Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Thursday 12th September 2024 at the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Tickhill Road, Maltby

These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting

Councillors Present: Cllrs Andrew Fletcher, John Kirk, Carl Crossland, Ann Dickinson, Kieth Stringer, Pauline Heaps

Officer: Jasmine Sayner, Deputy Clerk

Members of the Public: 13

Commenced: 6:03 pm – Concluded: 7:30 pm

GP2024/42	**ITEM 42: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies were received from Councillors McMahon and Webster 1) It was **RESOLVED** that the apologies for the absence from Councillor McMahon and Webster be approved. *(unanimous)*
GP2024/43	**ITEM 43: DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS** Councillor Kirk declared a personal interest in allotments generally, with a non-voting dispensation.
GP2024/44	**ITEM 44: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** A member of the public expressed that they were unhappy with the fact that all the reports for committee meeting had been tabled It was **NOTED** by the Deputy Clerk that this was done due to a recent data leak within the Council, and this was the current measure that had been put in place by the office to try and stop this issue. Another member of the public asked why the Council paid for a contactor to take down the disused pigeon loft on the Woodend allotment site, and who was contacted for this. It was **NOTED** by the Deputy Clerk this would be discussed later in the meeting. However, it was said that the contractors that demolished the disused pigeon loft were from a company called CML. It was then explained that they had donated their time free of charge to complete this project, as a lot of the people that work for them are from Maltby and wanted to put back into the community they came from. A representative of Milton Street allotment asked for an update on the paint that was to be purchased for the Milton Street allotment site. It was **NOTED** by the Deputy Clerk that this would be done within the next week, along with the paint for the Rotherham Road site.

	A member of the public raised concerns that they were being judged by the council regarding their inability to be allowed on the waiting list. They explained that there are two vacant plots on the Limesway allotment site, and no one on the waiting list. However, he has been told that due to a prior eviction from the site, he cannot have a plot. It was **NOTED** by the Deputy Clerk that after six months, a decision can be discussed again. Therefore, if the member of the public would like to reapply six months after the resolution was made, they are entitled to do so. A representative of Rotherham Road allotments explained that they would like the skip that was granted to them earlier in the year. They also mentioned that the gates have been moved back by RMBC to help with the issues they have been having with the new bus lane. It was **NOTED** by the Deputy Clerk that they would be in contact with Rotherham Road allotments to arrange the best time and date for a skip.
GP2024/45	**ITEM 45: EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** To consider and resolve the agenda items that require the exclusion of the Press and Public in accordance with the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, S1 (2) for matters appertaining to confidential information. **RESOLVED:** **1) That in accordance with the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, S1 (2) that the press and public be excluded from agenda item 48 due to matters appertaining to confidential information**
GP2024/46	**ITEM 46: CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES** To approve the draft minutes of the General Purpose Committee held on 11th July 2024 as a true record. It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July. *(unanimous)*
GP2024/47	**ITEM 47: ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT – LIMESWAY SITE** The Committee received an update from the Deputy Clerk regarding several updates and concerns. It was **NOTED** that the order for the fence posts had been put in, and the lead time is currently looking at around three weeks It was also **NOTED** that a plot holder on Limesway allotments had raised concerns regarding the uneven footpath into the allotments, the fact it could be seen as safety hazard, and isn't very disability friendly. It was **NOTED** that the Deputy Clerk should get quotes to bring to next the meeting These would include quotes for seed to cover the grass yearly, and quotes for a crushed path, to give Councillors options when making a decision. *(No vote taken)*

	It was **NOTED** that there had been some concerns raised regarding the state of the vacant plot 3b and plot 5. It was **NOTED** that these had now been cut back and tidied by Councillor Webster. It was **RESOLVED** that some weed suppressant membrane will be purchased, with a budget of £160. *(5 in favour, 1 against)* It was also **NOTED** that plot 3a had yet to collect their keys since the locks had been changed, and no work had been done on the plot since the tenancy had begun. The Deputy Clerk explained that they had tried to get in contact with them via email and phone call but there was no response.
GP2024/48	**ITEM 48: ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT – ROTHERHAM ROAD** *Please note that this was excluded from the press and public and was therefore discussed at the end of the meeting.* It was **RESOLVED** that a private meeting between the complainant, the other Rotherham Road allotment holders, and Maltby Town Councillors to try and come to some sort of conclusion. *(5 in favour, 1 abstain)* It was **RESOLVED** that Rotherham Road allotments would be given £200 to cover the financial losses from the roof leak. *(5 in favour, 1 abstain)*
GP2024/49	**ITEM 49: ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT – MILTON STREET SITE** No update necessary.
GP2024/50	**ITEM 50: ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT – WOODEND SITE** The Committee received an update from the Deputy Clerk which went over the demolition of the disused pigeon lofts and the cost surrounding it. It was **NOTED** that on the 8th of August a company called CML came out with six men and removed the disused pigeon loft, as well as the surrounding greenery. It was also **NOTED** that they kindly did this free of charge. If Maltby Town Council would have had to pay for these services, it would have cost the £2,927 It was **NOTED** that unfortunately there was a lot more waste than anticipated, and due to health and safety concerns, two more 12 yard skips were rented to remove all the waste. This totalled £612.50 excl VAT. It was also **NOTED** also noted that the original 40 yard skip did come in under budget.
GP2024/51	**ITEM 51: EDMH ACCESS ASSESSMENT** It was explained to the Committee that after the recent renovations, some Councillors had suggested that an accessibility assessment be undertaken. This would be to make sure that MTC complies with current equality legislation, and that the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall is accessible to all.

It was **NOTED** that there are three possible options for this assessment. MTC could get an external assessment done, do the assessment internally, or not do the assessment at all.

It was also **NOTED** that should they agree to assessment there were advantages and disadvantages to both options.

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Internal	• **No cost** • **Can be done in house by staff**	• **Staff schedules are currently heavy, so a timescale cannot be guaranteed** • **Staff are not trained in this specialty**
External	• **Specialised contactors** • **In depth report will be given**	• **Cost, would it be within budget?** • **Three quotes would need to be gathered before the job can proceed.**

It was **RESOLVED** that an internal assessment would be undertaken.

(unanimous)

GP2024/52

ITEM 52: CHRISTMAS TREES

The Committee received an update from the Deputy Clerk regarding the possibility of Christmas trees around Maltby, along side quotes for all components necessary.

It was **NOTED** that Hellaby and Maltby West Ward Councillors were already looking at a Christmas Tree for Laburnum Parade. As well as the possibility of extending the small Christmas tree project that began last year, to Laburnum Parade shops.

It was also **NOTED** that Councillor Tinsley had said that during the Tour of Britain, 13 spraypainted bikes were put up, and only three were retrieved after one day. Which highlights the possibility of the trees being stolen if purchased.

It was also **NOTED** that in order to put the trees anywhere, the office must fill out a form with at least 16 questions on, for each individual placement.

It was also **NOTED** that, per the quotes, the cost per tree would be between £43.47 and £257.94.

It was **RESOLVED** that MTC would not move forward with the purchase of Christmas trees to be situated around the Maltby area.

(unanimous)

GP2024/53

ITEM 53: ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

None

GP2024/54

ITEM 54: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

To confirm the date, time and venue of the next meeting scheduled for Thursday 10th October 2024 at 6.00 pm, Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Maltby.

The meeting ended at 7.39 pm

Signed (Chair): **Dated:**