



## MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow on **WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016 at 7.00 PM.**

### **FC/01    PRESENT**

Chairman:                    Councillor Draper, Mayor

Councillors:                Clarke; Copley; Gill; Ginger; R Jones; Kemp; Lyle; J Newbold; S Newbold; Parry; Perks; Sheward and Smithers.

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

### **FC/02    ELECTION OF MAYOR 2016/17**

The Mayor informed Members that nominations for Councillors Draper, Parry and Smithers had been received for Mayor. He invited further nominations, but none were received.

Councillor Clarke nominated Councillor Draper. This nomination was seconded by Councillor Ginger.

Councillor Smithers self-nominated but this was not seconded.

Councillor Perks nominated Councillor Parry. This nominated by seconded by Councillor S Newbold.

A paper ballot was taken.

Councillor Draper received 10 votes.

Councillor Parry received 4 votes.

### **RESOLVED (unanimous) MC/GG**

That Councillor Draper be elected Mayor for 2016/2017.

**FC/03**    **ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2016/17**

The Mayor Elect informed Members that nominations for Councillors Kemp and Sheward had been received for Deputy Mayor. He invited further nominations but none were received.

Councillor Gill nominated Councillor Kemp. This nomination was seconded by Councillor Jones.

Councillor Clarke nominated Councillor Sheward. This nomination was seconded by Councillor Parry.

A paper ballot was taken.

Councillor Kemp received 6 votes.

Councillor Sheward received 7 votes.

There was one abstention.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) MC/VP**

That Councillor Sheward be elected Deputy Mayor for 2016/2017.

**FC/04**    **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/05**    **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor M Jones.

**FC/06**    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST****Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None

**Conflicts of Interest**

None

**Personal Interests**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
P. Kemp	27	Knows the nominees and nominators
D. Lyle	27	Knows 3 of the nominees and their applicants
V. Parry		Chair Ludlow in Bloom
	27	Member of the French Twinning Association
G. Perks	8b	Knows all the nominees and nominators
		25 <sup>th</sup> April minutes – supports Ludlow 21

9	Is a volunteer with Pride of Place (POP) – supports LIB and involved in LIB bench project and has links with Narberth
10	Board Member of SSFS
21	Item 175/166 relates to POP
27	Knows many of the nominees and nominators

**FC/07 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)**

Joyce Brand – College Street – Resident – Mrs Brand informed Council that she had attended a meeting of the CCG at Shrewsbury with the Defend our NHS representatives. The Defend our NHS group had thwarted the closure of one of the A&E's) and in her opinion this had been due to people power.

She urged Council to stand up to Shropshire Council on residents behalf to ask what services were being threatened and to make a stand. She stated she had put together some figures which demonstrated, in her view, serious incompetence by Shropshire Council. Mrs Brand explained that Cheshire University had been offered seven years free rent in Shrewsbury. This equated to £360,000 per annum. This offer had been agreed with a minimum enrolment of 450 students, but only 40 had enrolled for the first year. The University have also received an 80% rates reduction, equating to £200,000 pa. She stated that Shropshire Council needed to be held accountable.

Secondly, Mrs Brand referred to the car park income from Ludlow, which went directly to Shropshire Council and nothing was reinvested in Ludlow. She begged the Town Council to press Shropshire Council on this issue, as she felt in her opinion, that it was not moral or fair.

Thirdly, Mrs Brand informed Council that she had discovered that Shropshire Council were spending £15 million on a new IT system. She added that comments had been made in the local press that the bespoke IT system was not required as tried and tested IT systems were in use at other Councils. She added that she understood that £300,000 had been spent on IT consultant fees in the face of residents standing to lose the important local services. She finished by saying that residents only had the Town Council to stand up to Shropshire Council and begged the Town Council to take action.

Geoff Wright – Mayfields, Ludlow Resident – Mr Wright explained that he and his wife had retired to Ludlow 10 years ago. The decision had been based on the diversity of services available and he was saddened that so many services were now under threat by Shropshire Council. He urged the Town Council to defend services.

Neil Richardson – Churches Together – Mr Richardson expressed his growing concerns for the diminishing youth services and Foyer, primarily from Shropshire Council which he felt was damaging the fabric of the Town.



Peter Norman – Ludlow 21 and Ludlow Resident - Mr Norman stated that there was real anger regarding the service reductions which could provide support for the Town Council, even if the actions were not conventional. He asked the Town Council to provide the Leadership.

