

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/322 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Gill, Ginger and Tapley.

FC/323 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

Personal Interests

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Owen	12	Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust.
Cowell	12	Is a member of the choir at St Laurence's Church. Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust.
Parry	12	Worships at St Laurence Church. Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust.
Hepworth	12	Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust.
Maxwell-Muller	12	Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust.
Childs	12	Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust.
Lyle	12	Knows the Chair of Ludlow Town Walls Trust. Knows Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Manager.

FC/324 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There were four members of the public in attendance.

A resident of Ludford restated his opinion regarding an ICO decision letter and asked to know the total amount spent on obtaining legal advice relating to

the ICO decision letter and when the expenditure was incurred. He also asked the town council to apply pressure on Shropshire Council to speed up the repairs of the potholes on Ludford bridge, which were recently repaired and have since failed again.

A resident of Ludlow asked if the statement made on the council's website that the CCTV project is completed is in fact correct.

A resident of Ludlow suggested that the council's next step could be to engage with the public, and if there any votes on the town walls during the closed session of the meeting, the council should consider the impact on residents. She asked if the £1,500.00 allocated to the Town Walls Trust for urgent stabilisation works had been undertaken. She stated her opinion that the churchyard was not closed and still the responsibility of the church – and asked that councillors bear this in mind when making decisions.

FC/325 LUDLOW'S UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION

Councillor Parry (Ludlow South) explained that Shropshire Council's new highways consultant had, before Christmas, spent three hours visiting Ludlow and the rest of her Unitary Council ward to look at the local problems, which included the poor state of the recent pothole repairs on Ludford bridge, and he had agreed that were not satisfactory. She was pleased that he would be a proactive extra resource to help tackle local highways issues.

Councillor Waite (Ludlow East)

Declared her resignation from Ludlow Town Council Clee View Ward with immediate effect.

Former Councillor Waite left the meeting at 7.21pm.

FC/326 MINUTES

RESOLVED DL/KC (unanimous)

That the open and closed session minutes of **Council** on 1st December 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

FC/327 COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

RESOLVED DL/KC (unanimous)

That the proposal to move Policy and Finance meeting from 12th January to 19th January 2026, and Full Council from 19th January to 26th January 2026 be approved.

FC/328 MOTOR INSURANCE

RESOLVED RO/ISB (unanimous)

That expenditure of £330.40 per year at current rates (pro-rated from the effective date until renewal) to add the under 25-year-old driver is approved.

FC/329 BUILDINGS REVALUATION FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES

RESOLVED RO/JH (unanimous)

That expenditure of £4,750 plus VAT for the revaluation of all Council-owned buildings by Gallagher is approved.

FC/330 LISTED BUILDING (LBC) AND ADVERTISING CONSENT (ADV) APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED PA/KC (7:0:4)

To support revised planning applications 25/04245/LBC and 25/04244/ADV relating to The George Inn, 12 Castle Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1AT.

FC/331 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC: PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED DL/KC (9:1:1)

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 9.05 pm.

Town Mayor

Date

Closed session minutes will be issued for this meeting.