



MINUTES

Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** held at Ludlow Methodist Church, Broad Street, Ludlow, on **13th MARCH 2023** at **7.00 PM**.

FC/287 **PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor Ginger

Councillors: Adams; Childs; Garner; Gill (7.20pm) Laurie; O'Neill; Parry; Pote; Tapley (7.05pm); Thompson; B. Waite (Deputy Mayor); S. Waite.

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk
Naomi Brotherton, Senior Admin Assistant

FC/288 **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Full Council meeting and requested that in the event of a fire alarm, everyone was to leave by the main exit at the front of the building to the fire assembly point on the pavement outside the building.

FC/289 **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.

7.05pm Councillor Tapley joined the meeting.

FC/290 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Jones and Lyle.

FC/291 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
None

Conflicts of Interest

<u>Cllr</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Cllr Parry		Ludlow in Bloom
Cllr Laurie	16a	previous involvement in the event

Personal Interests

None

FC/292 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There were three members of the public present.

Chair & Communications Team of SSCA (South Shropshire Climate Action) -
The Chair of SSCA addressed Council, in relation to item 15, the Climate Ecology Bill and urged Council to approve the motion. She explained that the bill sought to address the climate emergency and reverse the destruction by 2030.

The Chair of SSCA outlined consultations and surveys such as the RSPB was stark in that it highlighted that the UK's biodiversity was depleted by 50%. In her opinion, she stated that it was shocking as the definition of biodiversity is the variety of plant and animal life in the world or in a particular habitat, at high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable.

She went on to say that the Climate Ecology Bill sought to focus on habitats and species looking towards the connections of past, present and future. She added that to rectify the emergency, humanity needed to continue to work together to find remedial solutions.

FC/293 POLICE

PCO Lisa Thomas updated Members on the Council's Charter priorities over the last six months.

Re drugs: she reported warrants had been successful, resulting in 19 charges and that more work was in the pipeline. On-street stop and searches had been increased. She advised that PC Nick Morris had recently joined the Ludlow team.

Another priority was anti-social driving and in particular e-scooters, she confirmed that the police had been more active in relation to this since Christmas. Currently the law did not prohibit owners using e-scooters on private land and back gardens, however being used on the public highway was illegal. The police are exercising some caution because those under 16 could be criminalised for having no driving licence or insurance, which would have a significant impact on their future, and was therefore not the public interest.

Police had been issuing verbal cautions, which combined with sharing information with schools was remedying the problem. She added that in relation to younger riders, workshops, flyers and newsletters had been circulated, as well as a regular police presence at the secondary school gates.

Following a question from another Member, PCSO Thomas advised that the age ranges for e-scooter use was cross-generational from six-seven, then up to 30. She stated that despite being illegal, in Birmingham and Bristol it was possible to hire e-scooters and that clarity on the law was required for the remaining country.

In relation to anti-social driving, a handful of drivers had been stopped in relation to drunk driving and speeding and regular vehicle checks had also been made.

Councillors thanked PCSO Thomas for all the work carried out by the Ludlow team.

FC/294 UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION

Cllr V Parry, Ludlow South had nothing to report in relation to Shropshire Council.

FC/295 MINUTES – 23rd JANUARY 2023

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/BW

That minutes of Full Council on Monday 23rd January 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

FC/296 ITEMS TO ACTION

RESOLVED (9:2:1) GG/BW

That the items to action be noted.

FC/297 PRESENTATION SOUTH SHROPSHIRE CLIMATE ACTION

The Mayor invited the Project Coordinator of SSCA to make a presentation.

The Project Coordinator explained that the SSCA was a coalition of local people who had written a Climate Action Plan for the Ludlow constituency to achieve net-zero by 2030. He outlined the group as a whole were generalists, but the three aims were coordination, collaboration and communication. Therefore, enquiries could be referred to a member with more specialist knowledge.

He advised Council that the group were seeking funding from Shropshire Council and organisations were keen to work with SSCA on projects, such as schools, and the group was currently working with St George's School in Clun to reduce their carbon footprint. SSCA were also currently in conversation with SSYF (South Shropshire Youth Forum).

7.20pm Councillor Gill joined the meeting.

SSCA, the Project Coordinator, highlighted was striving to have five case studies in the next six months and a retrofit roadshow had been planned for April. Along with monthly newsletters, the group was looking for ways to help those in food poverty as this was going hand in hand with fuel poverty.

The Mayor thanked the Project Coordinator and confirmed that Council would be looking at the Ecology Bill later in the meeting.

FC/298 BUDGET 2023 / 24

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/PA

- i) To approve the removal of £3000.00 income expectation in line 205/1056; and approve a reduction of £3,000.00 in the contingencies expenditure budget 501/4800.
- ii) To approve the amended budget.

FC/299 YOUTH SERVICES

MOTION NOT CARRIED (3:10:0) SW/DC

That £6k is not awarded to SYA and the funds revert to the Town Council's reserves.

FC/300 RESOLVED (10:3:0) GG/EG

To approve carrying forward £6,000.00 in budget line 110/4144 to the 2023/24 budget and allocating the funds in support of the youth club run by SYA in Ludlow.

FC/301 ANNUAL CORE GRANT CRITERIA AND APPLICATION

RESOLVED (unanimous) PA/GG

That subject to the amendment of the maximum level of funding, to £5,000 per organisation, the Annual Core Grant Criteria and Application be approved.

FC/302 PROJECT SUPPORT GRANT CRITERIA**RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/BW**

To note the current Project Support Grant Criteria is effective until 31st March 2023, and from 1st April 2023 the maximum amount an organisation can apply increases from £300 to £1,000.00. The total Project Support Grant funding pot is £10,000.00.

