

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 26th MAY, 2016

Present: Councillor: M Eager - Chairman
Councillors: D Baker R Barnes
A Bradford A Crowe
M Eakin E Fieldhouse
K Francis A Manns
N Morris J Roberts
N Roberts R Yeoman

In Attendance: Mrs M Bradman - Deputy Clerk
Four members of the public

E.34-05.16 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors P Bettington and M Eakin.

E.35-05.16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

E.36-05.16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A local resident voiced her concerns over: 1) the installation of BBQ plinths in Dog Hill wood and the potential fire risk, and 2) she urged members not to take on the public toilets in Bye Street as she felt that it was not making enough money to cover costs and would not be good value for money for the town.

A regular user of the Ledbury swimming pool asked the Town Council to address his concerns that Halo had misled people during the information day on 2nd April 2016 regarding the refurbishment of the swimming pool, specifically the changing rooms. He also commented on the Bye Street toilets, suggesting that should the Town Council take on responsibility for the facility, provision be made for refurbishment every 5-10 years.

E.37-05.16 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2016, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

E.38-05.16 DOG HILL WOOD

Members considered a proposal to enhance the 'Cricket Pitch' area, with picnic tables, BBQ platforms and a hot ash bin.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council install two picnic benches, one disabled access picnic bench and one metal lined bin on the 'Cricket Pitch'; to be funded from reserves and paid back in the next financial year 2017/18.

E.39-05.16 TOWN CENTRE

1. Members considered a request for the Town Council to take on responsibility for the public toilets in Bye Street, currently being run by 'Love Ledbury'. Following extensive discussion and in light of there being more detail to consider, it was

RESOLVED: That a Task and Finish group research all options for both Bye Street and Church Lane toilets to include a 5 and 10 year refurbishment plan with a view to an asset transfer in the next financial year 2017/18. Meanwhile responsibility for the Bye Street toilets should remain with Love Ledbury.

Task and Finish group members: Cllrs Barnes, Bradford, Crowe, Eager, Fieldhouse, Francis, Manns and Morris.

2. Ledbury in Bloom

Members considered making a financial contribution towards perennial planting in and around the town centre.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council contribute £650 towards the Ledbury in Bloom perennial planting scheme, subject to receiving a planting plan.

For expediency the Chairman brought the following item forward.

E.40-05.16 REFURBISHMENT OF LEDBURY SWIMMING POOL

Members considered a reply from Sport England regarding 'village-style' changing rooms as a result of the resolution taken at the Annual Town meeting on 28th April, 2016.

Recommendation to Full Council: That a further letter be sent to Halo expressing concerns that the residents of Ledbury had been misled during the information day on 2nd April, 2016.

8.30pm Councillor Francis left the chamber at this point in the meeting.

E.41-05.16 CEMETERY

Members considered the approval of the purchase of a replacement strimmer.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council approve the purchase of a replacement strimmer in the sum of £500.00.

8.33pm Councillor Francis rejoined the meeting.

E.42-05.16 DOG FOULING

1. Members were requested to consider purchasing 82,000 degradable poop scoop bags in the sum of £700 plus VAT.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council approve the purchase of 82,000 degradable poop scoop bags in the sum of £700 plus VAT.

2. Members were requested to consider an email from a local resident concerning dog fouling in Dog Hill Wood and along Riverside Walk.

Following discussion it was agreed that BBLP should be notified of the issue along Riverside Walk and that the complainant be kept informed of any recommendations.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council purchase and install two 'No Fouling' dog signs and one bin, also, to investigate the cost of installing a hard drive CCTV camera. Councillors Eager and Bradford to liaise over placement of the signage.

E.43-05.16 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

1. Members considered a letter of complaint that a stile on footpath ZB19 is not user friendly.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council write to the landowner asking if he would be willing to replace the stile with an alternative user friendly design.

2. P3 Scheme - members received a letter relating to the supply of materials for works on Public Rights of Way.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

E.44-05.16 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

1. Recreation Ground

Members received the report, copies having been circulated, from the meeting held on 19th April, 2016 and considered the recommendations contained therein.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council consider applying for funding for Item 2 (d) Solar Lighting via the Tesco Carrier Bag grant scheme and that Items 3 & 4 be approved.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

2. Cemetery

Members received the report, copies having been circulated, from the meeting held on 25th April, 2016 and considered the recommendations contained therein.

Referring to Item 5. Memorial Benches:

It was **RESOLVED:** That the Town Council be recommended not to allow memorial plaques to be placed on Council owned seating.

Referring to Item 6. Boundary wall,

it was **RESOLVED:** That the matter be referred back to the working party to identify and prioritise repairs to the Oakland Drive boundary wall.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the report be noted and that the recommendations, as amended, be approved and adopted.

3. October Fair

Members received the report, copies having been circulated, from the meeting held on 10th May, 2016 and considered the recommendations contained therein. Copies having been circulated.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the report be noted and the recommendations contained therein be approved and adopted.

4. Christmas Lights

Members received a report, copies having been circulated, from the meeting held on 24th May, 2016 and considered the recommendations contained therein. Members were notified that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 5th July 2016. Copies having been circulated.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the report be noted and the recommendations contained therein be approved and adopted.

5. Confirmation of Working Parties:

RESOLVED: That the following working parties be retained:

Cemetery, Christmas Lights, Recreation Ground, Ledbury Commemoration, Events.

That the following working parties change to Task & Finish Groups: October Fair, Historic Tours.

6. Working Party Membership:

RESOLVED: That working party membership be made up as follows:

CEMTERY

**Councillors R Barnes,
A R Bradford, M Eager,
K Francis, A Manns,
N Roberts.**

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

**Councillors D Baker,
A R Bradford, A Crowe,
M Eager, E Fieldhouse,
A Manns, N Morris,
J Roberts, N Roberts.**

RECREATION GROUND

**Councillors D Baker,
R Barnes, A Crowe,
M Eager, E Fieldhouse,
A Manns, R Yeoman.**

**LEDBURY
COMMEMORATION**

**Councillors R Barnes,
M Eager, A Manns.**

EVENTS

**Councillors D Baker,
R Barnes, A Crowe,
M Eager, E Fieldhouse,
K Francis, A Manns,
J Roberts.**

E.45-05.16 UPDATE- for information only

Lengthsman Scheme - The signed contract for 2016/17 had been received from Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP).

Pytel Sculpture - BBLP's Senior Bridge Engineer has reviewed the second engineers report and that the installation could now go ahead.

Grass Cutting - The Town Council's contractor had started infill cuts. The quality of BBLP's cuts were questioned by some councillors, the Deputy Clerk was asked to address the issue with BBLP and the Town Council's contractor.

E.46-05.16 CORRESPONDENCE - for information

None received.

E.47-05.16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be held on 30th June, 2016.

There were no items raised for inclusion on the next agenda.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.33pm

Chairman Date