

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow, on **MONDAY 11th JANUARY 2016** at **7.00PM**.

S/100 PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr R Jones

Councillors: Clarke, Cobley, Draper, Ginger, Gill, Lyle, M Jones, J Newbold, S Newbold, Parry (Vice-Chair) and Smithers.

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk
 Sean Turgoose, DLF & Market Supervisor
 Tony Caton, Market Officer
 Sarah Hughes, Finance Assistant

Also in attendance: Cllr Perks (7.40pm)

S/101 HEALTH & SAFETY

The Chair informed Councillors of the fire exits, fire assembly point and asked that everyone sign the attendance log.

S/102 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kemp.

S/103 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Councillor	Item	Reason
Councillor Parry	14	Chair of Ludlow in Bloom

Conflicts of Interest

Councillor	Item	Reason
Councillor Ginger	13	Shop owner
Councillor Lyle	9	Board Member of Ludlow 21

Personal Interests

Councillor	Item	Reason
Councillor Draper	8	Dog owner
Councillor Lyle	9	Personal friend of a member of the Fair-trade group

S/104 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

S/105 LUDLOW UNITARY COUNCILLORS QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

Councillor V Parry, Ludlow South was present at the meeting – no updates.

S/106 MINUTES – 23rd NOVEMBER 2015

**RESOLVED (unanimous)
RJ/GG**

That the minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on the 23th November 2015, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

S/107 ITEMS TO ACTION

Councillor R Jones thanked staff for completing the Items to Action.

**RESOLVED (unanimous)
RJ/JS**

That the Items to Action be noted.

S/108 DOG FOULING IN LUDLOW

a) Letter from Shropshire Council's Chair of Environment & Services Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Ginger stated he felt disappointed at the response from Shropshire Council as it failed to take any responsibility to help solve the problem.

The Town Clerk added that Town Council staff were given the option to take on dog warden duties but declined as they felt it may lead to conflict with members of the public in their regular places of work.

Members felt that Ludlow would benefit from the active intervention from Shropshire Council and understand that Bridgnorth is currently receiving assistance.

RESOLVED (unanimous)
GG/RJ

To:-

- i) Reply to Shropshire Council's Chair of Environment & Services Scrutiny Committee expressing disappointment at the action being taken by them regarding the issue of Dog Foul and Shropshire Council's unwillingness to offer any resources to assist.
- ii) To ask Kate Adams to provide an update to the committee on tackling dog fouling in Ludlow.

S/109 b) Sponsorship from Vets and Pet shops

Members noted that local vets at Temeside and the Eco-Park already provide free dog bags.

RESOLVED (unanimous)
VP/SN

To note that local sponsorship for waste bags and dispensers at the Linney from local Veterinary groups and Pet shops was not available.

S/110 c) We're Watching You Dog Fouling Campaign

Councillor Clark noted that information of the serious health risks related to dog foul would have a strong impact.

Councillor Ginger commented that a fine was a strong deterrent.

Councillor Parry requested some copies of the poster for her parish.

RESOLVED (unanimous)
RJ/GG

To:-

- i) Request a large poster from Shropshire Council for the Linney.
- ii) Circulate the poster for the 'We're Watching You Campaign' including the penalty fine amount
- iii) To provide copies to Councillor Parry for her ward
- iiii) To circulate a press release regarding the 'We're Watching you Campaign' and also warning of the risks to children's health and the financial penalties that could be incurred by irresponsible dog owners.

S/111 **FAIRTRADE FLOWERBED IN CASTLE GARDENS**

Councillor Ginger stated that Ludlow Town Council had undertaken the work to create the original bed, and the significant investment should be recognised, subsequent works would need to be funded by the Fair Trade steering group.

RESOLVED (unanimous)
GG/TG

That:-

- i) Ludlow Town Council's Direct Labour Force undertake the planting work to make improvements to the Fair Trade bed.

- ii) Ludlow Fair Trade steering group provide all the funding for plants and materials.

S/112 **BENCHES**

The Chair informed the committee that she had visited the memorial square with members of the Memorial Fund group and confirmed that the Services Committee resolution reflected what had been requested and the subsequent request to remove two benches was proposed after the resolution.

RESOLVED (unanimous)
GG/MC

To:

- i) Retain the existing seating capacity on the Memorial Square

- ii) Permit the positioning of the new bench in the location of the removed bench that would not interfere with the staging of future civic events

- iii) Note the ongoing refurbishment of benches in Castle Gardens by Councillor Perks.

S/113 **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO TRADE AT THE LINNEY RIVERSIDE PARK**

Councillor Ginger suggested that both traders who have expressed interest should be given the option to use the pitch on alternative weeks on a trial basis to see which is preferred by public.

RESOLVED (unanimous)
GG/RJ

That both Joles Gourmet and Torpedo Jacks are offered the use of the pitch on alternate weeks at the Linney Riverside Park on a trial basis.

S/114 **490 BUS – LEOMINSTER/LUDLOW**

Councillor Parry stated that smaller parish councils along the bus route have pledged funding to help maintain the service as residents heavily rely on it. Richards Castle £2,000 and another small parish pledged £1,000.

Councillor Ginger stated that the bus services are the responsibility of Shropshire Council, and so suggested that we write to Shropshire Council informing them of the request and remind them of the commitments being made by small parish councils with limited funds.

RESOLVED
GG/RJ

To:

- i) To note that the responsibility for the bus rests with the Principle Council
- ii) To note that the budget of a town council is significantly less than a principle council such as Herefordshire
- iii) To publicise the service and encourage parishioners to use the bus to help increase the likelihood of the service becoming commercially viable
- iiii) To decline Herefordshire Council's request for £24,000 subsidy to support the 490 bus service from Leominster to Ludlow, and
- v) To write to Shropshire Council to ask them to act on their responsibility for bus provision and provide funding that is at least matched funding from the smaller parishes on the route.

S/115 **MARKET ELECTRIC**

The Chair thanked the DLF Supervisor for taking the meter reads during December.

Councillor Perks entered the meeting at 7.40pm

Councillor Ginger stated that the figures show we are covering the electricity costs with market electric and so an increase could not be justified.

Councillor Clarke added that now we have assessed the usage and confirmed we are covering costs it should remain as it stands, but it should be monitored regularly to make sure this remains the case.

Councillor Smithers suggested that the Town Clerk write to traders to inform them of the decision made and that it will be monitored quarterly.

RECOMMENDED (11:0:1)

MC/RJ

That:-

- i) The electric fee for market traders remains at £1 per trader per day
- ii) The usage of market electric is monitored quarterly.
- iii) Write to Market Traders to inform them of the decision and ongoing monitoring.

Councillor Parry left the chamber at 7.45pm

S/116 LUDLOW IN BLOOM (LIB)

a) Heart of England in Bloom

Councillor Ginger asked if there were any costs involved in hosting Heart of England in Bloom other than using our free room hire allocation, to which the Town Clerk confirmed no other funding would be provided by the Town Council.

RECOMMENDED (unanimous)

GG/RJ

- i) To approve Ludlow hosting the Heart of England in Bloom awards ceremony in September 2016.
- ii) Subject to availability, to allocate the Town Council's room hire for the auditorium and / or Oscar's

Councillor Parry re-entered the chamber at 7.50pm

S/117 RESOLVED

RJ/JS

To note the LIB minutes of the meeting held 8th October and 17th November 2015.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Chairman

Date

N.B. No Closed Session Minutes will be issued.