FC/303 MAYOR'S SUNDAY**RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/DT**

To approve a change of date from 25th June to Sunday 2nd July 2023 to allow the Town Band to attend.

FC/304 CLIMATE ECOLOGY BILL**RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/DT**

- i) To Support the Climate and Ecology Bill;
- ii) To write to Philip Dunne MP letting them know that the motion has been passed—urging them to sign up to support the Bill, or thanking them for already doing so; and
- iii) To write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the Bill, expressing its support (campaign@zerohour.uk).

To note that the Climate and Ecology Bill—which has been introduced in the UK Parliament on several occasions since 2020—would require the development of a strategy to ensure that the UK's environmental response is in line with the latest science.

The strategy would ensure that:

- the ecological crisis is tackled shoulder to shoulder with the climate crisis via a joined-up approach;
- the Paris Agreement aim is enshrined into law to ensure that the UK does its full and fair share to limit the global temperature rise to 1.5°C;
- we halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 to ensure that the UK's ecosystems are protected and restored;
- the UK takes responsibility for its greenhouse gas footprint, including international aviation and shipping—and by accounting for consumption emissions related to the goods and services that are imported and consumed in the UK;
- the UK takes responsibility for its ecological footprint in order to better protect the health and resilience of ecosystems—including along domestic and global supply chains; and
- an independent, temporary Climate and Nature Assembly is set-up—representative of the UK population—to engage with the UK Parliament and

UK Government to help develop the strategy. This would be set up on broadly similar lines to the Climate Assembly 2020 which was very successful and very well received on all sides of the political divide.

FC/305 REQUEST TO TAKE ON THE ORGANISATION OF THE CARNIVAL

This item was withdrawn by Ludlow Fringe Festival.

FC/306 REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR CARNIVAL ROAD CLOSURE

RESOLVED (12:0:1) GG/TG

That in April 2023, the Fringe Festival is invited to apply for a Project Support Grant of up to a maximum of £1k.

FC/307 FRINGE FESTIVAL REQUEST, DATES FOR SITING TICKET OFFICE, TRAILER AND SIGNAGE

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/TG

That:-

- i) Permission is granted for the Fringe Festival cabin/box office to be placed on Events Square adjacent to the Snug, but not blocking Terry Jones Travel no earlier than Thursday 8th June, prior to final siting.
- ii) Permission is granted for final siting of the cabin/box office onto the Street Trading pitch, next to the lamppost on Events Square on Thursday 15th June until Monday 3rd July inclusive.
- iii) Permission is granted for advertising feathers to be placed next to the Fringe cabin/box office from 17th June to 2nd July, subject to overnight removal and storage in the cabin.
- iv) No vehicle of any description is permitted to be parked on Events Square in contravention of the parking order.

FC/308 KING'S CORONATION

RESOLVED (12:0:1) GG/EG

To approve the activities and working in partnership with Ludlow Chamber of Trade, and that the estimated cost of £1,750.00 to the Council cost will be met from the 2023 / 24 contingencies budget.

FC/309 TREE WORKS IN CASTLE GARDENS

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/VP

To decline an application to Shropshire Council for work to the yew tree in Castle Gardens.

FC/310 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/JL

- i) A consultation is used to identify the priorities of the residents and businesses for improving Ludlow's lights.
- ii) To approve asking local residents and businesses to contribute to the cost of improving the Ludlow's lights.
- iii) That options for improvement be researched and brought back to council for a decision in June.
- iv) That the following timetable be approved:
 - Consultation in April
 - Ideas worked up in May
 - Council decides on final options in June
 - The new Christmas lights ordered in July

FC/311 PROJECT SUPPORT GRANT FEEDBACK

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/SW

To send a letter of thanks and note the detailed feedback from the Shropshire Army Cadet Force.

FC/312 LEADING IN PRACTICE REPORT

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/TG

To note the Leading in Practice report.

FC/313 COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS IN PUBIC LIFE – QUESTIONS FOR LEADERS

RESOLVED (unanimous) PA/TG

That the questions are noted and no further action be taken.

FC/314 SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/RP

To suspend Standing Orders to reconsider Committee Membership.

FC/315 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/DT

To remove Councillor Laurie as a member of the Climate Action Sub-Committee and approve the Committee Membership amended to this effect.

FC/316 RE-INSTATE STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/RP

To reinstate Standing Orders.

FC/317 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

RESOLVED (12:1:0) GG/PA

To note the reports from Councillors serving as Representatives on outside bodies.

FC/318 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS, POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE 27th FEBRUARY 2023

RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/GG

To approve the recommendations from the Policy & Finance Committee meeting on the 27th February 2023.

POLICY REVIEW

That the Specialist Market Regulations, Equal Opportunities Policy and Sale of Alcohol Policies be adopted.

FC/319 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Representational Committee 10th January and 7th February 2023

RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/DT

To receive the minutes of the Representational Committee meeting held on the 10th January and 7th February 2023.

FC/320 POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE – 16th JANUARY 2023

RESOLVED (unanimous) TG/GG

To receive the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on the 16th January 2023.

FC/321 SERVICES COMMITTEE – 18th JANUARY AND 1ST MARCH 2023

RESOLVED (11:1:1) BW/GG

To receive the minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on the 16th January and 1st March 2023.

FC/322 STAFFING COMMITTEE – 17th JANUARY AND 7TH MARCH 2023

RESOLVED (12:0:1) BWGG

To receive the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on the 17th January and 7th March 2023.

The meeting closed at 7.46pm

Town Mayor

Date

NB Closed session minutes will NOT be issued.