

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER, 2015

Present: Councillor: M Eager - Chairman
Councillors: D Baker R Barnes
P Bettington A Crowe
M Eakin E Fieldhouse
K Francis A Manns
N Morris J Roberts
N Roberts R Yeoman

In Attendance: Mrs K Mitchell - Clerk to the Council
Mrs M Bradman - Deputy Clerk

E.25-09.15 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor E Harvey.

E.26-09.15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared at this point in the meeting.

E.27-09.15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A local resident spoke on the subject of a 'wild' verge scheme, outlining the benefits to plant life, wild life and the reduction in maintenance. (Refer agenda item 12.1)

My enquiry is about management policy for

For expediency the Chairman brought Item 12.1 forward in order that members could discuss the email from Mrs Ann Crane.

E.28-09.15 CORRESPONDENCE

Members had been circulated with an email from a local resident regarding the management of roadside verges and other public grassy spaces as wildlife corridors. Members discussed the subject at length.

RESOLVED: That a meeting be arranged with Balfour Beaty Living Places, Steve Maund-Lengthsman and Cllrs Baker, Crowe, Eager, Fieldhouse and Francis to discuss the initiative.

E.29-09.15 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2015, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

E.30-09.15 RECREATION GROUND

Members considered the Annual Playground Inspection Report for 2015/16. It was agreed that the zip wire seat height is monitored.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and that any remedial works required be undertaken as soon as possible.

E.31-09.15 LENGTHSMAN & P3 SCHEME

Members having been circulated with the first quarter report on expenditure and works progress.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

E.32-09.15 TOWN CENTRE

Members discussed the use of 'A' boards by businesses around the Town Council offices. Members considered a request from the Royal British Legion to attach an 'A' board to the Town Council Office cellar door. Following a lengthy discussion, it was suggested that a finger post at the entrance to Church Lane to sign post businesses in Church St and Church Lane would cut down on street clutter.

RESOLVED: That no 'A' boards should be connected to or leant against the Town Council office building in anyway.
and that

A meeting should be arranged between Councillors and business owners from Church Lane and Church Street in order to discuss how the street scene may be improved.

E.33-09.15 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

1. Christmas Lights

Members were circulated with the report from the meeting held on 14th July 2015.

Cllr Manns Named should be added to the attendance,

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

E.34-09.15 TOWN PLAN DATA

Members were requested to comment on the Town Plan Young Persons Action Plan and the Environment and Energy Action Plan.

Young Persons Action Plan

YP1 - Encourage use of local woods and Riverside Park

Response: Agree

YP3 - Provide a drop in cafe where activities could take place and information and advice be made available.

Response: Agree

YP5 - Involve young people in having a greater say in what goes on in Ledbury.

Response: Welcomed. Young Persons Group met with John Masefield High School pupils.

YP6 - Recognise young people who contribute something special to the community of Ledbury.

Response: Already being done. LTC Youth Achievement Award. LTC Awards Working Party to review.

YP7 - Develop an ownership in young people for the cleanliness of the town, by involving the young themselves.

Response: Agree and support.

YP8 - To increase the understanding of the work of LTC among young people.

Response: In hand. Some Councillors have already attended JMH Citizenship classes. Councillors interested in attending citizenship lessons to contact the office.

YP9 - Enable young people to feel safer on the Recreation Ground.

Response: Issues to be addressed through the Recreation Ground Working Party.

YP10 - Enable young people to feel safer in ledbury with regard to the behaviours of others.

Response: Agree

YP11 - Enable young people to feel safer with regard to traffic.

Response: In progress.

YP12 - Improve play areas in Ledbury.

Response: This is ongoing through the Recreation Ground Working Party.

YP13 - Provide additional recreation/activity facilities in Ledbury for young people.

Response: Included in the 10 year plan for the Recreation Ground.

YP14 - Provide new and improved facilities for Young People on the Recreation Ground.

Response: The Recreation Ground Working Party are developing a 5 and 10 year management and improvement plan for the area.

YP15 - Involve the community in the management and improvement of the Recreation Ground.

Response: LTC to keep a watching brief. Ideas could evolve/develop through youth group and drop in centre.

RESOLVED: That discussion on the Environment & Energy Action Plan be deferred to the next meeting on 8.10.15.

E.35-09.15 BUDGET 2016/17

Members considered the first draft committee budget for 2016/17. Members had been circulated with an email from Balfour Beatty Living Places with regards to the public realm grass cutting in the Walled Garden and Queen's Walk.

RESOLVED: That members peruse the budget figures further and bring any ideas back to the next meeting (8.10.15) for discussion.

Also that Councillors Eager and Barnes compose a reply to Balfour Beatty Living Places in respect of the Public Realm grass cutting of the Walled Garden and Queen's Walk areas.

E.36-.09.15 UPDATE REPORT – for information.

Members received an update report on actions taken on previous resolutions.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

E.37-09.15 CORRESPONDENCE - for information

None received.

E.38-09.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be held on 8th October, 2015.

There were no items raised for inclusion on the next agenda.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.18pm

Chairman Date