CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Closed Session minutes of an Extraordinary meeting of the **COUNCIL** held at The Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow, on **THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2026** at **7.00PM**

FC/251 **NAMED VOTES**

RESOLVED TG/DL (unanimous)

That a named vote be recorded for all decisions taken during the closed session.

FC/252 **EMPLOYMENT MATTER**

RESOLVED RO/GG (13:0:0)

That a report from the Mayor and Chair of Staffing be received regarding outstanding correspondence concerning an employment matter including a letter dated 21st September 2026, from the Mayor and Chair of Staffing.

FC/253 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
None declared

Conflict of Interest
None declared

Personal interests

COUNCILLOR	ITEM	REASON
Taylor	8(b)	Is the subject of a complaint to the Monitoring Officer
Eastaff	8(b)	Made a complaint about an officer following the ATRM
Childs	8(b)	Has given evidence relating to a FOI request
Ginger	8(b)	Was Mayor when some issues raised had occurred
Lyle	8(b)	Knows and works with a named officer
Addis	8(b)	Knows and works with a named officer
Cowell	8(b)	Knows and works with a named officer

Gill	8(b)	Knows and works with a named officer
Harris	8(b)	Knows and works with a named officer
Hepworth	8(b)	Knows and works with a named officer
Owen	8(b)	Knows and works with a named officer

Councillor Parry stated that she was unable to declare an interest but stated that she knew the officer concerned.

Councillor Taylor recused himself and left the meeting at 8.07 PM.

FC/254 **EMPLOYMENT MATTER**

RESOLVED DC/SE (11:1:0)

FOR: PA, JA, DC, KC, SE, TG, GG, SH, JH, DL, RO
AGAINST: VP
ABSTAIN: None

To approve the letter dated 21st September 2026 as the Council's preliminary statement of concerns and request for written representations, without making any finding that the matters referred to in that correspondence are established and without determining at this stage the appropriate employment procedure or any eventual outcome.

FC/255 **RESOLVED RO/GG (11:1:0)**

FOR: PA, JA, DC, KC, SE, TG, GG, SH, JH, DL, RO
AGAINST: VP
ABSTAIN: None

To request a written response within 10 working days beginning on 9th October 2026, subject to reasonable consideration of any request for an extension.

FC/256 **RESOLVED RO/PA (11:1:0)**

FOR: PA, JA, DC, KC, SE, TG, GG, SH, JH, DL, RO
AGAINST: VP
ABSTAIN: None

To delegate to the Staffing Committee responsibility for receiving and managing that response and for appointing a suitably qualified and independent person to review the relevant correspondence and supporting material.

FC/257 **RESOLVED RO/PA (11:1:0)**

FOR: PA, JA, DC, KC, SE, TG, GG, SH, JH, DL, RO

AGAINST: VP
ABSTAIN: None

That the independent reviewer shall provide findings and recommendations as to appropriate next steps.

FC/258 **RESOLVED RO/SE (11:1:0)**

FOR: PA, JA, DC, KC, SE, TG, GG, SH, JH, DL, RO
AGAINST: VP
ABSTAIN: None

That any matter which, under the Staffing Committee's Terms of Reference, requires determination or ratification by Full Council shall be referred back to Full Council before further substantive action is taken.

FC/259 **RESOLVED RO/GG (11:1:0)**

FOR: PA, JA, DC, KC, SE, TG, GG, SH, JH, DL, RO
AGAINST: VP
ABSTAIN: None

That the cost of any independent reviewer be brought back to Full Council to be ratified at an EGM, if necessary.

FC/260 **RESOLVED RO/GG (11:1:0)**

FOR: PA, JA, DC, KC, SE, TG, GG, SH, JH, DL, RO
AGAINST: VP
ABSTAIN: None

To delegate to the Staffing Committee of the Council authority for any necessary steps including the potential appointment of an independent external party to review matters raised. (It was agreed this matter had been dealt with under FC/256).

The meeting closed at 8.25 PM.

_____ _____

Town Mayor Date