

MALVERN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

held on Thursday 14 January 2016

in the Town Council Offices, Belle Vue Terrace, Malvern, at 6.00pm

Councillors:

Present:

P Mewton (Chairman)
C A L Bovey
C Palmer
P Smith
D Watkins

Absent:

H Campbell (Apologies)
M Campbell (Apologies)
I G Hopwood (Apologies)
D Houghton-Smith (Apologies)

In attendance:

Charles Porter – Operations Manager
Mary Piercy – Minute Clerk

Councillors:

M J R Charles
S Nichols
J Thomas
P A Tuthill
R K Yates

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representatives of residents of Avon Close addressed the meeting. They pointed out that the hedge provided a sound barrier, privacy and security and that its removal would be to the detriment of residents and damaging to wildlife.

27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs H Campbell, M Campbell, Hopwood and Houghton-Smith.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

29. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The following Minutes of the Operations Committee meeting were approved:

➤ Thursday 8 October 2015

30. HEDGE AT AVON CLOSE

Report OC01/16 was received.

The Operations Manager explained that the height and increasing overhang of the hedge posed problems regarding its maintenance. Members felt that a compromise should be reached which would both satisfy the residents and ensure ease of maintenance.

It was AGREED that the hedge at Avon Close Play Area should be reduced to a height of between 6 and 8 feet as acceptable to both the Town Council and to the residents.

31. **MALVERN IN BLOOM**

Report OC02/16 was received.

Cllr Palmer reported that the Malvern in Bloom Steering Group was very depleted. Volunteers were essential to ensure the success of Malvern in Bloom, particularly in the light of cuts suffered by Malvern Hills District Council (MHDC).

Members discussed which category of Malvern in Bloom would be most suitable. It was felt that an inclusive entry relating to the whole of Malvern was preferable to selecting specific parts of the town.

It was AGREED that the Town Council should support Malvern's entry into the Large Town category of the Heart of England in Bloom competition 2016.

Cllr Watkins left the meeting at 6.40pm.

32. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2016**

The Operations Manager reported that the Christmas tree lights were beginning to show signs of wear.

Members agreed that the tree was an important focal point of the Christmas lights display and discussed the possibility of adding interest by alternating the use of white and coloured lights each year.

It was AGREED that the Operations Manager should investigate options available for new tree lights and report back to the next Committee meeting.

33. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee **NOTED** the Operations Work Programme.

34. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Operations Committee is scheduled for Thursday 10 March 2016 at 6.00pm.

The meeting ended at 6.50pm.

.....
Councillor P Mewton (Chairman)