



**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 16TH MAY AT 6.00PM AT THE GUILDHALL, BEWDLEY**

PRESENT

Cllr John Beeson
Cllr Calne Edginton-White
Cllr Mary Fishwick
Cllr Derek Killingworth
Mrs A Bakr
Mrs Cat Banks
Mr Peter Michael
Mr Richard Perrin

In attendance: Mr Nick Farress (Town Clerk)
Mrs Barbara Byng (Assistant Town Clerk)
One member of the public

1 Appointment of Chairman

Cllr Derek Killingworth nominated Cllr Linda Candlin, who, although unable to attend this meeting, had given prior agreement to continuing as Chair of this Committee. Her nomination was seconded by Cllr Calne Edginton-White and unanimously approved..

2 Appointment of Vice Chairman

Cllr John Beeson was nominated by Cllr Killingworth, seconded by Cllr Edginton-White and unanimously approved as Vice Chairman.

Cllr Beeson proceeded to chair the meeting.

3 Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Community Development Committee, as ratified at Town Council on 4th April 2016, Minute No. 8276, were noted.

4 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Candlin and Mr Martin Guard.

5 Declarations of Interest

None.

6 Dispensations

None.

Public Question Time

Mrs Gill Holland queried the new Committee structure and this was explained by the Town Clerk.

7 Neighbourhood Plan

The Town Clerk provided an update and Agreed Actions and Notes from the last meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group were discussed.

Response to the Neighbourhood Plan has been positive and well over 200 replies received so far, with more coming in via the 'SurveyMonkey' online facility. The next public event has been planned for Saturday, 9th July at Wribbenhall Parish Room when the 'Vision and Objectives' of the Neighbourhood Plan will be publicised and comments gathered.

In reply to a query from Mr Perrin, the Town Clerk confirmed that the questions relating to new housing/development in the questionnaire had been approved by Wyre Forest District Council and checked by our Planning Consultant, Sally Tagg, prior to publication. WFDC have also carried out a Housing Needs Survey as part of their Local Plan Review.

8 Bewdley Traders Group

Cllr Beeson reported that traders were very concerned at the impact on trade of the proposed road closure while essential works are carried out to St Anne's church roof. The Town Clerk said that the works have been delayed and no firm start date has been received from Worcestershire County Council. Mrs Banks pointed out that traders have suggested a new route to enable traffic flow but nothing yet heard as to whether this has been taken up by the County Council. Cllr Killingworth suggested the Town Clerk contacts the temporary Inspector to bring the matter to his attention.

9 Road Safety (20's Plenty)

The Assistant Town Clerk reported that since the first meeting of the Working Group on 11th April 2016, David Hunter (Senior Highways Liaison Engineer) has advised that the scheme needs support from our County Councillors. The County Council say they have reviewed this issue previously but felt their data did not support the case for 20mph.

AGREED

a) The Assistant Town Clerk to follow this up with David Hunter and restate the need for action, also to liaise with Cllr Candlin in order to set a date for the next Group meeting;

b) The (Temporary) Police Inspector (Mark Wilkes) to pass on the Committee's concerns to the Safer Road Partnership, with particular focus on 20mph limit outside local schools, as promoted by District/County Cllrs Yarranton and Campion, and agreed at the Police Liaison Meeting.

Cllr Edginton-White asked that road safety issues arising from the new Tesco Express be revisited. The Town Clerk confirmed that Cllr Campion had agreed to look at planning restrictions, also safety concerns have been taken up with the Manager and assurance received that Tesco has their own system of local management. Cllr Fishwick expressed concerns regarding Tesco delivery lorries blocking the road and the Town Clerk agreed to re-raise this with the Manager.

10 The Queen's 90th Birthday

Arrangements to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday the weekend of 11th/12th June 2016 were discussed. The Town Council has organised a special fireworks display set to music on Saturday 11th, after the traditional Carnival event. On Sunday afternoon, the Mayor will open a Royal Garden Party in Jubilee Gardens where local young musicians, Bewdley Concert Band and the 'Red Snappers' jazz band will entertain. There will also be a magic show, juggling, refreshments, etc making it an enjoyable family event.

The Town Clerk asked for volunteers to join an **Events & Markets Working Group** in order to support regeneration of regular markets in the town, as Bewdley has had in the past. The Group will liaise with Curtis Albitt (Events Co-ordinator) to help organise these events and to build up good relationships with traders. Ideas such as an antique/vintage market during the Christmas Lights 'switch on', plus (say) a Continental market at August Bank Holiday were put forward. The proposal was welcomed and supported by all members and the following people volunteered to join the Group:

Councillor Calne Edginton-White

Councillor Linda Candlin (volunteered in her absence)

Mrs Alison Bakr, Museum Development Manager, WFDC

Mr Peter Michael, Town Centres Manager, WFDC

It was **AGREED** that Town Councillors will work closely with the Museum Development Manager and Town Centres Manager with the aim of generating more visitors to the town, in particular co-ordinating market events in the town to co-incide with those organised at Bewdley Museum, e.g. Shakespeare in the Park.

11 **'Fairtrade' Town Status**

Following District Councillor Sally Chambers presentation to Town Council on 4th April 2016, discussion took place on how to involve local producers and traders in promoting 'fairtrade' and regaining Bewdley's status as a 'Fairtrade' town, which has now lapsed.

AGREED

a) Further research will be carried out by the Town Clerk's office to confirm the requirements of the status and the benefits to be gained

b) The Town Clerk will liaise with Cllr Beeson and arrange for renewal information gathered to be passed onto local producers and trader in order to ascertain support for the scheme and to complete the action plan.

12 **Naming – new Medical Centre**

The Town Clerk reported that confirmation has been received that the rooms in the new Medical Centre have already been named but consent has been given to acknowledgements to be posted in the main reception. Ideas are required to progress this.

13 **Police Liaison Group**

The Town Clerk provided an update on the meeting held 20th April 2016, at which it was made clear that the Council was not happy with the continued use of Community Support Officers (CSOs) in the town, as an alternative to Police Officers. There has been a poor response to Pub Watch. It has been agreed that quarterly meetings should be held and the Town Clerk asked for items for the next agenda to be passed onto him.

14 **Emergency Response Plan and Community Flood Volunteers**

The Assistant Town Clerk reported on a meeting held with WFDC representatives, Rebecca Pritchett and Kirsten Huizer, who confirmed that the draft Emergency Response Plan prepared (based on government template) is on track and supported.

The Plan requires volunteers and formal adoption. To this end, volunteers were requested to enable completion. Cllr Derek Killingworth volunteered to become Lead Councillor, with Cllr Edginton-White also (as representing the Wribbenhall Flood Group) and Mrs. Cat Banks as additional advisor/supporter.

15 **Further Agenda Items**

a) **Riverside North Park**

Cllr Edginton-White reported that the land owners, Wyre Forest District Council, have indicated their support for the park to become designated with Town Park status. Peter Michael agreed to follow this up and advise.

b) **Flood Money**

The Town Centres Manager provided an update.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: MONDAY, 18TH JULY, 2016 in the Guildhall

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm

Signed.....
Chairman Community Development Committee
18th July 2016