



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 17th MARCH 2014** at **7.00PM**.

FC/366 **PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor Smithers, Mayor

Councillors: Copley; Draper; Gill; Ginger; Jones; Kemp; Lyle; Parry; Perks; Sheward

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk;
Lucy Jones, Finance Secretary

Also in Attendance: Inspector Thomas

FC/367 **WELCOME**

The Mayor welcomed newly elected Councillor Gill to the Council.

FC/368 **HEALTH & SAFETY**

The Mayor informed Councillors and members of the public of the fire exits, fire assembly point and asked that everyone sign the attendance log.

FC/369 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Holcombe, Mold, J Newbold and S Newbold. Apologies were also received from Councillor Lyle as she would arrive late.

FC/370 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
None declared.

Conflicts of Interest

<u>Member</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Reason</u>
A. Copley	Ludlow Festival of Small Gardens	Works at Rockspring Centre
D. Lyle	Ludlow Festival of Small Gardens	Director of Ludlow Festival of Small Gardens

G. Perks	Buttercross Heritage Centre & Ludlow Museum Committee Membership & Representatives	Interests registered with Shropshire Council
	Outside Bodies	Raised concerns that system is in need of review
V. Parry	Living Wage	Signed petition in support
	Living Wage	Signed petition in support
	Ludlow in Bloom	Chair of Ludlow in Bloom

Personal Interests

<u>Member</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Reason</u>
G. Ginger	Anti-Social Behaviour	Lives in Corve Street
P. Kemp	PubWatch	Chairman
C. Sheward	Ludlow Festival of Small Gardens	Involved with an organisation which took part in event

FC/371 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There were three members of the public and press present.

Angela Simonson, Director of the Ludlow Festival of Small Gardens, made a short presentation in support of the Annual Core Budget Grant submitted by the Festival of Small Garden.

FC/372 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION FEEDBACK (15 minutes)

The Town Clerk stated that all questions had been answered at the previous meeting.

FC/373 UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION

Unitary Councillor T Huffer, Ludlow East, offered her full support to the Town Council in order to resolve the issues surrounding the future of the Buttercross project.

Unitary Councillor A Boddington, Ludlow North, expressed his concern at the apparent breakdown of the relationship between Shropshire Council and Ludlow. He stated that the loss of Buttercross project could risk the failure of the Museum and could impact on the future of the Ludlow Assembly Rooms.

Unitary Councillor V Parry, Ludlow South, also offered her support for the Buttercross project and expressed her concern for the future of Ludlow Museum should the project fail.

Unitary Councillor Parry went on to say that she was still receiving some complaints about the town bus service particularly with regards to the

inadequate service to Park and Ride and the lack of any transport to the caravan park.

FC/374 MINUTES

a) 19th February 2014 – Open Session

RESOLVED (9:0:1) GP/VP

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 19th February 2014, subject the substitution of the word “could” for “would” and the insertion of the sentence “The timetable for the event will be largely dependant on The Royal Welsh” at minute FC/361, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

FC/375 b) 19th February 2014 – Closed Session

RESOLVED (9:0:1) RJ/VP

That the closed session minutes of the Council meeting held on the 19th February 2014, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

FC/376 WHEELER ROAD SKATE PARK

The Town Clerk stated that the Town Council skate park at Wheeler Road had benefitted from funding from Barclays Spaces for Sports. A final tranche of funding was available this year to be used to promote skills, safety and arts at the skate park. She stated that involving the local young people in this project would give them a sense of ownership of the skate park and should discourage vandalism in the future.

Councillor Jones said that she had spoken to some young people at the skate park who were all very keen to see this project go ahead.

Councillor Ginger that the project is street art not graffiti, graffiti is an illegal act.

Councillor Lyle entered the meeting at 7:25pm

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GP/PD

That:-

- i) the request for a street art project at Ludlow Skate Park be approved, subject to surface treatment advice in line with H&S requirements, with a professional street artist engaged to lead the project.
- ii) the young persons involved in the project bring a report back to Council after this years Youth Festival on the 19th July 2014.

FC/377 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Inspect R. Thomas gave a comprehensive update on policing in Ludlow following a patrol reorganisation.

He assured the Council in comparison to other areas Ludlow was a low crime and disorder town. He stated that 24 hour policing continued in Ludlow with patrol cars, response vehicles and the Safer Neighbourhood Team. He also added that Ludlow Police Station would remain open to the public.

Inspector Thomas went on to say that the police were working with Shropshire Council's Public Protection Team to investigate licence breaches which included a test purchase operation which led to the temporary closure of one retailer last year.

Inspector Thomas then answered questions from Councillors.

RESOLVED (Unanimous) JS/PD

That the update be noted and Inspector Thomas be thanked for attending the meeting.

Councillor Jones left the meeting at 8.00pm

FC/378 CRIME REDUCTION, COMMUNITY SAFETY, DRUG AND ALCOHOL STRATEGY 2014/17

Councillor Parry stated that it was important that domestic abuse was being considered in this strategy, she also advised Council of a Domestic Violence Event to discuss the issue that was being held on the 3rd April 2014.

