



## MINUTES

Minutes of a zoom meeting of the **COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020** at **7.00 PM.**

### **FC/175 PRESENT**

Chairman:	Councillor Gill
Councillors:	Adams; Clarke; Copley; Garner; Ginger; Lyle; Naysmith; Parry; Pote; and Sheward.
Officers:	Gina Wilding, Town Clerk Naomi Brotherton, Senior Admin Assistant

### **FC/176 VIRTUAL MEETING WELCOME**

Mayor, Councillor Tim Gill welcomed everyone to the virtual Full Council meeting, introduced the Councillors present, and explained that:

This is a formal Town Council meeting and will be held, just as ones in the Guildhall, using the published agenda.

As with meetings in the Guildhall, members of the public will be given the opportunity to speak during public participation, but will not be permitted, unless invited to do so by the Chairman, to speak at other times.

The Clerk has the ability to mute or remove anyone who does cause a nuisance, but of course, we hope that this won't be necessary.

It is impossible to hear if everyone speaks at once. So that we have some order, I'd be grateful if you could speak one at a time and use the 'reactions' button at the bottom of the Zoom screen and raise your virtual hand if you'd like to speak.

Please note that we will not be using the 'chat' function and will not be sharing any files via Zoom. In order to avoid your technology being compromised, please do not use Chat and do not respond to any messages made via Chat.

### **FC/177 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.

The Council understands that some members of the public may not wish to be recorded and asks that they turn off their camera and access the meeting via audio only.

### **FC/178 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Perks.

### **FC/179 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Cllr Garner	17	Receives a pension from Shropshire Council
Cllr Pote	17	Receives a pension from Shropshire Council
Cllr Sheward	17	Receives a pension from Shropshire Council
Cllr Cobley	17	Spouse receives pension from Shropshire Council

#### Conflicts of Interest

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Cllr Lyle	17	Member of South Shropshire Climate Group
Cllr Parry	17	Ludlow in Bloom Predetermined as Unitary Councillor
Cllr Pote	17	Member of South Shropshire Climate Group
Cllr Garner	9	Chair of local youth group

#### Personal Interests

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Cllr Adams	17	Member of South Shropshire Climate Group
Cllr Cobley	17	Personal friend of the Chair of South Shropshire Climate Group
Cllr Lyle	9	Knows Richard Morley
	11	Knows the Treasurer of the Boxing Club
	14	Knows the Chair of the Local to Ludlow CIC
	17	Knows the Chair of South Shropshire Climate Group
Cllr Parry	9	Committee Member of the Youth Club organised by SSYF
Cllr Pote	17	Knows the Chair of South Shropshire Climate Group

### **FC/180 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)**

There were two members of the public present via Zoom.

**FC/181 UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION**

Councillor T Huffer, Ludlow East – Councillor Huffer stated that the item on the Agenda for Youth Services provision was much welcomed. She hoped to continue to work with the staff of SYA (Shropshire Youth Association) and South Shropshire Youth Forum (SSYF) and pointed out that they had both worked tirelessly to deliver services in Ludlow. She highlighted that she was Chair of the Ludlow Area Youth Partnership and strongly advised Council that the continuation of the Friday Evening Youth Club at the Youth Centre was vital.

She informed Council that Shropshire Council were currently reviewing and configuring Youth Services across the County. However she stated Shropshire Council, she felt, were focused more on the structure of the service rather than the delivery and range of services to the end user. She personally felt Shropshire Council were trying to re-write the book and it would be detrimental to Ludlow.

She urged the Town Council to look at youth provision and also requested that the Town Council lobby Shropshire Council, on the configuration of services, so as to not lose services.

SSYF had confirmed that there would be no funding for the youth activities after July 2021.

Councillor Huffer informed Council that she was aware that the Town Council would not be able to find all the funding for youth services in Ludlow as it would be a 'big ask'.

Councillor A Boddington, Ludlow North – Councillor Boddington highlighted the homeless in Ludlow and outlined that Simon Legger, one of the homeless had recently died on his way to hospital. Councillor Boddington, would announce details of the funeral later this week, for any who wished to attend.

Turning to the issue of the other homeless people, Councillor Boddington informed Council that Shropshire Council was working hard and had a winter policy of ensuring that all homeless were inside during the harsh weather. He added it was a challenge and not always easy.

Councillor V Parry, Ludlow South – Councillor Parry had nothing to add regarding Shropshire Council but asked if there was an update to the Sidney Road land being transferred to the Town Council.

The Town Clerk advised Councillor Parry that the developer Connexus were still in the process of applying to Shropshire Council for town green status, and progress could be made after this.

The Mayor addressed Councillor Boddington and asked if any headway had been made with the beggars in Ludlow.

Councillor Boddington confirmed a Police led meeting had taken place and that begging was probably an issue across the Marshes. He advised Council that around ten people had been identified in Ludlow as regularly as begging, they were not homeless or rough sleepers; and all indications were pointing possibly to a slavery situation. No further progress had been made since the initial meeting but he would investigate further.

