



BEWDLEY Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2nd MAY 2017 AT 7.30PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY

PRESENT

Councillor Mr J Beeson (Mayor)
Councillor Mr J Byng
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 P Harrison
Councillor Mr D Killingworth

In attendance: Mr Nick Farress – Town Clerk
Mrs Barbara Byng – Assistant Town Clerk
Mr Kyle Daisley – Community Engagement Officer
Mr David Moore - Treasurer

8439

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Gordon Yarranton and District Councillor Becky Vale

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Byng declared a Pecuniary Interest in Minute 8444 due to his wife being a council employee. Councillor Byng did not vote on this item.

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COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

None

8442

MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT

The Mayor reported on a busy final month of engagements, notably the Scouts new colours, St George's Day church service, opening the new Academy building at West Midland Safari Park and the arts and craft exhibition at Rock church. The Mayor sent out a plea for any adult volunteers willing to help the local Scouts and stated that the Council and the Scout leaders would work together on delivering the St George's Day parade next year.

8443

MINUTES AGREED

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 3rd April 2017 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

8444

ACCOUNTS

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for April 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 2017 to 30th April 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 £23,419.68
 - with Unity Bank deposit account of £10, 552.85
 - with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,011.53
 - with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,101.10
 - with HMRC (VAT) of £5,560.36
- (iii) that the reconciliation statement be noted;
- (iv) that the Council's income and expenditure for the current financial year from 1st April 2017 to 30th April 2017 be noted.

8445

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillor Clee presented the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 18th April 2017.

AGREED

That the Minutes be accepted and actions noted.

8446

BURLTONS, COOKES AND SAYERS ALMSHOUSES

A request was received from the Chairman of the Almshouses Trust that the Mayor of the day acts as the Town Council's representative on the Board of Trustees and that a further Town Council representative was not required.

AGREED

That this request be agreed to and that the Mayor of the day keep s the Council updated on any issues relating to the Almshouses.

8447

MAYORAL SUCCESSION

Cllrs Beeson and Edmundson presented a report proposing that a system is introduced to allow for the Mayor to be selected according to a succession plan. This would allow for more time for a future Mayor to become accustomed with the often complex role of Town Mayor.

AGREED

That the matter is passed to the Policy and Resources Committee for further examination and that the Committee reports back to full Council with its recommendations.

8448

COMMUNITY SHOWCASE EVENT

Cllr Mrs Davies presented a report thanking the staff and Councillors involved in organising the recent Community Showcase event at St George's Hall. Cllr Davies recommended that the event becomes an annual one.

AGREED

That the Town Council staff and Members involved in organising and delivering the event are congratulated, and that the Showcase event becomes a regular feature in the town's event calendar.

- 8449 BURLTONS, COOKES AND SAYERS ALMSHOUSES**
Cllr Beeson presented a report following a meeting of the Trustees held on the 10th April 2017. The report was noted.
- 8450 CORRESPONDENCE**
Letters of thanks from organisations in receipt of grant monies were noted.
- 8451 ADMINISTRATION MATTERS AND DIARY DATES**
The Town Clerk brought the following administrative matters and diary dates to the attention of the Council:
(i) 12th May 7.00pm, Annual Town Council Meeting (Mayor Making – Guildhall then Kateshill House, Red Hill, Bewdley)
(ii) 15th May 6.00pm, Community Development Committee (Guildhall)
(iii) 23rd May 2.00pm, Health Liaison Group (Medical Centre)
(iv) 19th June 6.30pm Policy and Resources Committee
(v) 25th June Mayor’s Sunday, Baptist Church

The meeting was closed at 8.30pm

Signed.....
Mayor
5th June 2017

Town Council Meeting - Public Period

Questions raised by members of the public

Mr Phil Mansell of Welch Gate wished to raise the following issues:
Medical centre car park – As this is a private car park belonging to the Medical Centre, it was suggested that members of the public contact the partners of the practice to air their views.
Could the police clarify whether they enforce illegal parking. It was confirmed that WFDC are responsible for enforcing illegal parking, and that the police would intervene if a vehicle was causing an obstruction.
Bewdley swimming pool – where did the money raised for this project go?
Dog Lane car park extension – when would this be converted back to grass again? It was clarified that the car park extension would now remain as part of the car park.

Penny Griffiths from Dog Lane raised a concern about the Dog Lane car park development and the ownership of the land behind the fire station. It was clarified that the land now belongs to Worcestershire County Council.

Ian Williams of Maypole Close asked about the path from Wyre Hill to the play area which Cllr Campion said would be resurfaced during the 2017/18 financial year. The Council agreed that this matter would be considered by the Community Development Committee at its next meeting to try and move this forward with the new County Councillor.

Councillor Linda Candlin reported on a successful gardening day at Millennium Green at which a group of Councillors and staff volunteered their time weeding, tending beds and clearing litter. A number of issues were highlighted which would be considered by the Millennium Green Planning Group e.g. the provision of bins, picnic tables and new flower boxes.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

PCSO Toby Stephenson and PCSO Nathan Chater attended the meeting and reported that crime was slightly down on last month. The issue of Tesco car park was raised and the police had been monitoring the car park and speaking to drivers about reversing out into the road. PCSO Stephenson said they would be happy to speak with Tesco management again to help ensure that they are managing the car parking to a safe standard. Cllr Candlin reported a street beggar in Bewdley town centre who was known to have been present in the town in the past. The police will take this up as the individual was known to them.