



BEWDLEY Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3rd JULY 2017 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 S Clee
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: Louisa Coleman – Young Mayor
Mr Nick Farress – Town Clerk
Mr David Moore – Treasurer
Cllr Becky Vale
Cllr Ian Hardiman
Cllr Rod Wilson

At the beginning of the Meeting, there was a presentation of the Mayor's Thank You Award to Tom Cox, Minister in Training at Bewdley Baptist Church, for his services to the community of Bewdley.

8474 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs Liz Davies and Kyle Daisley, Community Engagement and Events Officer.

8475 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Byng declared a Pecuniary Interest in Minute 8479 due to his wife being a council employee. Councillor Byng did not vote on this item.

8476 COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

None

8477 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT

The Mayor reported that she had attended Mayor's civic services in Worcester and other towns in Worcestershire including Kidderminster. Last weekend was busy including three events in one day – Kidderminster civic service, Elim Riverside church open day and Wyre Forest Philharmonic Orchestra in the evening. The Mayor commented on the amazing talent that we have in the Wyre Forest District which should be celebrated at every opportunity.

The Young Mayor, Louisa Coleman, said that her chosen charity this year will be Wyre Forest Night Stop who provide safe, emergency, temporary

accommodation and support for young people, age 16-25, who are facing homelessness. Planned events include a charity “camp out”, charity tea and a charity ball.

**8478 MINUTES
AGREED**

(i) That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 5th June 2017 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

8479 ACCOUNTS

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for June 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 2017 to 30th June 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 £80,491.52
- with Unity Bank deposit account of £10, 552.85
- with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,252.29
- with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,000.00
- with HMRC (VAT) of £6,325.38

(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 30th June 2017 be noted.

8480 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Candlin presented the Minutes of a meeting of the Community Development Committee held on the 19th June 2017.

AGREED

That the Minutes be accepted and actions noted.

8481 POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillor Beeson presented the Minutes of a meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 19th June 2017. Cllr Beeson wished to place on record his thanks to Cllr Clee and the Committee Chairmen for their prudent control over the Council’s budget during the 2016/17 financial year.

AGREED

That the Minutes be accepted and actions noted.

8482 QUEENSWAY LAYBY (BEWDLEY) PROPOSED LIMITED WAITING TIME

The County Council wished to seek support for a limited waiting zone outside the shops on Queensway. The proposal is for a 60 minute bay and has the support of Councillor Hardiman as the County Councillor. However, it was felt that in order to serve the hairdressing shop, 60 minutes was not long enough and a proposal was put forward to ask the County Council to make this a 90 minute waiting bay.

AGREED

That the proposed TRO is supported with the condition that the time is lengthened to 90 minutes.

8483

20mph SPEED LIMIT FOR BEWDLEY TOWN CENTRE

Councillor Coleman presented a report aimed at “reviving” the 20mph speed limit campaign for Bewdley town centre. The Community Development Committee’s Road Safety Working Group already have this issue on their agenda for a meeting on the 1st August and Councillor Coleman was invited to attend. An amendment was made to the effect that overall traffic management including car parking be considered by a meeting of town, district and county councillors in the meantime to ensure any proposals put forward would gain support at every level.

AGREED

- (i) That the Road Safety Working Group consider the 20mph limit in more detail at its next meeting on the 1st August and that Cllr Coleman be invited to attend;
- (ii) That a meeting is set up with town, district and county councillors to discuss wider traffic management issues including car parking as soon as possible.

8484

TOGETHER ADVISORY GROUP

Cllr Byng presented a verbal update on the work of the group. At tomorrow’s meeting of this group the proposed relaunch of the lunch club in September will be discussed with a full report being presented at the August Council meeting. Cllr Byng said that it would be helpful if Members could assist at either the working group or at the events themselves.

