

**MINUTES OF THE MELKSHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT MELKSHAM TOWN HALL
ON MONDAY 26 JANUARY 2009**

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| Present: Mr Simon Bridgford-Whittick | Louise Smith |
| Ms Sarah Cardy | Mrs Terri Welch |
| Mr Rod Eaton | Mr Simon White |
| Mr Mark Griffiths | Mrs Sheila Wilkinson |
| Mr Jon Hubbard | Mrs Pam Wiltshire |
| Mr Vic Oakman | Mr Richard Wiltshire (Chairman) |
| Mr Chris Petty | |

2009

8. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Geoffrey Carr.

9. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

10. Publication Participation

There were no members of public present.

11. Matters arising

Therefore no matters arising.

12. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

13. Questions. To receive any questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with Standing Order 21

No questions had been received from councillors.

14. ASDA Planning Application. To consider the details of a response to West Wiltshire District Council opposing the 5 reasons given by Planning Officers in recommending refusal of the application

At a recent Planning Meeting it was agreed that a decision to respond to the 5 reasons given by Planning Officers to refuse planning permission for the ASDA store, should be dealt with by the full Town Council in accordance with the Council's Terms of Reference.

At the request of the Development Control Committee Councillor Rod Eaton had produced a draft report outlining the Town Council's support of ASDA against the 5 reasons given by West Wiltshire District Council officers to oppose planning permission **(report enclosed)**. This report will be included in any paperwork sent to the Secretary of State as evidence.

RESOLVED: Melksham Town Council hereby resolves to support the ASDA Planning application (07/03866) and fully endorses the decision of WWDC Planning Committee for permission (as taken on 8 January 2009), which the Council considers, is within planning policy guidelines and does not depart from the Local Development Plan.

Councillor Simon Bridgford-Whittick arrived at 8.10pm.

15. Spring Festival 2009

Councillor Richard Wiltshire had requested this item be placed on the agenda as he felt the Spring Festival was a well attended event which will not go ahead this year with the changes within Melksham 1st, but could be something another organisation could take on.

Carolyn Beale, Community Trust Director for Melksham 1st had produced a report outlining her costs if she were to take the task on in a consultancy role.

It was agreed sufficient funds were not available to go ahead with this option.

Discussion ensued as to whether an item should be placed in the Melksham News inviting ideas/help from local organisations who may wish to be involved in organising the event

After consideration it was agreed to place a note in the Melksham News stating that the Town Council regrets that the Riverside Festival has been cancelled but pointing out that there is an opportunity for any disappointed voluntary groups to attend the Melksham Food & Drink Festival on 3 May in the town centre. This is part of the town's spring events starting with the Town Crier's Competition on 25 April and with Food Festival events from 3 to 9 May

It was also asked if consideration could be given in the future to holding an event near the riverside for those organisations interested in June/July.

Councillors also felt that with the programme of events already in place for 2009 it was not feasible for council staff to take on the organisation this year but it was felt that the event could be considered by the Town Council for next year.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk takes action as set out above.