

**LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of**  
**Ledbury Town Council**  
**held on**  
**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

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**Present:** Councillors: Councillor R Barnes, Deputy Mayor (Chairman)  
P Bettington            A Conway  
M Eager                 K Francis  
E Harvey                C Jupp  
C Ridler                 P Winter  
R Yeoman

**In Attendance:** Mrs K Mitchell – Clerk to the Council  
Mrs B Stump – Jnr. Clerical Officer  
Mrs S Wenczek, Project Manager, Ledbury Places project  
Mr D Trevis-Smith, Consultant to the Ledbury Places project  
Ms M Cooper, Civic Society & Barrett Browning Institute Trustee

**C 138-02.14 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted for Councillors A Crowe, J Roberts, M Roberts, C Stallard Daniels and T Widdows.

**C 139-02.14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made at this point in the meeting.

**C 140-02.14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public wished to speak.

**C 141-02.14 LEDBURY PLACES PROJECT**

Prior to the discussion, and to facilitate the ease of the proceedings, the Chairman requested the suspension of Standing Orders relating to standing and speaking only once, which was agreed. The Chairman then called on David Trevis-Smith, a consultant engaged by the Ledbury Places Steering Group, to update the Council on its activities and the objective of the extraordinary meeting of Full Council. Mr Trevis-Smith informed the Council that the Feasibility Study and reports should be completed by end February/early March and the conclusions and recommendations would form the basis for proceeding with funding applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund, amongst others. Mr Trevis-Smith envisaged it would take two to three years from the start of the project through to delivery, and that funders would only accept a grant application if all stakeholders were fully involved. Being the owner of 1-3 Church Lane (the Town Council offices) and the Market House, the Town Council is critical to the

project. The Ledbury Places Steering Group is now at the stage where the intention of the Town Council is sought, as the location of its offices is pivotal to the proposed use of the remaining buildings. A broad discussion followed about the merits of the council offices relocating, or remaining in Church Lane.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council makes a statement of intent to vacate the Church Lane Offices in favour of accommodation of the whole of the Barrett Browning Institute.**

**A named vote was taken**

<b>For</b>	<b>(9)</b>
<b>R Barnes</b>	<b>A Conway</b>
<b>M Eager</b>	<b>K Francis</b>
<b>E Harvey</b>	<b>C Jupp</b>
<b>C Ridler</b>	<b>P Winter</b>
<b>R Yeoman</b>	
<b>Against</b>	<b>(1)</b>
<b>P Bettington</b>	

**The motion was carried.**

There followed a discussion on the composition of the Ledbury Places Steering Group. Ledbury Civic Society, the Barrett Browning Institute, Ledbury Area Development Trust and Herefordshire Council each has three representatives. The Council considers itself a major stakeholder in the project and agreed that two more representatives from Ledbury Town Council (in addition to one, presently) be appointed, subject to approval by the Steering Group.

**RESOLVED: That Councillors Conway and Eager be proposed as two additional Town Council representatives on the Ledbury Places Steering Group.**

**VOTING: Unanimous**

*Councillors Bettington and Francis left the meeting at this point.*

There followed a broad discussion on the merits or otherwise of the three strategic options for the use of the buildings owned by the Town Council. It was felt very important to retain control of no. 1 Church Lane (the location of the Painted Room and panelled room) for the use of the community and tourism.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council rejects the proposed use of No. 1 Church Lane as a holiday let.**

**VOTING: For 7  
Against 1**

There was a broad discussion about the Market House and ideas to create a glazed lobby area on the lower level and the possible installation of a lift. The Town Council had rejected the installation of a lift in the past, but the Ledbury Places Steering Group is at a stage where the Council's views would be helpful when considering the Market House's future function. It was widely held that further discussion should be deferred to the next full Council meeting when more information may be available on options for disabled access and when more Councillors would be available to discuss the matter.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council supports the investigation of disabled access options for the Market House.**

**VOTING: For 7  
Against 1**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Chairman..... Date.....