



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Armistice Committee Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 7.00pm

Held at: Trinity Methodist Church, 4 Trinity Street, Mirfield, WF14 8AD.

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs
Councillors: S Naisbett, S Guy, P Tolson, J Roberts, J Hirst,
D Hirst, M Connell, B Harrison, M Sullivan
Members: S Guy, J Roberts, P Tolson, M Connell, S Naisbett, D Cross (SSAFA),
B Clough (RAFA)
Public: 4 x residents
Press: None

MAC23/2024

Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

Cllr Connell welcomed members of the committee, town council and members of the public.

MAC24/2024

Apologies for absence:

1. To receive apologies – None
 2. To approve reasons for absence – None
- (Members are reminded that apologies MUST be sent to the Chairman if they are unable to attend.)

MAC25/2024

Declaration of Interest:

To receive any declarations of interest to any item on the agenda including any pecuniary interests whether they have been declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or Members Register of Pecuniary Interests –
None to declare.

For members to declare if they have been lobbied on any matters on the agenda
To approve the following accounts for payment:

MAC26/2024

Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of Mirfield Town Council Armistice Committee Wednesday 2nd October 2024 as a true & correct record. Cllr Roberts
Proposed the minutes were a true & correct record Cllr Tolson **Seconded**
Vote: All in favour

MAC27/2024

Mirfield Remembrance Parade 2024:

1. To discuss the Mirfield Remembrance Parade 2024 and agree any actions or costs necessary –

Cllr Connell reports that it has been a difficult few weeks sorting out Kirklees, Highways & WYP. He has liaised with Mr Wood throughout.

- Kirklees Highways event plan submitted
- WYP event plan submitted
- SAG event plan submitted
- Risk assessment & Marshall plan completed
- Hostile vehicle mitigation actioned
- 10 x PCSO's confirmed
- 8 x officers confirmed
- 1 x Sgt confirmed

Meeting with security company has been arranged for Friday morning, Cllrs Connell, Naisbett, Tolson & Roberts to attend. Need the names of the stewards and Marshalls for the event management plan. Cllr Connell reports he has had emails from groups asking times etc., arrival 13.15-13.30 parade commences 14.00 as per previous years. Cllrs discuss the order and arranging of the wreath laying. Cllrs Tolson & Roberts to arrange as per last year. Clerk confirms lamppost banners have been ordered and will be installed end of October.

Cllr Connell reports that a letter that was handed to Cllrs Tolson & Roberts yesterday has also been sent to WYP and Kirklees. Letter was circulated to members of the committee. The letter from Combined Parade Services is quite lengthy, stating that the arrangements have not been made by MTC in time and that it requests the parade be cancelled and just a service arranged. It also states that the group has been excluded from arrangements and meetings not allowed in the public house establishment, amongst other numerous things. Cllr Connell confirms that a letter was sent to Cllr Guy and MTC in Sept 2022 by Combined Parade Services stating that after 25 years of organising the parade (the departure from this was announced the previous October), they would be stepping aside to concentrate on the hospitality business that suffered during Covid. The monies that were usually contributed towards the parade and service would sadly not be available. It was suggested that MTC provide its own risk assessment as the new organising body. It was stated that it had been made public knowledge by them, that they would be on hand to give any help and advice towards anyone organising the event. With the lack of any trained marshalling team, it was suggested the only safe option is the deployment of a traffic marshalling company such as Green Flag or TM services.

Clerk confirms that MTC has always paid the cost of the bands and supplied PL Insurance for the parade, previously there was no cost from Kirklees for the gritters or any other cost from Kirklees. Clerk confirms for transparency that she advised MTC that as the Armistice Committee was part of MTC, it could not meet as per standing orders in a public house or any licensed premises, after checking with insurers she also advised that the PL is void if the event is not organised by MTC. After being approached by Combined Parade Services in October 21 and confirmation sent Sept 22, Clerk advised MTC to add the cost of the parade to the budget. Since taking over the parade, Kirklees have imposed costs for the gritters at almost £3K and last year the total cost of the parade was over £8K, hence why MTC are now arranging the parade, but still with advice from the member of Combined Parade Services. It was agreed to set up the Armistice Committee earlier in the year and the first meeting was well publicised and the day was changed to a Thursday to accommodate the member of Combined Parade Services, but they sent apologies and did not attend. Cllrs are very shocked that considering the amount of work that has been completed so far for the parade, that this letter has been sent and that members of the public have been mis-advised that the parade has been cancelled. Cllr Tolson states that Cllr Connell has done a remarkable job to get everything arranged and is shocked at the contents of the letter. Cllr Connell states that there is a disconnection between MTC and some veteran groups and even amongst the groups themselves. He hopes to get all the groups together at a neutral venue after the parade and build relationships. Members

discuss the boulders situated at Lidl and agree that there may be a better solution that is less of a risk, if this can be sourced prior to the parade, the boulders to be removed and Lidl advised through Williams & Co. Clerk confirms if a further official meeting is required before MTC meet on 6th November, if a legal agenda is drawn and publicised and the official meeting is not held in licensed premises and the room is either free or a low cost, a meeting can be held. She agrees she will draw up an agenda if required and a member of the committee can take the minutes.

MAC28/2024

Future meeting dates to agree.

To agree the date of the next Mirfield Town Council Armistice meeting

Next Meeting: **Wednesday 6th November 2024 at 7.00pm**

Time Meeting Closed: 8.00pm