



LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Thursday 5th April 2018 in The Community Hall – Ledbury

PRESENT:

Town Mayor: Cllr Elaine Fieldhouse

Councillors: D Baker, R Barnes, A Bradford, A Crowe, M Eager, M Eakin, K Francis, A Harrison, E Harvey, J Hopkins, A Manns, N Morris, J Roberts, N Shields and A Warmington.

In attendance: Acting Clerk – Lynda Wilcox from HALC, J. Eva (Deputy Clerk), seven local residents and one representative from the Press.

C.34 – 04.18 **Apologies for absence** ... There were none.

C.35 – 04.18 **Declarations of Interests & written requests for dispensation**
C.35 1.1 Cllr Francis declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item C.40 and signed the book accordingly.

C.35 1.2 Cllr Barnes declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item C.40 and signed the book accordingly.
There were no written requests for dispensations.

C.36 – 04.18 **Public Participation**
C.36 1.1 A local resident raised two queries on the Town Plan which the Chairman of the Economic Development and Planning Committee offered to answer under agenda item C.39 – P36-03.18, below.

C.37 – 04.18 **Minutes**

RESOLVED: to approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8th March 2018 as an accurate record, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Eakin in apologies for absence (C21-03.18).

C.38 – 04.18 **Chairman's Report and Correspondence**

C.38 1.1 The Chairman's Report included:

The Fundraising Afternoon Tea had been cancelled due to inclement weather.

The Chairman of Herefordshire Council's Civic Service had also been cancelled due to the weather.

The High Sheriff and other dignitaries had attended the re-dedication of Ledbury Recreation Ground Centenary Fields on 23rd March. It was also pleasing to see many local schoolchildren present.

The Salter's Hill Fundraising Event was very enjoyable.

- C.38 1.2 Correspondence received included:
- i) A Locality Update dated 29th March 2018.
 - ii) Cllr J Simpson's resignation.
 - iii) A Freedom of Information (FOI) request on the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
 - iv) Cotswold News.
 - v) Ledbury Twinning Association Newsletter & Honorary Membership.

C.39 - 04.18 Committee Matters - Economic Development & Planning

- C.39 1.1 Councillor Crowe (Chairman of the Committee) presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2018.

RESOLVED: to adopt all recommendations contained therein.

- C.39 1.2 Street Naming

Members considered suggested names for the Barratt Homes development of 321 dwellings on Leadon Way, Ledbury. (Note: 3 name suggestions for each of the 15 roads within the development) (Refer P.34 - 03.18)

Cllr Harvey suggested that apple varieties might be appropriate for new road names. It was noted that the locally proposed names (birds and local place names) would need to be with Balfour Beatty the following day, as an extension of time had been declined.

RESOLVED: to support the names already put forward as well as the names of apple varieties suggested by Cllr Harvey, provided that the latter names were submitted by Cllr Harvey before noon on the following day.

- C.39 1.3 Members considered paying for a road closure for the Ledbury Celebration 2018 on Sunday 8th July, and noted that the original cost of £250 had been revised to £125.

RESOLVED: to pay the £125 for the road closure.

Cllr Harvey suggested that local residents, particularly traders, should be made aware of all road closures. Furthermore, Herefordshire Council should consult the Town Council on all possible road closures.

Cllr Francis commented that road closures would be on the agenda of the next Committee meeting.

Cllr Crowe then responded to the local resident's query in agenda item C.36 above:

- i) Comments by the local resident about the promotion of the Charter Market would be put forward to the next Committee meeting which would decide how to move forward on the matter.
- ii) The next meeting of the Town Plan Working Group would be held at 7.00 pm on 1st May 2018 and would address the queries from the local resident.

C.40 - 04.18

C.40 1.1

Committee Matters - Environment and Leisure

Cllr Bradford presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th March, 2018.

RESOLVED: to adopt all recommendations contained therein.

