



# BEWDLEY Town Council

## **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING** **HELD ON 2nd OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.00PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY**

### **PRESENT**

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

In attendance: Nick Farress – Town Clerk  
Kyle Daisley – Community Engagement Officer  
Louisa Coleman – Young Mayor  
District and County Councillor Becky Vale  
County Councillor Ian Hardiman  
6 Members of the Public

**8512**

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors Mrs E Davies and Mr J Byng, District Councillor Rod Wilson and David Moore – Treasurer.

**8513**

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**8514**

### **COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS**

None

**8515**

### **MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT**

The Mayor reported on three events in particular. Bewdley Youth Festival was an incredible showcase of local young talent and thanks are to go to Peter Barnett and the Youth Festival Committee. The Mayor cut the ribbon at Bewdley Town FC's pitch in Ribbesford following drainage work, and a meeting of the Churches Together group was held in the Mayor's Parlour which was to thank the churches for their wonderful Mayor's civic service.

The Young Mayor reported that the Youth Forum had asked why the District Council do not provide recycling bins in the town and updated the meeting on her charity event in Riverside North Park. Details will follow.

**8516**

### **MINUTES AGREED**

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

**8517**

**ACCOUNTS**

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for September 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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 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 £43,688.49
  - with Unity Bank deposit account of £10, 554.17
  - with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,252.29
  - with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,000.00
  - with HMRC (VAT) of £8,506.32
- (iii) that the reconciliation statement be noted;
- (iv) that the Council's income and expenditure for the current financial year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 be noted.

**8518**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The draft Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were noted.

**8519**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The draft Minutes of a meeting of the Community Development Committee held on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were noted. Councillor Edginton-White provided an update as to the future of the town's marching band. Technically the band had been disbanded, but a new arrangement was being negotiated which means that we will have a marching band for Remembrance Sunday. Councillor Edginton-White also advised the meeting that a Gardener's Question Time event with BBC H&W would be taking place on the 16<sup>th</sup> October in St Georges Hall.

**8520**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The positive correspondence received by the Town Council in relation to the recent Velo Birmingham bike ride event was noted.

**8521**

**ADMINISTRATION MATTERS AND DIARY DATES**

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

- (i) 4<sup>th</sup> October – Planning Committee, 6.00pm Guildhall
- (ii) 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Fair
- (iii) 9<sup>th</sup> October – Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, 7.00pm Guildhall
- (iv) 15<sup>th</sup> October – Festival Church Service, 11.30am St Anne's Church
- (v) 16<sup>th</sup> October – Policy and Resources Committee, 6.00pm Guildhall
- (vi) 1<sup>st</sup> November – Planning Committee, 6.00pm Guildhall

The meeting was closed at 7.50pm

Signed.....  
Mayor  
6<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## Town Council Meeting - Public Period

### Questions raised by members of the public

**Mr Mansell of Welch Gate** wished to say how successful the Velo Birmingham bike ride had been for the town and asked if a similar motorcycle event could be supported as this would be good for the town's economy. Mr Mansell agreed to provide details of the event to the Community Engagement Officer. Mr Mansell also asked for a progress report on the issues surrounding traffic and air pollution in Welch Gate.

**Sally Atkinson and Thomasina Jackson from Load Street** wished to thank Councillors Candlin and Edginton-White for their assistance in successfully stopping a Load Street premises from being granted a license to play music until 2am. They went on to explain how anti-social behaviour from the late night economy was causing them difficulties and asked for the Town Council's support in objecting to licensing applications for alcohol and/or music beyond midnight. It was noted that the Council's Community Development Committee are looking at this issue and have already agreed to automatically object to any license application for alcohol and/or music after midnight. It was generally accepted by the Committee that the night time economy needs to be supported but midnight was late enough for Bewdley.

### Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

PCSO Nathan Chater updated the meeting on local policing issues saying that overall crime has been on the decrease now the summer season is over. In particular, theft from shops has fallen significantly. The police have been targeting illegal parking and obstruction on Severnside South which has been causing difficulties for residents. The mobile information van in St George's Hall car park was well received and further dates will be booked in, hopefully to coincide with market days. PCSO Chater was asked by the Mayor to speak with the members of the public present outside of the meeting who are experiencing anti-social behaviour at night.

Councillors Coleman and Edmundson expressed concern that even though crime gets reported, very little is done about it at any level, and that people who do report crime are in fear of repercussions. An example of this has been a recent incident on Severnside South where a resident complained about inconsiderate parking by a customer at Arches and then had a window smashed.

### District and County Councillor Reports

**Councillor Becky Vale** updated the meeting on the following issues:

- Anti-social behaviour from late night licenses premises. This was being looked into with the police and licensing authority. The message, though, is that any anti-social behaviour must be reported or licensing will not be made aware that there is an issue.
- Councillor Killingworth asked about progress with the Severn Indian Restaurant and their fume extraction system. Councillor Vale will seek an update from Worcestershire Regulatory Services.

- In relation to Welch Gate, a meeting of the Town Council's Road Safety Working Group had been held to which Cllr Vale had been invited. The next meeting will include a senior highways engineer so that the potential solutions put forward both recently and in the past can be re-considered and an immediate response can be gained as to the viability of each scheme. This will include all issues currently on the Working Group's agenda such as 20mph limits, a one way system for High Street and issues surrounding Welch Gate and town centre congestion generally.

**Councillor Ian Hardiman** updated the meeting on the following issues:

- Lodge Close parking concerns – the WCC engineer is not supporting the introduction of yellow lines. Cllr Hardiman will be taking this up with the highways cabinet member.
- Dangerous parking at the Waggon and Horses on Kidderminster Road. Observations are ongoing.
- Parking issues in Spring Hill rise are being investigated.
- All outstanding matters from last month are being followed up.

Councillor Yarranton asked Councillor Hardiman if he could again look into the resurfacing in New Road which had not been completed to a very high standard and was causing issues with adjacent properties.