

## MELTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2019

Present: Councillor Buchanan (Chair), Councillor Bampton, Councillor Haigh, Councillor Keighley, Councillor Sonia King, Councillor Spencer King, Councillor Lyons, Councillor Noon, Councillor Storey, Councillor White and Councillor Wrathall

**PUBLIC SESSION:** Five members of the public were in attendance. One member of the public had attended in connection with Item 13 Correspondence from Meltham and Meltham Mills Band. One member of the public had attended in connection with Item 27 grant application (1) and 3 members of the public had attended in connection with Item 30 grant application (3). The Chair agreed that the attendees be permitted to speak when that item was discussed as part of the meeting rather than as part of public question time.

#### 19/145 NOTICE OF THE MEETING

Taken as read.

#### 19/146 ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is

**RESOLVED:** That because of the confidential/ personal/ commercially sensitive or legally prejudicial nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the following: -

- Item 3 Councillors reasons for absence - to consider this item in private as it would divulge personal / confidential information.
- Item 15 Pride of Meltham Nomination - to consider this item in private as it would divulge personal / confidential information.
- Item 17 Update Land at Meltham Hall – to consider this item in private because it may prejudice the legal position of the Council
- Item 20 correspondence in respect of scout hut site – to consider this Item in private because it may prejudice the legal position of the Council
- Item 21 Results of Lone Working Risk Assessment – to consider this item in private due to the confidential and commercially sensitive nature of the business to be transacted
- Item 22 CCTV Update – to consider this item in private due to the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be transacted and because it may prejudice the legal position of the Council

#### 19/147 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Millward

It was agreed that any reasons for absence would be considered later in the meeting when there were no press or public present.

#### 19/148 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

**19/149 MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Keighley and seconded by Councillor White and

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 30 September 2019 be approved

**19/150 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

It was proposed by Councillor White and seconded by Councillor Bampton and

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Planning Environmental and General Purposes Committee held on 7 October 2019 be approved.

It was proposed by Councillor Haigh and seconded by Councillor Bampton and

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Properties Administration and Finance Committee held on the 7 October 2019 be approved.

**RESOLVED:** To amend the order of business so that items 13 Correspondence from Meltham Mills Band, Item 27 grant application (1) from the VE day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, and Item 30 Grant application (3) from Enabling Youth and Motorcross are dealt with first. Thereafter the order of the original Agenda to resume.

**19/151 CORRESPONDENCE FROM MELTHAM AND MELTHAM MILLS BAND**

The member of public in attendance addressed the Council explaining that the band who are 175 years old would like to pay to put up a plaque or erect a seat within the village as a thank you for the support they have received at their cost. It was proposed that the Council should decide what would be best and its location. A discussion took place about various options such as a plaque on the Town Hall, a floral display with a plaque, provision of a bench in the pleasure Grounds or the Robert Ashton Park. A discussion also took place about whether the Council could match fund any funding from the Band. It was further agreed that this should be looked at alongside the Ask Meltham work. It was agreed that this item should be put on the agenda of the next Council meeting for the Council to make a final decision.

**19/152 GRANT APPLICATION (1)**

The member of public in attendance addressed the Council explaining that the VE day Committee wanted to lay on an event for residents to celebrate the VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020 and this was one off funding. Councillors decided that they were in favour in principle of funding this event in the sum of £1500.00 but it was decided that this should not be treated as a smaller grants application but be funded from another budget head. The Clerk was asked to investigate where these monies could be provided from. Councillors also felt that more detail was needed on what the money was going to be spent on so that there was complete transparency about the spend on the event.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council approved the application in principle from the VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee in the sum of £1500.00 for funding towards a one off event to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day in 2020 subject to more details being received on what the money was to be spent on.

