



BEWDLEY
Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2017 AT 4.30PM IN THE GUILDHALL**

PRESENT

Councillor Mr S Clee (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs L Candlin
Councillor Mrs A Coleman
Councillor Mrs Calne Edginton-White
Councillor Mr P Edmundson
Councillor Mr D Killingworth

In attendance: Mr Nick Farress – Town Clerk
1 Member of the public

049 APOLOGIES

Councillor Liz Davies due to a hospital appointment and Councillor Mrs Candlin apologised for lateness, arriving at 4.35pm.

050 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Killingworth in Minute 055 as President of Bewdley Rotary Club;
Councillor Edmundson in Minute 055 as a member of the Friends of Bewdley Museum and the fact that his daughter is a member of Bewdley Rainbows;
Councillor Candlin in Minute 055 as a Trustee of Wribbenhall Parish Room (Cllr Candlin left the meeting whilst a written request from Wribbenhall Parish Room was being considered).

051 COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

052 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on the 20th December 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

053 RIVERSIDE NORTH PADDLING POOL

The Town Clerk updated Members on the request from the Friends of Riverside North Park to be their partner organisation in relation to the group taking on the operation of the paddling pool from WFDC. This may involve the Town Council holding the lease for the pool whilst the Friends group take responsibility for its operation including all liabilities and running costs. How this would work in practice considering the legal aspects of taking on a lease was yet to be discussed. The Town Clerk is due to meet with Linda Draycott from WFDC about the proposals on Thursday of this week. It was noted that the Committee had already made a decision on this matter, but as this proposal was different and does not imply any liability to the Town Council, Members were happy that discussions could take place to support the Friends group in their wish to take on the facility.

AGREED

(i) That the Chairman and the Town Clerk continue negotiations with WFDC and the Friends of Riverside North Park and prepare a paper to take directly to Council in March. Any agreement must be in accordance with the previous resolution made in December 2016 which states “that the Town Clerk writes to WFDC referring to the decision made by this Committee in June 2016 which stated that the Council is not in a position to take on this asset”.

(ii) That this Committee support the Friends of Riverside North Park in their aspiration to replace the paddling pool with a suitable splash play facility in the park, and will assist the Group with any grant funding applications for this purpose.

054 INSURANCE RENEWAL

The Town Clerk presented a report recommending that the Council change its insurer to Hiscox via Came and Company for three years.

AGREED

That the Town Clerk’s recommendation be accepted and a policy is taken out for three years at a premium of £2850 per annum.

055 TOWN COUNCIL GRANT FUND 2017/2018**AGREED**

(i) That the Town Council issue grant funding as follows to be paid in April 2017:

	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	

- (ii) That £1,450 is kept aside for subsequent applications that may be received later in the year;
- (iii) That the application from the Pound Green Villagers Association is declined on the basis that it falls under Upper Arley Parish Council;
- (iv) That it be noted that the application from the Friends of Bewdley Museum should be treated as withdrawn as the appropriate permissions from WFDC had not been sought;
- (v) That the 1st Bewdley Rainbows be granted £100 from the Small Grants Fund and £100 from the annual Grant Fund as they are a new entity and would benefit from £100 straight away;
- (vi) That the request from Wribbenhall Parish Room to use their 2016/2017 grant for the purchase and installation of sound dampening panels be accepted.

056 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That in view of the confidential nature of business about to be conducted, the press and public were asked to leave the meeting.

057 TOWN COUNCIL ACCOMMODATION

The Town Clerk updated the Committee on the current situation and presented two alternatives for moving forward with this corporate priority now that the former Barclays building is off the Agenda.

AGREED

- (i) To pursue the option of purchasing a property which has newly entered the market and the Town Clerk would arrange a viewing;
- (ii) That the second option which had been presented by a third party and would include an element of renting space from a landlord would be declined, as this does not meet the Council's corporate aims and would not necessarily improve the situation from that which presently exists.

The meeting closed at 5.35pm.

Signed.....
Chairman
Policy and Resources Committee – Wednesday 15th March 2017