

MELTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2021

Present: Clrs R Bampton (Chair), K Buchanan, B Keighley, Sonia King, R Noon, A Storey, P White and J Wrathall.

PUBLIC SESSION: Two representatives from Wilshaw Village Hall addressed the Council and requested 3 public seats to be sited outside of Wilshaw Village Hall. They also provided an update on the refurbishment of the village hall and raised questions about a grant previously agreed to cover the cost of resurfacing the car park. Members provided answers to the questions raised.

21/125 NOTICE OF MEETING

Taken as read.

21/126 ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 1 (2) as amended by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 it was

RESOLVED: That because of the confidential/ personal nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during Item 18 Pride of Meltham Awards and Item 22 Staffing Arrangements, as the discussions would divulge personal and / or confidential information.

21/127 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Clrs D Haigh, T Lyons and Spencer King.

21/128 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

21/129 CHANGE TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

RESOLVED: To bring the following item to the start of the meeting for the benefit of the members of public present.

21/130 WILSHAW VILLAGE HALL

Members considered the request for 3 public seats outside the village hall, noting the preferred designs / materials.

RESOLVED: To request the Village Hall Committee to apply for a grant for funding to cover the cost of the new seats.

21/131 MINUTES

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 August 2021 as a true record.

21/132 PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES – 23 AUGUST 2021

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 23 August 2021 as a true record.

- 21/133 PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES – 27 SEPTEMBER 2021**
RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 27 September 2021 as a true record subject to the inclusion of Cllr Bampton's apologies.
- 21/134 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES**
RESOLVED: To accept and adopt the minutes of the Communications Committee meeting held on 27 September 2021.
- 21/135 INTERNAL CONTROLS**
Members noted the latest schedule of payments.
- 21/136 GRANT APPLICATION – MELTHAM MOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Members considered the application for £1,000 to contribute towards the cost of replacing classroom furniture, noting the additional information provided. It was noted that funding for this purpose was available from within the Trust and, additionally, S106 funding was also currently available.
- RESOLVED:** To refuse the application, and to make the applicant aware of alternative funding sources.
- 21/137 MELTHAM & MELTHAM MILLS BAND COMMEMORATIVE BENCH**
Members noted the Band's request to match-fund the cost of replacing a bench to mark its 175th Anniversary.
- RESOLVED:** To provide an additional bench to be match-funded by Meltham & Meltham Mills Band to commemorate its 175th Anniversary.
- 21/138 MOBILITY MINDFUL CAMPAIGN – WORKING PARTY**
Members considered setting up a Working Party. Alternative means of furthering the aims of the Campaign were also discussed. It was suggested that if the Campaign formed a group and invited representation from the Town Council, it would be a more effective means of moving the issues forward, and co-ordinating with other groups in Meltham with similar aims.
- RESOLVED:** To suggest that the Campaign Leader forms a group and invites the Town Council to have a representative on it.
- 21/139 THE OVER 70'S GIFT GIVING**
Members discussed the possibility of holding the event this year, taking account of Covid and a possible return later in the year.
- RESOLVED:** To hold the event on Monday 6th December in the Church Hall, to keep the gift at the current level and to draft a Covid risk assessment.
- RESOLVED:** To invite Bewley's to provide the teas and coffees.
- 21/138 ROBERT ASHTON MEMORIAL PARK**
Verbal updates on the plans for the Park were received.
- 21/139 MELTHAM FOCUS**
Members noted that the printed brochures were not included in the original quote and had been paid for by Cllr Noon.
- RESOLVED:** To reimburse Cllr Noon for the cost of printing the brochures.

21/140 TOILETS ON THE ROBERT ASHTON MEMORIAL PARK

Members noted that the frequency of inspections and cleansing the toilets had been increased over the summer months when they had been re-opened, and it was agreed it would be reviewed in the Autumn. Members considered whether to maintain the cleaning at the existing level, or to reduce it in line with pre-Covid arrangements.

RESOLVED: To maintain the existing level of inspections and cleansing the toilets.

21/141 SUBSCRIPTION TO RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

Members noted the benefits of taking out a paid subscription to the Rural Services Network.

RESOLVED: To take out a paid subscription to the Rural Services Network.

21/142 KIRKLEES TREES POLICY

Members noted the correspondence received from Kirkburton Parish Council outlining how it wished Kirklees Council to amend its Trees Policy and requesting the Town Council's support.

RESOLVED: To support Kirkburton Parish Council's request that Kirklees Council amend its Tree Policy in line with the documents provided.

21/143 CIVIC DINNER

Members discussed the possibility of holding the Civic Dinner in 2022.

RESOLVED: To provisionally agree that the Civic Dinner would be held in Spring 2022, with the exact location and date to be agreed nearer the time.

21/144 PRIDE OF MELTHAM AWARDS

Members noted that the 2020 award winners had not been formally presented with their medals due to the lockdown last year.

RESOLVED: To present the awards to the winners of 2020 and 2021, and to fund the additional costs from the Contingency Funds.

21/145 HYBRID MEETINGS

Members discussed the new equipment required to enable the Council to hold 'hybrid' meetings, when meetings take place in the Carlile Institute, but are also attended by Councillors and members of the public virtually.

RESOLVED: To consider the matter further when full details and costings of the required equipment had been obtained.

21/146 ROAD SAFETY COMPETITION

RESOLVED: To note that ABG Ltd had donated £250 towards the cost of the prizes.

21/147 REMEMBRANCE PARADE

RESOLVED: That the event would go ahead in the same format as last year.

21/148 DELEGATED DECISIONS

Members noted the decisions taken by the Clerk under delegated authority since the last meeting.

The meeting then closed.