

## MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 29<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2016** at **7.00PM**

### PF/97 PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor Cobley

Councillors: Clarke, Draper, Gill, Ginger, Lyle (7.47pm), Parry, Smithers, Sheward

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk  
Lucy Jones, Finance Officer

### PF/98 HEALTH & SAFETY

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

### PF/99 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kemp, R. Jones and Councillor Lyle who would arrive late.

### PF/100 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests  
None

#### Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
G. Ginger	12	Town business owner – Crime Reduction and Security Event

#### Declarations of Personal Interest

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
A. Cobley	12	Family member works for West Mercia Police
M. Clarke	12	Local business manager
P. Draper	8	Mayor's Charity
	10	Mayor's Charity
	12	Business provides equipment to West Mercia Police
	15	Local Business Owner

G. Ginger	15	Local Business Owner
V. Parry	8	Ludlow in Bloom
G. Perks	8	Pride of Place
		Family member trading on market
	10	Pride of Place - Insurance Cover
R. Jones	11	Family relationship

**PF/101 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)**

There were no members of the public or press present.

**PF/102 UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION**

Unitary Councillor Parry, Ludlow South informed the Committee that she had passed on Members concerns on the lack of diversion signage to the south of Ludlow in regards to the closure of Ludford Bridge. She went on to say that a further road closure on Temeside would be in place over Easter for resurfacing works and that a second closure of the road would follow to enable the demolition of the gas works. She added that she had requested that these works be delayed until the bridge was reopened without success.

**PF/103 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED (7:0:1) AC/GG**

That the open session minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016, subject to the amendment of the proposer and seconder at minute PF/96 to RJ/PK, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**PF/104 ITEMS TO ACTION**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) AC/GG**

That the Items to Action be noted.

**PF/105 FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Councillor Gill queried the cost of producing and distributing paper agendas to all Councillors and whether they could be circulated electronically. The Town Clerk stated that staff were working towards electronic distribution and the imminent launch of the new website and the installation of the new server will allow for the set up of a Councillor accessible platform to access agendas and other Council information online. She added that Council may also wish to look at investing in computer tablets for Councillors to ensure that all Members have equal access.

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) PD/AC**

That the Payments and Income Reports, Bank Reconciliation and Barclaycard Statements for December 2015 and January 2016, be received.

**PF/106 RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/JS**

That the Town Clerk present a report to the next Policy and Finance Committee with a proposal for the provision of paperless agendas and Councillor tablets.

**PF/107 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) AC/JS**

That the Income and Expenditure and Exceptions reports for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter be noted.

**PF/108 MAYOR'S CHARITY ACCOUNT**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) AC/GG**

That the Mayor's Charity Account report be noted.

**PF/109 PAYPAL ACCOUNT**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/TG**

That the Paypal Account report be noted.

**PF/110 CRIME REDUCTION & SECURITY EVENT**

**RESOLVED (0:6:3) CS/JS**

That the Council provide £250 in support of the crime prevention advice event.

This proposal was not carried.

Councillor Lyle entered the meeting at 7.47pm

**PF/111** Members restated the Town Council's ongoing commitment and support of crime prevention measures to benefit the whole community of Ludlow, and to this end, the town council actively provides and maintains the town centre CCTV cameras and infra-structure.

Members felt that the principle of working for the whole community was not at the heart of this crime prevention advice event. They felt unable to support the specific request for funding to subsidise the provision of equipment for



individual local businesses and also felt unable to support an event held at the premises of a local business.

Whilst the general principle of providing security advice is a positive activity, the specific methods to be employed at the event such as offering a discount that would only benefit a few businesses, and in reality benefit the suppliers the most because they would receive the full value of the purchase and may experience increased sales as a result of the event, is not something that the Town Council can support.

Members were also concerned that the venue being the premises of a local business would create advantageous publicity for that commercial business.

**RESOLVED (6:0:3) AC/VP**

That:-

- i) the Town Clerk request that the Town Council's logo be removed from the event poster.
- ii) the Council publicise the Crime Prevention Advice Event being held at Tom Dickens Fine Art, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, from 5:30pm on Thursday 10th March 2016.

**PF/112 BANK CHARGES**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) PD/AC**

That:-

- i) the increase to bank charges be noted.
- ii) The Town Clerk further investigates how to minimise the cost increase and report back to Committee in September 2016.

**PF/113 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC: PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

The Chairman moved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business pursuant to section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) AC/PD**

That the public be excluded and the meeting continue in closed session.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

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Chairman  
N.B. Closed Session Minutes will be issued.

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Date