

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF
THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE
HELD ON
THURSDAY 14th NOVEMBER, 2013
IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

Present: Councillor: M Eager – Chairman

Councillors: R Barnes P Bettington
 A Bradford A Conway
 A Crowe D Durham
 L Fieldhouse K Francis
 C Jupp C Ridler
 J Roberts T Widdows
 R Yeoman

Also present: Mrs K Mitchell - Clerk to the Council
Mrs B Stump – Jnr. Clerical Officer
3 members of the public

E.67 – 11.13 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted for Councillors M Roberts, C Stallard Daniels and P Winter.

E.68 – 11.13 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

E.69 – 11.13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jane Horton and Viv Arscott from the Ledbury Community Solar Co-op gave a presentation to members, seeking their support for the initiative. They explained that their organisation is run by local people to boost green activities in the town, enabling local residents to invest in renewable energy. The co-op is planning to put solar panels on large roofs in the town to generate electricity that benefits local people whilst reducing the community carbon footprint. More details can be found at www.ledburysolar.coop

E.70 – 11.13 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th October, 2013, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

E.71 – 11.13 POLICE

Inspector Paul Crumpton, Lead Officer of the Ledbury Safer Neighbourhood Team was unable to attend the meeting, but had advised that he will be attending the Parish Cluster Group meeting on 11 December, of which he understands Ledbury Town Council is a member.

E.72 – 11.13 BUDGET

Members considered the budget required by the Environment and Leisure Committee for 2014/15. Each budget line was examined and highlighted for change in preparation for the joint budget meeting to be held on Thursday, 5 December.

The following points were raised for action:

Churchyard Wall - Clerk to arrange a structural survey.

Christmas Lights - Clerk to establish cost of the Christmas Lights electricity. Future funding options for the Christmas Lights to be discussed by the Christmas Lights Working Party.

War Memorial – E & L Chairman to investigate grant funding for its refurbishment.

Public Toilets - Public Toilets Working Group to compile a breakdown of costs for next budget meeting.

E.73 – 11.13 CLOSED CHURCHYARD

Members discussed the result of the Clerk's investigation into responsibility for the repairs to the Closed Churchyard walls. Having taken legal advice, it was looking likely that Ledbury Town Council would be the responsible body for its maintenance.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange a structural survey with report on the Closed Churchyard walls.

E.74 – 11.13 CHARTER MARKET

Members considered a proposal by Councillor Bradford to extend the Charter Market spaces for stallholders on both Tuesdays and Saturdays, thereby creating two rows for stalls from the Market House up to the pedestrian crossing in the High Street. Cllr Barnes also circulated an artist's impression of how the High Street could look which is being discussed as part of the Ledbury Heritage Regeneration Project.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred to the Charter Market Working Party for further discussion and their findings be presented at a future Environment & Leisure Committee meeting.

E.75 – 11.13 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON: SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER, 2013

Cllr Bettington updated the Members on the arrangements for the Switch-on and asked for volunteers to circulate with a donation box for rides on Trigger the Train in the town centre between 13.00 and 16.30 on the day. Councillor Bettington and the Working party were thanked for all their hard work in preparation for the event.

E.76 – 11.13 FLORAL DECORATIONS

The present contract for supply has expired.

RESOLVED: That tenders be invited for the supply of floral decorations.

E.77 – 11.13 RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Fieldhouse told the Members that she had made initial contact with some users of the Skate Park about setting up a Management Committee, however at the time they were busy with exams but would arrange to meet in the New Year to offer feedback on ways of fund raising; they also intend to involve younger children.

E.78 – 11.13 OUTSIDE BODIES

Members were informed that the next PACT meeting would be held on Monday, 2nd December in the Town Council Offices at 7.00pm.

E.79 – 11.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be held on 9th January, 2013. Items for inclusion in the next Agenda are: Toilets; Markets (Councillor Conway will provide a market report).

E.80 – 11.13 DEER PARK

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.

Members considered a quotation for works to trees on the Blenheim Drive Amenity Area. (Refer E.60-10.13, 1)

Refer EX22/13

RESOLVED: That the Town Council be recommended to approve the quotation for works to trees in the sum of £300.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.27pm.

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