

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held at The Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **WEDNESDAY 26TH AUGUST 2026 at 7.00 PM.**

FC/200 **PRESENT**

Chair:	Councillor Lyle
Councillors:	Addis; Harris; Hepworth; Owen and Taylor.
Officers:	Gina Wilding, Town Clerk Kate Adams, Deputy Town Clerk

FC/201 HEALTH & SAFETY

The Mayor, Councillor Lyle, welcomed everyone to the Full Council meeting and made some health and safety announcements.

FC/202 RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The Mayor notified those present that under the Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014, recording and broadcasting is permitted during public session of Council Meetings. The act of recording and broadcasting must not interfere with the meeting.

FC/203 MEETING PROTOCOL

The Mayor reminded Members of the vital importance of mutual respect, professionalism, and full adherence to the Council's Code of Conduct, Standing Orders, and Meeting Protocol.

Councillors and officers have distinct yet complementary roles and work collaboratively in the best interests of the community. Councillors are responsible for setting policy and representing the public, while officers provide impartial advice and are tasked with implementing Council decisions.

During meetings, Members must conduct themselves with decorum, follow the established rules of debate, and respect the authority of the Chair. Disruptive behaviour, undue pressure on officers, or prioritising personal interests above Council objectives undermines good governance and is contrary to the standards of conduct expected in Council proceedings.

Maintaining integrity, accountability, and a respectful environment is essential to ensuring effective and transparent decision-making.

FC/204 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Childs, Gill, Maxwell-Muller and Parry.

FC/205 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

Conflicts of Interest

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Taylor	8d	One of the co-option candidates is his wife.

Personal Interests

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Lyle	12	Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust and members of PCC.

FC/206 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were five members of the public in attendance as co-option candidates.

FC/207 LUDLOW UNITARY COUNCILLOR'S SESSION

No unitary councillors were present.

FC/208 CO-OPTION

RESOLVED PA/SH (unanimous)

To note the co-option procedure and the candidates for each ward.
To receive the applications and verbal presentations from candidates for co-option from the five candidates.

FC/209 CO-OPTION FOR CLEE VIEW WARD

Jonathan Argent is proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Harris.

William Bowen is proposed by Cllr Hepworth and seconded by Cllr Owen.
Nick Gallon is proposed by Cllr Harris and seconded by Cllr Addis.

Paper ballot votes were received and counted by the Town Clerk as follows: John Argent 5 votes, William Bowen 1 vote, Nick Gallon 0 votes.

RESOLVED DL/PA (5:1:0)

That Jonathan Argent received the majority of votes cast and was therefore duly co-opted as a Councillor for Clee View Ward.

FC/210 CO-OPTION FOR GALLOWS BANK WARD

William Bowen is proposed by Cllr Hepworth and seconded by Cllr Owen
Susan Eastaff is proposed by Cllr Harris and seconded by Cllr Addis
Nick Gallon is proposed by Cllr Addis and seconded by Cllr Harris
Sean Levisaur is proposed by Cllr Harris and seconded by Cllr Addis.

Paper ballot votes were received and counted by the Town Clerk as follows:
William Bowen 0 votes, Susan Eastaff 3 votes, Nick Gallon 1 vote, Sean Levisaur 1 vote.
Cllr Taylor abstained from voting.

RESOLVED DL/PA (3:2:0)

That Susan Eastaff received the majority of votes cast and was therefore duly co-opted as a Councillor for Gallows Bank Ward.

FC/211 COMMITTEE TASK AND FINISH GROUP MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED DL/SH (unanimous)

That Councillor Argent be elected as a member of Services Committee, Staffing Committee, Efficiency Review Task and Finish Group, and Neighbourhood Plan Task and Finish Group.

That Councillor Eastaff be elected as a member of Services Committee, Policy and Finance Committee, Town Centre Planting Task and Finish Group, Insurance Task and Finish Group, and CCTV Task and Finish Group.

That Councillor Harris be elected as a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Task and Finish Group.

FC/212 DISPLAY LIGHTING TASK AND FINISH GROUP

RESOLVED PA/DL (unanimous)

To note the minutes.

FC/213 RESOLVED PA/SH (unanimous)

To approve the recommendations:

- That the new colour theme for Ludlow's lights should be warm white with colour accents of red and green for motifs.
- That the transformation should be in phases; current lights should remain in place until they are due for replacement in the new colour scheme.
- Upgrading Christmas Lights Phase 1:
 - To approve the purchase of warm white braid lights for top section of Corve Street, King Street and High Street - £6,646.00 + VAT (and £300 catenary wire) from the 2026/27 contingencies budget.
 - To approve changing the lower section of Corve Street from cool white to warm white lights - £2,138.00 + VAT from the 2026/27 contingencies budget (probably in 2027).
 - To approve replacing the existing motifs in Corve St, Old St and Bull Ring with warm white/red and green motifs (for 2027) from the 2027/2028 budget.

FC/214 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC: PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED PA/SH (unanimous)

That 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, and the meeting continue in closed session.

The meeting closed at 7.45 PM.

Town Mayor

Date

Closed session minutes will be issued for this meeting.