



## MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016** at **7.00 PM**.

### **FC/203 PRESENT**

Chairman: Mayor Draper

Councillors: Clarke; Cobley; Gill; Ginger; R Jones; Kemp; Lyle; Parry; Perks; Sheward and Smithers.

Officers: Gina Wilding, Town Clerk  
Sarah Hughes, Finance Assistant

Also Attending: Councillor Andy Boddington, Unitary Councillor  
Jeffry Wilcox, Mayor's Chaplin

### **FC/204 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/205 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors J Newbold and S Newbold.

### **FC/206 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

#### Conflicts of Interest

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Councillor Parry	17	Chair of Ludlow in Bloom
Councillor Perks	10	Board Member of Furniture Scheme

Personal Interests

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Councillor Cobley	9	Receives pension from Shropshire Council
	10	Knows the staff from the Rockspring Centre
Councillor Perks	18	Appointee is a friend of the family
	10	Play areas in his Ward, and one back onto a family members garden
Councillor Smithers	10	Trustee of Youth Forum and Treasurer for the Ludlow Youth Partnership
Councillor Parry	10	Involved with Youth Services
Councillor Draper	8	Member of Ludlow Hospital League of Friends.
Councillor Sheward	9	Receives pension from Shropshire Council

**FC/207 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)**

Alison Hiles, Save Ludlow Maternity Unit (message via Councillor Boddington) – Councillor Boddington spoke on behalf of Alison Hiles who was unable to attend the meeting. Alison wished to express her heart felt gratitude to the Mayor and Councillors for their support and attendance at the public march for Ludlow's Maternity unit on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016. The turnout of the event had far surpassed her expectations and the day showed a good united front from the town. She also wished to thank Sergeant Pearce and his team for their work behind the scenes in making sure the march remained safe.

Councillor Kemp entered the meeting at 7.07pm

**FC/208 UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION**

Councillor A. Boddington, Ludlow North – Councillor Boddington reiterated Alison's comment regarding the success of the public march on Saturday. The turnout from people all over Shropshire helped create a good positive atmosphere while getting a strong message across. The march received good TV, Radio and Newspaper coverage, however Councillor Boddington stressed that the battle was not over regarding the threat to Ludlow's Maternity unit. He added that himself and Councillor Huffer are having a telephone conference tomorrow (Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016), and promised to keep Ludlow Town Council informed of his findings.

Regarding Item 12 (Shropshire Council's emergency planning), Councillor Boddington informed members that he is still working on editing the document and encouraged Ludlow Town Council to produce their own guide. He stressed the importance of being prepared for an emergency in the town, and added that he is working with Highways to gather a stock of signage and with the Chamber

of Commerce to ensure that in the event of an emergency the message 'Ludlow remains open for business' is conveyed appropriately.

Councillor V. Parry, Ludlow South - Councillor Parry praised the efforts of everyone involved in the march to save Ludlow's Maternity unit, but expressed disappointment at the turn out of Councillors.

**FC/209**    **MINUTES – 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2016**

Councillor Perks asked whether the letter to the Prime Minister had been sent, to which the Town Clerk responded that it had.

Councillor Clarke questioned the closed session minutes, and asked for more detailed comments to be included. The Chair reminded Councillor Clarke that closed session minutes are a record of the resolution of Council and should not include discussion from members.

Councillor Perks requested a named vote for both the open and closed session minutes.

**RESOLVED (9:1:2) CS/JS**

**For:- TG/DL/AC/JS/CS/RJ/GG/VP/MC**

**Against:- GP**

**Abstentions: - PD/PK**

That the open session minutes of the Council meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**FC/210**    **CLOSED SESSION MINUTES – 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2016**

**RESOLVED (5:4:3) CS/JS**

**For:- RJ/GG/AC/JS/CS**

**Against:- VP/MC/GP/DL**

**Abstentions: - TG/PD/PK**

That the closed session minutes of the Council meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**FC/211**    **ITEMS TO ACTION**

The Mayor thanked the Town Clerk and staff for their ongoing work to undertake the Items to Action.

**RESOLVED (Unanimous) PD/CS**

That the Items to Action be noted.

**FC/212 LUDLOW HOSPITAL UPDATE**

The Mayor concurred with Councillor Boddington that the turn out for the public march on Saturday for Ludlow's Maternity Unit had been very good.

He informed members that the Town Clerk had since received a media release regarding the NHS Future Fit programme. The announcement stated that the preferred option proposes a single Emergency & Trauma Department at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital (RSH) with a Planned Care Site at the Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) in Telford, along with centres at both sites which would see the majority of patients who are currently seen at A&E. Although a preferred option has been put forward by the NHS Future Fit Programme Board, Board Members have also recommended going to public consultation on three options: no change, Emergency & Trauma at RSH & Planned Care at PRH; or Emergency & Trauma at PRH & Planned Care at RSH.

The Chair also updated members that the chair of League of Friends of Ludlow Hospital, Peter Corfield, had thanked the Town Council for their support regarding the threat of closure of the Dialysis unit at Ludlow, which was taken off the Trust's agenda and the unit will remain open.