Michael Evens – Vice-Chair – League of Friends of Ludlow Hospital – Mr Evans highlighted that no information had been provided by the NHS to the Hospital and League of Friends who fear that the hospital will be run down and facilities were currently inadequate. He asked the Town Council to protect and save the hospital and to head the publicity. He added that the community needed to know the position.

## **FC/08     UNITARY COUNCILLORS SESSION**

Councillor T Huffer, Ludlow East – Councillor Huffer congratulated Councillors Draper and Sheward on their election as Mayor and Deputy Mayor. She stated she concurred with Mrs Brand and that without people power the decision of the CCG and closure of one of the A&E's would have been very different. She added it was a good result and thanks should go to Gill George, Defend our NHS and her team.

Councillor Huffer spoke about the Community Fit programme and said that Ludlow Hospital was far from safe. She added there was no money for Community Fit. Councillor Huffer informed Council that she and Councillors Boddington and Parry were meeting with the NHS Trust and Shropcom and they would report back to a future meeting.

She thanked the Town Council for their continuing support for Youth Services in Ludlow which had helped projects be delivered, including craft days. Without the support from the Town Council there would be no service and thanked Councillor Smithers for his particular support. She urged working together with the Town Council and said she valued what the Town Council did.

Councillor Huffer expanded on the new IT system that Shropshire Council were installing, saying that it was £18 million being spent.

Councillor A Boddington, Ludlow North – Councillor Boddington congratulated both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on their election. He re-iterated Councillor Huffer's sentiments stating that it was tough times. He spoke about the initial view of a Unitary Council in 2007 that all services would be moved to Shrewsbury, be more efficient and the cost saving benefits. He stated that Shropshire Council had utterly failed.

Regarding the IT system he added that £15 million would be spent on new PCs in the next five years. Councillor Boddington highlighted that budgets were being increased and money was being taken from reserves but that money could not be made available to save the library, museum and other vital services. The Leadership of Shropshire Council had decided that they no longer wanted to offer these services.

Councillor Boddington informed the Town Council that he had voted against the increase of Council Tax. He felt the finances of Shropshire Council were in disgrace especially when he discovered that the cleaning costs of the Youth Club outweighed the cost of the youth services provided. He urged the Town Council and the community to take on the services such as the library, leisure centre etc that Shropshire Council would no longer be providing.

Councillor V Parry, Ludlow South - Councillor Parry spoke about the new IT system and explained she had been told that this would replace some jobs, thereby making more staff redundant. She stated that communication to staff in Ludlow from Shropshire Council had been minimal. Councillor Parry stated that certain Town Councils had increased their precept 12 months ago but this was due to information she felt being divulged by Shropshire Council piecemeal.

7.30pm Councillor R Jones and Clarke left the meeting.

**FC/09 MINUTES – 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2016**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) GP/AC**

That the open and closed session minutes of the Council meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7.32pm Councillors R Jones and Clarke re-joined the meeting.

**FC/10 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN RESIDENTS MEETING – 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/AC**

That the minutes of the Annual Town Resident Meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**FC/11 ITEMS TO ACTION – 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2016**

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

**RESOLVED (unanimous) PD/RJ**

That the Items to Action be noted.

**FC/12 LOCAL SERVICES**

There was considerable discussion about the many repercussions of the cessation of local services by Shropshire Council.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) GP/JS**

That:-

- i) Shropshire Council are urged to secure funding for services in Ludlow via Central Government, a loan or from their reserves to enable the Town Council to spend two years producing plans for sustainable services;
- ii) The Town Clerk consults with Town Councils of a similar size;
- iii) The Town Clerk writes to the MP to urge him to lobby Shropshire Council to make Ludlow's car park income available to the town council.

**FC/13 RESOLVED (unanimous) GP/PK**

That:-

- i) A number of strands are worked on simultaneously;
- ii) Detailed financial information is provided by Shropshire Council and regular discussions continue to create consultation options to bring back to the Council in July for approval;
- iii) A press strategy is devised to create a dialogue with residents;
- iv) Shropshire Council is asked to acknowledge the need for continued countywide funding and urged to undertake a referendum to increase its the Council Tax to provide equitable countywide services;
- v) Ludlow's MP is urged to support a referendum to enable Shropshire Council to continue to fund local services.

8.20pm Councillor Clarke left the meeting.

