

**MALVERN TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**held on Wednesday 11 March 2020**

**Malvern Vale Community Centre, Malvern Vale, at 7.00 pm**

**Councillors**

**Present**

N Morton (Mayor, Chairman)  
J Dallow  
C Hooper  
N Houghton  
J Leibrandt  
R McLaverty-Head  
C Palmer  
P Smith  
S Taylor  
D Watkins

**In attendance**

L Blake – Town Clerk  
L Wall – Minute Clerk  
C Lawrence – Events Administrator  
  
7 members of the public  
  
Angela Kirton, Malvern Heartstart

**1. MAYOR'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Annual Town meeting.

**2. MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2019**

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 13 March 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

**3. THE MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019/20**

The Mayor presented his annual report. He felt he had had an interesting year which started with the town council elections. Seven new councillors had brought fresh ideas and enthusiasm and it was pleasing to see the gender split of Town Councillors becoming more balanced.

From the year's budget of £663,000 it was projected that there would be a surplus of £30,000 which would go towards the exciting Victoria Park Pavilion project.

The council had declared a climate emergency in September 2019 and the Mayor hoped that actions would continue to be put into place to enable this.

The Malvern Hills Trust's consultation on consolidating its governing legislation had been responded to by the council, and a meeting to discuss the constitutional changes was to be held soon.

Victoria Park was going to be seeing some major changes in the next year and the Mayor thanked those who had put in a lot of work so far in preparation, such as the bowling club works, the new basketball courts and plans for a new pavilion.

The Mayor said he had made over 97 visits to events and meetings so far this year and was sure he would exceed 100 by the end of his term of office. He had been pleased to meet a wide variety of people in and around Malvern and had raised nearly £7,000 for his charities, Malvern Heartstart and Malvern Hills Food Bank. He was very pleased with people's generosity, which would help these worthy causes.

The Mayor thanked all those volunteers who had helped get the town ready for Malvern in Bloom, and Heartstart volunteers who had provided training for councillors and town council staff.

The events that had been run throughout the year had all been very successful, with Bands in the Park once again attracting people from a much wider area than Malvern. The Mayor's Bonanza had also been a great success and was attended by many hundreds of people.

Grants totalling over £18,000 had been awarded in large and small grants to many local community groups.

#### **4. REPORTS FROM WARD REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS**

There were no reports from ward representatives of county and district councils.

#### **5. HEARSTART MALVERN**

Angela Kirton, from Malvern Heartstart, thanked the Mayor and the Council for the opportunity to speak about Heartstart's activities. She explained that Heartstart was a small local charity, with approximately twenty members, all of whom were volunteers. Together they provide training to groups, schools and individuals so that they were able to perform CPR and use a defibrillator with confidence. Since its inception in 2017, over 3,000 people had been trained.

Heartstart does not receive any external funding such as from the NHS or Government, and relies solely on grants and donations. Angela thanked Cllr Morton for choosing Heartstart as one of his Mayoral charities and told the meeting that anyone else wishing to help could do so either by donating, volunteering or undertaking training.

Angela then answered questions from the floor including how much a defibrillator costs and how the locations of the machines were publicized. She informed the meetings that the approximate cost of buying and positioning a public access defibrillator (PAD) was £1,500, which was made up of £1,000 for the machine and £500 for a cabinet. She explained that the cabinets had to be temperature controlled so that the PADs did not get damp. Once installed, the location of the PAD is given to the ambulance service. If a call is then put in to the emergency services, they will advise on the location of the nearest PAD in use and will take the responder through its usage.

#### **6. TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS**

Clare Lawrence, Events Administrator from Malvern Town Council, explained to the meeting the history and future of Town Council events, how and why the events committee was formed and which events were due to be held in the coming months.

Clare had taken over the role of Events Administrator a year ago and had expanded some of the usual events such as the Health and Wellbeing Fair as well as adding further events to the calendar such as Earth Day which was due to be held on 22 April. She explained that there would be a basketball taster session day on 11 April to raise funds for the new basketball courts, and the Mayor's Peaks Challenge on 2 May, which coincides with the Health and Wellbeing Fair.

UNADOPTED

There would also be Armed Forces Day with a special parade by the Girls' and Boys' Brigades, Alternative Bands in the Park, Malvern in Bloom and the Mayor's Bonanza to look forward to in the coming months. Nearer the end of the year, there will be Remembrance events, the Christmas Lights Switch-on and Christmas Charity Concert. These events are well-established and very popular with the residents of Malvern.

7. **OPEN FORUM**

There were no questions put forward.

8. **CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 7.55 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 March 2021 at 7.00 pm at The Coach House Theatre, Grange Road, Malvern.

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(Mayor)

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