

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 18 JULY 2024**

PRESENT: Councillors Harvey, Hughes and Newsham

ALSO PRESENT: Angela Price – Town Clerk

R75. AOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chowns and Morris and Councillor Furlonger who had been requested to attend the meeting as a stand-in for Councillor Morris(as the vice-chair of the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee).

R76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

R77. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Clerk advised that she would be on leave on 5 September 2024 but could join the meeting virtually if required. It was agreed that due to the nature of the business to be discussed it was highly likely that a meeting will need to be held prior to 5 September and therefore this meeting may be moved to an alternative date.

RESOLVED:

To note that the next meeting of the Resources Committee is scheduled for 5 September 2024, but that due to the matter to be discussed it is likely that an extraordinary meeting of the committee will be held before that date.

R78. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public are excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

R79.

TO CONSIDER URGENT STAFFING MATTERS

The Clerk provided Members of the Resource Committee with updates on the progress in relation to the staffing matter

RESOLVED:

1. That the actions of the Clerk in relation to the appointment of Hoople to undertake the investigation on behalf of Ledbury Town Council at a cost of £475.00 per hour and £25.00 per hour for transcribing notes be endorsed.
2. That in the interim progress reports be shared with the Chair of the panel that will be receiving the investigation report.
3. That the Clerk contact Hoople to request an indicative time scale and budget.
4. That going forward those panel Members will only be appraised of necessary information in the context of the ongoing process, and that the Clerk manage the process with the support of Hoople.
5. That the panel to receive the investigation report and act as a disciplinary hearing, if required, be made up of three Members of the Resources Committee to include the Mayor as the Chair.
6. That an Appeals Committee be stood up with the two remaining members of the Resources Committee and Councillor Furlonger, as he had been provided with copies of the paperwork for this meeting, and that the Deputy Mayor Chair this panel.
7. That the Clerk make it clear to Hoople that there are constraints on availability of the Panel Members and that an early outcome to the investigation would be welcomed.
8. That Committee Members be contacted to establish which councillors would be available for the initial panel meeting.
9. That the Mayor send a letter to the Councillor who had raised this issue with staff members asking that they understand the concerns and where their actions fall short and undertake not to repeat this.

The meeting ended at 6.54 pm.

Signed Dated