



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held at The Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 22ND JANUARY 2024** at 7.00 PM.

FC/262 **PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor Ginger

Councillors: Childs; Garner; Gill; Hall; Parry; Pote; Tapley; Thompson, Urka; B Waite, S Waite.

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk
Kate Adams, Deputy Town Clerk

FC/263 **ABSENT**

Councillors Jones and O'Neill.

FC/264 **HEALTH & SAFETY**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Full Council meeting, and requested that in the event of a fire alarm, everyone should leave in an orderly fashion by the main exit at the front of the building. The assembly point is outside on the pavement away opposite the Guildhall.

FC/265 **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 asked that they make this known at this point in the meeting.

FC/266 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence for ill health were received from Councillors Jones and O'Neill.

FC/267 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTDisclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

Conflicts of Interest

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Councillor Parry	No item identified	Chair, Ludlow in Bloom

Personal InterestsMember

None

FC/268 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There were fourteen members of the public present.

Five made verbal representations to the Council.

A member of Ludlow Resident Group asked for a public statement to be made by Ludlow Town Council giving up-to date information and a timetable of works regarding the collapsed town wall.

The owner of Gather spoke to update the Town Council regarding a letter that had been forwarded to Ludlow Town Council notifying new licensing conditions.

A resident of Bell Lane spoke to raise concerns about the use of Bell Lane for two way traffic during town centre events. They stated that residents should be given advance notice of this taking place and modified signage should be removed immediately at the end of the event; and on some occasions the no entry signs not covered. They also stated that they believed two way access on this road to be dangerous because the road is too narrow.

A representative of Ludlow Chamber of Trade asked for an update on the CCTV installation and the orientation boards. He stated that they are five years old independent projects that had lots of money invested in them. He asked who is responsible for projects.

He stated that the Chamber are also concerned about the number of empty shops. The question was posed - has Ludlow Town Council got any influence? What pressure can Ludlow Town Council put on agents/ landlords? Could they work with the chamber to improve the situation?

A second member of Ludlow Residents Group said that the issues she hoped to raise had already been mentioned by others. She mentioned that Tollgate play area is in a very poor state, and she was informed that this play area is the responsibility of Shropshire Council.

FC/269 LUDLOW POLICE UPDATE

Ludlow Safer Neighbourhood Team responded by email that they apologised because no one could attend the meeting due to work commitments. In terms of updates, they provided a summary of what they had achieved in last few months.

- The arrest of 5 prolific individuals in relation to various offences in the Ludlow area, including shoplifting, driving offences and burglaries. These individuals are either on bail or have been charged and are awaiting sentencing.
- To secure two similar behaviour orders on two other prolific individuals who commit a large proportion of shoplifting offences in Ludlow. This means that they are effectively banned from certain shops in Ludlow, and by merely entering them, without even stealing anything, they commit an offence for which they are dealt with. These two individuals are currently in prison for theft or breaching their criminal behaviour order.
- In terms of drugs, the police continue to both proactively, overtly and covertly patrol areas where we have intelligence where drug supply may be taking place. We are out actively stop searching individuals where grounds to search them exist.
- They have noticed a reduction in the number of persons we are aware of associating with drugs, out and about. The police recognise that more can be done and are striving to do this. They rely on members of the public feeding intelligence to them to apply to the courts for warrants. The public can do this to us directly or anonymously via Crimestoppers, or if they prefer, and there is a housing officer who will share information with the police.
- ASB driving is another area where they recognise more can be done. There is a limited staff base in the neighbourhood team, so the focus has been on the increase in the shoplifting area. Now this seems to be getting better, they can focus on ASB driving a little more. As mentioned previously, one of the offenders arrested by the team was for driving offences and they will be sentenced next month in relation to this. Any feedback from members of public and the Council are most certainly welcome.

FC/270 LUDLOW UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION

Councillor V Parry, Ludlow South – informed the Council of the election of the new Chief Constable, Lyle Gordon.

FC/271 MINUTES – 11TH DECEMBER 2023**RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/BW**

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on the Monday 11th December 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

FC/272 ITEMS TO ACTION**RESOLVED (11:0:1) GG/EG**

To note the items to action and ask for a brief update on items pending for the next meeting.

FC/273 ANNUAL BUDGET AND PRECEPT

The Chair expressed verbal thanks to ex Councillor Lyle for her assistance during her recent term as a Councillor. Councillor Parry expressed her thanks to Councillor Ginger for his work.

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/TG

To approve the £1,120,807.00 budget for 2024 /25.

FC/274 ANNUAL BUDGET AND PRECEPT**RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/TG**

To approve the £823,696.00 precept for 2024 /25.

FC/275 CO-OPTION**RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/DT**

To approve the co-option documents and process for the casual vacancy in Rockspring Ward.

FC/276 PARISH BOUNDARY REVIEW**RESOLVED (11:0:1) GG/TG**

To approve submission of the report to Shropshire Council, and specifically:

- That the newly created Rocksgreen Ward becomes part of Ludlow Town Council's Hayton Ward.
- That Ludlow Town Council expands to include the housing and commercial development land, and the park and ride in the newly created Sheet Ward (as defined in orange).
- That Ludford is recognised as an important historic area and a smaller parish is retained (as defined in blue).

FC/277 LUDLOW WALKING AND CYCLING ROUTES

RESOLVED (10:2:0) RP/SW

To accept the Shropshire Council and Ludlow Town Council revisions to the plan, as stated on the agenda document.

FC/278 PCC FUNDING

RESOLVED (unanimous) SW/EG

To approve that Ludlow Town Council applies for PCC funding for a road safety project for the installation of a pedestrian crossing at Old Street, primarily for the use of local school children. Councillors Stuart Waite and Erica Garner will submit the project proposal.

FC/279 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL'S BUDGET CONSULTATION

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/TG

To note Shropshire Councils budget consultation.

FC/280 TOWN CRIER

RESOLVED (7:4:0) DC/SW

To approve exploration of the duties of the role and payment with nearby local authorities, and the cost of ceremonial robes and other associated paraphernalia for further consideration in 12 weeks' time.

FC/281 REFILL SCHEME

RESOLVED (unanimous) RP/AU

To approve the introduction of the Refill Scheme.

FC/282 POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

RESOLVED (unanimous) SW/EG

To adopt the Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy; the Safeguarding Confidential Reporting Policy; the Councillors Social Media Guidance; the Member Meeting Protocol.

FC/283 D-DAY COMMEMORATION – 6TH JUNE 2024

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/AU

To approve the arrangements notified by the Pageantmaster including the Bell Ringing and Lamp Light for Peace.

FC/284 COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED (unanimous) BW/SW

To receive the minutes of Services Committee held on 10th January 2024.

FC/285 RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/DT

To receive the minutes of Representational Committee held on 9th January 2024.

FC/286 PARISH COUNCIL FUNDING FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/DT

To note the changes to government legislation.

The meeting closed at 7.49pm

Town Mayor

Date

There are no closed session minutes.