



# BEWDLEY Town Council

## **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6th JUNE 2016 AT 7.30PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY**

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Mr J Beeson (Mayor)  
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 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

**8308**

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Davies and Alton.

**8309**

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**8310**

### **COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS**

There were none.

**8311**

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

The Mayor's first few weeks in office had been busy. Events to note were the visit from the Free French and judging the Bewdley Open Studios art exhibition. Thanks were extended to Cllrs Edmundson and Mrs Edginton-White for deputising at some events during the month.

**8312**

### **MINUTES AGREED**

(i) That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 3rd May 2016 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor;  
(ii) That the Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016 be agreed and signed by the Mayor.

**8313**

### **ACCOUNTS**

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for May 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 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 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 £70,508.10
- with Unity Bank deposit account of £10, 545.74
- with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,011.53
- with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,000.00
- with HMRC (VAT) of £3,760.39

(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 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016 be noted.

**8314**

**ANNUAL RETURN 2015/2016 GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The Annual Governance Statement 2015/2016 was presented to Councillors.

**AGREED**

That the Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Mayor and Town Clerk.

**8315**

**ANNUAL RETURN 2015/2016 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS**

The Annual Financial Return and Internal Auditor's Report for the 2015/2016 accounts were presented to Councillors.

**AGREED**

(i) That the Annual Financial Return be approved for submission to the external auditor and signed by the Mayor;

(ii) That the report of the Internal Auditor be noted.

**8316**

**STAFFING COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were presented.

**AGREED**

That the Minutes be noted and recommendations made accepted.

**8317**

**CLOSURE OF BABY AND PODIATRY UNITS AT BEWDLEY MEDICAL CENTRE**

Councillor Candlin presented a report regarding the closure of the podiatry unit at the Medical Centre. Following discussion, the baby unit is being retained but podiatry services will only be provided on a private basis. An amendment to the original motion was agreed to call for a public meeting with the practice partners to allow them to explain why services are being reduced.

**AGREED**

(i) That this Council write to the Practice Partners to express concern over any reduction in services;

(ii) That the Council requests that the Partners attend a meeting with the Council and the public to explain why services are being reduced following the move to the new centre.

8318

**CIVIC AWARD**

Councillor Killingworth presented a report recommending that a “one off” Civic Award is presented to Jenny Paddock, retiring director of Bewdley Festival, for her work promoting and organising the Festival for many years.

**AGREED**

That the Award be made at the dinner organised in Jenny’s honour to take place on 29<sup>th</sup> July at St George’s Hall, and that the Town Clerk make the necessary arrangements.

8319

**CALC UPDATE**

Councillor Killingworth presented a verbal report on various matters currently being considered by CALC which was noted.

8320

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter received from HSBC in response to correspondence sent by this Council in relation to the branch closure was noted.

8321

**ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

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

- (i) 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2pm Together Group, Guildhall
- (ii) 11<sup>th</sup> June, Carnival Day and Fireworks Display
- (iii) 12<sup>th</sup> June, Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration, QEII Gardens 2pm-7pm
- (iv) 20<sup>th</sup> June, 7pm Policy and Resources Committee, Guildhall
- (v) 9<sup>th</sup> July, 10am-2pm, Neighbourhood Plan Vision and Objectives Consultation, Wribbenhall Parish Room

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm

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

## Town Council Meeting - Public Period

### Questions raised by members of the public

**Mrs Gill Holland of 5 Beale's Corner** raised concerns over the path that leads from the current library to the medical centre. It needs resurfacing and the drains need unblocking. Cllr Campion is aware of the issue. Also, Mrs Holland wished to share the concerns of Councillor Candlin over the closure of the podiatry clinic.

**David Carr of 27 Lax Lane** asked how much the Council knew about the revised dates for the church roof repairs which would see traffic congestion in the town over the main holiday season. The Mayor agreed to follow this up with the Highways Authority as the Town Council had not been informed of the new dates until the notice appeared in the Bridge Magazine.

**Rod Stanczyszyn of Dry Mill Lane** asked how many responses the Council had received from the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire and how many wanted additional housing. The Town Clerk confirmed that around 250 responses had been received and that the results are currently being analysed. The next consultation event would be on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

**Phil Mansell of Welch Gate** asked if the police could deal with anti-social driving late at night, especially the noise caused by modified exhausts.

### Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

PC Thomas presented the PACT report for May. Cllr Killingworth asked about sexual offences which had been clarified previously.

### District and County Councillor Reports

The Mayor welcomed the new District Councillors to the meeting and congratulated them on their election.

District Councillor Mrs Rebecca Vale reported that she is looking at working with the County Council on improving footways on Habberley Road, and that she is to invite the new District Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration to Wribbenhall for a site meeting.

District Councillor Rod Wilson reported that he is working on reducing fly tipping along Ribbesford Road, and calling for Tesco to use smaller delivery vehicles to reduce traffic congestion in Load Street.

County Councillor Gordon Yarranton reported that he too is working on encouraging retailers to use smaller vehicles and looking at regulation orders to limit delivery times in Load Street. He is also working on introducing a 60 minute restriction on vehicles parking outside the shops in Queensway.