**FC/182 MINUTES – FULL COUNCIL 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

**RESOLVED (10:0:1) TG/PA**

That the open and closed minutes of Full Council on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be approved as a correct record by the Chairman.

**FC/183 ITEMS TO ACTION – 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

The Mayor thanked staff for completing many of the actions, given the current challenges.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/EG**

That the Items to Action be noted.

**FC/184 YOUTH SERVICES PROVISION – LUDLOW**

Richard Morley, South Shropshire Youth Forum (SSYF) and Richard Parkes of Shropshire Youth Association (SYA) made a presentation on youth services.

The Mayor thanked Mr Morley and Mr Parkes and stated he appreciated all the work that was done with the youth in Ludlow, and wished there were more resources for what he personally saw as dire mental health provision.

**RESOLVED (7:5:1) GG/TG**

That the Town Council lobbies Shropshire Council for the reinstatement of funding for the public health model of youth services in Ludlow.

**FC/185 BUDGET – YOUTH SERVICES PROVISION - LUDLOW**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/GG**

That without commitment to provision of any additional funding, to consider the budget cuts made to youth provision by Shropshire Council within the town council's budget setting for 2021/22.

**FC/186 INTERNAL AUDITOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RESOLVED (5:0:6) TG/RP**

To support the challenge of the External Auditor's comment because the Council had completed the statutory process within the statutory timescale.

**FC/187 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTING RETURN**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/PA**

To note that the Annual Governance and Accounting Return, and notification of electors rights were posted on the Town Council's website within the statutory timescale.

**FC/188 WHITEFRIARS/WHEELER ROAD – REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY STORAGE**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/GG**

That Severn Trent are advised to directly approach the Boxing Club, who are the lease holders of the land in question.

**FC/189 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/AC**

To receive the financial information, quarterly income and expenditure and exceptions reports for Q4 in 2019/20, and Q1 and Q2 in 2020 /21.

**FC/190 CORE GRANT CRITERIA**

**RESOLVED (10:1:0) TG/RP**

That the Core Grant Criteria be noted.

**FC/191 CORE GRANT APPLICATION – LUDLOW TOWN BAND**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/GG**

That an Annual Core Grant of £500 is awarded to Ludlow Town Band in 2021/22.

**FC/192 REDUCED PROPORTIONAL MARKET RENT**

**RESOLVED (6:0:5) GG/TG**

That the request from Ludlow 21 CIC for an additional reduction to the proportional rent is declined.

**FC/193 MEMORIAL REQUEST**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/PA**

That the request for an additional memorial plaque is declined because it is the Town Council's policy that there is one memorial per grave.

That a replacement memorial stone of the correct dimensions could be erected with the additional inscription, and this would be acceptable within the policy.

8.27 pm Councillor Gill left the meeting. Councillor Pote chaired this item.

**FC/194 LEP MARKET TOWN FUNDING LETTER**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) AC/RP**

That the LEP Market Town Funding letter notifying of an extension until the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, be noted.

8.29 pm Councillor Gill re-joined the meeting and continued as Chair.

8.34pm Councillors Cobley, Garner, Parry, Pote, Sheward left the meeting.

**FC/195 DIVESTMENT OF SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL PENSION FUND**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/MC**

That Ludlow Town Council does not possess expertise in this matter, and advise South Shropshire Climate Action Group to directly approach the decision making board of Shropshire Council Pension Fund.

8.41pm Councillor Cobley, Garner, Parry, Pote and Sheward re-joined the meeting.

**FC/196 COUNCIL CALENDAR**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/EG**

That the following amendments to the Council Calendar up to July 2021 to change Full Council on 29<sup>th</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> March; to change Full Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April to 19<sup>th</sup> April; to remove P&F meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> April, be approved.

**FC/197** **LCC****RESOLVED (10:0:1) TG/RP**

That further expenditure, for LCC to assist with the exploration of more detailed information and options in relation to the staffing structure report and recommendations, should be deferred until the Staffing Committee undertakes a detailed evaluation of the report and it is determined if assistance is productive.

**FC/198** **STAFFING TASK & FINISH GROUP****RESOLVED (10:0:1) TG/CS**

That once the Staffing Committee has undertaken an evaluation of the Staffing Structure report from LCC, the Committee consider whether the creation of a Task and Finish Group is required to explore more detailed information and options, in relation to report, and if this would be beneficial.

**FC/199** **COMMITTEE MINUTES – REPRESENTATIONAL COMMITTEE 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020 AND 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020****RESOLVED (9:0:2) GG/TG**

That the minutes of the Representational Committee on the 14<sup>th</sup> October and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be received.

**FC/200** **COMMITTEE MINUTES – STAFFING COMMITTEE 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020****RESOLVED (8:0:3) DL/CS**

That the minutes of the Staffing Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be received.

The meeting closed at 8:53 pm.

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 Town Mayor

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 Date

NB Closed session minutes will NOT be issued.