

**LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of Ledbury Town Council**  
**held on Thursday 1 February 2018**  
**in The Community Hall, Lawnside Road Ledbury**

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**Present:** Councillors: E Fieldhouse (Chairman)  
R Barnes A Crowe  
M Eager M Eakin  
K Francis A Harrison  
J Hopkins A Manns  
N Morris J Roberts  
N Shields J Simpson  
A Warmington H Wilce

In attendance: T Ford – Acting Clerk (HALC)  
Mrs J Jupp – Administrative Assistant  
4 Members of the public.

**C.5 - 02.18 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs D Baker, A Bradford and E Harvey.

Cllr Francis advised members of the death of Fred Cobb, a former Town Councillor and Mayor. Members observed a minute's silence.

**C.6 - 02.18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Acting Clerk advised members that as they were being asked to approve the Precept Request for 2018/19 they should record a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest but would be allowed dispensation to remain in the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To record a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest regarding C14 – 02.18. and to approve dispensation.

**VOTING:** For 14  
Abstention 1

**C.7 - 02.18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member of the public said that recent publicity had caused the Ledbury Sports Federation concern. The Federation had been set up two years previously. It was in existence to help individual local sports groups and plan for the future in order that the next generation had the same sporting opportunities as the current generation and ideally better ones. The Federation had identified that the present facilities in Ledbury were 24 acres short of Sports England requirements. The Sports Federation had provided input to the Neighbourhood Plan to express

their concerns at the shortfall of pitches for a growing population. The Sports Federation has also contacted the Planning Officer at Herefordshire Council. The Chairman thanked the member of the public for speaking.

A member of the public explained that he had come to express concern regarding the lack of a clear statement regarding the shortfall of sports provision in the Neighbourhood Plan. The Chairman said that the Working Party had amended the Plan to reflect comments made during the public consultation. Councillor Eakin asked when it would be possible to have sight of the amended Plan. The Chairman said it could be sent out when it was available.

The member of the public queried P.10-01.18 regarding an initial meeting of the Town Promotion Group in April 2017.

## **C.8 - 02.18 MINUTES**

1. Members considered the accuracy of the Minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 4 December 2017..

Councillor Harrison questioned the accuracy of the chronology in the 'Detailed Grounds of Resistance' regarding a meeting that had taken place on 21 December 2015. Councillor Barnes said that one factual item had required correction.

Councillor Warmington alleged "falsification of the minutes written by a serial falsifier". Councillor Barnes raised an objection to this allegation as a point of order.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes C.154-12.17 to C160-12.17, be signed as a correct record.

**VOTING:**

<b>For</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Against</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Abstention</b>	<b>1</b>

2. The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7 December 2017 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.
3. The Minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting held on 18 January 2018 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

## **C.9 – 02.18 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The Chairman listed the engagements that she had attended during the last month and noted that a letter had been received from the new Captain of HMS Ledbury, Lieutenant Commander Charles Collins.

Councillor Crowe congratulated Griff Holliday on the organisation of the Ledbury Big Breakfast.

## C.10-02.18 COMMITTEE MATTERS - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1. Councillor Crowe, Chairman of the Economic Development & Planning Committee presented the Minutes held on 14 December 2017, copies having been circulated.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes P.144-12.17 to P.152-12.17, be approved and adopted.

**VOTING:**

For	12
Abstentions	3

2. Councillor Crowe, presented the Minutes of the Economic Development & Planning Committee held on 4 January 2018.

Councillor Shields, who had been in attendance at the Meeting, said that she had suggested, under Public Participation, that at least 2 Councillors attend planning meetings at Herefordshire Council, the minutes did not reflect this suggestion. Councillor Shields requested that an amendment be made.

Councillor Eakin proposed the following amendment to the Minutes P.3-01.18

1. *That 2 Councillors attend Planning Meetings at Herefordshire Council*

**VOTING:**

For	14
Against	1

Councillors Shields, Manns, Crowe and Francis volunteered to attend meetings if they were available.

Councillor Barnes said that with regard to Traffic Management P.8 - 01.18, the Council had reiterated their views regarding the extension of the 40 mph speed limit up to the Gloucester Road roundabout but another planning application had been received for a roundabout, negating these views.

