

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow, on **MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2016** at **7.00PM**.

S/118 **PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor R Jones

Councillors: Clarke, Copley, Draper, Ginger, Gill, J Newbold, S Newbold, Parry and Smithers.

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

Also in attendance: Councillor Perks
Councillor Parry

S/119 **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

RESOLVED (unanimous)
MC/GG

That Councillor Clarke be elected Vice Chair of Services Committee

S/120 **HEALTH & SAFETY**

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

S/121 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lyle.

S/122 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

Conflicts of Interest

Councillor	Item	Reason
Councillor Ginger	13	Shop owner

Personal Interests

Councillor	Item	Reason
Councillor Draper	8	Dog owner

S/123 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were two members of the public present

Mr Perks, Honey Meadow, Ludlow asked if Pride of Place could erect an A-Board outside the Buttercross during litter picking sessions to publicise the change of meeting place from the Buttercross to the Castle entrance. The A-Board would stand for 2 hours once a month.

Regarding item 11 - 490 Bus Service, he stated he felt the Council should work with the Bus Users Group to maintain the service.

Regarding item 12 - War Memorial Bench, he hoped the bench would be in place before the unveiling of the engraved paving slabs on the 14th July 2016. He also reminded members that if a tree is to be planted on Castle Gardens it would need to be done so by Easter, or it would need to be put back until Autumn.

Mrs Parry, Temeside, Ludlow queried the proximity of the proposed new plots to the existing bench and path, and requested that this is considered during the decision making in relation to item 10 - Henley Road Cemetery.

Mrs Parry also commented in relation to item 13 - Ludlow Market, she stated that she felt the market was well run and the report from the Town Clerk was well presented, however, she felt that offering the training would be a waste of already limited funds.

Mrs Parry informed members that Ludlow 21 have applied for Incredible Edible funding and added that the town council's initiative at the Linney & Wheeler Road using Incredible Edible funding improves the town and supports Ludlow in Bloom.

In relation to item 11 - 490 Bus service, She urged members to consider pledging funds. Mrs Parry informed the committee that she had been in contact with a Herefordshire Parish Council who have pledged funding to save the service (figures are unconfirmed):

Leominster - £3,000.00 - £5,000.00

Richards Castle – 2 parishes have pledged £2,000 each

Orelton - £1,000

Luston - £1,000

S/124 **LUDLOW UNITARY COUNCILLORS QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

Councillor Boddington, Ludlow North updated members on the incident which occurred yesterday evening (Sunday 21st February 2016) where a lorry had caused damage to Ludford Bridge by reversing into it. The update from Highways is that the bridge will be closed for around 3 weeks, and that the priority is to restore the bridge properly and carefully, and if possible identify the owner of the lorry.

Councillor Ginger expressed his concern at the length of time the bridge will remain closed. As the only main route into the town from the South he felt the closure of the bridge should be kept to a minimum.

Councillor Gill suggested that if possible Shropshire Council should endeavour to resurface the bridge while it is closed.

Councillor Boddington updated members on the redevelopment of Youth Services in Ludlow. He said the Local Joint Committee are in negotiation to have the Youth Centre added to the community asset register in order to prevent it from becoming a corporate facility.

Councillor Parry, Ludlow South said that she had attended a site visit to look at the damage to Ludford Bridge, and fencing erected for the safety of public crossing the bridge.

Regarding the England in Bloom award ceremony on the 20th September, Councillor Parry informed members that she will be attending the Spring Seminar on 9th March and will discuss the event with the Judges. It is hoped that the full costs for the event will be covered by the Heart of England in Bloom as with previous years.

She informed members that Ludlow in Bloom had received £8,000 funding from Tesco to create a garden area in Castle Street car park. The funds were ring-fenced for this project and works would begin in April.

She stated that members of the public could vote for the project instore at Ludlow's Tesco and the votes might result in increased funds for the project.

S/125 **MINUTES – 11th JANUARY 2016**

RESOLVED (9:0:1)
RJ/PD

That the minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on the 11th January 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

S/126 **ITEMS TO ACTION**

RESOLVED (unanimous)
RJ/PD

That the Items to Action be noted.

S/127 **DOG FOULING IN LUDLOW**

The Town Clerk informed members that Kate Adams, Street Scene Manager South, had sent her apologies for the meeting due to the for mentioned Ludford Bridge incident. She has sent a brief update:

- The We're Watching You campaign posters are now positioned at locations around Ludlow (including Linney). The poster does seem to be having a positive effect along the Tollgate Road to Sheet Road footpath.
- Posters will be moved around areas of Ludlow to keep them effective.
- We have issued a Fixed Penalty Notice to a Ludlow resident who was witnessed by a member of the public, allowing their dog to foul in Clee View, Ludlow. The person accused of the offence is contesting the FPN.
- The FPN currently issued by Shropshire Council for littering/fouling is £75 which reduces to £50 if paid within 10 working days.
- We are continuing to experience problems with dog fouling in Temeside, Steventon New Road and Friars Walk. Ringway are visiting these areas regularly to clear any fouling, and officers patrol whenever possible (although this is not their dedicated role).

