

**LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING**  
**OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018**

**Present:** Councillor A Bradford – Chairman  
Councillors: R Barnes A Crowe  
M Eager K Francis  
N Morris

**In Attendance:** Mrs K Mitchell – Clerk to the Council  
5 Members of the public

**E.23 - 03.18 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Fieldhouse and A Manns.

**E.24 - 03.18 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

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

**E.25 - 03.18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A local resident spoke in detail of his concerns relating to tree safety issues, and lack of maintenance on the Town Trail at Woodleigh Road Bridge. He felt that Herefordshire Council was failing in its duty to maintain the trees resulting in disease and poor health; two trees were posing an imminent danger to his adjacent property and to people using the trail and should be felled. The resident had commissioned a private report which would be progressed with Herefordshire Council and copied to the ward member and Town Council for information.

**E.26 - 03.18 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting held on 15 February 2018, were confirmed as a correct record.

**E.27 - 03.18 DOG HILL WOOD**

Members agreed a date (4pm on 26 March) for a site visit to identify a location for the installation of a new bench on the 'Cricket Pitch', to replace the one damaged by fire in the summer of 2017. (refer E.52-06.17; E.69-09.17, 1 & E.92-11.17, 3)

**E.28 - 03.18 TOWN CENTRE**

1. To consider installation costs, if available for:
  - (i) Replacement of two hanging basket columns in the town centre. (refer E.19-02.18).

(ii) Bench outside Cottage Hospital.

Items (i) and (ii) were deferred due to costs not having been received in time for the meeting.

2. Grit bins - Referring to E.8-01.18, Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) The Chairman reported that having initially indicated that they would provide the grit for parish grit bins, BBLP had subsequently advised that there would be a charge for doing so. The Chairman had contacted BBLP again and had ascertained that there was still a possibility of them providing grit. It was therefore decided to defer a decision on the purchase of grit bins until such time as confirmation is received in writing.

### **E.29 - 03.18 BENCH**

Members considered a request from a local resident to place a Golden Wedding Anniversary bench in Ledbury. A preferred location had been identified on Herefordshire Council property (Riverside Walk - permission required from Herefordshire Council), but the applicant would consider other locations deemed suitable by the Town Council.

Following discussion, members suggested either the Recreation Ground (replacing an old bench) or Queens Walk Garden (permission required from Herefordshire Council).

### **E.30 - 03.18 PUBLIC TOILETS**

*Cllr Morris declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as a member of Love Ledbury and signed the book accordingly.*

The Chairman relayed concerns raised by members of the public regarding the fact that the public toilets in Bye Street have been closed for an estimated 12-18 months; many felt it was a wasted asset and that steps should be taken to have the toilets re-opened. To this end the Chairman had contacted Herefordshire Council to request that the matter be investigated with the Licence holder, Love Ledbury.

Members echoed concerns about the length of time the toilets had been closed and queried whether the terms of the licence were being adhered to, and if so, whether it should be revoked.

Whilst it was noted that there was no provision in the 2018/19 budget to operate the facility, it was suggested that the Clerk contact other Market Towns which had taken over the running of public toilets to ascertain likely running costs.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED: That a letter be sent to Herefordshire Council raising concerns about the ongoing closure of the toilets and to seek clarification as to the status of the licence with Love Ledbury.**

**E.31 - 03.18 RECREATION GROUND**

Members discussed the introduction of parking restrictions/signage for the Recreation Ground car park to alleviate issues with all day parking.

**RESOLVED: That a maximum parking limit of 2hrs be recommended.  
That costings for 2 signs be obtained for approval at the next Full Council meeting.**

**E.32 - 03.18 WORKING PARTIES**

Members received the following reports, copies having been circulated, and considered the recommendations contained therein:

- (i) Christmas Lights Working Party meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.  
Referring to item 1, Christmas Lights preferred quotation,

it was **RESOLVED: To recommend Gala Lighting - Option 2, subject to approval of updated figures for Full Council.**

**That the report be adopted.**

- (ii) Cemetery Working Party meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018.  
Referring to items 4.1 to 4.2 – costs for structural survey and replacement cap to be obtained from the company which carried out the recent repairs to the pier and wall.

it was **RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved and the report adopted.**

- (iii) Recreation Ground Working party meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.  
Referring to item 2.

Recommendation b: Clarification to be sought from the Police regarding use of CCTV footage where there is no audio.

Recommendation g: Cllrs Barnes, Bradford and Crowe to represent the E & L committee at a meeting with Leadon Bank. Police also to be invited to attend.

it was **RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved and the report adopted.**

- (iv) 1918 Armistice Commemoration Working party held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

it was **RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved and the report adopted.**

**E.33 - 03.18 STOP THE DROP LITTER CAMPAIGN**

The Town Council is requested to consider signing up to Herefordshire Council's **Stop the Drop** Litter Pledge. Further details available at [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/stoppeddrop](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/stoppeddrop)

**RESOLVED: To sign up to Herefordshire Council's Stop the Drop litter Pledge.**

**E.34 - 03.18 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and noted.

Letter from local resident regarding missing swings in Saxon Way play area. Clerk to contact Herefordshire Council to enquire as to the whereabouts of the swing seats and reason for removal. Possible option to apply to the Town Council's Participatory Budgeting/Community chest for replacements.

Letter from a local resident regarding safety of trees on the Town Trail at the Woodleigh Road Bridge. Discussion held under Minute E.25 - 03.18 refers.

**E.35 - 03.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be confirmed at the Annual Council meeting currently scheduled for 10th May, 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.23pm.