



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Ludlow Conference Centre, Ludlow on **MONDAY 27th JUNE 2011** at **7.00PM**

FC/47 PRESENT

Chairman:	Councillor Aitken, Mayor
Vice-Chairman:	Councillor Wilcox, Deputy Mayor
Councillors:	Davies; Hunt; McCormack; Mitchell; Newbold; Parry; Pope; Pound; Smithers
Officers:	Veronica Calderbank, Town Clerk; Lucy Morgan, Secretary

FC/48 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jackson, Callender, Glaze and Leyton-Purrier.

FC/49 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the terms of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (England) Order 2007 issued under Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2000 Members declared interests as follows:

Personal Interests

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>
V. Parry	Member of Ludlow in Bloom Member of Royal British Legion
J. Smithers	Member of Ludlow in Bloom

Prejudicial Interests

J. Smithers	Secretary of Royal British Legion Victory House Club
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FC/50 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There were four members of the press present.

Janette Rowlett of the Chocolate Gourmet spoke on behalf of retailers around Castle Square. Ms Rowlett stated the Square was enhanced by the seating which was spoilt by a sizable motorised ice cream unit between the pots. She urged Councillors to reconsider the position as stated at the Street Trading Sub-Committee meeting that she and other retailers opened up their shops 350 days a year and goods of the same type were available within her own shop the Chocolate Gourmet, Aragons, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Castle Tea Rooms, Buttery, Deli on the Square and Spar. She added that last year Prices and a market trader also sold ice cream but had stopped when a tricycle ice cream seller was allowed on the market.

She stated she was not fearful of competition but the public was adequately provided with ices creams in and around the Square. She said that soft whipped ice cream being materially different goods was a "red herring" as one vanilla tub is much as another unless a connoisseur.

The traders had no objection to permits for ice cream vans/tricycles on a moving basis.

Mr Sheridan was also present as a street trader in Town Street and was invited to speak and declined.

FC/51 UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION

Unitary Councillor Rosanna Taylor-Smith advised Members that the dates for road closures had now been announced and the Clerk had been informed. She advised Members of the outcome of the LJC meeting and that a summary had been circulated. Finally she thanked the Town Council and the Clerk for their support for the assistance to Ludlow in Bloom.

Councillor Parry asked when the bollards on Weeping Cross Lane would be repaired and Councillor R. Taylor-Smith advised that they had already been repaired and had been broken again.

Councillor Martin Taylor-Smith commented on the accounts, he said that the numbers were very good as were the salary costs and reminded Members that they had the third lowest precept of any of the other market towns.

He advised Members of the recent planning permission for a large caravan park in Ludford and the projected £1.1 million income into Ludlow.

He congratulated the Town Band and thanked Councillor Pope, her partner and their band for the three tunes they played for the LJC and congratulated them on their successful funding bid.

FC/52 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION FEEDBACK (15 minutes)

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

FC/53 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Members discussed all recommendations from the Policy and Finance Committee and decided to discuss them en bloc. Councillor Wilcox asked for OJEU to be spelled in full and Street Trading to be dealt with in closed session but other than that Members decided to agree the recommendations as follows:-

FC/54 STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

That the amendment to Standing Orders suggested by NALC not be accepted.

RESOLVED (10:0:1)

That the amendment to Standing Orders suggested by NALC not be accepted and the status quo remain.

FC/55 That Financial Regulation 3.5 be deleted.

RESOLVED (10:0:1)

That Financial Regulation 3.5 be deleted.

FC/56 That Financial Regulation 3.6 be amended to include the phrase “excluding a feasibility study” following “capital expenditure”.

RESOLVED (10:0:1)

That Financial Regulation 3.6 be amended to include the phrase “excluding a feasibility study” following “capital expenditure”.

FC/57 That Financial Regulation 11.1(g) be amended to include the phrase “and will always seek the best value for money”.

RESOLVED (10:0:1)

That Financial Regulation 11.1(g) be amended to include the phrase “and will always seek the best value for money”.

FC/58 That subject to the amendments above the Financial Regulations be adopted.

RESOLVED (10:0:1)

That subject to the amendments above and the addition of the words “Official Journal of the European Union (“OJEU”)” the Financial Regulations be adopted.

FC/59 **INTERNAL AUDITOR’S REPORT**

Members considered the Internal Auditor’s report and thanked the Town Clerk and the Staff for their help in the improved situation this year

RESOLVED (Unanimous)

That the Internal Auditor’s report be approved and noted.

FC/60 **APPROVAL OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS 2010/11**

RESOLVED (Unanimous)

That the Audited Accounts be approved and sent to the External Auditor for their comments and final audit.

FC/61 **ANNUAL RETURN**

Members considered the Annual Return.

RESOLVED (Unanimous)

That the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to sign the Annual Return and it be submitted to the External Auditor before the 30th June 2011

FC/62 **BI-ENNIAL ARMED FORCES DAY**

Members considered an application by the Royal British Legion for funding for the buffet to which all Members are invited following the Military and Civic Parade.

Councillor Smithers left the room as Secretary of the Royal British Legion at 8.00pm

RESOLVED (9:0:1)

That £200.00 be paid to the Royal British Legion to assist in paying for the buffet.

Councillor Smithers re-entered the meeting at 8.05pm

FC/63 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)

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

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Town Mayor

Date

N.B. Confidential Minutes will be issued.