



MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 5th FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.00PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs A Coleman (Mayor)
Councillor Mr J Beeson
Councillor Mr J Byng
Councillor Mrs L Candlin
Councillor Mr R Coleman
Councillor Mrs C Edginton-White
Councillor Mr P Edmundson
Councillor Mr P Harrison
Councillor Mr D Killingworth (from 7.10pm)
Councillor Mr G Yarranton

In attendance: Melbryn Krufft-Welton – Deputy Young Mayor
Nick Farress – Town Clerk
District/County Councillor Becky Vale
5 Members of the Public

8556

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Mrs Davies, Councillor Miss Fishwick, Young Mayor Louisa Coleman, District Councillor Rod Wilson, County Councillor Ian Hardiman, David Moore (Treasurer), Kyle Daisley (Community Engagement Officer). Councillor Killingworth apologised for arriving late.

8557

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Byng declared a Pecuniary Interest in Minute 8561 (payment of salaries) as his wife is a Council employee. Councillor Byng did not vote on this item.

8558

COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

None

8559

MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT

The Mayor reported on a successful session with Wribbenhall Brownies who came to the Guildhall to see how a Town Council meeting was run and to learn about the civic side of the Town Council's activities. The event was also attended by the Young Mayor. The Mayor also reported on a meeting held with some of the users of Wyre Hill Play Area about the future of the facility with the Town Clerk and also thanked Councillor Becky Vale for her generous contribution towards the community green space project in Welch Gate.

8560

**MINUTES
AGREED**

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 8th January 2018 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

8561

ACCOUNTS

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for January 2018 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 31st January 2018.

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 £53,056.34
 - with Unity Bank deposit account of £10,559.39
 - with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,252.29
 - with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,000.00
 - with HMRC (VAT) of £10,719.09
- (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 31st January 2018 be noted.

8562

SCHEME OF DELEGATION

AGREED

To add the following delegated responsibilities to the Community Development Committee and Planning Committee as follows:

(i) Community Development Committee

To oversee the production of the Neighbourhood Plan via the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

To oversee the production of the Town Plan via the Town Plan Working Group

To manage and monitor the provision and maintenance of the Council's play areas and open spaces

To oversee social activities operated by the Town Council

(ii) Planning Committee

To add the consideration and support of/objection to new licences for alcohol sales and entertainment in Bewdley to the Committee's list of delegated responsibilities and change its name to "Planning and Licensing Committee".

8563

LODGE CLOSE, BEWDLEY – PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

A consultation by Worcestershire County Council to add yellow lines to areas in Lodge Close, Bewdley was presented following complaints from residents about inconsiderate parking.

AGREED

To raise no objection to the proposals and ask the Town Clerk to advise WCC accordingly.

8564

WYRE HILL PLAY AREA

A report was presented by the Town Clerk asking the Council to agree a maintenance and inspection policy and programme for Wyre Hill Play Area following the transfer of the facility to BTC from WCC/WFDC. This was due to go before the Community Development Committee on the 29th January but the meeting was not quorate.

AGREED

To accept the Town Clerk's report, policy and maintenance/inspection programme including a risk assessment for the Play Area.

- 8565 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
The draft Minutes of a meeting of the Community Development Committee held on the 15th January were noted.
- 8566 PLANNING COMMITTEE**
The draft Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 3rd January were noted.
- 8567 ADMINISTRATION MATTERS AND DIARY DATES**
The Town Clerk brought the following administrative matters and diary dates to the attention of the Council:
Wednesday 7th February – Planning Committee, Guildhall, 6.00pm
Monday 12th February – Town Plan Working Group, 2.00pm, 25(A) Load St
Monday 19th February – Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, 25(A) Load St, 5.00pm
Monday 19th February – Policy and Resources Committee, 25(A) Load St, 6.00pm

The meeting was closed at 7.53pm

Signed.....
Mayor

5th March 2018

Town Council Meeting - Public Period

Questions raised by members of the public

Mr Lewis Thomas of Portlock House asked whether any progress had been made with the Multi-User Access Trail into the Wyre Forest via Dowles as he had some concerns that some works were taking place on the footpath. The Mayor agreed that she would make some enquiries and ask the Town Clerk to send an update via e-mail.

Mrs Ellie Hooper and Mr Colin Anderson from Severnside South wished to raise concerns and objections in relation to a new licensed premises application for a restaurant/bar next door to their property. Mrs Hooper and Mr Anderson were advised to raise their concerns directly with Worcestershire Regulatory Services and were also advised that the Town Council's Planning and Licensing Committee would be considering the Town Council's response to this application on Wednesday 7th February and they would be welcome to attend.

Sally from 4 Load Street raised concerns about the Loft Lounge not adhering to its license and still playing loud music into the early hours. Sally also wished to mention that there had been some "overzealous" parking enforcement recently which had been targeting vehicles who were delivering to businesses in Load Street. Councillor Vale said that this was her area of responsibility and would make further enquiries.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

There were no representatives present, but the Mayor commented on a very welcome and detailed report from the new SNT Inspector, Jake Wright.

District and County Councillor Reports and Questions

District and County Councillor Becky Vale reported on the following items:

- The extractor fan on the Severn Restaurant is an ongoing issue but is being dealt with;
- Thank you to the Town Council's road safety group who put forward some very positive suggestions on how to tackle traffic congestion and pollution which were presented to Martin Rowe the Transport Strategy Manager at WCC;
- A meeting is to take place with Councillor Hardiman and senior planning officers from WFDC in relation to the felled willow tree at Beale's Corner;
- Velo Birmingham – road closure requests have been withdrawn from WCC with the next event being held in the Spring of 2019;
- A Project Board has been set up following the "inadequate" rating of WCC's Children's Services to recommend a way forward;
- A new CEO for WCC will start in March plus a number of new senior roles;
- WFDC approved the Churchfields Masterplan on the 18th January.

Councillor Killingworth commented on the outstanding issue of the tactile paving on the Catchem's End zebra crossing and reported that the crossing surface itself is unsafe for persons with visual impairments and should be attended to.

Councillor Beeson noted that Central Buses who run the 125 Service have been taken over by Diamond Buses which is of concern considering the recent performance of Diamond. Councillor Vale had been assured by Councillor Alan Amos, Portfolio Holder for Transport that the matter of Diamond Buses' overall performance was being dealt with.

Councillor Yarranton asked about the closure of the Grange facility in Kidderminster. Councillor Vale said that this was not in her division and therefore would not comment.