

31 MARCH 2011

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MILDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL held in the DAVID ROGERS` MEETING ROOM, JUBILEE CENTRE, RECREATION WAY, MILDENHALL on Thursday, 31 March 2011 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr B J Sulman (Chairman) Cllr Mrs T A Gooch-Taylor-Balls
Cllr A J Wheble (Vice Chairman) Cllr G A Hayes
Cllr M J Ball Cllr M K Smith
Cllr J Barker Cllr G H Taylor-Balls
Cllr D W Bowman

Prior to the meeting there was a presentation from Mr Richard Brooke, Planning and Environment Manager, East Anglia Forestry Commission who spoke about how the management of the woodland surrounding Mildenhall is planned and executed.

Also present were: Sgt P Payne, Sqn Ldr R Fryer, Mr Donavan, County Councillor S Frost, E and F Ketterer, one member of the press, Mrs C Steggles (Chief Executive Officer), Mrs V Shrimpton (Deputy Chief Executive Officer) and Mrs R Buckingham (Minute Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs J M Bloodworth, J W McGhee, N A Roman, A F J Peachey and H T Hitt.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item was reached and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.

4. RECEIPT AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

a. Police information

CPSO Bob Bailey had previously emailed a crime report for West Row and Sgt Payne reported on crime figures for Mildenhall. He said that thefts from shops in Mildenhall have increased in the last month, mainly from the new Sainsbury's store. Security there has been increased.

Sgt Payne informed members that the SNTs are likely to be re-organised from three teams into two, meaning that the new Mildenhall SNT will include Brandon and West Row.

The recent double murder in Beck Row has led to increased police presence in the area including some armed police. The police investigation is on-going but Sgt Payne has been reassuring the public that the police believe the incident is contained within the site and further trouble in the wider area is unlikely.

Matters raised by members included a question from the CEO in response to an enquiry from a parishioner as to whether a report on speeding problems in Mildenhall is to be prepared. Sgt Payne replied that he plans to use the SDR data recorders in areas where speeding is seen to be a problem which place rubber strips on the road to record the number and speed of all vehicles. This data can then be used to decide when and where speed enforcement checks need to be carried out. The stopping position of the service bus before the zebra crossing on Queensway which can block visibility from Comet Way was also discussed.

b. Base information

Sqn Ldr Fryer informed members that Base aircraft are supporting operations in Libya, hence the increased flying activity both day and night. He reported that four CV22 Osprey aircraft have been temporarily deployed to Mildenhall from the USA as a contingency in case they are needed in North Africa.

c. County Council information

County Councillor Frost reported on the new SCC scheme "Your Place" which aims to bring communities together to see how they can work on community projects and services. He pointed out again that services which survive the current round of cuts may still be subject to cuts next year when a further £50M savings have to be found.

Matters raised by members included the following:

- whether SCC is satisfied with the level of response to public consultation on the NSD.
- the need for repairs to the road between Mildenhall and Beck Row.

5. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 February 2011 were confirmed.

6. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 8 March 2011 were confirmed.

7. MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the Establishment & Policy Committee Meeting held on 10 March 2011 were confirmed.

It was resolved to revoke the existing bylaw concerning the exercising of horses on the Jubilee Field and put forward a new bylaw following the current procedure of press advertisement and application to the Secretary of State for Local Government.

It was recommended that the following documents continue to be reviewed annually at the November meeting of the Establishment & Policy Committee:

- Financial Risk Management Assessment
- Financial Regulations
- Standing Orders with regard to Contracts
- Effectiveness of Internal Audit

It was resolved that the following documents be reviewed in alternate years, three each year, at the June meeting of the Establishment & Policy Committee:

- Standing Orders
- Investment Policy
- Training Policy
- Grants Policy
- Protocol for Public Participation in MPC Meetings
- Model Publication Scheme

It was resolved to donate £50 towards the costs of the roadside nature reserve marker posts in the parish.

It was resolved to donate £100 to Mildenhall Sea Cadets as thanks for their help at the 2011 Civic Reception.

It was recommended that the Working Group formed at the Council meeting on 24 February continues to consider the New Strategic Direction and report to Council on 31 March.