**FC/14 LUDLOW HOSPITAL AND FUTURE FIT**

8.22pm Councillor Clarke re-joined the meeting.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) DL/JS**

That a Working Group is formed to discuss Ludlow Hospital, Future Fit and local services in light of Shropshire Council's zero budgets, consisting of Councillors Clarke, Draper, Gill, Ginger, R Jones, Kemp, Lyle, J Newbold, S Newbold, Parry, Perks, Smithers and Sheward.

**FC/15 RESOLVED (unanimous) PD/JS**

That the first meeting of the Working Group take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016, 3pm at the Guildhall and consist of Councillors Gill, Lyle, Smithers, Kemp, Sheward, Ginger and Clarke.

**FC/16 COUNCIL CALENDAR**

**RESOLVED (12:0:2) GP/TG**

That:-

- i) the Council Calendar for 2016/17 be approved;
- ii) the Town Clerk establish staff availability/resources for additional Council meetings.

**FC/17 SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**a) Membership**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) PD/RJ**

That the membership of the Services Committee, Councillors Clarke, Cobley, Draper, Gill, Ginger, R Jones, Kemp, Lyle, J. Newbold, S. Newbold and Smithers; be approved.

**FC/18 b) Election of Services Committee Chairman 2016/17**

The Mayor invited nominations for Chairman of Services Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor Lyle nominated Councillor R Jones. This was seconded by Councillor Ginger. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) DL/GG**

That Councillor R Jones be elected Chairman of Services Committee for 2016/2017.

**FC/19 c) Election of Services Committee Vice-Chairman 2015/16**

The Mayor invited nominations for Vice-Chairman of Services Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor Jones nominated Councillor Clarke. This was seconded by Councillor Ginger. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/GG**

That Councillor Clarke be elected Vice-Chairman of Services Committee for 2016/17.

**FC/20 d) Services Committee Terms of Reference**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/AC**

That the Terms of Reference for the Service Committee be adopted.

**FC/21 REPRESENTATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**a) Membership**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/TG**

That the membership of the Representational Committee, Councillors Clarke, Draper, Gill, Ginger, R Jones, Kemp, Lyle, Sheward and Smithers be approved.

**FC/22 b) Election of Representational Committee Chairman 2016/17**

The Mayor invited nominations for Chairman of Representational Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor Jones nominated Councillor Ginger. This was seconded by Councillor Lyle. No further nominations were received.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/TG**

That Councillor Ginger be elected Chairman of Representational Committee for 2016/2017.

**FC/23 c) Election of Representational Committee Vice-Chairman 2016/17**

The Mayor invited nominations for Vice-Chairman of Services Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor Lyle nominated Councillor Sheward. This was seconded by Councillor Smithers. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) DL/JS**

That Councillor Sheward be Vice-Chair of the Representational Committee for 2016/17.

**FC/24 d) Representational Committee Terms of Reference**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/GG**

That the Terms of Reference for the Representational Committee be adopted.



**FC/25 POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP****a) Membership****RESOLVED (unanimous) PD/RJ**

That the membership of the Policy and Finance Committee, Councillors Clarke, Cobley, Draper, Gill, Ginger, R Jones, Kemp, Lyle, J. Newbold, Parry, Sheward and Smithers be approved.

**FC/26 b) Election of Policy and Finance Committee Chairman 2016/17**

The Mayor invited nominations for Chairman of Policy and Finance Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor R Jones nominated Councillor Cobley. This was seconded by Councillor Ginger. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/GG**

That Councillor Cobley be elected Chairman of Policy and Finance Committee for 2016/2017.

**FC/27 c) Election of Policy and Finance Committee Vice-Chairman 2016/17**

The Mayor invited nominations for Vice-Chairman of Policy and Finance Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor Lyle nominated Councillor Gill. This was seconded by Councillor Parry. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED (unanimous) DL/VP**

That Councillor Gill be elected Vice-Chairman of Policy and Finance Committee for 2015/2016.

**FC/28 d) Authorised Signatories****RESOLVED (unanimous) PD/GG**

That Councillors Cobley, Draper, Ginger, Kemp and Parry be approved as Authorised Signatories.

**FC/29 e) Policy and Finance Committee Terms of Reference****RESOLVED (unanimous) AC/TG**

That the Terms of Reference for the Policy & Finance Committee be adopted.

