



MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 6th MARCH 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 Mr P Edmundson
Councillor Miss M Fishwick
Councillor Mr P Harrison
Councillor Mr D Killingworth
Councillor Mr G Yarranton

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

8415

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Mrs E Davies, David Moore (Treasurer) and District Councillors Rod Wilson and Becky Vale.

8416

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Byng declared a Pecuniary Interest in Minute 8420 due to his wife being a council employee. Councillor Byng did not vote on this item.

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COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

None

8418

MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT

The Mayor formally welcomed the two newly elected Wribbenhall Councillors to the meeting and wished them well in their roles as Members of this Council, and encouraged them to take up any training opportunities that present themselves. Events of note this month included the Bewdley Festival Supporters evening, the Baldwin Statue Appeal evening at Hagley Hall and the Chairman of Wyre Forest DC's charity meal. There is also a new exhibition in the Museum entitled "The Changing Face of Load Street" which the Town Council supported financially.

8419

**MINUTES
AGREED**

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 6th February 2017 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

8420

ACCOUNTS

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for February 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 28th February 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 £78,285.79
 - 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 £2,617.12
- (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 28th February 2017 be noted.

8421

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillor Clee presented the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 20th February 2017.

AGREED

That the Minutes be accepted and actions noted including grant payments to be made to the following organisations:

Organisation	GRANT 2017/18	Comments
Bewdley Town Football Club	£750	General operations
Friends of Riverside North Park	£1,250	Swan pond
St George's Hall	£1,000	New holding kitchen
Bewdley Carnival Association	£200	Princess dresses and float. <i>Request that schools from Far Forest and Arley are included.</i>
Bewdley Horticultural Society	£200	Annual Show
Bewdley Festival	£500	Youth Music Festival
Wyre Forest CAB	£1,500	General operations
Community Transport	£750	Funding additional vehicle
Bewdley Cricket Club	£250	Defibrillator
Bewdley Rotary Club	£200	Christmas Tree
RBL Poppy Wreaths	£100	
Bewdley Bike Week	£500	General operations

Bewdley Choral Society	£1,500	Forest, River and Royals event
The Stanley Baldwin Statue Appeal	£1,000	
Wyre Community Land Trust	£1,250	Community workshop
Bewdley 1 st Rainbows	£100	
Total	£11,050	

8422

YEW TREE LANE

Councillor Clee presented a report proposing support for making Yew Tree Lane (West) a one way street.

AGREED

To request that Worcestershire County Council carry out a residents survey to all properties along Yew Tree Lane and if supported seek a No Entry sign at the Cleobury Road junction.

8423

DOG FOULING

Councillor Candlin presented a report recommending that this Council investigates the possibility of creating a by-law to make not carrying a waste bag whilst walking a dog an offence.

AGREED

That the issue is passed to the Community Development Committee for further debate and discussion.

8424

HALFPENNY GREEN AIRPORT PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A public consultation document relating to revised arrangements for aircraft approach procedures during bad weather was considered by Members.

AGREED

That a response is submitted expressing the view that this Council has no objection to the proposals set out in the consultation.

8425

ADMINISTRATION MATTERS AND DIARY DATES

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

- (i) 11th March, Greener Living Fair, St George's Hall
- (ii) 15th March, Policy and Resources Committee 7pm, Guildhall
- (ii) 18th March, Neighbourhood Plan Objectives and Policies Consultation, Wribbenhall Parish Room, 11am – 2pm.
- (iv) 20th March, Community Development Committee, Guildhall, 6.00pm
- (v) 8th April, Community Showcase Event, St George's Hall, 11am – 3pm
- (vi) 10th April, Annual Town Meeting, 7pm, St Georges Hall – **Councillor Reports Required by 31st March.**

The meeting was closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....
Mayor
3rd April 2017

Town Council Meeting - Public Period

Questions raised by members of the public

Mr Phil Mansell of Welch Gate wished to complain that Councillor Campion does not now attend any meeting of the Council or submits any reports and that the Police were not in attendance this evening. He also raised concern that the air diffusion tubes outside of his property had been removed and that school coaches increasingly use Welch Gate as a route rather than the by-pass. Councillor Yarranton agreed to follow this up. Litter at Bridge House also needs to be addressed which is likely to be either the land owner or WFDC.

Mr Rod Stanczyszyn of Dry Mill Lane raised concern about the additional documents submitted by Gladman which set out proposals for additional access onto Dowles Road including a bus stop and changing priorities at the bottom of Welch Gate. The Mayor commented that this Council's Planning Committee would be looking at these documents at their April meeting and making appropriate recommendations to WFDC.

Mr Ian Williams asked about the pathway leading from Wyre Hill to the play area which he had previously been advised by Cllr Campion that money would be made available to have this resurfaced. To date, no work had taken place but it was noted that the money would not be available until after April. Mr Williams also asked about the latest situation with the monthly market. Cllr Edginton-White explained that the market would now be twice monthly and operated by LSD Promotions.

Councillor Philip Edmundson raised the issue of whether Bewdley should lobby to become "Royal Bewdley" or some such variant to reflect the town's royal heritage. It was agreed that this be placed on the future Agenda of the Policy and Resources Committee for further debate.

Councillor Anna Coleman reported that a successful community litter pick had taken place on Sunday in the Dowles Road area. Cllr Coleman also reported that she is to attend the next meeting of the WFDC Cabinet to present the petition against an increase in parking charges.

Mr Kevin Duncan of Severn Side South wished to complain about the noise nuisance created by motorcycles "revving" their engines outside residential properties and ignoring yellow lines. Both of these issues are the responsibility of Wyre Forest DC (the noise complaint via WRS) and would be passed on.

Ms Betti Moretti and Mr Chris Griffin both spoke regarding the "hugging tree" in QEII Gardens and their disappointment that WFDC had withdrawn their support for the project. Cllr Edmundson put forward an argument that this is simply a small part of turning the Guildhall, Museum and Gardens into a "wedding venue" by WFDC and ignoring the fact that these are community assets and should be retained as such. The Mayor pointed out that the issue with the "hugging tree" was one for WFDC to resolve with Ms Moretti and not the Town Council.

Ms Penny Griffiths of Dog Lane wished to complain about the length of time it is taking to demolish the old medical centre which is now encouraging anti-social behaviour and rats. The uncertainty around what the land at the rear of the fire station will be used for is also of concern. The Council shared Ms Griffiths' frustrations and will continue to lobby WFDC to move this forward as soon as possible.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

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

Cllr Candlin wished to express deep disappointment that there were no police present to re-assure the public following the horrific attack reported recently on front page of the Kidderminster Shuttle.

District and County Councillor Reports

Councillor Yarranton reported on plans to resurface a number of roads in the Wribbenhall Ward in the 2017/2018 financial year.

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