8. CHAIRMAN'S ITINERARY & REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

a) Itinerary

Chairman: Sainsbury Preview – 1 March 2011

Vice Chairman: MPC Civic Reception – 11 March 2011

Cllr Barker commented that the Civic Reception had been a great success and that the food and service were excellent.

b) Reports

None.

9. MILDENHALL COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Members viewed a DVD and considered a letter concerning the state of the buildings and facilities at Mildenhall College of Technology.

It was resolved to write to Suffolk Education Authority with a copy to Matthew Hancock MP and Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education to state the following:

“Having received a letter from the Head teacher of Mildenhall College of Technology and viewed a DVD of the school, Mildenhall Parish Council requests that Suffolk Education Authority take urgent remedial/renovatory action to make this school fit for purpose in this year 2011/12”

It was agreed to write to the Head teacher requesting that members visit to see the current state of MCT's buildings and facilities.

10. SALC/HAPTC SUBMISSION TO THE LOCALISM BILL
The document was received.
11. LAIS 1317 RE USE OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY BY MEMBERS OF PUBLIC AT MEETINGS
The document was noted
12. DIS 754
The document was noted.
It was resolved to write to NALC to point out that the DIS documents are often very long and wordy and would be more easily read by members if they were more concise.
13. SCC NSD WORKING GROUP
The group has met and is working on the matter.
14. PROJECT WORKING GROUP
The update was noted. Another meeting was arranged for 14 April after the Recreational Management Committee meeting.
15. MILDENHALL TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB
The CEO reported that MTFC would like a 10 or 20 year lease in order to apply for outside funding. It was agreed that MPC would consider such a request when accompanied by a financial business plan. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the May Council meeting.
16. DEVELOPMENT FUNDS RECEIVED/DUE TO BE RECEIVED BY MPC
The report was noted.
17. SPRING CLEAN FORTNIGHT
Cllr Bowman suggested that Councillors spring clean an area of Mildenhall on 16th April. All members to be asked to volunteer. The CEO will give basic details to FHDC and forward form to Cllr Bowman for completion..
18. POLICE STATION SQUARE
It was noted that Highways are to replace road signage at Police Station Square.
19. NALC CONFERENCE
It was agreed to discuss the matter at the May Council meeting.
20. LARK IN THE PARK
It was resolved to release the £5000 held in reserve for Lark in the Park now the date is confirmed for 23 July 2011.

21. SUFFOLK ACRE

It was resolved to renew MPC's membership in the sum of £25 due in April. Cllr Barker declared an interest.

22. MILDENHALL & DISTRICT TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION

It was resolved to renew MPC's membership in the sum of £10 due in April. Cllrs Mrs Gooch-Taylor-Balls and Barker declared an interest.

23. ACCOUNTS

Accounts for March 2011 totalling £42, 506.92 including telepay salaries were authorised. Cllrs A J Wheble and J M Bloodworth signed the relevant cheques.

24. ADDITIONAL ACCOUNTS

Payment of additional accounts for March 2011 totalling £8, 512.42 were authorised. Cllrs G H Taylor-Balls and J Barker signed the relevant cheques.

25. CORRESPONDENCE

The CEO informed members of the following items of correspondence:

- DIS x 3
- Notification of World Book Day.
- SCC Air Quality and New Development 2011
- LAIS x 3
- SALC E-bulletin
- Forest Heath District Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter.
- SALC re Publicity Code.
- Cultural Olympiad in the east of England.
- Thank you letter for anniversary flowers from Mr & Mrs Roman.
- Highways Agency – confirmation of A11 Fiveways to Thetford Improvement will go ahead.
- Royal British Legion re 90th Anniversary.
- SCC re National Spring Clean fortnight.(CEO and Cllr Bowman to action)
- FHDC re Challenge to Forest Heath's adopted LDF Core Strategy.
- Suffolk Acre re Digital TV Switchover.
- FHDC re "2012 Inspire" workshop.
- SCC re mobile library service.(NSD to respond)

26. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

27. EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

It was resolved pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 Part 1 Schedule 12A to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the discussion of legal matters on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT FORMING PART OF THE MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF MILDENALL PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 31 MARCH 2011

27. The matter of the report and correspondence from Cllrs Hayes and Hitt was discussed.
It was resolved to take no action.