



Minutes of a meeting of the Corporate Committee of Matlock Town Council held on Monday 24 June 2024 at 6:00pm in the Riber Room of the Imperial Rooms, Matlock

Present: In the Chair: Cllr Jason Knighton

Councillors: Cllr Steve Flitter, Cllr Ashley Orwin

In attendance: Simon Hosmer, Town Clerk

Meeting begins at 18:00

The Chair thanked the members of the Matlock Civic Association (MCA) for attending the meeting

CC403/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Steve Wain – Prior engagement

Cllr Diane Fletcher – Family illness

Cllr Marilyn Franks - Holiday

Cllr David Hughes – Prior engagement

CC404/24 VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS AND DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

None were declared

CC405/24 REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

No requests for dispensation had been received

CC406/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

2 Members of the public were present from Matlock Civic Association.

The chair asked if the members of the MCA wanted to put their case now, the Clerk reminded the committee that it is also an agenda point for the meeting today and Cllr Flitter said that it should be that the members of the MCA speak now and we can debate it and ask questions during the agenda point.

Tony Symes from the MCA introduced himself and Ken Parker. He explained that the members of the MCA aren't getting any younger and in thinking about the future of the Association want to make a plan for the monies that were left by David Barker to the MCA in his will. Tony said that this currently amounted to something like £200,000. Some had been spent on projects but the difficulties in getting projects finished and handed over to the relevant authority for maintenance is becoming more difficult as resources are stretched at Town, District and County level. He thinks it is policy on the part of the District Council and the County Council to not take ownership of new things erected in the town. So it has been proposed that the Town Council and the MCA set up an arrangement like a will

or power of attorney which will transfer the funds from the MCA to the Town Council at a future date when the members of the MCA can no longer carry on. Tony handed over to Ken Parker who went on to explain how Full Council already approved the report co-written by the MCA and the Clerk so in principal we can go ahead. Ken also talked about his emails with the charity commission which the Clerk has seen and that will work in a similar way to the Ernest Bailey Charitable trust fund. The Town Council will be subject to the rules of how to spend the money but unlike the EBCTF the capital can be spent as well as the interest. The process of handover to MTC is simpler than first thought. MTC would act as a corporate trustee and can be the sole trustee in law. The charity commission require a new governing document which Ken is going to write and include the Clerk in the work should the Committee be happy with that set up. Tony then took back over and pointed out to the committee the highlighted section from the proposal which states that it would require MTC to set up a special committee for the MCA monies and as long as there are still MCA trustees for these to be included as unofficial members of that working committee. The Clerk said that there is a Councillor on MTC who is also a named trustee in David Barker's will. That she would have to declare an interest if she was involved but he also suggests that person is not on the committee at all.

The chair said that would be enough for now and we would discuss further once we got to the agenda point

CC407/24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: Monday 15 April 2024

Deferred to the next meeting due to only 1 member today having been here at the last meeting

CC408/24 FINANCE

The Clerk explained there are no outstanding invoices to pay.

That we have received the refund from E.on next of over £15,000 which is due to estimates being used for the meters in Hall Leys park that were taken during the 6 weeks a year usage of the electric and extrapolated to all 12 months of the year despite the bulk of the year having no usage whatsoever. The Clerk noted it was a struggle to get the monies back but it has now been done thanks to Harmony and Mike in the office.

He went on to explain that Harmony had her gall bladder operation so it has slightly delayed the internal audit but that is now in hand and the Clerk will report back to this committee the outcome of that at the next meeting on 19th August as the audit will be a couple of weeks before that.

Still awaiting 3 quotes for heat source pumps but the East Midlands Chamber of Commerce are still in touch and still keen to help us out with a grant for the works. He mentioned the free energy audit that they provided.

The Clerk then talked about the latest development in regards to the land at Starkholmes that the County Council wish to sell. It isn't up for sale right now but they intend to sell it. He mentioned that this committee asked him at the last meeting to see if DCC would part with the land for free but they will not and are adamant it will cost £100,000 to purchase. He also mentioned he had talked to the ladies who live nearby and they would be willing to purchase the land if they had to.

He also mentioned he is continuing to update the asset register from last year.

Finally, he asked the committee if they wanted to pay survey monkey a retainer for their business. He said it was £384.00 and that he felt the office staff were more than capable of producing professional quality surveys if needs be.

Proposed: Cllr Steve Flitter, Seconded Cllr Ashley Orwin

Resolution: To accept the report and to ask the Clerk not to pay the £384.00 to Survey Monkey at this time

Agreed unanimously

CC409/24 MATLOCK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Cllr Flitter asked the 5 named trustees could be included in decisions as non-council members cannot be included on a committee. Ken Parker from the MCA said that all the trustees have been consulted over the moving of the monies to MTC.

The Clerk said that non-councillors can be co-opted to a committee or to the Council but they cannot have a vote on decisions.

Cllr Orwin asked what type of things the money should be spent on and Ken Parker referred him to the report in the appendices which states the rules governing what the money can be spent on.

Cllr Flitter said he felt that it is a great idea for MTC to commit to looking after the monies and continuing David's legacy. He mentioned that resources to continue maintenance would need to be allowed for.

The chair said he thought a statue at park head would be a potential idea that MTC have had that may fit the criteria of the MCA.

Ken Parker said he would have to take the paperwork to the MCA July meeting but that wouldn't be enough time to bring it to the July Full Council meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Steve Flitter, seconded Cllr Ashley Orwin

Resolution: To give the Clerk the task of completing the paperwork to have the Town Council named as a trustee of Matlock Civic Association should the MCA approve it

Agreed unanimously

CC410/24 DECEPTION ROOMS REQUEST

The Clerk told the committee that the Deception rooms owners are doing a triathlon for charity and are asking for a donation of the wooden bunnies they made for us that they would then auction them off and are also asking for MTC to sponsor the triathlon to the value of £100. This would mean we would be on their T-shirts on the day of the Triathlon.

The Chair felt that we should give the £100 but wanted to keep the wooden rabbits as he felt they were reusable and this fits with our climate emergency declaration.

Proposed: Cllr Ashley Orwin, seconded: Cllr Jason Knighton

Resolution: To donate £100 to the Deception rooms for their charity triathlon.

Agreed unanimously

CC411/24 COUNCIL PUBLICITY: Website, social media, newsletters and news releases

None at present but MCA item will need to be advertised once it's ready for the public domain.

Cllr Flitter feels that the website needs modernising and the Clerk says that it is something the office are working on but that it takes time. The committee agree that it needs to look more modern. The Chair asked how long it would take and the Clerk said he would take a look at it after the audit in July.

CC412/24 CONFIDENTIAL MOTION

Proposed Cllr Steve Flitter, seconded Cllr Ashley Orwin

Resolution: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted in respect of the personal situation of an employee which could result in legal proceedings, it is advisable in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

Agreed Unanimously

Meeting moved into confidential matters at 18:47

Meeting returned out of confidential matters at 19:00

Meeting closed by the chair at 19:01

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, fluid loop followed by a short horizontal stroke.

Simon Hosmer
Town Clerk

CHAIRMAN:

DATED:

