



# BEWDLEY Town Council

## **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th MARCH 2016 AT 7.30PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY**

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs C Edginton-White (Mayor)  
Councillor Mr M Alton  
Councillor Mr J Beeson  
Councillor Mrs L Candlin  
Councillor Mr S Clee  
Councillor Mrs A Coleman  
Councillor Mr R Coleman  
Councillor Mrs E Davies  
Councillor Mr P Edmundson  
Councillor Miss M Fishwick  
Councillor Mr D Killingworth  
Councillor Miss A Mace  
Councillor Mr G Yarranton

In attendance: Mr Nick Farress – Town Clerk  
Mrs Barbara Byng – Assistant Clerk  
Mr David Moore - Treasurer  
Mr R Jones - Lengthsman

### **8254 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

### **8255 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Mace, Davies and Candlin all declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Minute 8260 as Trustees of Wribbenhall Parish Room.  
Councillor Mace declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Minute 8260 as a Trustee of Wyre Forest Community Transport.  
Councillor Killingworth declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Minute 8260 as the next President of Bewdley Rotary Club.  
Councillor Edginton-White declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Minute 8260 as a member of Bewdley Concert Band.

All Councillors who had declared as above left the room during consideration of the relevant item and took no part in the debate or voting.

### **8256 COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS**

None

### **8257 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT**

The Mayor's list of engagements during February was circulated. Of particular note was the Community Volunteers meeting in order to support the EA in retaining the Beales Corner flood barrier, and also the recent Traders Group supported by Cllr Beeson which was very well attended. The Mayor also extended her thanks to her Deputy and other Councillors who had attended engagements on the Mayor's behalf.

**8258 MINUTES  
AGREED**

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 1st February 2016 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

**8259 ACCOUNTS**

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts for payment for February 2016 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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

**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 £52,875.52
- with Unity Bank deposit account of £10,540.50
- with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,000.00
- with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,000.00
- with HMRC (VAT) of £5,733.53

(iii) that the reconciliation statement be noted;

(iv) that the Council's income and expenditure for the current financial year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 be noted.

**8260 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Councillor Beeson presented the Minutes and recommendations from the Committee's meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

**AGREED**

(i) That grant payments be made as per the schedule below and other recommendations/conditions in the schedule be accepted:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Amount to be paid (£)</b>
Bewdley Carnival Association	<b>200 (and that Arley and Far Forest Schools are invited to participate)</b>
Bewdley Concert Band	<b>450</b>
Bewdley Cricket Club	<b>100</b>
Bewdley & District Horticultural Society	<b>200</b>
Bewdley Festival Ltd (Youth Festival)	<b>500 (specifically for Youth Festival)</b>
Community Transport Wyre Forest	<b>750</b>
RBL Poppy Wreaths	<b>100</b>
Wyre Forest CAB	<b>1,500 (and that CAB be asked to return to Bewdley)</b>
Bewdley (1 <sup>st</sup> ) Scout Group	<b>Defer – would like to see estimate for works required</b>

Bewdley Rotary Club	<b>200</b>
Bewdley School	<b>2,000</b>
Bewdley Development Trust	<b>500 (specifically for the promotion of the Produce Market)</b>
Bewdley PCC	<b>Defer – would like to see estimate for cleaning works required</b>
Bewdley Bike Week	<b>750</b>
Bewdley Town Football Club	<b>750</b>
Together Project	<b>1,350</b>
Wribbenhall Parish Room	<b>Defer – would like to see estimate for works required</b>
Riverside North Park (WFDC/Friends Group)	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,350</b>

(i) that the remaining £4,150 in the budget for grant funding be placed in Reserves until such time as the Finance Committee consider deferred applications, and decide whether to keep a sum back for second round applications;

(ii) that the amount for Churchyard maintenance be split Bewdley PCC £1000, Wribbenhall PCC £500;

(iii) that the schedule of business related risk presented by the Town Clerk is accepted;

(iv) that the recommendation of the Town Clerk and CALC Executive Officer to not “opt out” of the new external audit arrangements is accepted.