**19/153 GRANT APPLICATION (3)**

Councillors considered the grant application from Enabling Youth and Motorcross in the sum of £600 to carry out a consultation with Meltham youth. The 3 members of the public in attendance addressed the Council explaining who they were and why a consultation with young people was necessary to establish their needs and wants via street-based sessions in Meltham and sessions at Honley High School as otherwise they would not engage. It was clarified that there were no proposals to use motor cross as a vehicle to engage Meltham youth and that any proposals put forward would be Meltham focussed. The attendees clarified that they would be working with the Kirklees Youth Alliance and that any monies provided would be clearly protected and ring fenced for the Meltham consultation project.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council approved the grant application from enabling Youth and Motorcross in the sum of £600 to undertake a consultation with Meltham youth subject to the organisation reporting back the results of the consultation to the Town Council and identifying the next steps to obtain further funding from other sources.

#### **19/154 ASK MELTHAM**

Councillors received an update on the Ask Meltham project and feedback from the drop-in event on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

#### **19/155 FURTHER REQUEST TO CONSIDER HIMALAYAN BALSAM TREATMENT**

Councillors considered further information from River Holme Connections regarding the treatment of Himalayan Balsam circulated with the agenda but decided not to take up the offer of treatment.

#### **19/156 VE DAY 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Councillors noted that an update regarding planning and events in the Town had already been covered when discussing the VE day grant application.

Councillors discussed whether they should purchase some flags for the Town for the VE day celebrations in 2020 and decided to purchase 50 flags at £5.00 per flag branded with the 75<sup>th</sup> VE day celebration logo.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council should purchase 50 flags for the Town for the VE day celebrations in 2020 branded with the 75<sup>th</sup> VE day celebration logo and approved the expenditure in the sum of £250.00 excluding VAT.

#### **19/157 PICNIC IN THE PARK EVENT**

Councillors considered whether a suitable date would be the 6 June 2020 to hold an event 'Picnic in the Park'. Councillors agreed that significant resources would be required to organise such an event but that the resources needed would be dependent on the scale of the event. It was acknowledged that if the event was to be a large one the Council may need to bring in resources from outside to assist with event management. In the meantime, it was agreed to establish a working group consisting of Councillors Bampton, Buchanan, Sonia King and Millward. Councillor Spencer King also agreed to participate in the initial stages of planning. It was further agreed that Bewleys be invited to sit on the working group together with a representative from Meltham Memories who had experience in delivering similar events. It was recognised that timescales were quite tight, and the working group needed to meet as quickly as possible.

As all members of the public and press had now left the room Councillors considered the reasons for absence provided by Councillor Millward.

**RESOLVED:** That the reasons for Councillor Millwards absence were accepted and the absence was therefore approved.

**19/158 PROGRESSION SHOP FRONTAGE GRANT SCHEME**

Councillors considered an update on progress on the grant scheme for shop frontages in Meltham following the establishment of the working group at Council on 30 September 2019.

**19/159 REPLACEMENT / ADAPTATION OF VICE CHAIRMAN'S CHAIN**

Councillors considered a quote for the adaption of the Vice Chairman's Chain circulated with the agenda and approved the necessary expenditure.

**RESOLVED:** That the quotation circulated with the agenda be accepted and that the necessary expenditure be approved.

**19/160 GRANTS IN RESPECT OF CHURCH PROPERTY**

Councillors noted the informal request for a grant in respect of church property and the legal advice note produced by NALC in respect of such matters circulated with the agenda which makes it clear that the Town Council cannot provide financial assistance to the church and the prohibition relates to the nature of the property concerned not to the use the funding will be put.

**19/161 PRIDE OF MELTHAM NOMINATION**

Councillors considered a Pride of Meltham nomination received in respect of voluntary luncheon services provided to older residents of Meltham circulated with the agenda. Councillors considered that the nomination met the criteria for the award and asked the Clerk to write to the successful nominee to let her know.

**RESOLVED:** That the nomination for a Pride of Meltham award be approved and that the Clerk be asked to write to the successful nominee.

