



mirfield
town council

Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 19th November 2025 at 7.35pm

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

Councillors Present:

S Naisbett (Chairman), J Roberts, P Tolson, D Hirst, J Hirst, M Brown, M Connell, Itrat Ali, Imran Ali, M Sullivan

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs

Public: M Bee, C Sykes (MIB), R Edwards (MIB), B Clough (MIB), 5 x members of

MAGS

Press: None

MTC87/2025

Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The Chairman Cllr Naisbett welcomed Cllrs & members of the public. R Edwards reported that she would be travelling to Ukraine with the Yorkshire Aid Convoy to deliver present to the orphanage and old people's home. Cllr Naisbett suggests a plaque that thanks residents of Mirfield. He states he will cover the cost and R Edwards to send the wording for it to the Clerk.

MTC88/2025

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors to send apologies and reasons for absence to the clerk or chairman for approval.

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs M Hamilton, J Hinchliffe, M Bolt, V Lees-Hamilton, B Harrison & S Guy had sent apologies with reasons Cllr Connell **Proposed** to accept the apologies for absence Cllr D Hirst **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Connell **Proposed** to approve the reasons for absence Cllr D Hirst **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC89/2025

Declaration of Interest:

Councillors to declare an interest, if applicable to any item on the agenda including any pecuniary interests whether they have been declared on the members register of pecuniary interests.

Cllr Sullivan declared a pecuniary interest in MTC94(1) as member & treasurer of MAGS and left the room when it was discussed

Cllr Naisbett declared an other interest in MTC94(1) as a member of MAGS and left the room when it was discussed

MTC90/2025

Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 5th November 2025 including payments of Nil. Cllr Connell **Proposed** to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting of 5th November 2025 as a true and correct record Cllr J Hirst **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC91/2025

Matters Arising from the Minutes:

To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.

1. To receive an update from Cllr Guy on two new London Hearts match funded defibrillators and agree any action necessary – No update Cllr Guy was absent

2. To agree the following costs relating to Christmas Light Switch on:

- a) R Haigh's Christmas Tree £400
- b) AJK Entertainment Stilt Walkers £1400
- c) Toilets on the Go Portaloo's £228
- d) Kerazy Castles (T Connell) Rides £450

Cllrs discuss and agree that MTC need to draw tourism into the town for the light switch on and need entertainment to keep people interested in the event until the switch on, they also agree that following the feedback from VE event, it was beneficial to offer a free event to residents. Cllr Connell

Proposed to accept the costs a-d totalling £2478 Cllr J Hirst **Seconded**

Vote: All in favour Cllrs also discuss and are in favour of reinstating the Christmas Lights committee. Cllrs Connell, Naisbett, J Hirst & D Hirst would all volunteer to be part of the committee. Clerk to add to a future agenda with terms of reference to be agreed.

MTC92/2025

Finance:

To approve the following accounts for payment

1. To agree Clerk Salary November by Bacs
2. To agree Clerk Working Allowance November by Bacs
3. To agree HMRC November PAYE by Bacs
4. To agree Clerk November Pension contributions by D/D
5. To agree Trinity Methodist November Room Hire by Bacs £80.00
6. To agree Able Gardens November Maintenance by Bacs £110.00
7. To agree Boom Marketing Civic Service Order of Service £120.00
8. To agree F Rodgers Catering Civic Service £650.00
9. To agree repay S Guy 2 x wreaths £50.00
10. To agree Hammonds Band £900.00
11. To agree Ben Preece PA Parade & Service costs £340.00
12. To agree Robert Halstead Planning Ojection £216.00
13. To agree BHPSS Security costs parade £5979.74
14. To note Sitewizard October hosting fee by D/D £23.94
15. To note Copperleaf Trees Lowlands £980.00
16. To receive Bank Reconciliation to 31/10/25 - Noted
17. To receive Monthly Budget to 31/10/25 – Cllr Connell stated he was concerned at the amount of funding allocated to road safety at £64K and stated, the committee need to be looking at grants and other funding to lighten the burden. Clerk states that shortly Kirklees will need the money for the skatepark, so funds will need to be drawn down from reserves to cover this. Cllr Ali reports it is almost completed and will be amazing when finished. A park run is also in the pipeline for when it is finished and Cllrs agree that it is beneficial to Mirfield. 8.30pm Cllr Brown arrives. Clerk recommends moving £15,000 from Civic & Cultural Reserves to Column 6 to cover the cost of the parade as previously discussed in the Armistice Committee meeting.