RESOLVED (unanimous)
JS/GG

- i) To note the update from Kate Adams, Street Scene Manager South
- ii) To issue a press release regarding the update

S/128 **CREMATED REMAINS**

RECOMMENDED (unanimous)
PD/RJ

That plot GG is re-mapped and registers updated to use the area to its full capacity subject to careful consideration for the provision of adequate pathways to existing benches.

S/129 **BUS SERVICE - 490**

Councillor Draper stated that the loss of bus routes in rural areas could increase isolation and often effect the most vulnerable in society. He suggested that the Budget Working Group could consider if it would be possible to create a funding pot to support buses and rural transport.

In addition, he suggested that the committee engages with Herefordshire and Shropshire Council to ask them to write to Central Government informing them of the impact of cutting bus services to residents of isolated rural areas.

Councillor Gill expressed his reservations at pledging funds as the Councils budget is decreasing and requests for funding will become more common.

He added that the position of Youth Services in Ludlow is still unclear, and so if there are any areas where surplus funds can be create, it may be of better use elsewhere.

Councillor Clarke, Councillor Kemp and Councillor Cobley agreed with this, adding that the shortfall of Herefordshire Council's budget should not be passed down to smaller parish Councils of a different county.

RESOLVED (4:6:0)
MC/TG

That the request for funds is noted, but rejected on the grounds that the Council's budget is limited.

This motion was not carried.

S/130 **RESOLVED (6:4:0)**
PD/GG

That:

i) The Budget Working Group consider the level of funding available to support buses and report back to committee.

ii) Herefordshire and Shropshire Council are asked to lobby central government on the issues of rural transport, including buses, to prevent social isolation of the elderly and vulnerable members of society.

S/131 **WAR MEMORIAL BENCHES**

The chair requested that this item be deferred to the next Services meeting on 4th April 2016.

RESOLVED (unanimous)
RJ/MC

That the item is deferred to the next meeting on 4th April 2016.

LUDLOW MARKET

S/132 a) Market Attendance

Councillor Draper on behalf of members thanked the Town Clerk and staff for the efficient running of Ludlow Market, and agreed that the Market was an important asset for Ludlow.

RESOLVED (unanimous) **PD/RJ**

- i) To note the existing regulations and policies regarding attendance
- ii) That the Services Committee write to permanent traders who regularly attend the market to acknowledge the very difficult trading conditions they have endured, and thank them for their resilience and commitment to Ludlow market
- iii) That an item to review winter and summer charges for casual traders is brought to the next meeting

S/133 b) Market Merchandising

Members were in agreement that it was the responsibility of individual traders to access training and refresh their skills.

RESOLVED (unanimous) **MC/TG**

That funding for a merchandising workshop would not be approved

S/134 c) Market Traders meeting notes

Councillor Ginger referred to the suggested amendment to payment structure and stated that the income expectation has already been set within the current structure

With regards to the request for a larger spread of parking spaces in castle street car park, Councillor Ginger disagreed with traders spreading across a wider area within the town centre car park.

Councillor Clarke added that he felt the concession for using castle street toilets should not be allowed.

RESOLVED **GG/TG**

i) To decline the request for a revised rent reduction incentive payment structure.

iii) To desist from pursuing the suggestion of expanding area in which the allocated parking in castle street was permitted for traders.

iiii) To decline the request for concessions for market traders when charges are introduced at castle street toilets.

S/135 INCREDIBLE EDIBLE

The Direct Labour Supervisor gave an update on the planting enabled by Incredible Edible funding which is detailed below. He also stated that the planting had been well received by residents.

Linney Riverside Park

10 blackcurrant plants
10 gooseberry plants
10 raspberry plants
4 apple trees
4 pear trees

Wheeler Road Playing Fields

8 blackcurrant plants
8 gooseberry plants
10 raspberry plants
4 apple trees
4 pear trees

RESOLVED (unanimous)
RJ/PD

That the update regarding the Incredible Edible project be noted

S/136 LUDLOW IN BLOOM (LIB)

a) Minutes 21st January 2016

RESOLVED (unanimous)
PD/RJ

That the LIB minutes of the meeting held 21st January 2016 be noted

S/137 b) Planting List 2016

RESOLVED (unanimous)
RJ/PK

That the LIB Planting list for 2016 be noted

S/137 c) Heart of England in Bloom Award Ceremony

RESOLVED (unanimous)

RJ/PK

To note that the England in Bloom award ceremony would take place on Tuesday 20th September 2016 at Ludlow Assembly Rooms

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Chairman

Date

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