

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting
of
The Environment & Leisure Committee
held on
Thursday 13th March, 2014
in The Market House**

PRESENT: Councillor: M Eager - Chairman
Councillors: A Crowe R Barnes
A Bradford K Francis (VC)
D Durham C Jupp
C Ridler J Roberts
C Stallard-Daniels P Winter
R Yeoman

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs K Mitchell - Clerk to the Council
Mrs M Bradman - Deputy Clerk
Two members of the public

The Chairman opened the meeting by congratulating Mrs Bradman on her recent appointment as Deputy Clerk to the Council.

E.104-03.14 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted for Councillors P Bettington, A Conway and T Widdows.

E.105-03.14 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

E.106-03.14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

E.107-03.14 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th February, 2014, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

E.108-03.14 CEMETERY

The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal update on the condition of the ground at the cemetery, confirming that the issue with a delayed burial due to water logging had been resolved and that since the recent spell of dry weather the ground was dry and stable enough for the first mow of the season to have taken place.

The water drainage situation would be monitored throughout the coming year. The Clerk announced that the Grounds Officer, Mark Bateman, had achieved a 100% pass mark in the NAMM City & Guilds NPTC Certificate of Competence for the Safety Inspection and Assessment of Memorials. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman asked the Clerk to pass on their congratulations.

E.109-03.14 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Christmas lighting scheme for 2014.
Members were advised that a Working Party meeting had been arranged for 24th March, 2014. Local traders and members of the public are encouraged to attend.

E.110 -03.14 FLOODING

Concern was raised that the A449 Worcester Road at the Coddington Road junction was still flooded despite Balfour Beatty having pumped it clear on two occasions. Members feared that accidents may occur due to drivers not expecting to encounter flood water since the weather has settled. The Clerk reported that Cllr Bettington had been in contact with Balfour Beatty's Area Supervisor, who had explained that the drainage system in place on the A449 had 6" dia. pipe work and it needed to be at least 12" for the successful removal of water.

The issue of flooding in Little Marcle Road was also raised; motorists had become stranded and cars had been water damaged. It was felt that this was due in part to a lack of drain clearance by Herefordshire Council.

The condition of the town's roads was a major concern. The recent bad weather had exacerbated the problem with potholes in the town and particularly in New Street

RESOLVED: That as a matter of urgency, the Clerk telephone Balfour Beatty regarding the flooding issue on the Worcester Road, also, that a follow up letter be sent expressing the Town Council's concerns, with a request for a meeting to discuss issues over flooding and potholes.

E.111 -03.14 RECREATION GROUND

Councillor Francis reported that the Town Plan Childrens' questionnaire relating to primary school children had been completed and analysed but the secondary school questionnaire analysis was still in progress. The Town Plan group has expressed a desire to meet with other interested parties to discuss enhancement of the recreation ground. It was suggested that the report of the analysed questionnaire be circulated to council members as soon as possible so that they are able to familiarise themselves with any suggestions prior to any meeting. After further discussion it was

RESOLVED: That a Recreation Ground Working Party meeting be arranged and the representative of the Childrens' section of the Town Plan be invited to attend.

E.112 -03.14 OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports submitted.

E.113 -03.14 CORRESPONDENCE

Members had been circulated with a letter from a user of the skate park regarding the enhancement of the facility and the possibility of a Management Committee being formed. Councillor Yeoman volunteered to work with the youngsters using the skate park to develop it further. The Clerk was requested to contact the correspondent to establish a mutually convenient meeting with Councillor Yeoman and to notify any other Councillors who have expressed an interest.

E.114 -03.14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be confirmed at the Annual Council meeting in 8th May 2014.

Items for inclusion on the next agenda:-

- Flood update
- Invite a Police representative to re-establish links with the Local Policing team

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.12pm

Chairman Date