



## MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018** at **7.00PM**

### **PF/62      PRESENT**

Chairman:                      Councillor Cobley

Councillors:                  Clarke, Garner, Gill, Ginger, Mahalski, O'Neill, Parry, Perks, Sheward, Smithers.

Officers:                        Gina Wilding, Town Clerk  
Lucy Jones, Senior Finance Assistant

### **PF/63      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/64      APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received.

### **PF/65      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None declared

#### **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Councillor Parry	9	Ludlow in Bloom

#### **Declarations of Personal Interest**

None declared

### **PF/66      PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)**

There were no members of the public or press present.

**PF/67**     **UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION**

Unitary Councillor Parry, Ludlow South informed Members that Shropshire Council will pass on 15% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies to parish councils, but would be able use the rest anywhere within the county not necessarily in the area of the development. She stated that the CIL monies would now be allocated by a Place Plan Task and Finish Working Group rather than the Local Joint Committee, and that the first meeting was provisionally set for the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019. She added that a meeting on the matter was being held in Craven Arms on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7.30pm at the Methodist Church with Mark Burrell, and she encouraged Members of Ludlow Town Council to attend.

Unitary Councillor Parry went on to discuss the loss of the Shropshire Council Community Enablement Officers. She added that it was likely that the Local Joint Committee would also come to an end in the near future.

**Supporting Informed and Resilient Communities****RECOMMENDED (Unanimous) AC/CS**

To approve the draft letter expressing the detrimental impact on community resilience that will be caused by the loss of the services provided by the Community Enablement Team and further concerns regarding the loss of the connection to Shirehall, the portfolio holders and senior staff, if the Local Joint Committee meetings cease.

**PF/68**     **MINUTES****RESOLVED (10:0:1) AC/TG**

That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Perks' apologies, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**PF/69**     **ITEMS TO ACTION****RESOLVED (Unanimous) AC/TG**

That the items to action be noted.

**PF/70**     **FINANCE INFORMATION****RESOLVED (Unanimous) AC/TG**

That the Cash Book Income and Expenditure report, Reconciliation and Barclaycard Statements for October 2018, PayPal Payments, Income and Reconciliation for August, September and October; and Mayor's Charity

Payments, Income and reconciliation for July, August, September and October, be received.

**PF/71**     **2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

**RESOLVED (7:0:4) AC/GP**

That:-

- a) the Local Council Corporate Governance Scheme be reviewed;
- b) the Income and Expenditure report be read together with the Exceptions report to provide a true representation of the Council's quarterly financial position;
- c) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Income and Expenditure report and Exceptions report, be received.

**PF/72**     **INSURANCE**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/AC**

That the Council's insurers be invited to attend a Policy and Finance Committee meeting to discuss the current insurance cover and any necessary extensions.

**PF/73**     **POLICIES**

**Reserves Policy**

**RESOLVED (8:0:3) AC/TG**

That the Reserves Policy be referred to Ellis Whittam, SALC and the Internal Auditor for advice.

**PF/74**     **Investment Policy**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) AC/GG**

That the Investment Policy be referred to Ellis Whittam, SALC and the Internal Auditor for advice.

**PF/75**     **Out of Hours Policy**

**RECOMMENDED (Unanimous) GG/AC**

That the Out of Hours Policy be adopted.

**PF/76 BUDGET WORKING GROUP**

**RESOLVED (10:1:0) AC/CS**

That the notes of the Budget Working Group meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018, be received.

**PF/77 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS**

**Budget Consultation – 2018/19 Additional Saving Required**

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) CS/GP**

That the Council reply to the consultation as follows:-

- a) Voice members disappointment and frustration with how Shropshire Council consults with organisations and the public.
- b) Shropshire Council rarely provided sufficient information or listens to the concerns raised, therefore making the whole process pointless.
- c) The information provided in this consultation is inadequate to make an informed decision as we cannot gauge the impact on the service without knowing the original budget amount as well as the amount the budget is being reduced.

**PF/78 Council Tax Support Consultation**

Councillor Sheward stated that this issue would have a disproportionate effect on sheltered housing tenants.

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) TG/GG**

That Ludlow Town Council replies to the consultation to say that the information is unusable and a reply cannot be made as the information provided is insufficient to allow the Council to consider the effects of the matter.

The meeting closed at 8.06pm.

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Chairman

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Date

N.B. No Closed Session Minutes will be issued for this meeting.