

## **Minutes of Town Team Meeting**

### **Town Hall**

### **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm**

**Present:** Sarah Wilde, Gavin Grant, John Sunderland, Gordon MacPherson, Ash Scott & Mark Gardener

**Also present:** Chess Fearnley & Ash Davies from Malmesbury against Plastics

#### **1. Apologies:**

Received from Campbell Ritchie, Rob Green, Rob Snedden & Emily Small.

*It was agreed to alter the order of business to receive a presentation from Chess & Ash of Malmesbury  
Against Plastics*

#### **2. To receive a presentation about Malmesbury Against Plastics**

Chess & Ash outlined the work of Malmesbury Against Plastics.

- The aim is to gain Plastic Free Community status for Malmesbury, an award given by charity Surfers Against Sewage, focusing on non-recyclable single use plastics.
- To gain the status they have to achieve certain objectives including holding 2 free to attend events in one calendar year and gain allies in the community. The ways that groups could do this would be to work together to draw up a 'contract' of commitments they would make to act on reducing their usage of single use plastics, signing up to be a Refill station if they have a publicly accessible tap/they would be happy to fill up a bottle for someone, or act as a location for a Terracycle hub - there are a few of these already springing up in the community.
- Two further aims the group has to work to achieve are working with five businesses in the town which have to remove 3 single use plastic items and form strategic alliances with key groups in the community
- The group hopes to raise the profile of the town by achieving the status, whilst also forming relationships with key businesses/groups/organisations/locations in the community who can all feel like they are contributing to being part of a larger greater movement across the world to get individuals consuming and disposing of plastics more responsibly.

#### **3. To consider & approve Minutes from meeting 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019.**

Sarah thanked Campbell in his absence for taking notes at the meeting. The Minutes were approved subject to amendment by Gavin as follows;

The Management Committee agreed to review the independent Retail Impact Assessment for the Aldi and Lidl applications and form a view on the likely impact on the High Street of the granting of planning permission for either or both applications.

Councillor Grant explained that it would not be appropriate for him to take part in this review. This was because he is a member of Wiltshire Council's Northern Area Planning Committee that would consider both applications although he would welcome receiving the result as part of the information for consideration.

It was agreed to exclude him from the group working on this matter. It was further agreed that the Waitrose representative, Mark Gardener should also be excluded from this work as Waitrose had taken a position on these applications.

Campbell agreed to produce a first draft of a statement and circulate that to the members of the Committee excluding Cllr Grant and Mark.

#### **4. Marketing activity, including GWW initiative**

Lesley apologised for not being able to attend the meeting but asked the leadership group to note the opportunity to advertise in the Great West Way publication that will have a reach of approximately 100,000 people. It was agreed that a half page advert would be taken out in the publication for £585.00 but that it would be subject to the Malmesbury Connections advert only going out quarterly rather than monthly until the cost is covered.

#### **5. Update on legal status**

Sarah notified the group that there will be a meeting tomorrow to go through the application.

#### **6. To discuss the TT view on the Lidl and Aldi supermarket planning applications**

Campbell had circulated a document which outlined the retail impact in Malmesbury that Aldi & Lidl would have. It was agreed that the Town Team should publish a formal statement on Planning Applications that affect the High Street. Sarah proposed that she will formulate a draft statement for comment but that Mark & Gavin will be excluded from discussion and approval will be made at the next meeting.

#### **7. To receive an update on the Vibrant Malmesbury Projects**

- a) Discover Malmesbury: Money has now been received for the 2<sup>nd</sup> claim.
- b) Gift Card: The launch of the Gift Card will follow the establishment of the Town Team as a CIC.
- c) Signposting: The brief & direction has been agreed and invites will go to the same group of people who met when the Discover Malmesbury branding was being discussed.

#### **8. To receive an update from Wiltshire Councillor Gavin Grant**

Gavin had nothing further to report.

### **9. To receive an update from Malmesbury Town Councillor Campbell Ritchie**

Campbell had given apologies for not attending the meeting.

### **10. AOB**

Ash stated that 2018 had been a difficult year for the Market, it had been operating at a loss because of the 'sliding scale' fees set by Wiltshire Council. Ash thought there might be more interest from traders and consumers if the Market were to change to monthly rather than weekly.

Sarah made it clear to Ash that the Town Team will support any decision he makes and thanked both Ash & Lisa for the effort they have put in trying to make the Market a success.

Meeting closed at 9pm

Next meeting will take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019