



Minutes of Mirfield Town Council Meeting

Held on: Wednesday 7th January 7.30pm

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

Councillors Present:

S Naisbett (Chairman), J Roberts, D Hirst, S Guy, J Hirst, Itrat Ali, Imran Ali, J Hinchliffe, V Lees-Hamilton, M Connell, M Brown, M Hamilton

In Attendance:

Clerk: L Staggs dialled in via Teams

Public: 3 x members Save Mirfield, 2 x members of the public

Press: None

MTC107/2025

Chairman's Welcome and Remarks:

The meeting was delayed until 7.45pm due to technical issues with Wi-Fi and Teams for the Clerk to join the meeting. The Chairman Cllr Naisbett welcomed Cllrs & members of the public to the meeting. Cllr Naisbett reported that Cllr Bolt's partner, who was known to all Councillors, had sadly passed away and extended condolences on behalf of MTC. He asked that everyone observed a minute's silence. Cllr Naisbett reported attending the Choral Society Christmas event, Carols Around the Tree and Cllr Guy in his absence had attended the Air Cadets event. He thanked everyone that took part in and helped at the Tree Festival.

MTC108/2025

Apologies for Absence:

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

1. To receive apologies – Cllrs Harrison, Bolt, Sullivan & Tolson sent apologies with reasons for absence. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to accept the apologies Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
2. To approve reasons for absence – Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to accept the reasons for absence Cllr Guy **Seconded Vote: All in favour**

MTC109/2025

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.

Cllrs Naisbett & Brown declared an other interest in MTC113/2025(4) and both left the room whilst it was discussed.

Confirmation of Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting of 3rd

December 2025 including payments of **£6089.00** plus Clerk Salary, HMRC, NEST Pension & working allowance Cllr D Hirst **Proposed** the minutes were a true & correct record of the meeting Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: 9 in favour Cllrs not present at the meeting Abstained**
It was resolved to give a vote of thanks for Cllr Naisbett for organising the Christmas lights

MTC111/2025

To receive information on the following ongoing issues:

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 – Cllr Guy reported he had forwarded the details to Cllr Hinchliffe and would liaise to get the defibrillators installed.

MTC112/2025

Planning

To consider potential controversial applications

1. 2025/62/93355/E Land off, Woodward Court, Mirfield, WF14 0PY Erection of 75 residential dwellings with associated landscaping, open space, highways and drainage infrastructure – Clerk updates email she sent to Kirklees before Christmas and the response from the officer offer an extension to the timeframe. C Tyler (Save Mirfield) reported that she had contacted the officer, as not sure if all the accompanying documents are now online as it was drip fed due to IT issues. However, no road safety audit is amongst the documents. Public consultation by Bellway and the application differs to the plans at that consultation. It showed and past applications also showed egress at Woodward Court but now additional exit at Hepworth Drive, good practice for developers to have same plans at consultation as the application. Contradicts their own local plan safeguarded land point that Hepworth Drive was not suitable for egress. Comments etc to be sent for 31st January, however no Strategic Planning until April, regulations regarding this have changed and needs sufficient objections and objections from MTC to go to strategic planning and not be a decision of officers. Cllr Bolt asked for threshold for this but not responded. Save Mirfield have appointed a Highways Consultant, MTC appointed Planning Consultant, prudent to look at a drainage consultant. Clerk advises to get some names and quotations and will put on next agenda to discuss. Data from speed surveys will be coming shortly, so will share that with SM. Concern is that officers will push through the application if it doesn't go to Strategic. Save Mirfield members leave.

MTC113/2025

Internal Matters:

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

1. To note 2026/2027 Tax Base of £7081.80 and proposed CTR Grant of Nil as the tax base for Mirfield Parish Council is now higher than the 2012-13 tax base of £6,863 i.e. the tax base prior to localisation - **Noted**
2. To agree and set the date for the Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Council Meeting (Suggested dates 6th & 13th May – Note Kirklees District Council Elections 7th May 26) – Cllrs discuss, Clerk states she thinks 13th May would be the best option. Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** 13th May Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Seconded Vote: All in favour**
3. To discuss & consider reinstatement of Christmas Lights/Christmas Events Committee and agree Terms of Reference for a committee Proposed Cllr Naisbett Seconded Cllr Connell (Draft Terms of Reference circulated prior to the meeting) – Cllr Naisbett **Proposed** to reinstate the committee and accept

the circulated Terms of Reference with the following amendments of the Clerk@mirfieldtowncouncil.com email replacing the gmail.com email & 4 councillors on the committee, Cllrs Naisbett, J & D Hirst, & Connell to be on the committee along with 2 members of the public, present at the meeting, others as per the TOR may wish to join later Cllr Connell **Seconded Vote: All in favour** 1st meeting to take place in February prior to Full Council meeting. 2 x members of the public leave

4. To discuss & consider the establishment of an Allotment Committee (Previously Outside Bodies) responsible for site inspections, monitoring & liaising with Clerk being part of the duties. If agreed Terms of Reference to be circulated and adopted. Proposed Cllr Lees-Hamilton Seconded Cllr Harrison – Cllrs Naisbett and Brown leave the meeting and Cllr Guy takes over as Chair. Cllr Lees-Hamilton states that historically 2 town councillors were on Outside Bodies and inspected the sites. Currently taking up a lot of Clerk's time and although payment agreed from allotment funds, it's not ideal as only £1200 annual rent, which will not last long. Clerk states that under delegation only so much she can do, or in recess or between meetings, easier to refer things to a committee. Also, committee can look at annual rent review, so lots of things committee can do. Need to get Terms of Reference right which is why not circulated tonight. If agreed to establish a committee then TOR will be circulated and adopted at next meeting. Cllrs discuss who would like to be on the committee and Clerk recommends a minimum of 5 with 3 being quorate. Cllr Lees-Hamilton **Proposed** to establish an Allotment Committee with Cllrs Lees-Hamilton, Harrison, Connell, Guy & Roberts as members, TOR to be circulated and adopted at the next meeting Cllr Connell **Seconded in Cllr Harrison's absence Vote: All in favour**

MTC114/2025

Public Question Time

None

MTC115/2025

To confirm the date of the next town council meeting.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21st January 2026

Time Meeting Closed.....**8.39pm**.....