

**LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

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**PRESENT:** Councillor: M Eager – Chairman  
Councillors: R Barnes P Bettington  
A Conway A Crowe  
L Fieldhouse C Jupp  
C Ridler J Roberts  
T Widdows P Winter  
R Yeoman

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor D Durham

Also Present: Mrs K Mitchell, Clerk  
Ms D Baldwin, Deputy Clerk

**E.53 - 10.13 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors K Francis, A Bradford and C Stallard Daniels.

**E.54 - 10.13 INTERESTS**

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

**E.55 - 10.13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

**E.56 - 10.13 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2013, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

**E.57 - 10.13 POLICE**

Inspector Paul Crumpton, Lead Officer of the Ledbury Safer Neighbourhood Team was unable to attend the meeting.

**E.58 - 10.13 BUDGET 2014/15**

Members considered the first draft of the budget required by the Environment and Leisure Committee for 2014/15. Each budget line was examined and highlighted for change or for further consideration at the next meeting.

**E.59 - 10.13 CLOSED CHURCHYARD**

1. Members considered a quotation to re-paint the entrance gates to the Closed Churchyard.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council be recommended to approve the works, in the sum of £225.**

2. The Clerk gave an update on research relating to ownership of the boundary wall, advising that the Town Council's solicitors were unable to act on the Council's behalf due to a client conflict of interest.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to seek legal advice from an alternative firm with respect to the Council's responsibility and liability for repairs to the boundary wall.**

**E.60 - 10.13 DEER PARK**

1. Trees on the Blenheim Drive Amenity Area.

Members considered a request from a resident of Blenheim Drive to cut back the overhanging trees to the front of his property. The Chairman advised that he had visited the site and, as a precautionary measure, would recommend that the Council ask a tree surgeon to inspect the trees and provide a recommendation for consideration at a future meeting.

2. Hedge trimming along footpath between Shepherds Close and Mable's Furlong.

The Clerk advised that the works would be carried out under the terms of the maintenance contract.

**E.61 - 10.13 RECREATION GROUND**

Members discussed setting up a Skatepark Management Committee. (refer E.52-09.13). Councillor Fieldhouse offered to approach the users of the Skate park to gauge interest and report back with her findings to the next Committee meeting.

**E.62 - 10.13 OUTSIDE BODIES**

Browning Road Outside Space Play Areas (BROSPA)

Councillor Winter gave an update on progress, advising that the initiative was well supported by residents. A bank account had been opened and the group could now start to apply for funding to the project forward. The next meeting was scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2013.

**E.63 - 10.13 HEREFORDSHIRE CCTV**

Councillor Eager gave a verbal report from the meeting held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October which he had attended along with Councillor Barnes, to discuss the future sustainability of Herefordshire CCTV. (Refer E.51-09.13) He advised that the market towns would all be asked if they would consider increasing their contributions for 2014/15.

Members were circulated with a spreadsheet detailing projected Income and Expenditure for 2014/15, together with monitoring costs and proposals for monitoring hours.

A projected increase in contributions of 2.7% would result in a difference of £49,251. A 4% increase would result in a difference of £50,192. This would be the amount of money available to cover monitoring costs.

The cameras are currently monitored for 127 hours per week which equates to an annual cost of £82,500.

Cllr Eager advised that the service would need to be re-designed against available funding, which would mean a decrease in monitoring hours. Members were advised that should the funding from the Police not be forthcoming then a monitored service, post 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014, would not be possible to deliver.

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk seek clarification as to whether the cameras will still continue to record should monitoring be discontinued.**

**E.64 - 10.13 GRIT/SALT BINS**

Members were asked to identify areas where salt/grit bins were required. Councillor Bettington requested that Members forward any suggested locations to him by email.

**E.65 - 10.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA**

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee is scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

Items for inclusion on the agenda:

- Christmas Lights update
- Police

**E.66 - 10.13 DOG HILL WOOD**

**PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**  
 Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** that due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press should not be present.  
**The business being consideration of quotations**

Members considered a report identifying required safety works to trees, in order of priority together with a quotation for the works. (refer E.44 - 09.13) See EX21/13

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council be recommended to approve the quotation for safety works as presented, with payment in two stages:-**

**2013/14 £10,300**

**2014/15 £5,278**

**Any monies taken from reserves to be replaced in stages over future financial years.**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....