

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 8th March 2018 in
The Community Hall – Ledbury

Present:

Councillors: E Fieldhouse (Chairman), R. Barnes, A Crowe, M Eager, K Francis, A. Harrison, E Harvey, J Hopkins, A Manns, N Morris, J Roberts, N Shields, A Warmington.

In attendance:

Acting Clerk – Lynda Wilcox from HALC.

Four local residents.

One representative from the Press.

C21 -03.18 Apologies for absence

Were received from Councillors Manns and Eakins.

Councillor Simpson had indicated her intention to resign as a councillor to the Town Clerk and would be writing to the Chairman tomorrow.

C22 – 03.18 Declarations of Interest & written requests for dispensation

Councillor Harvey declared a pecuniary interest in item 13.3.

C23 – 03.18 Public Participation

The Chairman read a statement about a crowd funding email concerning the Judicial Review process which had been circulated by Councillor Harvey to all Herefordshire and Oxfordshire parish and town councils. Following a query from a local resident, the Chairman clarified the current measures in place in relation to Councillor Harrison and committee meetings of the Town Council.

C24 -03.18 Minutes

Members RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 1st February 2018 as an accurate record.

C25 -03.18 Chairman's Report and Correspondence

Resignation of Town Clerk ... The Chairman reported that the Town Clerk would be leaving at the end of March and would be taking up a new job in a neighbouring town council.

Councillor Barnes proposed a vote of thanks for the dedicated twenty plus years that the Town Clerk had given to the council and the town and for the professional way in which she had conducted herself.

A named vote was requested:

For (10): Councillors: Barnes, Bradford, Crowe, Eager, Fieldhouse, Francis, Harrison, Harvey, Roberts and Hopkins.

Abstentions (3): Councillors Morris, Shields and Warmington.

It was RESOLVED to pass the vote of thanks.

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) ... The health-check had been completed and only a few minor amendments were required. A meeting with the planning consultant and Herefordshire Council's NDP officer would be held on Monday, after which the NDP would be available.

In response to a query from Councillor Morris, the Chairman commented that she did not have the date to hand but was in regular communication with the planning consultant.

C.26 -03.18 Committee Matters – Economic Development & Planning Committee

Members received the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2018 and considered the recommendations contained therein:

Councillor Crowe presented the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February.

Councillor Harrison requested one suggested amendment to item 3 (1.) ... delete ' 'opportune' and replace with 'opportunistic'.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes with the one amendment.

C.27 -03.18 Committee Matters – Environment and Leisure Committee

Members received the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2018 and considered the recommendations contained therein:

Councillor Bradford presented the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February and congratulated the work put in by all committee members.

Councillor Harvey commented that she hoped the cemetery area had been considered as part of the NDP, as well as the allocation of land for burials in the future.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes.

C.28 -03.18 Committee Matters – Finance and General Purposes Committee

Members received the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2018 and considered the recommendations contained therein:

Councillor Harvey requested that item 4 (legal costs for Judicial Review) be voted on at the next meeting because she was not sure about moving funds between accounts but the item was included in the resolution for the adoption of the minutes.

Councillor Harvey commented that she had sent copies of her concerns to all councillors about payments made in relation to the Judicial Review and asked that those concerns be brought to the attention of the Internal Auditor.

F.20 – 02.18 Subscriptions ... Councillor Harvey asked for a named vote on the resolution to renew the annual subscription to HALC:

For (7): Councillors Barnes, Bradford, Crowe, Eager, Fieldhouse, Francis, Roberts.

Against (5): Councillors Harrison, Harvey, Morris, Shields, Warmington.

Abstention (1): Councillor Hopkins.

It was RESOLVED to pay the annual subscription to HALC in the sum of £1914.97.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes.

C29. -0318 Herefordshire Councillors' Reports

No reports were available.

Councillor Warmington commented that there was a meeting of Herefordshire Council the following day.

C30. -0318 Outside Bodies

The following reports were received from meetings attended by:

Councillors Crowe and Morris reported on a PACT meeting.

Councillor Francis had attended an Executive Committee meeting of HALC at which new requirements under General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) were discussed.

C31. -0318 General Correspondence

No correspondence was mentioned.

C32. -0318 Date of the next meeting

The next scheduled Full Council meeting would be held on 5th April 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.*

C33. -03.18 Employment Matters

Members received and RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 31st January 2018.

Members received and RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 27th February 2018.

In accordance with her declaration of interest at agenda item C22. -3.18, Councillor Harvey left the room.

Members received an update on the Judicial Review proceedings:

It was noted that snow had prevented the hearing going ahead on March 1st in Bristol. A new date was to be scheduled between 17th and 20th April, possibly in Cardiff.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm

CHAIRMAN..... DATE