

MORETON-IN-MARSH TOWN COUNCIL

	<p style="text-align: center;">COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Date: Tuesday 6th February 2024 Time: 6:30PM</p> <p>Venue: Council Offices, Old Town, Moreton-in-Marsh GL56 0LW Telephone: 01608 651448 E clerk@moretoninmarshtowncouncil.gov.uk www.moretoninmarshtowncouncil.gov.uk</p>
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Present: Cllrs M Berry (chair), J Blackbeard, R Eastoe, O Jobson, F Matthews, E Viviani, M Danks, D Curry

In attendance: S Hart, Clerk; T Maull, Deputy Clerk and two members of the public.

ITEM	TITLE
1.	<p>Apologies Apologies RECEIVED from Cllr Swift Absent Cllr S Brokenshire</p>
2.	<p>Declarations of Interests and Dispensations</p> <p>a) Cllr Berry declared a non-pecuniary interest already notified on his register of interests regarding his wife's voluntary role on The Redesdale Hall Trust charity.</p> <p>b) Cllr Berry submitted a dispensation request for all matters pertaining to the Redesdale Hall in relation to the interest notified above.</p> <p>It was AGREED that Cllr Berry receive a dispensation to participate in discussions and vote on matters pertaining to the Redesdale Hall for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authorities area • That it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation <p>Recorded vote: FOR Cllrs Viviani, Danks, Matthews, Eastoe and Jobson. AGAINST Cllrs Blackbeard and Curry.</p>
3.	To NOTE reports from County and District Councillors were NOTED. See Annex A.
4.	<p>Public Participation Topics raised by member of the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence sent regarding wording of policies at items 9 and 10. • Wording of proposals at item 7. • Item 8 - Budget calculations for 24/25 relating to Redesdale Hall, insurance for Redesdale Hall
5.	<p>Minutes</p> <p>a) The minutes of 9th January 2024 were AGREED as accurate and SIGNED.</p> <p>b) To AGREE as accurate and SIGN the minutes of 22nd January 2024 were AGREED as accurate and SIGNED</p>
6.	<p>Co-Option</p> <p>a) It was AGREED that the co-option would take place at the next council meeting on March 5th 2024 and that candidates (in alphabetical order) would be given a ten minute slot before the meeting to speak to councillors informally on an individual basis.</p>
7.	<p>Redesdale Hall Funding</p> <p>a)</p> <p>i. It was AGREED to amend the original resolution as follows: <i>“AGREE to the use of the balance of the Redesdale Hall reserve for potential future grant requests from either of the Redesdale Hall charities (ringfenced on 16th May 2023 @ £63,235.50) and to pay for scaffolding, incidental</i></p>

maintenance costs from Jan 1st 2024 to a maximum cost of £63,235.50 ex VAT.”

Recorded vote: FOR Cllrs Viviani, Danks, Matthews, Eastoe and Jobson. AGAINST Cllrs Blackbeard and Curry.

ii. It was **AGREED** to further amend the resolution as follows:

“AGREE to the use of the balance of the Redesdale Hall reserve for potential future grant requests from either of the Redesdale Hall charities (ringfenced on 16th May 2023 @ £63,235.50) and to pay for scaffolding, incidental maintenance costs from Jan 1st 2024 to a maximum cost of £63,235.50 ex VAT.”

Recorded vote: FOR Cllrs Viviani, Danks, Matthews, Eastoe and Jobson. AGAINST Cllrs Blackbeard and Curry.

iii. No further amendments were proposed and it was **AGREED** to the use of the balance of the Redesdale Hall reserve for potential future grant requests from either of the Redesdale Hall charities (ringfenced on 16th May 2023 @ £63,235.50) and to pay for scaffolding and incidental maintenance costs from Jan 1st 2024 to a maximum cost of £63,235.50 ex VAT.

Recorded vote: FOR Cllrs Viviani, Danks, Matthews, Eastoe and Jobson. AGAINST Cllrs Blackbeard and Curry.

b) It was **AGREED** that any balance remaining of the £63,235.50 once the property has vested to The Redesdale Hall Trust (Charity Ref. 1202814) will be made available for a year after vesting based on costed grant applications that the Council may choose to support.

Recorded vote: FOR Cllrs Viviani, Danks, Matthews, Eastoe and Jobson. AGAINST Cllrs Blackbeard and Curry.

c) It was **AGREED** that any other costs relating to the Redesdale Hall (that are not budgeted for by the Town Council) must be requested via the council’s grant application process or as a request for a loan.

Recorded vote: FOR Cllrs Curry, Viviani, Danks, Matthews, Eastoe and Jobson. AGAINST None.

