



BEWDLEY Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8th NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.30PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY

PRESENT

Councillor Mr J Beeson (Mayor)
Councillor Mrs L Candlin
Councillor Mrs A Coleman
Councillor Mr R Coleman
Councillor Mrs E Davies
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
Mr David Moore – Treasurer

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Clee, District Councillors Rebecca Vale and Rod Wilson and Kyle Daisley, Community Engagement Officer.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Beeson, Candlin, Edmundson and Killingworth declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Minute 8379 as Trustees of the Youth Café.

Councillor Edginton-White declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Minute 8379 as having a family interest in the property from which the Youth Café operates.

As the Policy and Resources Committee had already made the decision to award a grant to the Youth Café, the above Councillors remained in the room and voted to accept the Minutes of the Committee.

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COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

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MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT

The Mayor reported a relatively quiet month compared to September but his diary is already filling up with Christmas engagements. Events of particular note included the opening night of the Bewdley Festival, and hosting a group of school children in the Guildhall with the Civic Society who he commended as doing excellent work in educating local school children about Bewdley's civic history. The Mayor also thanked the Rotary Club of Bewdley for their generous donation towards the Mayor's charity.

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**MINUTES
AGREED**

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 3rd October 2016 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

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ACCOUNTS

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for October 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 1st April 2016 to 31st October 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 £100,195.62
- with Unity Bank deposit account of £10, 550.22
- with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,011.53
- with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,101.10
- with HMRC (VAT) of £577.40

(iii) that the reconciliation statement be noted;

(iv) that the Council's income and expenditure for the current financial year from 1st April 2016 to 31st October 2016 be noted.

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POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillor Killingworth presented the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 17th October 2016.

AGREED

That the Minutes be accepted and actions noted.

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APPLICATION FOR BORROWING APPROVAL

The Town Clerk presented a report in relation to the Town Council applying to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for approval to borrow money to fund the purchase of a property.

AGREED

(i) That the Town Council agrees to apply to the Secretary of State for borrowing approval of a loan of £320,000;

(ii) That the Town Council agree to borrow the sum of £320,000 over a 30 year term;

(iii) That the Council consults the community in relation to the proposals as set out in the report for a period of four weeks.

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CIVIC AWARD

Councillor Killingworth presented a report in relation to a "one off" Civic Award being considered by the Council. An amendment to the motion was proposed by Councillor R Coleman and seconded by Councillor Edginton-White that whilst the Civic Award process was being reviewed, an award is not given at this stage but the nominee is written to expressing the Council's thanks and admiration of her work at Bewdley School and Sixth Form Centre.

AGREED

(i) That that Town Clerk be asked to write to the nominee as above;

(ii) That the nominee is kept in mind following a decision by the Policy and Resources Committee to restructure the Civic Award Scheme at its next meeting.

8382

WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS IN BEWDLEY TOWN CENTRE

A report was presented by Councillors Killingworth and Yarranton proposing that this Council write to both Tesco and the Co-Op in the town to encourage the use of smaller delivery lorries so that less stress is placed on the bridge and traffic congestion is reduced. An amendment was proposed by Councillor Roger Coleman to include all businesses that use such vehicles and not single out Tesco and the Co-Op. Councillor Yarranton said that this proposal has the support of County Councillor Campion and WCC Highways.

AGREED

That the Town Clerk contacts businesses in the town to encourage the use of smaller delivery vehicles for the purpose of reducing traffic congestion and strain on Bewdley Bridge.

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POLICE LIAISON GROUP

The notes of the Police Liaison Group held on the 19th October 2016 were noted.

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ADMINISTRATION MATTERS AND DIARY DATES

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

- (i) 9th November, 6pm, Community Flood Volunteers workshop, the Guildhall
- (ii) 13th November, 10.45am, Remembrance Service, robe at Guildhall
- (iii) 15th November, 7pm, PACT, Shaw Hedge Rd Community Centre
- (iv) 21st November, 6.30pm, Community Development Committee, Guildhall
- (v) 26th November, 11.00am, Victorian Christmas in Bewdley. Switch on 5.30pm
- (vi) 5th December from 5.30pm, Planning Committee and full Council, Guildhall
- (vii) 8th December, Crime Free Christmas pop up shop, Youth Cafe

The meeting was closed at 8.40pm

Signed.....
Mayor
5th December 2016

Town Council Meeting - Public Period

Questions raised by members of the public

Mr Mansell of Welch Gate asked about what actions are being taken to alleviate air pollution in Welch Gate. The issue has been going on for far too long and is having detrimental effects on health. The Mayor commented that there is a meeting being held shortly with all partners in order to put a plan in place.

Mrs Gill Holland of Beales Corner suggested that there are no sites suitable for car parking in Wribbenhall as proposed by a report considered last month. The Bridge House site would not be big enough and that Bridge House is a well-used facility. Councillor A Coleman clarified that her report did not identify any sites

specifically. Councillor Edmundson added that the Bridge House site would be a viable option as part of a potential wider regeneration of that area of the riverside.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

There were no police representatives present but the monthly newsletter was circulated with no issues raised.

District and County Councillor Reports

Town, District and County Councillor Gordon Yarranton reported that parking improvements at the Queensway shops was complete, and that this year he has provided some divisional funding towards extending the Christmas lights into Wribbenhall.