8485

ADMINISTRATION MATTERS AND DIARY DATES

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

- (i) 5th July 6.30pm, Planning Committee, Guildhall
- (ii) 17th July 6.00pm, Community Development Committee, Guildhall
- (iii) 2nd August 6.30pm. Planning Committee, Guildhall
- (iv) 5th/6th August - Bewdley Summer Festival and Market, Load Street and riverside

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm

Signed.....
Mayor
7th August 2017

Town Council Meeting - Public Period

Questions raised by members of the public

Mr Rod Stanczyszyn advised Councillors that a sale of the old Workhouse in High Street was “imminent”. A cautionary note was taken as this seemed to have been the case for some years. It was generally agreed that the Town Council would support this transaction in the best interests of saving the historic building.

Mr Ian Williams asked about progress with the public right of way between Wyre Hill and the play area. The Town Clerk said that he had received a phone call from the County Council who had agreed to look at the surface later in the year once an overgrown tree on the path had been dealt with.

Mr Phillip Mansell asked why the temporary car park in Dog Lane was closed and what “deal” had been struck with the medical centre to allow cars to park there on a Sunday. Cllr Vale responded that the Dog Lane extension had been closed for safety reasons and was being made safe before re-opening. Cllr Coleman said that the Elim Church had come to an arrangement with the medical centre to use the car park on a Sunday morning. Cllr Edginton-White also mentioned that the Town Council had received permission to use the car park on high days, holidays and event days to ease pressure on the main car parks from market traders’ vehicles for example. Mr Mansell also asked when the pile of rubble would be moved from the layby in Dog Lane. Cllr Beeson said that he had raised the same issue and was awaiting a response.

Mrs Ellie Hooper wished to bring to the attention of Councillors the parking issues and loud motorbike activity along Severnside South. There were also issues with Arches Bar with noise, anti-social behaviour and fighting even as early as 7.00pm.

Cllr Linda Candlin read out a letter from Mrs Pat Jones asking whether some photographs/portraits of the Freemen of both the Borough and Town of Bewdley can be placed on the walls in the stairwell of the Guildhall. Whilst there was no objection in principle, a preferred location was the Mayor’s Parlour as the Town Council do not have rights to place items on the walls in the Guildhall itself and a similar request has recently been turned down. The matter was referred to the Community Development Committee for further consideration.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

There was no written report or police attendee. Cllr Killingworth asked that the Town Clerk write to the police representatives to express the Council’s disappointment.

District and County Councillor Reports

Councillor Rebecca Vale updated the meeting on the following issues:

- PSPO to address dog fouling in the District was being consulted on;
- Friends of Riverside North Park were holding an event on the 15th July to officially open the paddling pool for the season;
- Donations from Cllr Vale’s leadership fund would be going to the Wribbenhall Knit and Natter group and to the Together Group run by the Town Council;
- Traffic issues outside the High School – meetings had been held with the Headteacher and Cllr Hardiman to tackle some of these issues;
- Traffic issues in Bewdley generally – a meeting with senior highways officials is to be held in Bewdley on the 31st July.

Councillor Ian Hardiman updated the meeting on the following issues:

- The zebra crossings in Wribbenhall do not have any tactile paving which is to be addressed;
- A site visit to tackle an overgrowing tree in Damson Way is to be made;
- Visitors to a public house on Kidderminster Rd were causing issues by parking in Lodge Close. Cllr Hardiman will seek support for yellow lines on one side of the road;
- There are no “cats eyes” along the A456 between the Safari Park roundabout and the Stourport Rd traffic lights which would be addressed;
- Complaints have been received about the performance of Diamond Buses. The County Council were monitoring this;
- The balustrade on the bridge would cost around £70-100k to refurbish so this cannot currently be attended to by the County Council;

- Cllr Hardiman would be talking to WFDC about spraying weeds in Wribbenhall, particularly on the estates;
- The Police and Crime Commissioner is proposing to take control of the Fire Authority which will have an effect on the governance of the Fire Authority and the role of the elected Members of that Authority.

Cllr Beeson asked that the orange barrier outside the Black Boy Hotel could be removed as it had been there for some years.

Cllr Yarranton asked how the monitoring of the Diamond Bus service fits in with the recent Wyre Forest review of bus services completed earlier this year. Cllr Hardiman will look into this.