**8261**

**TRAFFIC CONGESTION ON KIDDERMINSTER RD/BEALES CORNER**

Councillors Candlin, Mace and Davies presented a report asking for action to reduce the risk of potential accidents on Beales Corner/Kidderminster Road. Cllr Candlin proposed an amendment to the motion to remove reference to double yellow lines which was won.

**AGREED**

That the Town Clerk be asked to write formally to Worcestershire County Council setting out this Council’s concerns over road safety in this area.

**8262**

**FAIRTRADE STATUS**

A letter was received from WFDC asking whether this Council still wishes to support Fairtrade Town status.

**AGREED**

That the Town Clerk writes back to WFDC and to Sally Chambers (Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Housing on WFDC) to invite Sally along to talk to this Council about what is involved in renewing the town's Fairtrade status.

**8263 LOCAL HERITAGE LIST – SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY**

A letter was received from the Conservation Officer at WFDC asking this Council to endorse the production of a Local Heritage List focussing on the infrastructure of the Severn Valley Railway.

**AGREED**

That the production of this Local Heritage List be supported and that the Town Clerk responds to WFDC accordingly.

**8264 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

A presentation was given by Councillor Edmundson as to progress made with the Neighbourhood Development Plan. The first public consultation event will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> March at St George's Hall and all Members are encouraged to attend.

**8265 NOTIFICATION OF ROAD CLOSURES**

A notification of road closures at Park Lane starting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March, and Severnside North on the 6<sup>th</sup> March were noted. Cllr Beeson had in fact arranged for the Severnside North works to be completed earlier as to not clash with Mothering Sunday.

**8266 CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

A report received from Councillor Killingworth following a meeting of the Trustees on the 26<sup>th</sup> January was noted.

**8267 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT WYRE FOREST**

A report received from Councillor Mace following a meeting of the Trustees on the 18<sup>th</sup> February was noted.

**8268 CORRESPONDENCE**

A response from WFDC following a request to freeze car parking charges in Bewdley for 12 months was disappointing but noted.

**8269 ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

(i) Greener Living Show – 12<sup>th</sup> March, St Georges Hall. Council stall and NP presentation

(ii) Wyre Forest CALC meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> March Wyre Forest House 6.30pm

(iii) Better Bewdley Advisory Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> March, St Anne's Primary School 6.00pm

(iv) Neighbourhood Plan Public Consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> March, St Georges Hall 10-4pm

(v) Annual Town Meeting – Tues 12<sup>th</sup> April at St George's Hall – Reports from Councillors will be required

(vi) List of Town Council and Planning Committee meetings and provisional locations agreed.

(vii) List of Civic Ceremony dates for the remainder of 2016 agreed.

Councillors were reminded that the usual annual report would be required for the Annual Town Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> April.

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm

**Signed**.....  
**Mayor**  
**4<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

## **Town Council Meeting - Public Period**

### **Questions raised by members of the public**

**Philip Mansell of Welch Gate** wished to raise concern about the Church roof works due to take place in the summer and suggested that Welch Gate be made “one way” during the works which could serve as a test in relation to future AQMA solutions. Cllr R Coleman updated Mr Mansell as to his query some months ago about tables outside the Mug House stating that only customers were permitted to use them. Cllr Coleman stated that this was in fact part of the licence agreement.

**Michael Butler of 52 High Street** raised concerns over the amount of dog fouling occurring in the High St/Lax Lane and in Jubilee Gardens. It was agreed to place this item on the next Town Council Agenda.

**Rod Stanczyszyn of Dry Mill Lane** asked what progress had been made with the Bewdley Neighbourhood Plan. This was an agenda item for later on in the meeting.

**Bill Dewar of 101 Woodthorpe Drive** raised concerns about road safety in the Beales Corner/Kidderminster Road area. This was an agenda item for later on in the meeting.

### **Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports**

PC Thomas reported that there had been an increase in rural crime which the police were tackling via the Business and Rural Crime initiative. Councillors commended the police for the recent “drugs bust”. Cllr Killingworth asked why the Head of the Bewdley School was not consulted following a recent arrest of a pupil for drug offences. PC Thomas said that he had met with the Head of the school in the last few days. Cllr Yarranton mentioned that he had been working with the police to move vehicles on who were parking in the bus stop on Beales Corner.

### **District and County Councillor Reports**

There were no reports from District or County Councillors.