Councillor Francis said that over 20 members of the public had attended a meeting, held on 23 January 2018 to discuss the Great Western Rail Franchise Public Consultation. Notes from the meeting would be circulated with the papers for the next Economic Development and Planning Committee, to be held on 8 February 2018.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes P.1-01.18 – P.14-01.18 be approved and adopted.

**VOTING:**

For	10
Abstentions	5

**C.11-02.18 COMMITTEE MATTERS - ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE**

In the absence of Councillor A Bradford Chairman of the Environment & Leisure Committee and Councillor H Wilce, Vice Chairman not having been present at the meeting, Councillor M Eager presented the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 January 2018.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes E.1-01.18 to E.13-01.18, be approved and adopted.

**VOTING:** For 11  
Abstentions 4

**C.12-02.18 COMMITTEE MATTERS - FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

Councillor Barnes, Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee presented the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2018.

Councillor Shields noted that the article for the March edition of the Focus, agreed at the ICT Working Party Meeting held on 29 January 2018 needed to be submitted the following week

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes F.1-01.18 to F.14-01.18, be approved and adopted.

**VOTING:** For 11  
Abstentions 4

**C.13- 02.18 COMMITTEE MATTERS STANDING COMMITTEE**

The above item would be covered when the meeting went into private session.

**C.14- 02.18 BUDGET AND PRECEPT**

## 1. Budget

Councillor Barnes, Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee presented the Budget for 2018/19. Additional provision had been made under Health and Safety and also ICT to cater for the new Town Council Website.

The Band D increase would amount to just over £1.00 per month.

In response to a query about the Grounds Maintenance Contract. It was confirmed that this had been renewed for a further year. Provision remained in the outlying years until 2023/24. The Grounds Maintenance Contractor carried out a different role to the Grounds staff. The Contractor carried out maintenance at the Recreation Ground, Dog Hill Wood and other areas of the Town.

**RESOLVED:** That the Budget for 2018/19 be approved, with a total net

**expenditure in the sum of  
£423,991.**

**VOTING: For 13  
Abstentions 2**

## 2. Precept Request

In view of the approved budget and estimated closing balances, it was

**RESOLVED: That Ledbury Town Council request a Precept of £375,771 from Herefordshire Council for the year 2018/19.**

**VOTING: For 13  
Abstention 2**

### **C.15 – 02.18 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Councillor Warmington said that there was nothing specific to highlight for Ledbury, recent meetings had all related to budgets.

### **C.16 – 02.18 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Chairman gave an update. The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) would shortly be going forward for Health Check.

The Plan had been amended to take into account the views of the public consultation and statutory bodies.

Following the Health Check the NDP would then come back to Full Council; the allocation of sites within the plan would enable Herefordshire Council to have a Three Year Plan.

CL341 dealt with the provision of new sports facilities, the documentation presented will reflect this when the NDP goes to Regulation 16.

Councillor Hopkins asked if Full Council could make any amendments to the Plan when it came back from the Health Check. Other than those identified as a result of the Health Check, the Chairman and Councillor Crowe reiterated that it was not for the Council to make subsequent changes to the draft Plan.

### **C.17 – 02.18 OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS**

No reports.

### **C.18 - 02.18 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

As the Clerk had been out of the office owing to illness, any correspondence would be circulated to the relevant committees the following week

**C.19 –02.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman confirmed that the next scheduled meeting of Full Council would take place on 1 March 2018. The Administrative Officer left the meeting at this point. 8.40 pm.

*PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960  
In order to consider confidential legal advice and staffing matters a resolution was passed to exclude members of the public.*

**VOTING:**      **For**            **11**  
                         **Against**        **1**  
                         **Abstentions**    **3**

**C.20 –02.18 COMMITTEE MATTERS STANDING COMMITTEE (item 13-02.18 above)**

1. The Minutes of the meeting which had taken place on 22 November 2017 had been circulated and, following detailed discussion, were approved and adopted.

**VOTING:**      **For**            **11**  
                         **Against**        **1**  
                         **Abstentions**    **3**

2. The Minutes of the meeting which had taken place on 12 January 2018 had been circulated and were approved and adopted following minor queries.

**VOTING:**      **For**            **10**  
                         **Against**        **4**  
                         **Abstentions**    **1**

3. The Chairman gave a verbal report on matters discussed at the Standing Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018.

CHAIRMAN ..... DATE.....