Councillor Jones rejoined the meeting at 8.05pm

RESOLVED (Unanimous) RJ/JS

That:-

- i) the Crime Reduction, Community Safety, Drug And Alcohol Strategy 2014/17 be noted and the following comments are made to Shropshire Council.
- ii) the Town Clerk write to Shropshire Council to:-
 - a) query whether the Performance Management Framework to reduce the harm caused by drugs mentioned on page 11 of the Crime Reduction, Community Safety, Drug And Alcohol Strategy 2014/17 have been put in place
 - b) ask that other alcohol retailers are also mentioned in paragraph 2 on page 8 which begins "alcohol plays a significant role in our society".
 - c) state that Shropshire Council needs to consider the impacts of proposed financial cuts and changes to legislation.

FC/379 ANNUAL CORE GRANT FUNDING

Councillor Ginger stated that though he thought the Festival of Small Gardens was a fantastic event, the Council need to concentrate its funds on those most in need, where efforts may fail without support. The Festival of Small Gardens was predicting a surplus and though they were to donate the profits to local charities the Council's support was not required.

Councillor Sheward suggested making a loan to the Festival of Small Gardens to support their cash flow before funds from tickets sales come in.

RESOLVED (7:3:1) RJ/CS

That the Festival of Small Gardens be offered a loan of £1,000, to be repaid by the end of the financial year 2014/15.

FC/380 BUTTERCROSS HERITAGE CENTRE & LUDLOW MUSEUM

The Town Clerk stated she had requested that the funding for the Grade 1 Listed Building be passed to English Heritage to then be drawn down by the Council but that Shropshire Council had not deemed this acceptable within their funding terms.

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/RJ

That the report be noted and the Town Clerk report back once further information is received.

FC/381 POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**a) Minutes****RESOLVED (Unanimous) PD/GG**

That the open and closed session minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on the 3rd March 2014, be received.

FC/382 b) Recommendations**Cemetery**

That:-

- i) the revised fees be adopted;**
- ii) the Exclusive Rights of Burial is increased from 60 years to 80 years;**
- iii) the new process for extension of Exclusive Rights of Burial be adopted.**

RESOLVED (10:0:1) PD/JS

That:-

- i) the revised fees be adopted;
- ii) the Exclusive Rights of Burial is increased from 60 years to 80 years;
- iii) the new process for extension of Exclusive Rights of Burial be adopted.

FC/383 POLICIES & LEGISLATION

Internet Use Policy

That the Internet Use Policy be adopted.

Policy on Advertising

That the Policy on Advertising be adopted.

RESOLVED (10:0:1) PD/JS

That:-

- i) the Internet Use Policy be adopted.
- ii) the Policy on Advertising be adopted.

FC/384 Appointment of Internal Auditor

That:-

- i) **Mr R Goodall be appointed as the Town Council's Internal Auditor for 2013/14.**
- ii) **the Council go out to tender for the 2014/15 Internal Audit.**

RESOLVED (10:0:1) PD/RJ

That:-

- i) Mr R Goodall be appointed as the Town Council's Internal Auditor for 2013/14.
- ii) the Council go out to tender to appoint an Internal Auditor for a four year period.

FC/385 CIVIC REGALIA

That:-

- a) **the request from St Laurences church to display the town silver be refused.**
- b) **the Town Clerk report on the practicality of displaying the town silver at Ludlow Town Council premises.**

RESOLVED (Unanimous) PD/VP

That:-

- a) the request from St Laurences church to display the town silver be refused.
- b) the Town Clerk report on the practicality of displaying the town silver at Ludlow Town Council premises.

FC/386 REPRESENTATIONAL COMMITTEE

RESOLVED (10:0:1) PD/GG

That the minutes of the Representational Committee meeting held on the 12th February 2014, be received.

FC/387 SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED (Unanimous) VP/GG

That the open and closed session minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on the 24th February 2014, be received.

FC/388 STAFFING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Town Clerk stated that as the shortlisting meeting was not quorate, shortlisting had been completed under the Town Clerk's delegated authority to appoint staff.

RESOLVED (Unanimous) JS/PD

That the closed session minutes and notes of the Staffing and Appeals Committee meeting held on the 26th February 2014, be received.

FC/389 STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED (10:0:1) JS/PD

That Standing Orders be suspended in order to reconsider Committee Membership.

FC/390 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED (10:0:1) JS/RJ

That Councillor Gill become a member of the Services Committee, Representational Committee and Mayfair SAG.

FC/391 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED (Unanimous) CS/VP

That decision be deferred to the Annual General Meeting.

FC/392 TWINNING SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillor Gill left the meeting at 8.40pm

Counillor Gill rejoined the meeting at 8.45pm

RESOLVED (Unanimous) PD/GP

That:-

- i) the Twinning Sub-Committee become a Working Group.
- ii) the Twinning Working Group set the date of the next meeting at the end of each meeting.

FC/393 SAMDEV

RESOLVED (Unanimous) JS/RJ

That the letter be noted.

FC/394 LUDLOW HOSPITAL

RESOLVED (Unanimous) JS/PD

That the report from the Mayor and minutes of the meeting be noted.

FC/395 WWI MEMORIAL BOARDS

RESOLVED (Unanimous) JS/GG

That the letter confirming funding be noted.

FC/396 LUDLOW MASCALL CENTRE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

RESOLVED (Unanimous) GG/PD

That the Service Level Agreement be terminated.

FC/397 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC: PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

The Chairman moved 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.

RESOLVED (Unanimous) JS/RJ

That the public be excluded and the meeting continue in closed session.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Town Mayor

Date

N.B. Closed Session Minutes will be issued.