



MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL

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

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2024 AT 7.00pm IN THE PINK ROOM, COURT GARDEN, MARLOW

Present	Town Mayor Leader Councillors	Cllr D Brown Cllr C Funnell C Heap N Mityaeva J Towns C Hoyle N Marshall
	Town Clerk Admin	Mrs H Martin Mrs D Abbott

M.58.24 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllrs Cadman, Scott, Stapley & Wilson.

M.59.24 **Declarations of interest**
There were no declarations of interest.

M.60.24 **Communications from the Town Mayor**
October 16th – Restart a Heart
October 17th – R.M.Williams store opening
November 7th – Allotment AGM
November 10th – Marlow Remembrance service and parade
November 11th – Marly-le-Roi service
November 21st – Christmas lights switch on
Cllr D Brown | Town Mayor

M.61.24 **Report from Leader of the Council**
Cllr Funnell acknowledged the changes and success of the Christmas Lights Switch On and Remembrance Service.
He noted the flooding issues in the town and that he has been in contact with the EA.
Cllr Funnell thanked Cllr Tim Avery for his 12 years as a Councillor for Marlow.
Cllr C Funnell | Leader

M.62.24 **Town Council Minutes**

RESOLVED:
THAT THE MINUTES DATED 01.10.2024 WERE AGREED AND SIGNED

M.63.24 Management Accounts

RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL APPROVED THE ACCOUNTS DATED 30.09.2024

M.64.24 John O'Conner Contract Extension

Members were asked to approve the extension of the current grounds' maintenance contract for a period of one year until 31st January 2026 for an increase of £390 per month, total increase of £4,680. This will include returning to 8 verge cuts from March to October.

RESOLVED:

MEMBERS AGREED TO THE ONE-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION TO 31ST JANUARY 2026 AT AN INCREASED COST OF £4,680

M.65.24 Financial Regulations 2024

Members were asked to review and adopt the Financial Regulations 2024.

RESOLVED:

MEMBERS REVIEWED AND AGREED TO ADOPT THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS 2024

M.66.24 Meetings Timetable 2025-26

Members were asked to approve the meetings timetable for 2025-26. It was noted that Swan Upping may coincide with a Plans Only meeting.

RESOLVED:

MEMBERS APPROVED THE MEETINGS TIMETABLE FOR 2025-26

M.67.24 Riley Park Surface

The play area at Riley Park has been assessed for essential improvements. Whilst the play equipment is in good order and meets all safety requirements, the surface with the exception of the area under the swings is in urgent need of repair. Patch repairs are now causing trip hazards. In addition, a section of external fencing has been damaged and also needs repair. Council has a contractual lease on the play area that concludes in December 2031.

Officers recommended that the play area is completely resurfaced rather than a patch repair which will be guaranteed by the installing contractor for a period of ten years from installation. Several specialist contractors have been approached and two have responded with quotes, all quotes meet the ROSPA guidelines for play surfaces.

Contractor 1

To replace 4 wooden fence posts, removing the wire, concrete in new posts and then re attach all the wire.

PLANT & MATERIALS: £462.50

LABOUR : £600.00 Sub Total : £1062.50

To remove all existing rubber from the play surface, 28 x 8m. To lay a consolidated layer of 10mm open texture macadam to existing levels and falls, as a sub base. To hand lay black EPDM rubber surface, 30-35mm thick over the entire playground area, approx. 224sqm.

PLANT & MATERIALS: £16,642.80 LABOUR : £8400.00 Sub Total

Total cost £25,042.80 including VAT

Total including replacing broken fencing £26,105.30

Contractor 2

Contractor 2 has quoted to replace all of the fencing which is not necessary as the remainder of the fencing is in good order.

1	Erection of Heras safety fencing and welfare facilities for the duration of the project	1,140.00
2	Removal of 219m ² top layer of existing EPDM rubber to an approved tip (leaving existing tiles in place if possible)	8,985.60
3	Break out and remove existing 95 l/m timber fencing and 1no double gate to an approved tip	3,600.00
4	Supply and install 105 l/m of new PCC edges to the perimeter of the entire play area and linking up the existing PCC edges to the Swing bases to form a hard line for the new surfacing.	5,460.00
5	Supply and install 95 l/m of new 1.0m high steel playspec bow top fencing and 1no new Prosafe combination (Vehicle & pedestrian) access gate, all galvanised and PPC	11,617.48
6	Supply and lay in situ up to new PCC edges a maximum of 219m ² base rubber and 310m ² top layer EPDM black rubber.	24,806.40

Sub Net	55,609.48
Vat @ 20%	11,121.90
Total Net	66,731.38

RESOLVED

THAT MEMBERS AGREED TO PROCEED WITH CONTRACTOR 1 AND THAT THE FUNDS WILL COME OUT OF PLAYGROUND RESERVES

M.68.24 Committee Minutes

MEMBERS NOTED THE COMMITTEE MINUTES PUBLISHED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

M.69.24 Information Reports

- a) Freedom of Information Request
- b) Resignation of Cllr Tim Avery

MEMBERS NOTED THE REPORTS

M.70.24 Reports from Outside Bodies

Cllr N Marshall

Reported attending the Marlow Society meeting.

Cllr R Scott

The Town Clerk read out Cllr Scott’s report.

November 2nd - hosted Cllr Gabor Molnar from Budavar who would like to reestablish the town twinning relationship.

November 18th – attended the Chamber of Trade and Business meeting.

M.71.24 Reports from Buckinghamshire Council

Cllr J Towns

Reported that

- BidBoard have been voted back in for a third year from January 2025.
- She will be attending a workshop on the 4th December with Atkins Relais and Buckinghamshire Council on Investment in the A404 corridor.
- A new bin has now been installed in the High Street near the entrance to the Old Brewery Lane.

Cllr N Marshall

Reported that

- he has heard from Bucks Planning that a major refurb has been planned for the bridge.
- Planning reform is imminent from central government with implications on greenbelt protection and the housing needs assessment.
- The appeal for the Marlow Film Studio is coming up in January.

Cllr C Heap

Reported that

- the work on the pavements in West Street have been completed and it has been agreed that bollards are going to be installed to prevent trucks parking on the pavement. Works on the pavements in the High Street are scheduled to take place in 2025.
- Reported that Bucks have a consultation out on closing some of their day centres.

M.72.24 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed 7.35pm

Town Mayor **Date**

