



# LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

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## **Minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee held in the Market House on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30pm.**

### **Present:**

Cllrs R Barnes, A Bradford, M Eakin, E Fieldhouse, K Francis, A Manns, N Morris,  
J Simpson, H Wilce.

### **In attendance**

Acting Clerk – Lynda Wilcox (HALC).  
Six members of the public.

### **E.37 - 05.17 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr A Bradford was elected as Chairman, subject to the outcome of the on-going review.

### **E.38 - 05.17 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr H Wilce was elected as Vice Chairman, subject to the outcome of the on-going review.

### **E.39 - 05.17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were accepted from:

- 1.1. Cllr D. Baker.
- 1.2. Cllr A Crowe.
- 1.3. Cllr M Eager.
- 1.4. Cllr J. Roberts.
- 1.5. Cllr N. Roberts.

### **E.40 - 05.17 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Cllr R Barnes declared a non-disclosable interest in item 10 and signed the book accordingly.

### **E.41 - 05.17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member of the public suggested that town councillors might all wish to have DBS checks. The Chairman commented that the matter could be placed on an appropriate agenda for discussion.

**E.42 - 05.17 MINUTES**

It was RESOLVED to confirm the previously circulated minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 as a correct record.

**E.43 - 05.17 WORKING PARTIES AND TASK & FINISH GROUPS**

1. Events Working Party ... A report from the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 (E.1) was noted. The chairman commented on the amount of work being put into the event by everyone involved.
2. Great Ledbury Celebration ... A report from the Executive meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (E.2) was noted. The Chairman again praised the level of detailed planning being undertaken for the event.
3. Events Working Party ... A report from the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (E.3) was noted. Cllr. Francis asked for an update on the Community Brass Band. Cllr. Fieldhouse commented that the Poetry Festival had asked them to fill up a form and further discussion was required on financial matters.
4. Events Working Party ... A report from the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (E.4) was noted.
5. Community Day Task & Finish Group meeting ... No report was available. It was noted that Cllr. Francis was working with clerical officer, Mrs Stump, to ascertain whether councillors would be able to man the stands at the hall and the recreation ground.
6. Recreation Ground Working Party ... A report from the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (E.4) was noted. Cllr. Wilce handed out photos of the skate park and requested that it be included in the routine safety checks undertaken for the recreation ground. The chairman confirmed that the matter would be put on the appropriate agenda and Cllr. Francis commented that ROSPA undertook an annual safety check.
7. Town Promotion Working Party meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017... No report was available but Cllr. Francis commented that he had attended with Cllrs Barnes and Morris.

**E.44 - 05.17 CEMETERY**

1. Two local residents had requested works to trees on the New Street boundary of the cemetery. Cllr. Francis had spoken to the town council's grounds-man that day and members were shown photographs of the trees in question.
2. It was noted that one of the trees was outside the cemetery, was quite tall and had several dead branches. Cllr. Barnes commented that in February 2017, Balfour Beatty had been informed that this tree was their responsibility and required attention.
3. Cllr. Barnes confirmed that there was an on-going plan for the trees within the cemetery which were the responsibility of the town council. Tree surgeon, Ben Andrews, had carried out a survey in February and

had stated that the New Street trees were in good condition and he was reluctant to top them off as it would create a wider base. The grounds-man had expressed concerned about the two trees and did not support the tree surgeon’s report. Following detailed discussion it was RESOLVED to seek a second opinion on the trees within the cemetery that were the responsibility of the town council.

**E.45 - 05.17 RECREATION GROUND**

1. Siting and dedication of ‘Centenary Fields’ plaque ... It was noted that there was a memorial plaque currently sited on the recreation ground. Following discussion it was RESOLVED to rededicate the plaque on the occasion of the Community Day to be held on the recreation field on 10<sup>th</sup> June. A site visit would be undertaken to clarify matters and identify a location for the new Centenary Fields plaque.
  
2. It was noted that the annual playground safety inspection had been booked at a cost of £58.60.

**E.46 - 05.17 SPORTS FACILITIES**

It was noted that sports facilities had been progressed by a working group of the Town Plan. Ledbury and District Sports Association was still in existence and none of the affiliated clubs had called for meetings. The Cricket Club had acted independently and renewed their facilities. The Rugby Club had taken over their ground. Negotiations had taken place with landowners but they were reluctant to release their land for sporting facilities at the current time. The chairman felt that the town council needed to re-establish links with the sports clubs and it was therefore RESOLVED that Ian Beer would be invited to talk to a future meeting of the committee.

**E.47 - 05.17 CORRESPONDENCE - RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION**

There were no further items other than the tree issue discussed in item 8.

**E.48 - 05.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm

SIGNED ..... DATE .....