Members shared their concerns that comments from public consultations often go unheeded, however agreed that it was still important to throw the Council's weight behind these consultation so we can be sure we have done all we can in representing Ludlow.

Councillor Perks expressed his thanks to the League of Friends and Defend our NHS group for their continued hard work.

**RESOLVED (11:0:1) GP/GG**

That:-

- i) The Town Clerk writes to Ludlow Hospital League of Friends & Save our NHS to thank them for their continued hard work and dedication
- ii) The Town Clerk writes to the NHS Future Fit Board to seek more information about the public consultation

**FC/213 UPDATE LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE HEALTH & OVERVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Sheward informed members that he has spoken with Jo Banks, Women and Children's care group Director at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, who has expressed a willingness to attend a future Full Council meeting to discuss the current situation regarding Ludlow Hospital.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) GP/GG**

That:-

- i) The Town Clerk writes to Councillor Gerald Dakin thanking him for his response and requesting that we are kept informed of any updates
- ii) The Town Clerk invites Jo Banks to attend a future Full Council meeting regarding the future of maternity services at Ludlow Hospital.

**FC/214 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL FINANCIAL STRATEGY & TIMETABLE****RESOLVED (unanimous) PD/GG**

That the Financial Strategy and Timetable be noted.

**FC/215 LOCAL SERVICE AND ASSET TRANSFERS**

Members agreed with the recommendation, and that the most sensible course of action was to express in initial interest in order to gain more information from Shropshire Council regarding costs, covenants etc.

Councillor Perks suggested that once enough information has been gathered an action plan should be started as to how the site would be managed, and also suggested a consultation to seek public opinion on this.

Councillor Gill added that although it is clear that an expression of interest in the sites is the most logical next step, it does not commit us to anything at this stage. The process should be a negotiation with Shropshire Council and we must approach this with care.

**RESOLVED (11:0:1) GG/GP**

That:-

- i) The Town Council expresses an interest in acquiring freehold of the amenity land at:
  - Ballard Close amenity area;
  - Dahn Drive 1 play area;
  - Dahn Drive 2 play area;
  - Fishmore View play area;
  - Friars Field play area;
  - Hopton Close play area – (dodmore lane);
  - Normandie Close play area;
  - St.John's Road play area;
  - Parys Road play area;
  - Steventon New Road play area;
  - Tollgate Road play area
  - Vashon Close play area

With specific interest in establishing details of covenants and all other details necessary to inform the development of a sustainable business case

- ii) The Town Council respond to Shropshire Council regarding Museum Services, Visitor Information Services, Assembly Rooms, Youth Activities, Youth Centre and Rockspring Grant at a future council meeting;
- iii) Once further information has been sought from Shropshire Council, an action plan is developed to explore the potential options for managing and maintaining the amenity areas; and a public consultation is undertaken.

**FC/216 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Members felt that as Councillor M Jones was not in attendance at the meeting, and no apologies had been received, they could not consider her request for membership at this time.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/GG**

That the matter be deferred to a future Full Council meeting when Councillor M Jones is present.

**FC/217 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Councillor Ginger suggested that the plan comes to a future Council meeting once Councillor Boddington has finished editing the document.

**RESOLVED (11:0:1) GG/VP**

That the item is deferred until Shropshire Council's revised Emergency plan has been released.

**FC/218 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/GG**

That the recommendation from Services Committee on 21 November to charge VAT in addition to the current fees as appropriate and with immediate effect be approved.

**FC/219 COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP MINUTES****Policy & Finance 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016****RESOLVED (11:0:1) AC/GG**

That the minutes from the Policy & Finance Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 be received.

**FC/220 Representational Committee 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016****RESOLVED (unanimous) GG/RJ**

That the minutes from the Representational Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016 be received.

**FC/221 Services Committee 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016****RESOLVED (10:1:1) RJ/GG**

That the minutes from the Services Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016 be received.

**FC/222 Staffing & Appeals 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016****RESOLVED (10:0:2) JS/TG**

That the minutes from the Staffing & Appeals Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 be received.

**FC/223 Budget Working Group 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016****RESOLVED (10:1:1) AC/GG**

That the minutes from the Budget Working Group held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016 be received.

**FC/224 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) PD/RJ**

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

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm

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Town Mayor

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Date

NB Closed session minutes will be issued.



## CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Closed Session minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016** at **7:00PM**

### **FC/225**    **SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT**

**RESOLVED** (unanimous)    GG/RJ

That:-

- i)    The Service Level agreement is approved
- ii)    Invoicing Shropshire Council for 2016/17 and 2017/18 is approved

### **FC/226**    **INTERIM BUDGET REPORT**

Councillor Parry requested a named vote.

**RESOLVED** (10:0:2) GG/AC

**For:-** RJ/GG/MC/TG/PD/DL/AC/JS/CS/PK

**Against:-** VP/GP

**Abstentions: -** None

That:-

- i)    The three year budget strategy is adopted
- ii)    The precept is increased to enable the council to deliver planned projects over a three year period and future proof against capping

### **FC/227**    **STAFFING MATTER**

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) RJ/CS

To ratify the appointment of Louise Coles (LC) in accordance with the advertised hours and SCP, as part-time Admin Assistant.

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm

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Town Mayor

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Date