Cllr Jobson left the room.

8. Finance

a) To **AGREE** payment of the Redesdale Hall Buildings Insurance for 2024/25. This item was **DEFERRED**.

Cllr Jobson returned to the room.

b) It was **AGREED** that the budget for 2024/25 be reviewed by the Finance and Governance Committee again before coming back to council for finalisation.

c) The list of payments including a late invoice for the Edge Finance Software annual renewal of £1,502.88 inc VAT was **APPROVED**.

d) The December finance reports were **NOTED**.

e) To **NOTE** receipt of Q3 (October to December) VAT Return of £2940.73.

f) Cllr Mathews was **APPOINTED** to the Finance and Governance Committee.

9. Finance and Governance Committee

a) To **AGREE** the following policy amendments as discussed at council on January 9th 2024.

i. It was **AGREED** to replace references to chair with chairman in the Complaints procedure. The rest of the policy was **APPROVED** without further changes.

ii. *The amended Snow and Ice policy is **RECOMMENDED**.* This item was **DEFERRED**.

iii. The amended Grant awarding policy was **APPROVED** to also include the removal of the additional full stop on page 1.

b) To **AGREE** the recommended changes to these policies deferred from council on January 9th 2024.

i. It was **AGREED** to remove extraneous square brackets. blue highlighting and correct the council email address in the amended Privacy Policies which were then **APPROVED**.

	<p>ii. It was AGREED to remove the section on FOI charging from the Publication Scheme so that it can be reviewed by the Finance and Governance Committee. The rest of the amended Publication Scheme was APPROVED.</p>
10.	<p>Allotment & Cemeteries Committee</p> <p>a) The following policies RECOMMENDED by the Allotment & Cemeteries Committee were APPROVED:</p> <p>i. Memorial Safety Policy add '(MIMTC)' after the first reference to the council, thereafter, replace references to the council/town council with 'MIMTC'.</p> <p>ii. Bee Keeping Policy</p> <p>iii. Hen Keeping Policy (amend MTC to MIMTC)</p> <p>iv. Keeping of Rabbits on Allotment Policy</p> <p>v. Pond Policy</p>
11.	<p>Planning and Infrastructure Committee</p> <p>a) To AGREE the following recommendations from the Planning and Infrastructure Committee:</p> <p>i. The revised draft concept design from the council's traffic consultant TTC was APPROVED. It was AGREED that the clerk will ensure GCC are also made aware of the council's aspirations for one-way systems on New Road and Station Road.</p> <p>ii. The request from the council's traffic consultant TTC to make a statement on their website that they are working with the Town Council – was APPROVED subject to content approval by the council, prior to publication.</p> <p>8:55pm Cllrs Curry and Jobson left</p>
12.	<p>Exclusion of public and press</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to exclude the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of agenda item 19 which was brought forward due to time restrictions.</p>
13.	<p>Gate at QVG</p> <p>a) It was NOTED that a member of the public had received a finger injury whilst opening one of the playpark gates.</p> <p>b) It was NOTED that a similar incident had occurred on the same gate 10 years ago.</p> <p>c) It was NOTED that pushing the gate open before lifting the latch could cause the injury.</p> <p>d) It was NOTED that staff had been able to replicate the occurrence of the injury using a stick and that it was possible for the incident to occur on either of the gates.</p> <p>e) It was NOTED that the advice from ROSPA is that the playpark gates are safe and don't require any adjustments.</p> <p>f) It was AGREED to investigate the option of installing a different style of latch to prevent a recurrence of such incidents.</p>
14.	<p>It was RESOLVED to extend the meeting by 15 mins.</p>
15.	<p>QVG</p> <p>a) The report regarding the hedge laying in QVG was NOTED and it was AGREED to apply for whips from the Woodland Trust to gap fill the hedge in November and ask the wardens for help in planting them.</p> <p>b) The report regarding the youth shelter was NOTED and it was AGREED to take no action for the time being.</p>
16.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) It was AGREED to help promote the disability app Snowball by adding it to the communications and adding to the website and social media.</p> <p>b) The dates of the Spring Fair: 21st - 23rd March 2024 (setting up from Tue 19th after market) were AGREED.</p>
17.	<p>Communication</p> <p>It was AGREED to highlight the following on the website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snowball disability app • Successful completion of skatepark • Spring fair dates • District Council local plan consultation
18.	<p>Items to note or for future consideration.</p>

	a) It was NOTED that there would be an informal meeting for the council to discuss the local plan consultation on Monday 12 th February 2024 at 6pm.
19.	Date of next meeting March 5th 2024.
20.	The meeting closed at 9:18pm.

Signed.....

Date.....