- ii) It was clarified under item E.27-03.18 Dog Hill Wood, that there was to be an installation of a new 'picnic table' rather than a bench and the minute should be altered to reflect the clarification.
- iii) It was noted that ex Cllr Simpson had consulted the public on the location of the proposed bench at the Homend (E.28-03.18) and met with reluctance from local business owners to have benches near their properties.
- iv) Public Toilets (E.30-03.18). Councillor Harvey declared a non pecuniary interest and signed the book accordingly. She then commented:
 - a) Future discussions about the toilets should involve direct discussion with Love Ledbury.
 - b) The toilets had been re-opened on Good Friday morning.
 - c) Love Ledbury would be looking to the Town Council for support in running the toilets or, indeed, taking them over.
- v) Members considered the costs for parking signage at the Recreation Ground (Refer E.31-03.18).

RESOLVED: to request 3 quotes for two signs, clips and posts.

- vi) Members considered updated costings for Christmas Lighting displays (Refer E.32-03.18).

RESOLVED: to accept the quote from Gala Lighting in the sum of £11,995 which included icicles on the Clock Tower and, to pay a further £450 for icicles on the Alms Houses.

C.41 - 04.18

Committee Matters - Finance and General Purposes

Councillor Morris declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item C.41 1.1.

RESOLVED: to consider C.41 1.1 and C.41 1.2 in the confidential session at the conclusion of the meeting:

- C.41 1.1 Consideration of the Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2018 and recommendations contained therein.
- C.41 1.2 Grant application for Ledbury Community Day 2018.

C.42 – 04.18

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

There was detailed discussion, during which a vote to suspend Standing Orders to allow members to speak more than once was defeated.

- i) Cllrs Barnes, Crowe, Eakin and Fieldhouse spoke strongly in favour of approving the papers so as to take the NDP forward to Regulation 16 and enable the town to have a legal document for use in securing considered development for the future rather than be at the mercy of predatory developers.

- ii) Cllrs Harvey, Harrison, Hopkins and Shields thought that further time was required to look into the detail of some aspects.
- iii) Cllrs Baker, Bradford and Manns were concerned about the lack of detail around social housing and the Chairman explained that this was covered by Herefordshire Council's Core Strategy.

RESOLVED: to approve all relevant papers for submission to Herefordshire Council for Regulation 16 Consultation on a named vote:

FOR: Cllrs: R Barnes, A Crowe, M Eager, M Eakin, E Fieldhouse, K Francis, A Manns.

AGAINST: Cllrs: L Harvey and N Morris.

ABSTENTIONS: Cllrs: D Baker, A Bradford, A Harrison, J Hopkins, J Roberts, N Shields, A Warmington.

C.43 – 04.18
C43.1

Herefordshire Councillors' Reports

Councillor Warmington reported:

- a) Some trees were being cut down in Queen's Wood.
- b) The outsourcing of museums and libraries would be discussed the following Monday.

Councillors Bradford and Morris left the room.

C.44 – 04.18
C.44.1

Outside Bodies ... reports from meetings attended by Cllrs Cllr Eager had attended the Market Towns Forum and commented that the Town Clerk of Leominster, Paul Russell, who also clerked the Forum, had resigned.

C.45 – 04.18
C.45.1

Meetings Schedule

Members considered changing meeting dates to a Wednesday for the interim period pending the appointment of a new Clerk because the Acting Clerk was unable to be present at meetings on a Thursday evening, due to prior commitments. However, some councillors would not be able to attend on a Wednesday.

RESOLVED: to maintain meetings on a Thursday evening.

C.46 – 04.18

General Correspondence - for information only, the Chairman reported:

- a) An email from Cllr Harvey concerning the forthcoming Judicial Review Court Hearing that she had circulated to all parish/town clerks across Herefordshire and Oxfordshire.
- b) Other items of general correspondence would be circulated by the office.

C.47 – 04.18

Date of the next meeting

The next scheduled Full Council meeting would be held on 10th May, 2018.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

In order to consider confidential employment matters, a resolution was passed to exclude members of the public.

Due to the late hour it was RESOLVED to postpone discussion on the following item together with Agenda Items C.41 1.1 and C.41 1.2 - Finance & General Purposes (above) to an Extraordinary Meeting to be held on Thursday 12th April

C.48 – 04.18

Employment Matters

- C.48.1 Consideration of Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 12th March 2018 and recommendations contained therein.

- C.48.2 Consideration of Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 28th March 2018 and any recommendations contained therein.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm

SIGNED DATE