

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER, 2015

Present: Councillor: M Eager - Chairman
Councillors: D Baker R Barnes
P Bettington A Crowe
M Eakin E Fieldhouse
A Harrison A Manns
N Morris J Roberts (part)
N Roberts (part) R Yeoman

In Attendance: Mrs K Mitchell - Clerk to the Council
Mrs M Bradman - Deputy Clerk
One member of the public

E.39-10.15 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors K Francis and E Harvey.

E.40-10.15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

E.41-10.15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

E.42-10.15 BROSPA Presentation

Mr Paul Winter gave members a brief update on progress made so far with the installation of the new play equipment for the Browing Road Play Area. Mr Winter extended an invitation to the Mayor to attend the Opening Ceremony on Saturday, 14th November 2015 at 11am. Members congratulated Mr Winter and the BROSPA team on their success.

E.43-10.15 SMARTWATER PRESENTATION

PS Nick Green informed the Clerk before the meeting that DCI Tom Harding was unable to attend the meeting but hoped to be able to attend on 12th November.

E.44-10.15 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

There were two nominations for Vice-Chairman.
Councillor A Manns and Councillor P Bettington.

RESOLVED: That Councillor P Bettington be appointed Vice Chairman of the Environment & Leisure Committee for the remainder of 2015/16.

E.45-10.15 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2015, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

E.46-10.15 DEVOLVED SERVICES

Members discussed the possibility of taking on services devolved from Herefordshire Council.

The Clerk advised that a response had been received from Herfordshire Council's Localities and Engagement Officer regarding Church Lane public toilets (refer C.59-09.15) advising that they were not aware of any new decision in relation to the closure of the toilets, as a result of the current budget consultation.

RESOLVED: That a Task & Finish group be set up to assess potential services that may be devolved by Herefordshire Council and to look into any legal requirements and estimated costs.

Members: Baker, Barnes, Bettington, Crowe, Eager, Fieldhouse and Manns.

E.47-10.15 BUDGET 2016/17

Members further considered the draft budget required by the Environment and Leisure Committee for 2016/17. It was agreed that there were some budget lines that required further detailed review; these included the Cemetery, Painted Room and Ceremony Room.

RESOLVED: That the Cemetery and Historic Tours working parties review their required budgets for 2016/17.

That a Task & Finish group be set up to look at Ceremony room budget.

**Members: Bettington
Crowe, Eager and Francis.**

E.48-10.15 CEMETERY

The Deputy Clerk explained that the new electricity supply to the Chapel/Cottage which was being delivered by Western Power would require payment up front of £5,900. Western Power will dig an exploratory hole just outside the cemetery. If a supply is present at this location then a reduced cost will be incurred and the Council would receive an proportionate refunded amount. If the supply is not present at this location it would need to be connected from across the road, and the full cost would be incurred. This is normal practice when the supply can not be identified.

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL: That funds are released to pay for the works required for Western Power to install a new electricity supply for the Chapel/Cottage in the sum of £5,900.

E.49-10.15 TOWN PLAN DATA

Members were requested to comment on the Town Plan Environment and Energy Action Plan.

Q38 - Do you fee safe in ledbury

Obj: To promote Ledbury as bheing a safe place to live.

Response: Agree

Q42 - Any issues of regular concern.

Obj 2: To reduce the amount of litter in Ledbury: Recreation Ground, Town Trail, High Street, The Homend, Deer Park and New Mills.

Response: In hand. Defer full response until a decision has been made with regards to devolved services.

LTC has a dog warden scheme and will keep a watching brief on the dog mess situation.

Q43 - Issues that would make a difference.

Obj: To ensure an improved Police presence.

Response: Refer to PACT.

Obj: To improve the standard of maintenance of public places in Ledbury.

Response: LTC require clarification on this point.

Q62 - Any particular walking hazards.

Response: Refer to Access Group.

Q63 - Feedback on town centre improvment ideas

Response: Obj 1 & 2 being covered by the Traffic Management working party.

Q64 - Specific streets and walkways improvement suggestions

Response: Recreation Ground covered by LTC working party, Market House already covered by LTC. All other areas rest with Herefordshire Council.

Q72 - Which environmental schemes should be seen more in Ledbury.

Obj 1: To encourage the development of volunteer groups to implement schemes for the management of local woodland for timber and wildlife, for the development of wildlife corridors and the management of public spaces to encourage flowers and wildlife

Response: This is being enabled through Greenspaces and CPRE.

Obj 2: To encourage the Ledbury Allotment Association to promote the availability of allotments and the work they are doing in this area.

Response: This is not a role for LTC.

Obj 4: To establish a community garden group

Response: LTC does not agree and this should be co-ordinated with LIB and U3A.

Obj 5: To promote greater awareness of existing green waste collection service

Response: LTC does not agree.

E.50-10.15 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

1. Christmas Lights

Members were circulated with the report from the meeting held on 14th July 2015. Cllr Manns' attendance should be recorded.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the annual free parking day should be used for 28th November, Christmas Lights Switch On Event.

2. October Fair

Members were circulated with the report from the meeting held on 12th September 2015.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

3. Christmas Lights

Members were informed that this meeting had been postponed.

E.51-10.15 CORRESPONDENCE - for information

The Clerk informed members that a letter had been received from a resident with a request to extend the cemetery boundary fence; this will

will be considered at the the next Environment & Leisure Committee meeting on 12th November, 2015.

E.52-10.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be held on 12th November, 2015.

Councillor Bettington request that the subject of recycling is discussed at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.53pm

Chairman Date