Cllr Roberts **Proposed** to pay items 1-13 en bloc, transfer £15,000 from Civic & Cultural Reserves into Column 6 & note items 14-17 Cllr Connell **Seconded** **Vote: All in favour**

Vote: All in favour

All items noted under Clerk's delegation

MTC93/2025

Grant Applications:

To consider grant applications submitted:

1. Mirfield In Bloom: £15,000 Town Centre Planting - (Documents circulated prior to the meeting) – 2 members were present. Cllrs had received the documents prior to the meeting. Cllr Sullivan stated that to pay a marketing company to give Mirfield the

same profile as Mirfield In Bloom had done, would cost in excess of £15,000. He praised MIB on a phenomenal effort at raising the profile of Mirfield Nationally. Clerk reported that although she was absent Cllr Lees-Hamilton fully supported the grant. Cllr Connell agrees stating that children and schools involved and volunteers doing litter picks. R Edwards reports MIB are working with 10 Duke of Edinburgh groups. Britain In Bloom stated that Mirfield was 100% for community. She reports a few things let them down this year; Coop railings, Lidl car park and tree roots protruding in the pavement, all of which were out of MIB hands. Cllr Connell **Proposed** MTC award the £15,000 grant to MIB Cllr Sullivan **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC94/2025

Internal Matters:

To receive information on the following matters and agree and decide any action where necessary

1. To receive a copy of the lease (original signed 7th February 2024 & lost in post) for the 3 allotment sites owned by MTC. The lease being between Mirfield Town Council (Landlord) & the trustees of Mirfield Allotments & Garden Society (Tenant) and to sign 2 copies of the lease, for MAGS to keep one copy and for MTC to keep the other – The item was brought forward and taken after MTC89. Cllrs Sullivan and Naisbett left the room having declared interests. Cllr Connell took over as interim Chair. The Clerk had 2 printed clean copies of the lease originally signed and dated 7th February 2024. She explained that the lease had to be signed by Cllr Connell on behalf of MTC as he was Mayor at the time and witnessed by her. The trustees also needed to sign and were all present. Members of the Armistice Committee remained in order to witness the trustees' signatures. One of the trustee names had been missed from the copy, the Clerk added this to the document and it was signed and initialled by a witness. 3 of the trustees insisted on comparing the lease signed in 2024, to the clean copy the Clerk had printed. 2 of the trustees signed the lease and signatures witnessed. The witnesses then left. A further trustee signed the lease and signature witnessed. Witness left. 2 trustees continued to compare and when happy it was the same wording, signed the lease. 2 members of MIB witnessed the last 2 signatures. Cllr D Hirst took photos of the signing of the lease and the Clerk handing one copy to the secretary, so that it could not be stated at any time that MAGS had not received a fully signed lease. 8.07pm all 5 trustees leave and Cllrs Sullivan and Naisbett return.
2. To receive the following motion and discuss and agree a course of action: Proposed Cllr Naisbett Seconded Cllr Brown Proposal to close Mirfield Library one day a week, possibly Tuesday, as previously, and that Mirfield Town Council and our Kirklees Ward councillors write to the cabinet to voice these concerns, as officers are trying to circumvent the cabinets ruling that Mirfield would be fully staffed (report circulated prior to the meeting) – Cllr Naisbett reports that the volunteers and staff in the library have voiced concerns to him, they feel undermined by officers and were told that the library would be fully staffed. Cllrs discuss but want to make sure that they have all the information before writing to Kirklees. They also do not want to ask for the library to close, when it fought so hard to remain open. Clerk to find the minutes from the cabinet meeting regarding the library staffing. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** MTC agree in principle to write and voice concerns regarding staffing, subject to evidence, proof from the library and cabinet meeting minutes Cllr Brown **Seconded Vote: All in favour** Clerk suggests inviting Friends of Mirfield Library to a future meeting to discuss.

MTC95/2025

Public Question Time

None

MTC96/2025

To Confirm The Date of The Next Town Council Meeting.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.45pm**.....