

**LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JULY 2013**

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**PRESENT:** Councillor: M Eager – Chairman  
Councillors: R Barnes P Bettington  
A Bradford A Conway  
A Crowe K Francis  
L Fieldhouse C Jupp  
C Ridler J Roberts  
C Stallard Daniels P Winter  
T Widdows R Yeoman

Also Present: Mrs K Mitchell, Clerk  
Ms D Baldwin, Deputy Clerk  
2 Members of the Public

**E.25 - 07.13 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor P Watts.

**E.26 - 07.13 INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest made at this point of the meeting.

**E.27- 07.13 PRESENTATION**

Members received a presentation from representatives of Ledbury Food Bank. The Ledbury Food bank was initially created by the PCC of St Michaels to see if there was a need. The size of the problem was soon realised and how those people at the bottom of the financial ladder were really suffering in the current economic climate. With the Social Services moving to Hereford, the people requiring their services struggle to find the money to get there. With the support of all churches in Ledbury working together and 40 volunteers the food bank continues to provide essential food to people in need. To qualify for assistance applicants need to produce a voucher which is given to them by an authorised body such as Age UK, CAB, Festival Housing, District nurses, Midwives and other health organisations. When asked how the Town Council could help the representatives suggested the following.

- The need for new larger premises
- To try and influence Herefordshire Council to hold more CAB office hours in Ledbury
- To recognise that a grant may be needed in the future.
- To reinstate a signing-on office in Ledbury

Members gave their thanks and appreciation to the organisers for all their hard work.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council give their support to the Ledbury Food Bank and request that Herefordshire Council look at reinstating a signing on office in Ledbury**

#### **E.28 - 07.13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

#### **E.29 - 07.13 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2013, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **E.30 - 07.13 DOG HILL WOOD**

Members considered the replacement of the burnt out bin on the `cricket pitch` and the increased litter problem in Dog Hill Wood. Quotations were reviewed for replacement bins and also a new bin for the Monkey Island area, six bins in total. The prices were thought to be expensive, therefore Councillor Widdows suggested that sponsorship from local businesses be sought to purchase bins and offered to approach the Helping Hand Company. Councillor Yeoman suggested that the burnt out bin on the cricket pitch be replaced with a bin held in storage at the cemetery.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council look into gaining local business sponsorship for the replacement of 6 litter bins in Dog Hill Woods and if unsuccessful investigate other less expensive options**

**FURTHER RESOLVED: That a litter bin from storage be used to replace the burnt out litter bin on the cricket pitch area**

#### **E.31 - 07.13 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

As the maintenance contract for the amenity areas is due to expire on the 30<sup>th</sup> November members were asked to consider how they wish to proceed. Councillor Francis reported that he and the Town Council office had received excellent reports on the current contractor from local residents on the outstanding job he was doing. In view of this, Councillor Yeoman suggested that, as the current contract has an extension clause, another twelve months be offered to the current contractor.

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the extension of the current contractor's contract by twelve months and review the contact early next year

### **E.32 - 07.13 WORKING PARTIES**

1. Councillor Eager presented the report from the Cemetery Working Party meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

**RESOLVED:** That the Report be noted and that the Town Council be recommended to approve any recommendations contained therein

2. Councillor Bettington presented the report from the Christmas Lights Working Party meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

Councillor Jupp highlighted the action on agenda item 3 that was: seek permission from Herefordshire Council to extend the Charter Market area, was not needed as the Charter afforded the Town Council the right to hold a market anywhere within the Town.

**RESOLVED:** That the Report, as amended, be noted, and that the Town Council be recommended to approve any recommendations contained therein

### **E.33 - 07.13 COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS**

Members reviewed the list of committee functions. Although the Planning and Economic Development Committee have requested that the Charter Market be transferred to their committee, members felt that it should remain under the banner of Environment & Leisure.

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the existing list of functions for the Environment & Leisure Committee.

### **E.34 - 07.13 COMMUNITY DOG WARDEN SCHEME**

The Deputy Clerk gave an update on the Community Dog Warden Scheme. There are currently three volunteers, who are acting as Community Dog Wardens, two of which have been very effective in their area. The third volunteer is having problems in approaching people due to the behaviour problems of her dogs, but is willing to continue as a monitor. More volunteers are needed and Craig Sandman Team Leader of the Community Protection Team at Herefordshire Council has arranged a visit next week to discuss a plan of action. The Ledbury reporter has also offered to run an article to help raise awareness of the project and aide the recruitment of further volunteers.

### **E.35 - 07.13 NEW MILLS PLAY AREA**

Councillor Eager gave a report on the Browning Road Play Area meeting held at the Community Centre on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2013 to investigate the response in forming a Residents Action Group. This group is needed in order to apply for a grant for the much needed refurbishment of the play areas. Councillors Eager and Winter attended the meeting with the support of Fran White from Herefordshire Council. From the attendance of seventeen residents, the feedback was very positive and a meeting has been arranged for the following Monday, where the formation of the group will be decided. The owner of an adjoining property, who was experiencing problems from the play area and had written to the Town Council, also attended the meeting. Her issues were addressed and will be dealt with by the Resident Action Group. The group will be known as BROSPA (Browning Road Outdoor Space Play Action).

### **E.36 - 07.13 TOWN CENTRE**

#### **Tilley's Alley**

Councillor Bradford asked members to consider the cobbling of Tilley's Alley and suggested that it could be incorporated in with the repairs to the cobbles in Church lane. It was suggested that this be raised with Balfour Beatty on their take over from Amey Herefordshire and to include Cabbage Walk and Skip Alley onto the list.

**RESOLVED: That the request to repair the Cobbles to Church Lane and the surface of Tilley's Alley be re-submitted to Balfour Beatty and the surfacing of Cabbage Walk and Skip Alley be added to the request**

**E.37 - 07.13 PACT MEETINGS**

Councillor Crowe informed members of the date for the new PACT meeting on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> July and extended an invite to all Councillors. This initial meeting is to establish the way forward and by what format the meetings will be run.

**RESOLVED: That the date of the meeting be noted**

**E.38 - 07.13 OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no Outside Bodies reports.

**E.39 - 05.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA**

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....