Community Trust, to congratulate the Trust and its staff and volunteers on its achievements and to resume Standing Orders.

Standing Orders resumed at 7.30pm



## 111. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor thanked all those who had made carnival such a success for the town. He concluded that it had been a tremendous community event in the town centre and that he had received many examples of positive feedback.

The Mayor thanked Officers and the Neighbourhood Plan Group for the work they had put in to the first Consultation Event on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

The Mayor had represented the Town Council at Westfield Parish Council's Christmas Lights switch on as had other Councillors at Radstock's event.

Finally, the Mayor advised Members that the Christmas event in the town was planned for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December commencing in the Town Hall at 5.30pm.

## 112. Town Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the following matters from November not covered in Agenda items:

LIFE Winter 2014 had been delivered

Further correspondence had been received from the Charities Commission about West Clewes and a reply had been sent to them through Thatcher and Hallam. Their response was awaited.

The support to the NDP group had transferred to another contractor and the costs would be contained within the original budget.

The first meeting of the editorial board for tourist leaflets was scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>. A contractor had been appointed to deliver the leaflets after quotes had been obtained.

An order had been placed for the conference phone.

The first of two consultation events had been supported by Officers.

The Clerk updated Members on the following projects:

A draft contract for transfer of ownership for St Chads Well to the Town Trust had been received and work was progressing.

A decision on the application for development alongside the land for the Town Park was expected in December and it is understood that this is to be done under Officer delegated powers.

The decision on the application for work in the Catholic Church Garden was awaited and BANES were consulting English Heritage.

A meeting had been held with the Duchy of Cornwall regarding land availability for a Cemetery and possible additional football pitch provision.



**113. Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr J Lewis declared an interest in Item 122, an application for a Grant from Silver Street Nature Reserve as she was a member. Cllr L Dunford declared an interest in Item 122, applications for Grants from both the Street pastors and the Silver Street Nature Reserve as she was a member of both groups. Cllr M Evans declared an interest in Item 122, an application for a Grant from SWAN as he was a member.

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

**Resolved:** That in view of the confidentiality of Agenda Item 127 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting.

**115. Minutes of the Midsomer Norton Town Council Meeting – Monday 3rd November 2014**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Midsomer Norton Town Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 had been circulated in the Agenda.

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Midsomer Norton Town Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November be signed and adopted as a correct record. The Mayor subsequently signed the Minutes.

**116. Standing Committees**

The Minutes of the Council's Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 had been circulated in the Agenda.

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 be signed and adopted as a correct record. The Vice Chair of the Planning Committee subsequently signed the Minutes.

**117. Accounts for Payment – October 2014**

Members reviewed the 'Schedule(s) of Accounts for Payment' and authorise the payments.

**Resolved:** That the Schedule(s) of Accounts for Payment (October 2014) be approved.

**118. Working Parties**

a. **Finance Working Party** – Members received a verbal account of the meeting of the Finance Working Party held Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 from Cllr Lawrence.

b. **Operations Working Party** – Members received a verbal account of the meeting of the Operations Working Party held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 from Councillor Paul Myers.

**Resolved:** That the verbal reports from the working parties be noted.



**119 To Receive Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies**

Members received reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies including from Cllr J Lewis on the Community Association, Cllr L Dunford on the CAP, Cllr M Evans on the SWAN AGM and Cllr S Plumley on the Twinning Association. .

**Resolved:** That the verbal reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies be noted.

**120. No significant change relocation to St Chads Surgery, Gullock Tynning, MSN BA3 2UH by Lloyds Pharmacy Limited**

The Council received an Application from NHS Shared Business Services and had been asked to make representations in respect of the above, to be submitted by 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk write to the NHS expressing the Council's support for the proposed relocation.

**121. Full Council Committee Meeting Dates 2015**

The Council received proposals for the dates of meetings for Full Council and the Planning Committee for 2015. Cllr M Evans proposed that the Annual Public Meeting be held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015 and that all other dates be agreed.

**Resolved:** That the Annual Town Meeting be held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015 and that all other Committee meeting dates proposed be agreed.

