



BEWDLEY Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5th SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.30PM IN THE GUILDHALL BEWDLEY

PRESENT

Councillor Mr J Beeson (Mayor)
Councillor Mrs L Candlin
Councillor Mr S Clee
Councillor Mrs A Coleman
Councillor Mr R Coleman
Councillor Mrs C Edginton-White
Councillor Mr P Edmundson
Councillor Miss M Fishwick
Councillor Mr D Killingworth
Councillor Miss A Mace
Councillor Mr G Yarranton

In attendance: Mr Nick Farress – Town Clerk
Mr David Moore - Treasurer

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Liz Davies and Maurice Alton, District Councillors Rebecca Vale and Rod Wilson and Kyle Daisley, Community Engagement and Events Officer.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

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COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

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MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS & MONTHLY REPORT

The Mayor reported on a month of summer fetes, including the Far Forest Show and Button Oak Fete. Other engagements included the opening of a new Salon in the town, and the annual Chess Tournament. The Mayor extended thanks to Councillors Mrs Edginton-White and Edmundson for their support during the month.

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MINUTES AGREED

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 1st August 2016 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

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ACCOUNTS

The Council considered the revised schedule of accounts and payments for August 2016 drawn up by the Treasurer, together with the balances held at Unity Bank, Cambridge Building Society, Scottish Widows and HM Revenue & Customs and the current budgetary position as to income and expenditure for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st August 2016.

AGREED

(i) that the revised schedule of accounts be approved and signed by the Mayor with authority thereby given for the requisite cheques to be drawn;

(ii) that the cash balances be noted as follows:

- with Unity Bank current account of £56,066.38
- with Unity Bank deposit account of £10, 548.37
- with Scottish Widows deposit account of £30,011.53
- with Cambridge Building Society saver account of £30,101.10
- with HMRC (VAT) of £5,054.99

(iii) that the reconciliation statement be noted;

(iv) that the Council's income and expenditure for the current financial year from 1st April 2016 to 31st August 2016 be noted.

8353 PLANNING COMMITTEE VACANCY

Councillor Yarranton volunteered to fill the vacancy on the Planning Committee following the resignation of Councillor Roger Coleman.

8354 POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillor Clee presented the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 15th August 2016.

AGREED

That the Minutes be accepted and actions noted.

8355 WEEKEND NIGHT BUS

The Council considered a report from Councillor Edmundson in relation to the provision of a night bus on Friday and Saturday nights.

AGREED

That this initiative should be pursued through the Policy and Resources Committee and that it will appear on the next Agenda of this Committee for discussion.

8356 ALDERMAN SCHEME

The Council considered a report from Councillor Edmundson in relation to the creation of an Alderman Scheme.

AGREED

That the Alderman Scheme should be considered as part of a review of the Council's Civic Award Scheme which should be carried out by the Policy and Resources Committee and added to the next Committee Agenda.

8357 EXTERNAL AUDITORS CERTIFICATE AND OPINION

The Treasurer presented the External Auditor's certificate for the 2015/2016 accounts which contained no comments and was noted by Members.

8358 TOGETHER ADVISORY GROUP

Councillor Mace presented the minutes of the latest meeting of the Group, including new Financial Procedures for both the Together Group and the Reaching Out Together Lunch Club. A donation of £300 was gratefully received from District Councillor Becky Vale towards the Group's activities.

AGREED

To note the minutes and ratify the new Financial Procedures as drawn up by the Assistant Clerk and Treasurer.

- 8359 WYRE FOREST CALC**
Councillor Killingworth advised that there was no report this month, but a report would be given at October's meeting.
- 8360 NOTICE OF ROADWORKS**
Prior notification of roadworks in Welch Gate (1 night by Western Power and 9 days by Worcestershire Highways) were noted.
- 8361 ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**
The Town Clerk brought the following administrative matters to the attention of the Council:
- (i) 11th September – Heritage Sunday
 - (ii) 11th September – Vintage, Antiques and Handmade Market
 - (iii) 14th September – 2pm Police Liaison Group. Guildhall
 - (iv) 18th September – Mayors Sunday, 9.40am for robing at the Guildhall
 - (v) 19th September – Community Development Committee, 6pm Guildhall
 - (vi) 1st/2nd October – Discover Bewdley Harvest Fair

The meeting was closed at 8.23pm

Signed.....
Mayor
3rd October 2016

Town Council Meeting - Public Period

Questions raised by members of the public

Mr Mansell of Welch Gate asked whether the barriers closing off the new Medical Centre car park could be raised when the Centre is closed to provide more car parking. The Mayor said he was happy to follow this up with the Medical Centre.

Mr Ian Williams asked for an update as to when the pathway leading to Wyre Hill Play Area is to be resurfaced. Cllr Champion confirmed that the funding would be requested in the 2017/2018 budget which would be set in January. Mr Williams also asked about the fines collected from breaching the "No Entry" temporary signage into Load Street. Cllr Champion confirmed that the fines would go to the police and agreed to respond to claims that the CCTV in Bewdley was not "fit for purpose".

Mr Mark Flello asked when the raised footpath will be re-built at Welch Gate and expressed concern at the amount of litter accumulating at Bridge House. Cllr Champion confirmed that the works would be either this month or next (subsequently confirmed as 12th October).

Mr Angus Anderson raised concern over the pollution levels in Welch Gate and asked when the levels of Carbon Monoxide were last tested. Cllr Champion agreed to check this and respond to the Clerk.

Mr Rod Stanczysyn of Windyridge asked about the speed sign on Cleobury Road which does not appear to work. This sign belongs to the Town Council and the Clerk agreed to follow this up.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

There were no police representatives present and no written report submitted.

District and County Councillor Reports

County and District Councillor Campion reported that the library had temporarily moved back into its old premises to allow BT to install telephone and internet lines. The library would then move into the new Medical Centre building as planned. In relation to the current Gladman Developments proposals for land off the Lakes Road, Councillor Campion stated that WFDC had a good track record of defending its five year land supply for housing.

Town, District and County Councillor Gordon Yarranton reported that thanks to partner support including the Town Council, funds were now available to start work on installing new equipment into Shaw Hedge Road play area. He is also continuing to work on additional parking spaces for the Queensway shops.