

## MINUTES

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

### **S/20**      **PRESENT**

Chairman:                      Councillor R Jones

Councillors:                  Clarke, Copley, Draper, Ginger, Kemp, Lyle, J  
Newbold, S Newbold and Smithers.

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

Also  
in attendance:                Cllr V Parry

### **S/21**      **HEALTH & SAFETY**

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

### **S/22**      **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Gill.

### **S/23**      **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

#### Conflicts of Interest

None

#### Personal Interests

Councillor	Item	Reason
Councillor Ginger	11	Business Owner
Councillor R Jones	8	Has family members buried in Plot L

**S/24 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

There were no members of the public present.

**S/25 LUDLOW UNITARY COUNCILLORS QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

The Chair thanked Councillor Parry for her hard work during the Ludlow in Bloom Judges visit on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

Councillor Parry informed the meeting that she had received a report from Shropshire Council regarding Ludlow Library. She confirmed that 6 libraries in the county, including Ludlow library, were safe from being closed. However, she said that a reduction in staff was to be expected and one of the options being discussed was a 'self-service' library. Councillor Parry also added that she disagrees with the idea of rehoming the post office in the library, and said that the new 'Budgens' store is a better location for these facilities.

Regarding play areas, Councillor Parry stated that Highways would maintain the grass verges for a further 12 months, however if any play equipment becomes damaged then it will be removed rather than replaced due to lack of funding.

Regarding bridges on unclassified roads and right of ways, Councillor Parry informed members that Shropshire Council currently had a deficit of around £100,000 and were currently investigating other funding options to avoid these bridges being closed.

She went on to say that new parking charges are being introduced at Stiperstones and Snailbeach trails.

Regarding Item 9 – Muslim Burials – Councillor Parry expressed her concerns that we may be unable to facilitate some of the requirements that have been stated within the report, such as separate toilet facilities and raised graves.

**S/26 MINUTES – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**RESOLVED (unanimous)  
RJ/GG**

That the minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**S/27**      **ITEMS TO ACTION**

**RESOLVED** (unanimous)  
**RJ/PD**

That the Items to Action be noted.

**S/28**      **CEMETERY PLOTS**

Members noted the report and appendices detailing the proposed changes of use for Section I and Section L.

**RECOMMENDED** (unanimous)  
**PD/RJ**

- i) That Section I is used only for burials and no further reserved graves are accepted in this area;
- ii) all pre-purchased reserved graves are allocated in section L,
- iii) One new row is created on section L and extend entries are recorded for plot L in the burial register to record additional plots.

**S/29**      **MUSLIM BURIALS**

Councillor Ginger expressed his concerns with arranging any site visits to Muslim Cemeteries before we have looked into the finer details of the requirements necessary.

Members discussed the report at length and whether Henley Road Cemetery has the capacity to facilitate the Muslim population of such a large geographical area, and the logistics of having a designated area specifically for Muslim Burials.

Councillor Clarke suggested that a projection is made of how many burials we anticipate for the immediate population of Ludlow and whether this allows space in the Cemetery for a designated Muslim area at this stage.

Councillor Draper agreed that space in the cemetery is very limited and allowing an area to be exclusively reserved for one religion may be difficult, but that a report could be done to demonstrate the number of burials of parishioners anticipated in the cemetery over the next 10 years.

**RECOMMENDED** (unanimous)  
**PD/MC**

**That:-**

- i) It is recognised that there is a finite capacity at Henley Road Cemetery and Ludlow Town Council must ensure that best use of the area for the residents of the parish.

- ii) A statistical report is compiled using historic burial rates to predict future demand and likely lifespan of the remaining space in the cemetery; and the report is brought back to members.

**S/30**      **BENCHES**

The Chair thanked Councillor Perks for refurbishing benches in town.

**RESOLVED (unanimous)**  
**RJ/PD**

To note the update from Councillor Perks

**S/31**      **MARKET ELECTRIC**

The DLF supervisor advised members that there were less users electricity users in the summer months because lighting was one of the primary uses of electricity.

**RESOLVED (unanimous)**  
**PD/RJ**

**That:-**

- i) Staff continue to report electric readings to the Services Committee on a quarterly basis until a full year has been recorded.
- ii) Market Electric charges are further reviewed after a full year of figures have been reported to committee.

**S/32**      **CASTLE GARDENS**

Councillor Ginger informed members that he had attended a site visit at Castle Gardens with Mr Mahalski to assess the posts.

Mr Mahalski has agreed that Ludlow Civic Society have offered to undertake the repair works required to restore the chains, including necessary negotiation with Historic England, at no financial or time cost to the Council.

**RECOMMENDED (Unanimous)**  
**GG/RJ**

That volunteers from Ludlow Civic Society undertake the works to refurbish the chains and posts at Castle Gardens and undertake appropriate consultation with Historic England and secure permissions with Historic England prior works commencing.

**S/33    BUS SERVICES**

Councillor Parry informed members that this issue was being raised at the next Cabinet meeting at Shropshire Council and she would report the outcome at the next Services Committee.

**RESOLVED (Unanimous)**  
**RJ/PK**

To note the letter.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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