**FC/30     EXTENSION OF THE MEETING****RESOLVED (unanimous)     PD/RJ**

That the meeting be extended by 30 minutes.

**FC/31     STAFFING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP****a) Membership****RESOLVED (unanimous)     CS/AC**

That the membership of the Staffing and Appeals Committee, Councillors Cobley, Draper, Gill, Ginger, R Jones, Kemp, J Newbold, Sheward and Smithers be approved.

**FC/29     b) Election of Staffing and Appeals Committee Chairman 2016/17**

The Mayor invited nominations for Chairman of Staffing and Appeals Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor Jones nominated Councillor Smithers. This was seconded by Councillor Cobley. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED (unanimous)     RJ/AC**

That Councillor Smithers be elected Chairman of Staffing and Appeals Committee for 2016/2017.

**FC/30     c) Election of Staffing and Appeals Committee Vice-Chairman 2016/17**

The Mayor invited nominations for Vice-Chairman of Staffing and Appeals Committee for 2016/2017.

Councillor Gill nominated Councillor Jones. This was seconded by Councillor Sheward. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED (unanimous)     PD/JS**

That Councillor Jones be elected Vice-Chairman of Staffing and Appeals Committee for 2016/2017.

**FC/31     d) Staffing and Appeals Committee Terms of Reference****RESOLVED (unanimous)     RJ/JS**

That the Terms of Reference for the Staffing &amp; Appeals Committee be adopted.

**FC/32**    **MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-COMMITTEES****RESOLVED** (unanimous)    RJ/GG

That subject to the addition of Councillor Parry to the Street Trading Sub-Committee, the Membership of the Sub-Committees as stated in the attached table be approved.

**FC/33**    **MEMBERSHIP OF WORKING GROUPS****RESOLVED** (unanimous)    RJ/GG

That the Membership of Working Groups as stated in the attached table be approved.

**FC/35**    **SCHEME OF DELEGATION****RESOLVED** (unanimous)    CS/TG

That subject to the amendments:-

- i)     3.7 Policy & Finance Committee be replaced with Staffing & Appeals Committee;
- ii)    4.9 Policy and Finance Committee be replaced with Staffing and Appeals Committee

the Scheme of Delegation be adopted.

**FC/36**    **STANDING ORDERS****RESOLVED** (unanimous)    JS/GG

That Standing Orders be adopted.

**FC/37**    **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS****RESOLVED** (unanimous)    JS/VP

That the Financial Regulations be adopted.

**FC/38**    **COUNCIL'S LAND AND ASSETS****RESOLVED** (unanimous)    PD/RJ

That the list of the Council's land and assets be approved.

**FC/39**    **INSURANCE****RESOLVED** (unanimous)    PD/RJ

That the Insurance Schedule be adopted.

**FC/40 RISK ASSESSMENTS**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) RJ/GP**

That the Risk Assessments be adopted.

**FC/41 MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER BODIES**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) GP/VP**

That subject to the inclusion of membership to CPALC, the Council's membership of other bodies be approved.

**FC/42 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION POLICY**

**RESOLVED (unanimous) JS/GG**

That the Freedom of Information Policy be adopted.

**FC/43 PRESS PROTOCOL**

**RESOLVED (13:0:1) RJ/GP**

That the Press Protocol be adopted.

**FC/44 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/JS**

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

The meeting closed at 9.29 pm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
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 **WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016** at 7:00PM

**FC/45**     **CIVIC AWARDS**

**RESOLVED** (unanimous)    GP/DL

That Mrs D, civic nominee on page 230 receive a civic award.

**FC/46**     **RESOLVED** (unanimous)    GP/VP

That the civic nominee on page 231 receive a civic award.

**FC/47**     **RESOLVED** (unanimous)    TG/JS

That the civic nominee on page 233 receive a civic award.

9.25 pm    Councillor Lyle left the meeting.

**FC/48**     **RESOLVED** (unanimous)    VP/TG

That the civic nominee on page 235 receive a civic award.

**FC/49**     **RESOLVED** (unanimous)    GP/TG

That the civic nominee on page 237 receive a civic award.

**FC/50**     **RESOLVED** (11:1:1)    VP/MC

That the civic group on page 239 receive a civic award.

9.27 pm    Councillor Lyle rejoined the meeting.

**FC/51**     **RESOLVED** (unanimous)    GP/MC

That the civic group on page 241/243 receive a civic award.

The meeting closed at 9.29pm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date