



MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the
Town Council Meeting
Held in Malmesbury Town Hall on Tuesday 23rd June at 7.00pm.

Present; Cllrs Hastings, Crawford-Price, Grant, Paget, I Wallis, D'Arcy, James, Sanderson, Drake, Exton, M Akhtar & J Akhtar.

Also present: Claire Mann (Town Clerk)

MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Hastings reported that he had attended the following events and functions; Mayor Chippenham robing, Bath Mayor making, Malmesbury museum new exhibition opening, Norwegian Church constitution day service, Launch of Malmesbury in Bloom, Eat food festival, Sing into Spring in the Abbey, Malmesbury cricket club foodie Friday, Launch of the rivers festival, St Joseph's primary school, Malmesbury School, Malmesbury Primary school, Abbey House gardens open day and Malmesbury boxing club.

FC/26/75 To receive declarations of interest.

None received.

FC/26/76 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllrs Power, O Wallis, Hughes and Smith (Wiltshire Council)

FC/26/77 Public participation on items of business included on the agenda.

None received.

FC/26/78 To receive an update from the Town Clerk on correspondence in the last month.

None received.

FC/26/79 To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 14th May.

The Minutes were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

FC/26/80 To receive and note the Minutes of the Policy & Resources meeting held on the 14th April 2026.

The Minutes were noted.

FC/26/81 To receive and note the Minutes of the Town Hall & Facilities meeting held on the 16th April 2026.

The Minutes were noted.

FC/26/82 To receive and note the minutes of the Community Engagement & Town Promotion meetings held on the 23rd April and 21st May 2026.

The Minutes of both meetings were noted.

FC/26/83 To receive and note the Minutes of the Planning & Environment meetings held on the 14th April and 12th May 2026.

The Minutes of both meetings were noted.

FC/26/84 To note Internal Audit report 2025/26

The Internal Report was noted. Following discussion it was agreed that the recommendations made by the Internal Auditor will be set out in a report to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration.

FC/26/85 To approve Annual Governance Statement for 2025/26.

Cllr Hastings read out each assertion of the Annual Governance Statement. The Council agreed positive assertions for numbers 1-9, a negative assertion was made for number 10 as the Town Council website is not compliant with WCAG2.2AA. This will be addressed in the short term. The Town Clerk and The Mayor signed the document.

FC/26/86 To approve Accounting Statement 2025/26

Members approved the Accounting Statement, the Town Clerk and The Mayor signed the document.

FC/26/87 To consider holding a Working Group morning (report CM)

Cllr Drake stated that this came under the remit of the Community Engagement & Town Promotion Committee. The Town Clerk will request additional information from the Jackdaw Magazine and will add to next CE&TP agenda.

FC/26/88 To review membership of working groups overseen by Full Council (Town Centre Open Spaces & High Street Regeneration, Asset Acquisition (inc SDAT) and Neighbourhood Plan)

Following discussion it was agreed that the Town Centre Open Spaces & High Street Regeneration would remain the same, that Cllrs Hastings, James and Crawford-Price would be added to Asset Acquisition and that Cllr Drake should have been included on the Neighbourhood Plan Review working group.

FC/26/89 To approve date change of Town Hall & Facilities meeting (2nd July to the 9th July)

It was resolved that the Town Hall & Facilities meeting would be moved to the 9th July and will start at 6pm.

FC/26/90 To receive an update from representatives of Malmesbury Town Council on the following organisations;

- i. **Wiltshire Association of Local Councils & Society of Local Council Clerks**
The Town Clerk had covered this during item four and will be removed in future as always covered during this item.
- ii. **Malmesbury Conservation Group**
Cllr Power was not in attendance.
- iii. **Malmesbury Town Team**
The report had been circulated, Cllr Drake stated that she will be stepping down from the Town Team.
- iv. **Malmesbury & District Twinning Association**
The report had been circulated.
- v. **Operational Flood Group**
Nothing to update.
- vi. **Local Highways & Footpaths Improvements Group**
Cllr Exton reported that there are no priority actions for Malmesbury on the LHFIG note tracker.

- vii. **Local Youth Network Management Group**
Nothing to update.
- viii. **Movies @ Malmesbury.**
Cllr D'Arcy reported that catastrophic equipment failure had taken place and a cooling unit has been sourced to rectify this. This will be installed as a matter of urgency.
- ix. **Bus Service improvement**
Cllr Exton reported that the second meeting of the forum had taken place recently and initiatives are moving forwards.
- x. **Health & Well-being Forum.**
Nothing to update.
- xi. **Community Safety Forum**
The notes from the last meeting had been circulated.
- xii. **Joint Neighbourhood Plan**
Nothing to update.
- xiii. **Cotswolds National Landscape Board.**
Cllr Sanderson stated that the expected recent meeting had been cancelled due to extreme heat.
- xiv. **Athelstan Statue**
Cllr D'Arcy reported that there has been no progress to date.

FC/26/91 To receive an update from Wiltshire Councillors. This may include urgent actions to be considered by the Council.

Cllr Grant reported that there had been an £800k underspend on the WC budget to date. The STEAM proposals at the Primary School will be discussed at the next Northern Area Planning Committee, there have been no changes to those proposals.

The next Area Board meeting is on the 30th June at Charlton Village Hall; the Chair and Vice Chair will be elected and Cllr Responsibilities assigned. Changes are being proposed to the designated Freight Route, the Health & Wellbeing Forum is being revitalised and the Preliminary Report on the proposed TRO (including parking charge changes) has been received by the Cabinet, noting that a low outcome of consultees had been disappointing. Parking at Cross Hayes is classed as on street parking.

FC/26/92 To exclude the Press & Public for commercially sensitive purposes.

It was agreed to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting.

FC/26/93 To consider recommendation and update from the Asset Acquisition working group with reference to Land at Daniel's Well, The Riverside Centre, the property on the High Street that was previously the betting Shop and the Land next to White Lion Park.

It was noted that the purchase of the Land at Daniel's Well had completed. The Asset Acquisition working group had met three contractors at the site to request quotes for a solution to the eroded banks, repairs by Clapper Bridge and other necessary work. The Quote from Dan Bailey Ltd was accepted.

Riverside – The Town Clerk was asked to contact the property owner to determine their plans for the future.

High St Property (formerly betting shop) – It was noted that the owner is likely to sell or lease. It is a large imposing space to be left empty.

Land Adjacent to White Lion Park – it was noted that this would be an ideal site for access for the construction of the Skate Park and Pump Track. There is currently an S106 restriction and the developer has an obligation to maintain the land. The land

could be maintained by MTC. The Town Clerk was asked to contact the developers in the first instance.

It was agreed that the Asset Acquisition Working Group would meet as soon as possible to put together business cases for each of the potential projects.

Meeting closed at 8.09pm