



**BEWDLEY**  
Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON  
MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017 AT 6.00PM AT THE GUILDHALL**

**PRESENT**

Cllr Linda Candlin (Chair)  
Mrs Alison Bakr  
Cllr John Beeson  
Cllr Calne Edginton-White  
Cllr Mary Fishwick  
Cllr Derek Killingworth  
Mr Peter Michael  
Mr Richard Perrin

In attendance: Cllr Anna Coleman  
Nick Farress, Town Clerk  
Cllr Gordon Yarranton

**68 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mrs Cat Banks, Mr Martin Guard, Mrs Barbara Byng (Assistant Clerk) and Mr Kyle Daisley (Community Engagement Officer)

**69 Declarations of Interest**

Mr Richard Perrin declared an interest in Minute 72 as a resident of Park Lane, Bewdley.

**70 Dispensations**

None.

**Public Question Time**

Please see below for details.

**71 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2017 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**72 Neighbourhood Plan**

The draft objectives and policies that were agreed at a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were accepted. The Town Clerk reported that the consultation event to present the draft objectives and policies on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March went well with over 60 visitors. The online version of the survey had already attracted 66 responses. The survey would be open until the 30<sup>th</sup> April and Committee Members were encouraged to take part. Richard Perrin asked for clarification on the identified sites, particularly the site off Highclere. The Town Clerk stated that the site had been brought forward through the WFDC HELAA and was viewed as a potential option along with other identified sites.

**AGREED**

That the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group continues to work on the draft Plan based on the draft objectives and policies and submit notes to this Committee as appropriate.

**73 Together Advisory Group**

The notes from the Together Advisory Group meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017 were accepted and noted.

**74 Bewdley Traders Group**

A written report was presented from Cat Banks summarising the most recent meeting of the Trader's Group. In response to issues raised in the report, the Mayor said he was happy to attend the next meeting of the Trader's Group to speak about the precept increase and the draft local economy objectives in the Neighbourhood Plan. The Town Clerk also agreed to send an update on the Load Street car park redevelopment to Cat Banks.

**75 Events & Markets Working Group**

Cllr Edginton-White updated the Committee on the new market operator, arrangements for a twice monthly market from April 2017 and outlined the various events happening at Easter. Cllr Edginton-White also commented that BTC would be approaching Bewdley Development Trust for event funding. Richard Perrin congratulated the Events Working Group in putting together a vibrant programme of events and for expanding the market offer. Cllr Edginton-White also thanked the Community Engagement and Events Officer for his work, often in excess of his paid hours.

**AGREED**

That the Committee supports the expansion of the Market to two Sundays per month using the new market operator – LSD Promotions.

**76 Health Liaison Group**

The Town Clerk presented a draft response to the Acute Hospital Services re-organisation public consultation.

**AGREED**

That the comments (unedited) be sent to the CCG as the Council's formal response to the consultation.

**77 Tesco Car Park – Pedestrian Safety**

A response to recent correspondence sent to Worcestershire County Council and the Safer Roads Team at West Mercia Police by the Town Clerk was received. The responses were disappointing with one organisation stating that the matter was the responsibility of the other. The Mayor and Town Clerk also stated their deep disappointment with the way Tesco has handled this matter, reneging on an prior written agreement to close the car park.

**AGREED**

- (i) That the Town Clerk writes to Mark Garnier MP setting out the issue and enclosing all correspondence from all parties;
- (ii) All Members to take pictures of any safety issues at the car park and continue to write to Tesco with evidence that their management of the car park is inadequate;
- (iii) That the Town Clerk reviews the original change of use planning application by Tesco to confirm how the car park was handled during the planning process.

**78 Car Parking – Kidderminster Town Council**

A letter was considered which has been sent to Cllr Becky Vale following a joint meeting of Kidderminster and Bewdley Town Councils opposing a change to free car parking and charging in the two towns from October 2017.

**AGREED**

To support the stance taken in the letter and work with Kidderminster Town Council on lobbying Wyre Forest DC to look at this issue again.

**79 Stourport Road Resident's Group**

This matter had been discussed during public question time (See below).

**AGREED**

That the matter be further considered by the Committee's Road Safety Working Group and Police Liaison Group in collaboration with Cllr Yarranton as the County Council Member.

**80 Dog Fouling**

A report was considered by Cllr Candlin proposing that an offence be created to make not carrying a waste bag whilst walking a dog punishable. The Town Clerk pointed out that a Public Space Protection Order would need to be in place first and that he had raised the issue of a PSPO for Bewdley at a recent Team Wyre Forest meeting. Kidderminster's PSPO was now in place, specifically for street drinking – Bewdley and Stourport were next and the Town Clerk has had an assurance that this Council would be part of the process. The more challenging issue was that of enforcement which can require significant resources being available.

**AGREED**

- (i) That the Town Clerk writes formally to WFDC in relation to the offence of not carrying a waste bag being part of a PSPO for Bewdley;
- (ii) That the Town Clerk researches how the powers conveyed to local councils via the Clean Neighbourhoods Act and Local Government Act would allow the Town Council to adopt an enforcement role.

**81 Police Liaison Group**

The response from the Police and Crime Commissioner following this Council's comments on his draft budget was noted.

**82 Future Agenda Items**

Any future Agenda items are to be sent to the Town Clerk before Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May for inclusion on the next Agenda.

**Date and Time of Next Meetings**

To note that the next bi-monthly meeting of the Community Development Committee will be held on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017** at **6.00 pm** in the Guildhall.

*The meeting closed at 7.45 pm*

Signed.....  
**Chairman Community Development Committee**  
**15<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

### **Public Question Time**

**Mr Mike Cooper** from Worcestershire County Council updated the Committee on the Velo Birmingham event to be held on the 24th September which would involve around 15,000 cyclists passing through Load Street and High Street. Roads would be closed from 5am to around 11am but the event could be expanded to make it an all-day event in Bewdley to attract visitors. Mike agree to keep the Town Clerk updated with progress and will be further discussed by the Events Working Group in due course.

**Cllr Anna Coleman** advised that she had presented a petition against car park charging increases and the loss of free parking in Bewdley. Over 1000 signatures were collected. Cllr Beeson mentioned that a meeting had taken place with Kidderminster TC in relation to car parking and there was an item on the Agenda covering this later on.

**Mrs Judith Deakin** of the Stourport Rd Resident's Group thanked Cllr Yarranton for arranging for yellow lines to be painted which has alleviated problems with inconsiderate parking in the Sandbourne Drive areas. However, the residents group would like more to be done to deal with congestion in the area which would include potentially moving coach drop offs to the leisure centre. Cllr Killingworth said that the new headmaster at the school is also committed to dealing with this issue. Cllr Yarranton commented that a number of the measures suggested by the Resident's Group had been tried over the years, but could be re-visited after May's County Council elections. Cllr Beeson mentioned that BTC should continue to lobby for permanent, enforceable 20 mph limits outside schools. The issue, along with the suggestions made by the Resident's Group would be considered further by the Committee's Road Safety Working Group and Police Liaison Group.