

MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL

Court Garden, Pound Lane, Marlow, Bucks SL7 2AG

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MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE SEYMOUR ROOM, COURT GARDEN, MARLOW AT 7.00PM
ON TUESDAY 12TH JANUARY 2010

Present	Deputy Mayor	Cllr R Wilson
	Councillors	Mrs J Braybrooke Ms S Brown I M Coleman Mrs J M Coleridge M B Oram R J Scott F V Sweatman
	Town Clerk	Mr H B Bellairs
	Deputy Clerk	Mrs K E Joy

Also present one member of the public, one member of the press

M37.09 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr D A Anson MBE, Cllr Ms B M Lowe, Cllr N B Marshall and Cllr Mrs J Towns.

M38.09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

M39.09 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MAYOR

A list of Mayoral engagements undertaken since the last meeting was circulated to those present.

M40.09 QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

M41.09 MINUTES

Minutes of the previous Town Council meeting held on 10th November 09 were presented by the Deputy Mayor and agreed and signed as a true record.

M42.09 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Finance Services and Administration Committee meeting held on 20th October 09 and the Planning Environment and Transportation committee meetings held on 8th December 09, 3rd November 09 and 15th September 09 were noted by members.

M43.09 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURE

In accordance with Standing Order 17, Cllr M B Oram had raised the following motion seconded by Cllr I M Coleman:

“That Marlow Town Council set up an Emergency Response Procedure to deal with making safe minor roads and footpaths in the Town in the event of severe winter weather, and make appropriate budgetary provision”

Cllr M B Oram stated that although the County Council were to be congratulated on their road gritting during the severe weather, many minor roads and footpaths were left untreated. The proposed “Emergency Response Procedure” would be aimed at making safe priority areas first, such as schools, Dr’s surgery, Sheltered accommodation and associated access routes.

Members were broadly in favour of the concept and debated how such a policy would work, what criteria would trigger the procedure and budget and precept implications. Concerns were raised about how effective the Town Council could be with limited resources and manpower.

The Deputy Mayor called for a vote:

FOR THE MOTION:	4
AGAINST THE MOTION:	3
ABSTENTIONS:	1

The motion was carried.

RESOLVED:

THAT MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL SET UP AN EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURE TO DEAL WITH MAKING SAFE MINOR ROADS AND FOOTPATHS IN THE TOWN IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WINTER WEATHER, AND MAKE APPROPRIATE BUDGETARY PROVISION

M44.09

PROPOSED BUDGET 2010 – 2011

The Deputy Mayor invited the Vice-Chairman of the Finance Services and Administration committee to present the budget estimates and precept for 2010 - 2011 as per the recommendation of the Finance Services and Administration committee meeting held on 15th December 09.

The Vice-Chairman outlined the strategy for the forthcoming budget and precept request and commented that the proposed 0% increase was necessary in the current economical climate.

Cllr M B Oram proposed the following amendments to the proposed budget as follows:-

- Additional £6,800 funding for Emergency Response Procedure
- Additional £3,000 funding towards Marlow Christmas Lights
- Additional £2,000 contribution to Wycombe District Council towards cost of car parking spaces lost whilst the Dean Street markets are operating
- Additional £2,000 funding for the Marlovian
- Additional £3,000 for Wycombe District Council for a presence in the new Area / TI Office and to facilitate the Tourist Information office opening on Sundays

The Deputy Mayor called for a vote on the above amendments

FOR THE AMENDMENTS:	2
AGAINST THE AMENDMENTS:	4

The motion to move amendments failed.

The Deputy Mayor called for a vote on the proposed budget for 2010 – 2011 as presented in the agenda report:-

FOR RECOMMENDATION A: 6
AGAINST RECOMMENDATION A: 2

Cllrs M B Oram and I M Coleman wished to be recorded as voting against.

FOR RECOMMENDATIONS B – D: ALL

RESOLVED:

A) THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2010 - 2011 BE IN THE SUM OF £293,000 AND

B) THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES TO USE EARMARKED AND GENERAL RESERVES IN SPECIFIED AREAS SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY DURING 2010-2011 AND

C) THAT IN PURSUANCE OF ITS POWERS CONFERRED BY SECTION 137 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED) THE TOWN COUNCIL:-

APPROVES PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FOR 2010-2011 ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ARE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE TOWN OR ITS INHABITANTS :

- MAYORAL FUNCTION
- ENVIRONMENTAL COMPETITIONS
- GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
- GRANTS
- TOWN TWINNING
- CHRISTMAS TREE
- ALLOTMENT PRIZES
- COMMUNITY, LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT

D) AND THAT THE CEMETERY AND ALLOTMENT CHARGES BE REVIEWED DURING 2010-2011

M45.09 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Ms S Brown

Reported attending meetings of the Neighbourhood Action Group (11.11.09) the Budavar Town Twinning association (04.12.09) and the Marly-le-Roi Town Twinning association (12.12.09)

Cllr R J Scott

Reported representing the Town Council in Marly-le-Roi for their Remembrance Day activities.

M46.09 REPORTS FROM WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr R J Scott

Reported that consultations with tenants regarding the tenant led stock options on Council housing were progressing well. A vote on the transfer was expected October / November 2010.

Cllr R Wilson

Reported that appropriate provisions should be made with regard to the "Pathfinder" initiative.

M47.09 REPORTS FROM BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr R J Scott

Reported that an agreement had been reached regarding the installation of a pedestrian crossing in Dean Street, Marlow and works would commence in late spring.

As of 14th December 09 the Youth centre has a full time Youth Worker.

M48.09 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

2nd March 2010 at 7.00pm

Chairman.....

Date.....

There were no questions from the public