**122. Grants**

Members carefully considered each of the recommendations from the Finance Working Party with regard to applications for Grants received for the second round of the Municipal Year. Members also noted the advice from the Finance Working Party on available funds and the need to budget for a further Grant round.

**a. WISH**

The FWP had proposed that Council award a Grant of £1000.

**Resolved:** That a Grant award of £100 be made to WISH.

**b. SWALLOW**

The FWP had proposed that Council award a Grant of £1719.

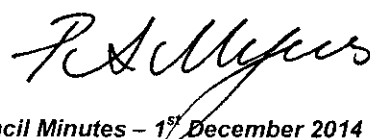
**Resolved:** That a Grant of £1719 be made to SWALLOW.

**c. Longvernal Forest Project**

The FWP had proposed a Grant of £1096.15.

**Resolved:** That a Grant of £1096.15 be made to Longvernal Forest Project.

**d. Silver Street Nature Reserve**



The FWP had proposed a Grant of £650.

**Resolved:** That a Grant of £650 be made to Silver Street Nature Reserve.

**e. Street Pastors**

The FWP had proposed a Grant of £1250.

**Resolved:** That a Grant of £1250 be made to the Street Pastors

**f. SWAN**

The FWP had proposed a Grant of £500.

**Resolved:** That a Grant of £500 be made to SWAN

**g. Somerset and Dorset Railway**

The FWP had proposed a Grant of £1000.

**Resolved:** That a Grant of £1000 be made to Somerset and Dorset Railway.

**h. Dial a Ride**

The FWP had proposed a Grant of £1000.

**Resolved:** That a Grant of £1000 be made to Dial a Ride

**123. Officer Pay**

Members received a recommendation to increase Officer pay in line with the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) agreement reached in November 2014.

**Resolved:** That Officer pay be increased in line with the NJC recommendation.

**124. Midsomer Norton and District Carnival 2014**

Members received an oral report from Cllr P Myers on the 2014 Carnival together with a proposal to increase the Town Council's contribution to 2014 costs and to consider further proposals for the future.

Members confirmed their strong support for the Carnival and noted the challenges of a long route and the amount of work required to meet a range of stakeholders' needs. Members also noted the issue faced in 2014 with regard to the effect on Westfield.

Cllr P Myers proposed that the Council pay an additional £1500 towards the cost of the 2014 event on the basis that the contribution from Westfield Parish Council would be reduced by the same amount.



**Resolved:** That an additional £1500 be paid to the Carnival Association on the understanding that the contribution from Westfield Parish Council would be reduced by the same amount.

Members discussed in some detail three proposals by Cllr P Myers to fund early planning work for the 2015 Carnival.

**Resolved:** That a thorough review is carried out which gathers the views of all the stakeholders involved, preferably by an independent expert from the event industry, so that the Carnival Association, stakeholders and the town can fully understand the lessons to be learned from the 2014 experience and robust plan for action developed for 2015.

**Resolved:** That as a Council we seek an existing community organisation to create a working party with the title "The Midsomer Norton Carnival Partnership" to bring together all the Carnival stakeholders to manage the study.

**Resolved:** That a £4,000 commissioning grant be agreed to fund the study, over and above what Council has spent this year and budgeted for next year; and that the FWP be delegated the authority to approve expenditure within this budget.

- 126. In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was proposed that the press and public be excluded during consideration of this item (Item 114 above refers).**

**Resolved:** That the Public and Press be excluded during consideration of Item 127.

**127. Street Marshal Contract**

Members received a proposal from the Operations Working Party sub-group to appoint a Street Marshal contractor from January 2015 and to delegate the agreement of contract terms to the Clerk.

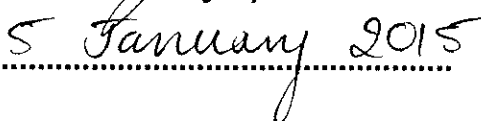
**Resolved:** That RS Security and Training Limited be appointed as the Street Marshal contractor from January 2015 and that the Clerk be delegated the authority to conclude the terms of the contract.

**Meeting closed at 9.10pm**

Signed:

  
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(Chairman & Mayor)

Dated:

  
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