**19/162 COUNCIL MOTION REQUEST RE: NATIONAL COMMUNITY ENERGY CAMPAIGN**

Councillors considered a request to pass a resolution in support of the Local Electricity Bill details of which were circulated with the agenda but decided that more research and understanding of the issues would be needed before they could consider passing any resolution.

**19/163 UPDATE LAND AT MELTHAM HALL**

Councillors received an update from the Clerk about planning issues on the site and the survey results. Councillors discussed the next steps and it was agreed to put the item on a future Council agenda.

**19/164 FLY TIPPING IN ROBERT ASHTON MEMORIAL PARK**

Councillors received an update from the Clerk regarding fly tipping in the park. The Clerk reported that she had purchased and erected two signs to deter future incidents and Councillors agreed to monitor the situation.

**19/165 UPDATE CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP**

Councillors received an update from the Working Group and it was agreed that all Councillors should look at the plan produced by Holme Valley Parish Council.

**19/166 CORRESPONDENCE IN RESPECT OF THE SCOUT HUT SITE**

Councillors received an update on correspondence received in respect of the Scout Hut Site and the actions that had been taken.

### **19/167 RESULTS OF LONE WORKING RISK ASSESSMENT**

Councillors considered a note from the Clerk on some of the legal issues regarding the installation of CCTV circulated with the agenda and reconsidered the 2 quotes for the CCTV camera recommended as a result of the lone working risk assessment. Councillors approved one of the quotes and approved the necessary expenditure

**RESOLVED:** That the necessary expenditure to purchase and install the recommended CCTV camera be approved.

The Clerk reported that quotes for the door were still awaited.

### **19/168 CCTV UPDATE**

Councillors received an update on the provision of CCTV services. The Clerk also confirmed she had taken the steps approved at the last Council meeting following receipt of legal advice.

### **19/169 UPDATE TOWN HALL**

Councillors received an update regarding the Town Hall. Councillor White reported that the works had been inspected and they had been completed to a satisfactory standard and as such the lease could now be completed. It was agreed that the lease should be completed.

### **19/170 NATIONAL WALKERS ARE WELCOME THEMED EVENTS**

Councillors noted the correspondence circulated with the agenda and decided to work in partnership with Meltham Walkers are Welcome especially around the litter pick scheduled for 23 – 29 March next year.

### **19/171 WOODLAND TRUST – TREE CHARTER DAY AND FREE TREES**

Councillors noted the correspondence circulated with the agenda and decided to order some trees for planting in the Robert Ashton Park/ local schools. It was noted arrangements would need to be put in place to receive and plant the trees.

### **19/172 APPEAL FOR FUNDS FOR RELATE IN HUDDERSFIELD**

Councillors noted the correspondence circulated with the agenda and whilst it was considered that Relate are an excellent organisation and Councillors sympathised with the economic pressures the organisation was under it was decided that this type of funding was outside the Councils remit and unfortunately the Town Council could not assist.

### **19/173 POCKET PARKS SCHEME**

Councillors noted that MHCLG is making £1.35 million available to renovate existing parks subject to strict criteria on bidding for funding the details of which were circulated with the agenda. Councillors noted that the Town Council may have been eligible to bid for funding but that additional resources would be required to consider the application criteria in depth, pull together the necessary supporting evidence and complete the application paperwork. It was considered that at this stage the Council were not in a position to put in bids but once a master plan had been produced such bids would be easier to evidence.

### **19/174 GRANT APPLICATION (2)**

Councillors considered a grant application from Meltham Moor Primary School in the sum of £1000 received on the 7 November 2019 for the purchase of the Penpals scheme to develop the teaching of handwriting. Councillors thought that it was inappropriate to make a grant towards items or activities where the principle aim is to deliver the National Curriculum and would set an unhelpful precedent for future applications. As a result the it was decided that the grant application should be refused on this occasion.

**RESOLVED:** That the grant application from Meltham Moor Primary School in the sum of £1000 for the purchase of the Penpals scheme be refused.