



BEWDLEY Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6th FEBRUARY 2017 AT 7.30PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY

PRESENT

Councillor Mr J Beeson (Mayor)
Councillor Mrs L Candlin
Councillor Mr S Clee
Councillor Mrs A Coleman
Councillor Mr R Coleman
Councillor Mrs C Edginton-White
Councillor Mrs E Davies
Councillor Mr P Edmundson
Councillor Miss M Fishwick
Councillor Mr D Killingworth
Councillor Mr G Yarranton

In attendance: Mr Nick Farress – Town Clerk
Mr David Moore – Treasurer
Mrs Barbara Byng – Assistant Town Clerk

- 8406 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Kyle Daisley Community Engagement and Events Officer and District Councillors Rod Wilson and Becky Vale.
- 8407 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None
- 8408 COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS**
None
- 8409 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT**
The Mayor reported on a relatively quiet month, but events of note included the Holocaust Memorial service at St Mary's Church. The Mayor also reported that the former Barclays Bank building had now been purchased by another party but it remained the Council's priority to acquire property, and that the formation of the Neighbourhood Plan objectives and policies was progressing well.
- 8410 MINUTES AGREED**
That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 3rd January 2017 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.
- 8411 ACCOUNTS**
The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for January 2017 drawn up by the Treasurer, together with the balances held at Unity Bank, Cambridge Building Society, Scottish Widows and HM Revenue & Customs and the current budgetary position as to income and expenditure for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st January 2017.

AGREED

- (i) that the revised schedule of accounts be approved and signed by the Mayor with authority thereby given for the requisite cheques to be drawn;
- (ii) that the cash balances be noted as follows:
 - with Unity Bank current account of £78,535.45
 - with Unity Bank deposit account of £10, 551.55
 - with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,011.53
 - with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,000.00
 - with HMRC (VAT) of £2,564.71
- (iii) that the reconciliation statement be noted;
- (iv) that the Council’s income and expenditure for the current financial year from 1st April 2016 to 31st January 2017 be noted.

8412

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Candlin presented the Minutes of the Community Development Committee held on the 16th January 2017.

The Town Clerk agreed to follow up on asking Tesco to use smaller vehicles for deliveries and on the safety of their car park. Councillor Edginton-White called for any volunteers interested in being a Community Flood Volunteer to contact the Town Clerk’s office, and also praised the Community Engagement and Events Officer for his excellent ongoing work.

AGREED

That the Minutes be accepted and actions noted.

8413

BEWDLEY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Councillor Killingworth presented a report in relation to the current status of Bewdley Development Trust, and questioned a payment of £10,000 made to them by Wyre Forest District Council. Members agreed to consider the content of the report and make any comments/suggestions to the Town Clerk.

8414

ADMINISTRATION MATTERS AND DIARY DATES

The Town Clerk brought the following administrative matters and diary dates to the attention of the Council:

- (i) 20th Feb, 4.30pm Policy and Resources Committee
- (ii) 20th Feb, 5.30pm Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- (iii) 23rd Feb, Wribbenhall By-Election
- (iv) 6th March, Planning and Full Council
- (v) 11th March, Greener Living Fair, St George’s Hall
- (vi) 18th March, Neighbourhood Plan Objectives and Policies Consultation, WPR

The Town Clerk also encouraged Members to respond to the “Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire” consultation, which includes a greater role for Kidderminster Hospital in the provision of non-emergency surgery.

The meeting was closed at 8.30pm

Signed.....
Mayor
6th March 2017

Town Council Meeting - Public Period

Questions raised by members of the public

Mr Phil Mansell of Welch Gate asked about the following:

- Use of the Medical Centre car park for public parking. The Mayor reported that we have secured use of the car park for special events, but ultimately it is private property.
- Speed bump at the entrance to the car park.
- Diffusion tubes for monitoring air quality in Welch Gate. It was believed that Gladman were doing the monitoring by attaching the tubes to a lamp post in Welch Gate. Wyre Forest planners were aware of this and had stated that Gladman were within their rights to do this, subject to getting permission from whoever owned the infrastructure to which the tubes were attached.
- CCTV and whether this was “up to standard”. The Town Council are currently in talks with the Community Safety Partnership about the future of CCTV in the town.

Mr Owen Raybould of Dog Lane raised a concern about a spot light in Dog Lane car park shining into houses on Dog Lane. The Mayor agreed to follow this up with District Councillor Becky Vale.

Mr Rod Stanczyszyn from Dry Mill Lane raised concern about the apparent underhand tactics being deployed by Gladman to collect data by posing as officers from other organisations. The Town Council deplored these actions should this be the case and agreed to contact planners at WFDC to raise the issue.

Councillor Anna Coleman wished to advise that there is a petition currently available in many Bewdley shops calling for parking charges to be frozen in Bewdley, and objecting to the proposed rise in parking charges being introduced by Wyre Forest DC from October 2017.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

The police representative sent apologies and referred to the monthly report which was circulated.

District and County Councillor Reports

Councillor Yarranton reported that he had arranged for a 300m section of Northwood Lane to be resurfaced, and that he had asked for Kidderminster Road between Beale’s Corner and Catchems End to be included in the 2017/18 programme of road improvements. He also reported that a further £200 of his WCC divisional funding had been allocated for Bewdley’s Christmas lights for Wribbenhall.

Councillor Killingworth extended his and this Council’s best wishes to District Councillor Rod Wilson who is undergoing surgery shortly. Cllr Killingworth also expressed disappointment that the County Councillor for Bewdley had not attended meetings for some months, particularly following his election to the post of Police and Crime Commissioner. Cllr Edginton-White echoed this stating that there were issues to be addressed in the Bewdley County division, whilst Cllr Yarranton was clearly on top of issues in Wribbenhall. For instance, Cllr Roger Coleman asked why Sandy Bank was being dug up again following recent Tarmac-ing.

District Councillor Becky Vale submitted a written report, the content of which was noted.